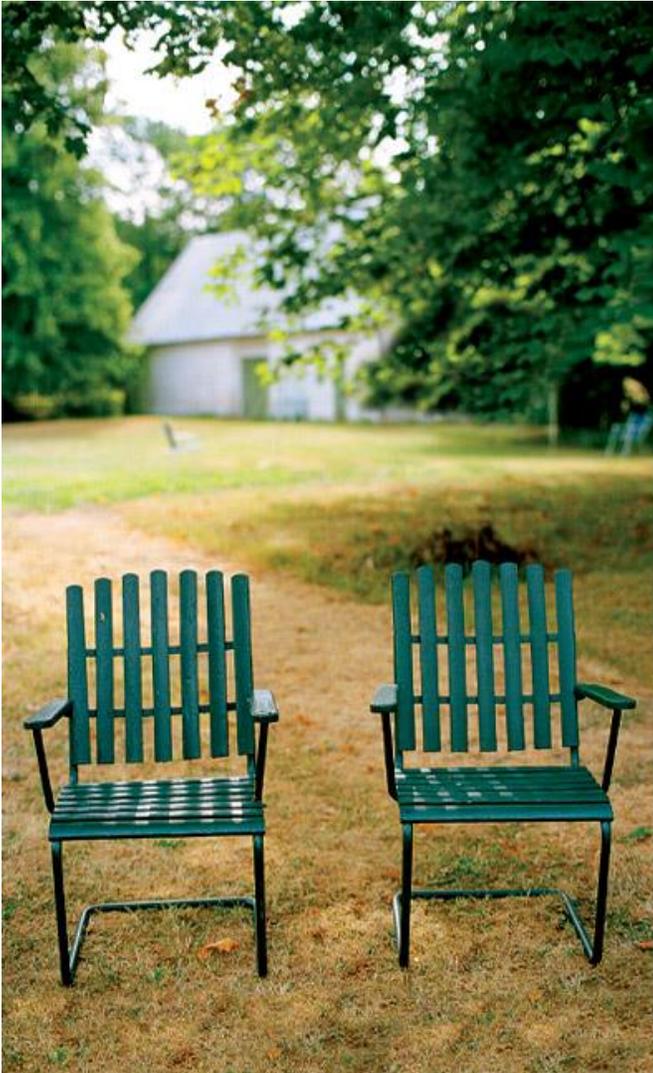


*NINTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST*

*July 31, 2022*

*Worship Service 11:30 AM*



Life

does not consist  
in the abundance  
of possessions

LUKE 12:15

GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN

## MISSION STATEMENT

In response to receiving God's profound love through Christ and being called to be His people, the mission of Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church is to be a family of faith, at work in the midst of a growing community, which through worship, learning, witness and outreach, touches both members and non-members with a continuing challenge to commitment, that brings God into the center of daily life.

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*The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a "vanity of vanities." Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one's work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.*

*Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.*

*In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.*

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Our Reader today is Richard Myers  
Our Pastor, Vicar Melissa Hrdlicka  
Our bulletins are sponsored by the Walters family in honor of  
the new grandchild, Drew Grey Walters

BELL RINGING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*Denotes Congregation Stands, if you are able.

PRELUDE “We Raise Our Hands To You”, Tune Vi Rekker Vare Henderfrem

## GREETING

P: Today’s texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the “unhappy business” of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the “things that are above.” To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord’s supper and the encouragement of God’s word.

\*GATHERING HYMN # 647      Glorious Things of You Are Spoken

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin.  
whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

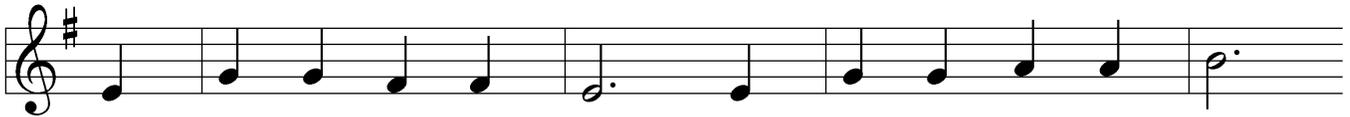
P: Merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

**C: Amen**

\*KYRIE – Have Mercy on Us



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing Word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: Come, let us join our cheerful songs



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer - ful songs with an - gels round the throne;
- 2 “Wor - thy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be ex - alt - ed thus!”
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re - ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou - sand thou - sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
“Wor - thy the Lamb,” our lips re - ply, “for he was slain for us!”  
and bless - ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.  
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: NUN DANKET ALL, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Benevolent God,

**C: you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

<sup>2</sup>Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,  
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

<sup>12</sup>I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, <sup>13</sup>applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. <sup>14</sup>I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

<sup>2:18</sup>I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me <sup>19</sup>—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup>So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup>because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup>What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup>For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

R: The word of God

**C: Thanks be to God.**

READING OF PSALM 49:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Hear this, all you peoples;  
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

<sup>2</sup>**you of high degree and low,  
rich and poor together.**

<sup>3</sup>My mouth shall speak of wisdom,  
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

<sup>4</sup>**I will incline my ear to a proverb  
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

<sup>5</sup>Why should I be afraid in evil days,  
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

<sup>6</sup>**the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,  
and boast of their great riches?**

<sup>7</sup>One can never redeem another,  
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

- <sup>8</sup>**for the ransom of a life is so great  
that there would never be enough to pay it,**  
<sup>9</sup>in order to live forever and ever  
and never see the grave.
- <sup>10</sup>**For we see that the wise die also; like the dull  
and stupid they perish and leave their wealth  
to those who come after them.**
- <sup>11</sup>Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling  
places from generation to generation,  
though they had named lands after themselves.
- <sup>12</sup>**Even though honored, they cannot live forever;  
they are like the beasts that perish.**

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11

Reader: <sup>1</sup>So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup>These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup>But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

R: Word of God, word of life

**C: Thanks be to God**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.  
Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

\*GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

P: The holy Gospel according to St Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup>Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup>So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY # 793 Be Thou My Vision

## \*THE APOSTLES' CREED

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## \* PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

P: O God, you are wholeness. Where there is division in your church, bring reconciliation and healing. Guide the work of theologians, Sunday school teachers, seminary professors, and all who provide instruction for the building up of your church. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: O God, you are the source of all life. Where creation cries out in distress, bring relief and renewal. Bless farmers, ranchers, distributors, and all who provide our food. Nourish the land and all its habitants. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P : O God, you are wisdom. Where nations and communities yearn for peace, bring justice. Strengthen those who toil for the welfare of others, especially military personnel, police, first responders, and activists, and for the healing of the nations. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: O God, you are life. Where your people are overwhelmed with the busy-ness of life, bring encouragement. Accompany all who experience emotional, mental, or physical distress as we lift their names to you either aloud or in our hearts . . . Renew us at your table of mercy. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: O God, you are our treasure. Where scarcity and anxiety pervade your church, bring abundance and vitality. Guide the work of church councils and committees and give them clarity for the work of ministry in this place, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. May we continue in our ministries to serve our community as a part of the West Berks Mission District. We pray for all those who receive aid, food, shelter, comfort and help through our programs. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: O God, you are resurrection. We give you thanks for all your saints. Inspire us by their example of faithful living to set our minds on things above and to be rich in love toward you. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

**C: Amen.**

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE:**

Bless-ed be God, who for - gives all our sins, who  
heals all our ills, who crowns us with mer - cy and love.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: God of abundance:

**C: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, as you have taught us to pray.

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power,  
and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

**\*SENDING**

P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And, let the church say, Amen.

**C: Amen.**

**\*SENDING BLESSING**

P: The God of peace, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

**C: Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN # 705 God of Grace and God of Glory**

**\*THE DISMISSAL**

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good;

**C: Amen, Lord.**

P: Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen, Lord.**

P: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**\*POSTLUDE: "Forth In thy Name, O Lord, I Go" Tune: Song 34 (#505 LBW)**

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We extend a hearty welcome to our visitors today. Please fill out a Pew card with your contact information. If there is any way we can be of service to you, please inform us. There are also Visitor Packets available. Please see one of the people at the Gathering Table if you are interested.

**News of the Church SUMMER Activities  
Sunday School**

**Children** Age 3 to Grade 6 - Sunday church school at **11:30 AM**

WORSHIP SERVICE – **11:30 AM** Service with Communion 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays.

We to use the 10<sup>th</sup> setting in the ELCA Hymnal June – September and sing our requested hymns

**GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS** - We are getting close to the *end of this outreach project*. Please bring in the items for Mary’s Shelter as soon as possible. The Witness/Social Ministry committee cannot accept donations after **August 28<sup>th</sup>**.

Individual bottles, jars, bags, containers: -

- Shampoo                      Conditioner                      Hair Gel                      Body Lotion
- Hand Lotion                      Bar Soap                      Body Wash                      Deodorant (men’s)
- Shaving Cream                      Deodorant (women’s) Razors (men or women)
- Tampons                      Feminine Pads                      Laundry detergent                      Laundry Softener

PLEASE deposit your items in the two white boxes on the table in the Gathering.

**Do you shop at the Redner’s Quick Shop on Tuckerton Road? We can now accept Redner’s Quick Shop tapes as long as you use your Redner’s card for grocery purchases everywhere. (And your Redner’s card gives you discounts on gas purchases at Redner’s.) The “Save A Tape” goes to help sponsor W/ELCA projects. Please see Harry if you have questions.**

**Interested in sponsoring flowers or a bulletin on Sundays?**

Sign-up in the book on the lectern in the Gathering area.

Flowers are \$10 per vase. We have a sponsor for the month of July – thank you Jim Culley. Please check on the month and week you would like the flowers. They are yours to take home after service or donate to a shut-in.

Bulletins - Please enter your information in the appropriate month and week you want to dedicate the bulletin. Sponsor cost is \$15 per week.

You may use a pew envelope to submit your donations for these sponsorships.

***Please remember the following in your prayers:***

(Names removed due to placement on public site.)

### **Council Members for 2022**

James Culley	Helenna Lutz	Gary O'Brien
Rodney Haupt	Cathy Meck	Lynn Shollenberger
Carolyn Heffner	Duane Maurer	Allyn Swavely
Duane Kring	Betty Nelson	Harry Walters

Please see the **Gathering Bulletin Board** for the Council Meeting Reports and Business conducted.

COUNCIL – PLEASE NOTE: **August Council Meeting** will be the annual Picnic. Please bring a side dish or dessert, Supper at 6:00 PM, pool available so bring swim suits.

### **Food Pantry**

### **Thursday August 18th**

The Muhlenberg Churches collaborative food distribution ministry is held here at Good Shepherd Lutheran on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

Dry goods and canned food donations from members of the local churches and civic organizations are needed to augment the food that is received from Helping Harvest. Please support this collaborative ministry by bringing in your donations and place them on the white stand in the Gathering Area.

Thank you for responding to God's call to "feed my sheep."

**TABS - helping those with Cancer** Don't forget to save your aluminum tabs. They are greatly appreciated. We have the container on the Gathering Table for your donations.

## W/ELCA Meetings –

Meetings will **start up in September**. Watch for the announcements. Contact Sandra Oesterling if you have questions.



**BIBLE FOR DUMMIES – Looking for an interesting way to read and learn about the Bible?** The Bible For Dummies appeals to people of all faiths by providing interfaith coverage of the entire Bible and the often fascinating background information that makes the Bible come alive. The Authors,

Jeffrey C. Geoghegan and Michael M. Homan have put together a resource that is both entertaining and informative.

Starting Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM, you can join in the group having supper together in the Fellowship Hall. After supper there will be a Trivia / Study on the Bible from 6 to 6:45 PM. Bring your favorite translation of the Bible to refer to as you study the passage for the evening.

Lynn Shollenberger is organizing this supper and Bible study. See him to let him know you will be joining the group so he will have a head count for supper.

## UPCOMING EVENTS – SEPTEMBER

Sunday August 28	will be the last week for Vicar Melissa
Sunday September 4	Pastor Lauren Blatt will return from her leave
Sunday September 11	God's Work, Our Hands projects to be completed
Sunday September 18	Guest Speaker Stacey Burke from the Synod Office There will be a luncheon following the service at which Stacey will answer any of our questions on the Resource Book – Growing Young
Sunday September 25	Pastor Blatt will lead the worship service



UPCOMING EVENTS - OCTOBER

Sunday October 2 – Guest Speaker, Deacon Travis Woodfield from the Synod

There will be a luncheon following the service. Deacon Travis will be helping our congregation “imagine” our mission. This is an important step to calling a Pastor. We will have a better idea of our goals and what type of leader we should find.

Exercise Your  
*Spiritual Gifts*



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