

O, The Depths of God's Grace!
ONLY BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH

# GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | Kearney, Nebraska

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 23)

Sunday, October 15, 2017

#### WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

For your convenience, **Listening Devices** are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need one. A **Nursery** is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway just off the entryway (first door on left).

#### SERVICE NOTES FOR TODAY

This is the context: God's gifts to us of wealth more than most of his other gifts can become snares to our salvation when we treasure them more than the Giver and more than our salvation. Next to the attachment to hearth and home, a person's chief attachment is to his purse. So it is not out of order to consider what God has to say about his gifts of wealth and to let him put those gifts in a proper context for us.

Today is the fifth of six Sundays focusing on *The Depths of God's Grace!* Jesus wants to so deepen our understanding of his grace that he becomes all in all to us. In this series, we will see how truly gracious God is.

September 24 .......God's Grace is Focused Outside of Himself
October 1......God's Grace is Found Under His Protective Care [Festival of St. Michael and
All Angels]

October 8......God's Grace is Found in the Family

TODAY ......God's Grace is Found Only By Grace Through Faith

September 17 ......An Understanding of God's Grace Begins With a Heart of Faith

October 22 ......God's Grace is Abundant

#### HOLY COMMUNION IS OFFERED TODAY

As Christians who believe that the Bible is inspired by God and that every word written in it is God's holy word, we believe that we receive the body and blood in, with, and under the bread

and wine. While this is something that goes beyond our human understanding, our faith allows us to accept this as true. God warns us in the Bible that anyone who doesn't understand this teaching or who denies this real presence of Christ's body and blood will do damage to his or her soul if not properly taught first (1 Corinthians 11:27-29).

As a congregation we care about people and about the spiritual well-being of individuals, especially those attending the Lord's Table today. If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are not under church discipline in another congregation, and are members of our congregation, one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS], or a member of our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS].

## ABOUT THE ORDER OF SERVICE

The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS], the synod to which Good Shepherd has the privilege to belong, is in the process of producing a new hymnal, scheduled to be released in the early 2020's. Pastor Seelow is a contributor to this project, and also has the opportunity to serve on the worship board of the Nebraska District of the WELS. Good Shepherd has been asked to "field test" one of the new orders of service for that new hymnal volume. The committee who designed this new service explains it in this way:

"Entitled simply The Service, the order of service you are using is both old and new. It is a version of the historic liturgy of the Western Christian church. The progression of The Service is familiar to worshipers in our church body, and there are some elements of The Service that are new or different.

The text of The Service is being presented as the standard liturgical text for the new hymnal. We envision that the hymnal will include three musical settings of The Service; the progression and basic texts will encourage continuity and familiarity, and the musical settings will offer variety. Overall, it is our hope and prayer that you will find the structure and the text of the service to be very familiar."

Good Shepherd will be using *The Service* through the end of November. For the first 6 weeks, only the text of *The Service* will be used. Gradually new songs and canticles will be taught and added, with the goal of using *The Service* in its entirety for the whole month of November. If you have questions, comments, or concerns about *The Service*, please speak with Pastor Seelow, and he will pass them on to the hymnal committee.

# THE DIVINE SERVICE

The Service — Setting II



## **OPENING HYMN**

As We Begin Another Week | CW 223

## INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

Please stand.

- In the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

- If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

  1 John 1:8,9
- M Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
- C Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his holy life and innocent death.

Trusting in him, I pray:

God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation on God's Word and for self-examination as you consider your thoughts, words, and actions according to the Ten Commandments.

"The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners..."

> — Small Catechism, The Office of the Keys, Part I

## ABSOLUTION

- M Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

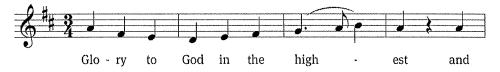
# LORD, HAVE MERCY — Kyrie, eleison

Mark 10:47

- M In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- M For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- M For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- M For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- M Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

# GLORY BE TO GOD — Gloria in Excelsis

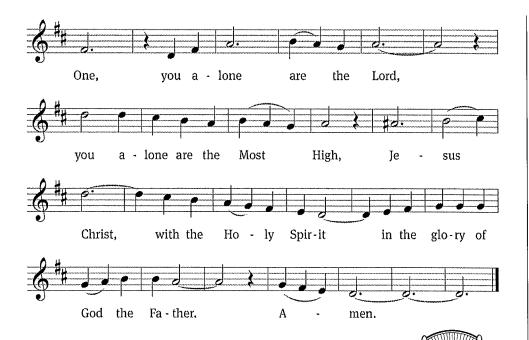
Luke 2:14



"All confidence is empty, except confidence in mercy. Mercy delivers us; our own merits, our own efforts, do not."

 Apology to the Augsburg Confession, V:209 "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth" — Luke 2:14

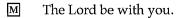




# The Service of the Word

# **SALUTATION**

Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22



And also with you.

# PRAYER OF THE DAY — Collect

# M Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## C Amen.

Be seated.

FIRST LESSON 2 Kings 5:14-27

Elisha's servant Gehazi pursues Naaman's riches, hoping for great wealth; then he lies to Elisha about what he has done. When you are caught in sin, do not hesitate to acknowledge your deeds before the Lord. He is rich in mercy toward the brokenhearted and all who confess their needs to him.

O [NAAMAN] WENT DOWN AND DIPPED HIMSELF seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

<sup>15</sup> Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, "Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant." <sup>16</sup> But he said, "As the LORD lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none." And he urged him to take it, but he refused. <sup>17</sup> Then Naaman said, "If not, please let there be given to your servant two mule loads of earth, for from now on your servant will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god but the LORD. <sup>18</sup> In this matter may the LORD pardon your servant: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD pardon your servant in this matter." <sup>19</sup> He said to him, "Go in peace."

But when Naaman had gone from him a short distance, 20 Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, "See, my master has spared this Naaman the Syrian, in not accepting from his hand what he brought. As the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him." 21 So Gehazi followed Naaman. And when Naaman saw someone running after him, he got down from the chariot to meet him and said, "Is all well?" 22 And he said, "All is well. My master has sent me to say, 'There have just now come to me from the hill country of Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets. Please give them a talent of silver and two changes of clothing." <sup>23</sup> And Naaman said, "Be pleased to accept two talents." And he urged him and tied up two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of clothing, and laid them on two of his servants. And they carried them before Gehazi. 24 And when he came to the hill, he took them from their hand and put them in the house, and he sent the men away, and they departed. <sup>25</sup> He went in and stood before his master, and Elisha said to him, "Where have you been, Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant went nowhere." 26 But he said to him, "Did not my heart go when the man turned from his chariot to meet you? Was it a time to accept money and garments, olive orchards and vineyards, sheep and oxen, male servants and female servants? Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and to your descendants forever." So he went out from his presence a leper, like snow.

- M The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God!

# PSALM OF THE DAY (Insert)

Psalm 90 | CW p. 99

#### SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 4:12,13

OR THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING AND ACTIVE, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. <sup>13</sup> And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

- M The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!

Please stand.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

John 10:27

The Pastor will sing the refrain once. The congregation is invited to repeat the refrain a second time. The Pastor will sing the verse, and the congregation is invited to sing the final refrain.



"Christ's Word breaks through and wounds. It takes away every ground of trust and ascribes redemption solely to the blood of Christ; it pricks and wounds the soul. This is a health-bestowing wound, for these weapons kill in order to make alive...It is, however a fall that is happy and full of consolation, demonstrating the power and success of the Word."

- Martin Luther



HOLY GOSPEL Mark 10:17-27

M The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter ten.

ND AS HE WAS SETTING OUT ON HIS JOURNEY, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>18</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" <sup>20</sup> And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." <sup>21</sup> And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and

Jesus teaches his disciples that not even people with the greatest worldly means (e.g. a rich man) can enter the kingdom of God on their own merit. We cannot justify ourselves; we receive salvation ("inherit eternal life") solely by grace through faith in Jesus, just like a little child (cf. 10:13-16).

come, follow me." 22 Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

<sup>23</sup> And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" <sup>24</sup> And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." 26 And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?"

<sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God."

- M The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ | CW 401

SERMON

Mark 10:17-27

# Man's question. The Lord's answer.

#### NICENE CREED

С

Please stand.

We believe in one God.

C	We believe in one God,	Dt. 6:4
	the Father, the Almighty,	2 Cor. 6:18
	maker of heaven and earth,	Is. 51:13
	of all that is, seen and unseen.	Col.1:16
	We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,	1 Cor. 8:6
	the only Son of God,	Jn. 3:18
	eternally begotten of the Father,	Heb. 1:2,5
	God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,	Jn. 1
	begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.	Jn. 10:30

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the 4th century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

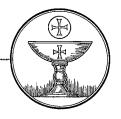
Through him all things were made.	<i>Jn.</i> 1:3			
For us and for our salvation,	1 Th. 5:9			
he came down from heaven,	Jn. 6:38			
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary	· ·			
and became fully human.	Gal. 4:4			
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.	Mk. 15:15			
He suffered death and was buried.	1 Cor. 15:3-4a			
On the third day he rose again in accordance	1 Cor. 15:4b			
with the Scriptures.	1 007, 10,10			
He ascended into heaven	Ac. 2:33-34			
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.	Heb. 1:13			
He will come again in glory	Mt. 25:31			
to judge the living and the dead,	2 Tim.4:1			
and his kingdom will have no end.	Lk. 1:33			
<u> </u>				
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,	<u>-</u>			
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,	Jn. 15:26			
who in unity with the Father and the Son	Jn. 4:24			
is worshiped and glorified,				
who has spoken through the prophets.	2 Pet.1:25			
We believe in one holy Christian	Mt. 16:18; Eph. 2:19-20			
and apostolic Church.				
We believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.	Eph. 4:5; Ac. 2:38			
We look for the resurrection of the dead	1 Cor. 15:21-22			
and the life ❖ of the world to come. Amen.	<i>Rev.</i> 22			

Be seated.

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

# **OFFERING**

# The Service of the Sacrament



## **PREFACE**

Please stand.

M The Lord be with you.

Ruth 2:4, 2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

M Lift up your hearts.

Lamentations 3:41

We lift them up to the Lord.

M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalm 136

C It is good and right so to do.

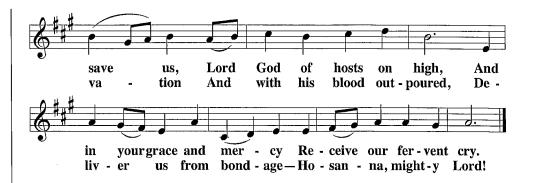
It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** — Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 Tune: ELLACOMBE [CW 130]



The opening words of the Preface are among the oldest sentences in the Christian liturgy. The responses are followed by the Proper Preface (italics), which are specific to the "proper" season of the church year. The entire liturgy is composed of ordinary elements, which remain the same from week to week, and propers, which change from week to week or season to season.



## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER** — Pater Noster

Matthew 6:9-13: Luke 11:2-4

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,

"The Lord's Prayer is a prayer above all prayers, the greatest of all prayers, which has been taught by the greatest Master of all, in which all spiritual and bodily trouble is comprehended and which is the strongest consolation in all temptations, and in the last hour."

- Martin Luther

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver • us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION** — Verba

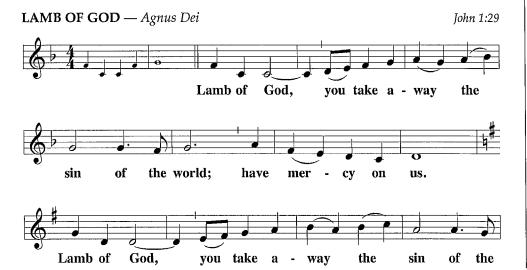
Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ♣ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my • blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

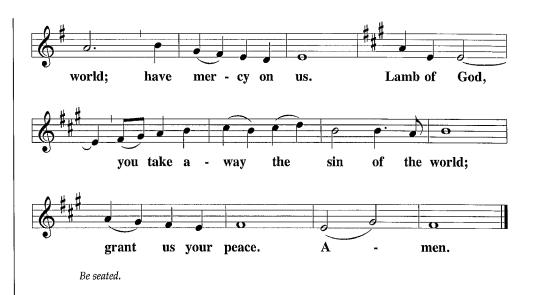
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## C Amen.



"The peace of the Lord..." The resurrected Lord calmed the fears of his disciples with his peace. The resurrected Lord is present in the Supper, and so the pastor speaks to us on his behalf.

The Agnus Dei (Latin for "Lamb of God") is based on John the Baptist's acclamation of Christ: "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world!" This canticle recollects the sacrifice of the Lamb of God on Good Friday, reminding us that, through the Holy Supper, we "proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."



#### DISTRIBUTION

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion today may wish to read **Personal Preparation for Holy Communion**, found on page 156 in the front section of the hymnal. This page helps us put into practice what the Bible encourages: "Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28)

**Prayer suggestions for before and after receiving the Lord's Supper** can be found in the hymnal on pages 10-11 and 134-139.

In dismissing the communicants, the minister says:

M Now, may this true body and blood strengthen and keep you in the true faith to life everlasting. Your sins ♣ are forgiven. Go in peace. Amen.

#### POST-COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Please stand.

- M Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
- C His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 107:1

- M Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
- we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

Good Shepherd confesses and practices the Biblical teaching of a Closed Communion. We ask that only members of the Wisconsin Synod [WELS] or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS] join us at the Lord's Table. If you have questions concerning our communion practice, or would like to inquire about how you, too, can commune with us, please speak with the Pastor following the service.

#### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you M have given us in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Having received forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, we thank the Lord for his gifts and pray that he will grant us faith to use them in love toward our neighbor.

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over

3,500 years. The Lord

said, "So they will put my name on

[them], and I will bless them."

С Amen.

**BLESSING** Numbers 6:22-27

M The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look on you with favor and ♣ give you peace.

C Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

All Depends on Our Possessing | CW 421

# SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Preaching & Presiding Minister	Pr. Nathanael Seelow
Keyboardist	Michelle Reinsch
Ushers	Randy Webb & Tony Wenz
Greeters	Mever Family

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