



The Holy Festival of
PENTECOST

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | Kearney, Nebraska

Sunday, May 15, 2016

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.

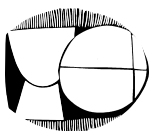
For your convenience, **Listening Devices** are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need one. A **Nursery** is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway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

SERVICE NOTES FOR THE FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST

I will pour out my Spirit. God's Old Testament people celebrated the gathering of the harvest at the *Festival of Weeks*, or the *Festival of Pentecost*. In the New Testament, God sent the promised Counselor on the day we call "Pentecost," Greek for "fifty," because he sent the Holy Spirit fifty days after the Resurrection. This day marked the birthday of the New Testament Church and celebrates the harvest of souls won by the Son and gathered by his servants empowered by his Spirit.

Pentecost is the third great festival (Nativity, Resurrection, Pentecost) of the Church and has been commemorated since at least 217 A.D. The Church dresses in red to remind us of the tongues of fire that marked the Spirit's gift and the blood of the martyrs which was the seed of the Church. This day culminates the Season of Easter when our risen Lord now empowers his people to be witnesses of the resurrection for the world.

HOLY COMMUNION IS OFFERED TODAY



In Holy Communion, we share in the mystery of the bread and wine offered together with the body and blood of Christ. 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 taught first.

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].

SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Preacher & Presiding Minister.....Pr. Nathanael Seelow
PianistLogan Hansen
Ushers.....Phil Brei & Matthew Brei
GreetersRoland & Delores Adelung
Sound TechnicianJamie Scott

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THE DIVINE SERVICE

The Service of Word & Sacrament — Christian Worship, pg. 26



For 1,250 years, the Christian Church has sung this **Processional Hymn** on the Day of Pentecost. Singing this hymn is of the oldest traditions in the Church. This hymn is also customarily sung at the services of the assignment of candidates for the Holy Ministry, which took place at Martin Luther College (yesterday) and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (this coming Thursday).

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest | CW 177

Text: attr. Rhabanus Maurus, 776-856, abr.

Tune: KOMM, GOTT SCHÖPFER, Wittenburg, 1533

1 Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest, And make our
2 To you, the Coun - se - lor, we cry, To you, the
3 Your light to ev - 'ry thought im - part, And shed your
4 Drive far a - way our wi - ly foe, And your a -
5 Teach us to know the Fa - ther, Son, And you, from

hearts your place of rest; Come with your grace and
gift of God most high; The fount of life, the
love in ev - 'ry heart; The weak - ness of our
bid - ing peace be - stow; If you are our pro -
both, as Three in One That we your name may

heav'n - ly aid, And fill the hearts which you have made.
fire of love, The soul's a - noint - ing from a - bove.
mor - tal state With death-less might in - vig - o - rate.
tect - ing guide, No e - vil can with us a - bide.
ev - er bless And in our lives the truth con - fess.

6 Praise we the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, with them One,
And may the Son on us bestow
The gifts that from the Spirit flow!

INVOCATION

Please stand.

- M** The grace of our Lord ✙ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C** And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M** If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness,
- C** we lie and do not practice the truth.
- M** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light,
- C** we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus *1 John 1:6,7*
his Son cleanses us from all sin.
- M** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

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

- C** Holy and merciful Father,
- C** I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



A Christian congregation with its called servant of Christ uses the keys in accordance with Christ's command by forgiving those who repent of their sin and are willing to amend, and by excluding from the congregation those who are plainly impenitent that they may repent. I believe that when this is done, it is as valid and certain in heaven also, as if Christ, our dear Lord, dealt with us himself.

*— Small Catechism
The Office of the
Keys, Part II*



The **Kyrie** is a liturgical song of the Ordinary, or a component of the liturgy that occurs in every Divine Service. The word "kyrie" is the Greek word for "Lord." The expression, "Lord, have mercy," is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian Church.

ABSOLUTION

[M] God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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*

[M] For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



[M] For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



[M] For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



[M] Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



M The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise!

HYMN OF PRAISE

All Glory Be to God Alone | **CW 262**

Text: attr. Martin Luther, 1483-1546, abr.

Tune: ALL EHR UND LOB, Strassburg, 1541



This Hymn of Praise was a chorale which Martin Luther wrote for his newly-formed Lutheran Liturgy, the "Deutsche Messe," or "The German Mass." While the structure of the "new" liturgy remained largely similar to the Roman Rite, Luther rewrote many parts of the service because of the inherent heresy that was present in the Roman versions of these songs.



1 All glo - ry be to God a - lone, For -
 2 We praise you, God, and you we bless; We -
 3 Lord God, our King on heav - en's throne, Our
 4 You take the whole world's sin a - way; Have
 5 You on - ly are the Ho - ly One; O'er



ev - er - more the high - est one, Who did our
 wor - ship you in hum - ble - ness; From day to
 Fa - ther, the Al - might - y One; O Lord, the
 mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray. You take the
 all things you are Lord a - lone. O Je - sus



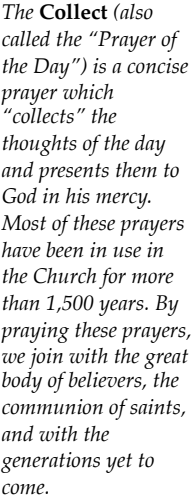
sin - ful race be - friend And grace and peace to
 day we glo - ri - fy The ev - er - last - ing
 Sole - be - got - ten One, Lord Je - sus Christ, the
 whole world's sin a - way; Oh, lis - ten to the
 Christ, we glo - ri - fy You and the Spir - it,



us ex - tend. A - mong man - kind may his good
 God on high. Of your great glo - ry do we
 Fa - ther's Son, True God from all e - ter - ni -
 prayer we say. From God's right hand, oh, send to -
 Lord most high; With him you ev - er - more shall



will All hearts with deep thanks - giv - ing fill.
 sing, And to your throne our thanks we bring.
 ty, O Lamb of God— to you we flee.
 day Your mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 be One in the Fa - ther's maj - es - ty.



The self-glorifying pride of sinful hearts can be seen in the account of the Tower of Babel. The one language of creation was misused as a tool to keep people unified in idolatrous work. Centuries later, the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit brings about not only a reversal of Babel but proclamation of the promise fulfilled to the nations.

M Let us pray.

Holy Spirit, God and Lord, come to us this joyful day with your sevenfold gift of grace. Rekindle in our hearts the holy fire of your love that in a true and living faith we may tell abroad the glory of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, one God, now and forever.



Be seated.

Genesis 11:1-9

NOW THE WHOLE EARTH HAD ONE LANGUAGE and the same words. ² And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³ And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. ⁴ Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." ⁵ And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. ⁶ And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. ⁷ Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." ⁸ So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. ⁹ Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the

language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

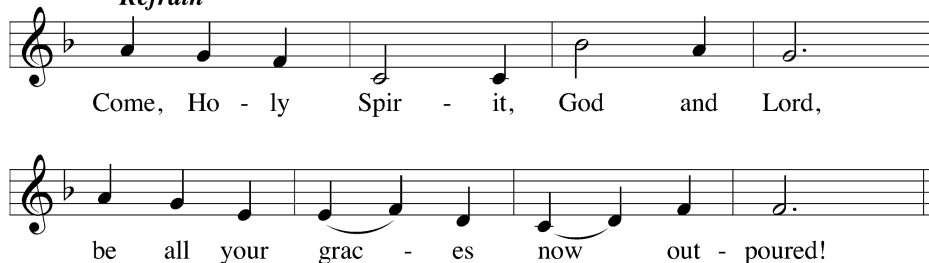
M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 51b | CWS p. 49

Refrain



Psalm Tone



Refrain

O Lord, open | my lips,*
and my mouth will de- | clare your praise.

Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who | saves me,*
and my tongue will sing of your | righteousness.

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would | bring it;*
you do not take pleasure in burnt | offerings.

The sacrifices of God are a broken | spirit;*
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will | not despise.

Refrain

In this, the second half of David's famous penitential Psalm, David asks to joyfully declare God's praise. Prayed often in the liturgy of the Church, this verse is a profound part of the Christian's sacrifice of prayer and praise.

Psalm Tone



Create in me a pure | heart, O God,*
and renew a steadfast spirit with- | in me.

Do not cast me from your | presence*
or take your Holy Spirit | from me.

Restore to me the joy of your sal- | vation*
and grant me a willing spirit, to sus- | tain me.

Then I will teach transgressors | your ways,*
and sinners will turn | back to you.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit,
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Refrain

The Christ-promised coming of the Holy Spirit reverses the confusion of Babel as the disciples are given the gift of speaking in tongues. In a rush of wind and with tongues of flame the prophecy of Joel is fulfilled. The timidity of the Twelve dissolves in fiery witnessing to the Truth. What began in the streets of Jerusalem, is even now carried to the ends of the earth.

SECOND LESSON

Acts 2:1-21

WHEN THE DAY OF PENTECOST ARRIVED, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. ⁵ Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And at this sound the



multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷ And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹ both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” ¹² And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. ¹⁵ For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. ¹⁶ But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ “‘And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;

¹⁸ even on my male servants and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;

²⁰ the sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,

before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.

²¹ And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Following each lesson, the Pastor announces, “The Word of the Lord.” We know from Scripture that God comes to us through the Means of Grace, that is the Gospel that is found in the Word and the Sacrament. So, within the service God has come to us convicting us in our sin through the Law, and pronouncing forgiveness through the life-giving Gospel. The congregation—in response to such love—praises the Lord in reply: “Thanks be to God!”

VERSE OF THE DAY

Historic Pentecost Antiphon

The Pastor will sing the antiphon first. The congregation is invited to repeat the antiphon with the Pastor.



Pilate questioned it, the disciples were confused by it, but Jesus promised it: the Truth. Imagine the overwhelming task before the Twelve: truthful recollection of everything they had heard and seen! Yet the promise of coming Truth not only assured timid disciples then, but disciples today, of perfect recollection. The Spirit proceeded from the Father and the Son to testify not to subjective truth but to essential Truth: the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

HOLY GOSPEL

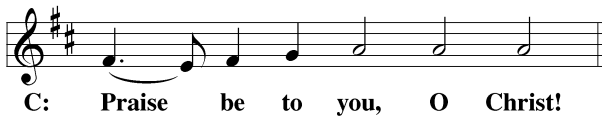
John 15:26,27

Please stand.

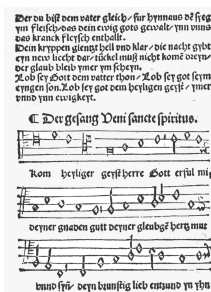
- [M]** The Holy Gospel appointed for the Festival of Pentecost, according to St. John, chapter fifteen.

BUT WHEN THE HELPER COMES, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

- [M]** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Be seated.



This is a 16th Century copy of the first stanza of today's **Hymn of the Day**, "Come Holy Ghost, God and Lord." The first stanza is an anonymous translation of the Latin antiphon for Pentecost from the 11th century. Martin Luther would later add two more stanzas, and the famous Lutheran composer, J.S. Bach would later create two of his famous Chorales using this hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord | **CW 176**

Text: German Hymn, 15th Century, st. 1; Martin Luther, st. 2-3

Tune: KOMM, HEILIGER GEIST, HERRE GOTT, Erfurt, 1524

SERMON

Acts 2:17-21

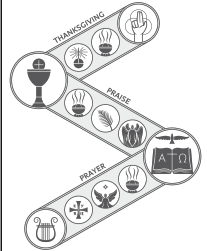
AND IN THE LAST DAYS IT SHALL BE, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;
¹⁸ even on my male servants and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.
¹⁹ And I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;
²⁰ the sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.
²¹ And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name
of the Lord shall be saved.'

A Revolutionary Day!

THE THIRD ARTICLE AND LUTHER'S EXPLANATION

Please stand.

C I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.



*The Liturgy of the Divine Service has been described as the climbing of “two mountains.” Like mountains in the physical world, each of these two mountains—the Service of the Word and the Service of the Sacrament—have peaks, or summits. The “summit” of the Service of the Word is the **Sermon**. The “summit” of the Service of the Sacrament is the Distribution. Each summit is reached by careful, meaningful, and methodical steps. And each step is intended to bring the worshipper closer and closer to the peak of the Service.*

*Moved by God's love
in Christ, by our
Offering we offer
him our first and best
gifts, purely out of
thanks to him. If you
are visiting with us
today, please do not
feel obligated to give
an offering.*

M What does this mean?

C I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

Be seated.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

This morning, each petition of our prayer will conclude in this way:

M ...let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

The entire prayer will conclude in this way:

M Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, all glory, honor and worship is Yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, both now and forevermore.

C Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament



"I certainly love it with all my heart, the precious, blessed Supper of my Lord Jesus Christ, in which He gives me His body and blood to eat and to drink orally, with the mouth of my body, accompanied by the exceedingly sweet and gracious words: Given for you, shed for you."

—Martin Luther

SALUTATION

[M] The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

[M] Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

[M] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

[M] Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. His Son, Jesus Christ, has ascended above the heavens and, sitting at your right hand, poured out on this day the promised Holy Spirit on his chosen disciples. For this the whole earth rejoices with exceeding joy. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:



Sanctus means "holy." Used possibly as early as the 2nd century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the 14th century.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY — Sanctus



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -

va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M Blessed are you, Lord God, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. Your Word brought all things into being, and your Word will call all things to an end.

We thank you, heavenly Father, that in mercy you sent your Son to redeem us. By his incarnation, he became one with us. By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will. By his innocent death, he overcame hell. By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

We remember, O Lord, with thanksgiving the saving work of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Renew us that we may joyfully serve you in your kingdom of grace now and in your kingdom of glory forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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,
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.



"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, tribulations, and in the last hour."

— Martin Luther

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.



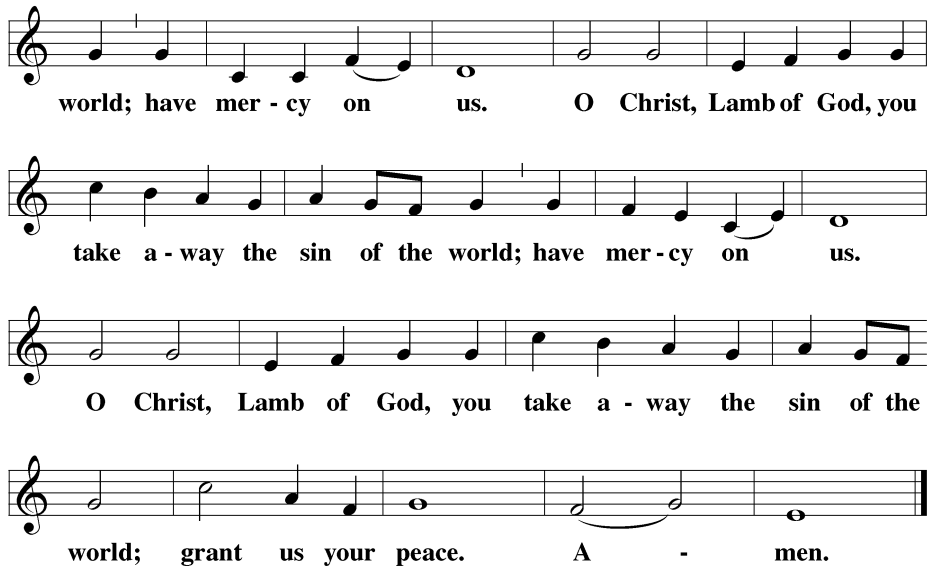
C: A - men.

LAMB OF GOD — *Agnus Dei*



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

The Agnus Dei, which means "Lamb of God," is a song included in the Ordinary of the Divine Service. That means it is included in every Service of the Sacrament. This canticle reminds us that Jesus is God's Lamb, who was offered as a sacrifice for sin, once for all.



world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

*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.*

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.

THANK THE LORD

Please stand.



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joyce and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER FOR GRACE

- [M]** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

- [M]** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the LORD with gladness.



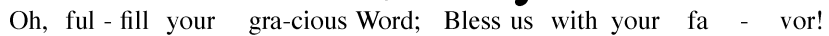
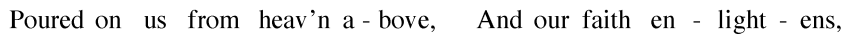
The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them." (cf. Numbers 6:27)

The LORD look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



May this hymn serve as a prayer as we leave this place of worship. We ask that God's message of love and forgiveness be clear to us, and we pray "Amen," that is, "Yes, what has been preached and taught here will be done!"

Tune: DER TAG, DER IST SO FREUDENREICH, Jungbunzlau, 1531



Announcements

SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY! Following the service today, Sunday School will meet at 10:45 at the front of the church.

NO BIBLE CLASS THIS WEEK OR NEXT WEEK In lieu of Bible Class this morning, we will hold our annual Spring Open Forum and Voters' Meeting. Next Sunday, May 22, Pastor Seelow will be out of town. So, the final class of *Romans 1-8* will be held on May 29.

CONGREGATIONAL OPEN FORUM & VOTERS' MEETING Today, following the Divine Service, the annual Spring Voters' Meeting will be held in lieu of Bible Class. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

SUMMER SESSION OF BIBLE CLASSES The Summer Session of Bible Class begins on Sunday, June 5. The class will last 19 minutes (we promise!) and will cover some *Very Important Chapters of the Bible*. Please make time in your schedules to attend one or both of these great opportunities to continue to grow in faith and fellowship.

CHURCH PICNIC ON JUNE 5 A church picnic has been scheduled for June 5. Following Bible Class that day a picnic will be held here on the church grounds. The meal will be potluck and games and fellowship will be enjoyed that afternoon. All members, family, friends, non-members, and visitors are welcome! Please consider staying and making time for fun and fellowship with your fellow members and friends!

500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION TOUR Pastor James Humann, a retired WELS pastor, invites you to join him on a tour celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. The tour is for twelve days and leaves June 19, 2017. This tour will visit the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany where Luther nailed the 95 theses on the church door; the Wartburg Castle where he lived in disguise and translated the New Testament into German; Eisenach where he was born and died; and other important Reformation sites.

In addition to the Reformation sites we'll visit Leipzig where Bach worked and is buried; Munich and Berlin, two of the worlds great cities for history, shopping and enjoying great German cuisine and drink; Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic; the magnificent city of Vienna in Austria; and Salzburg in the beautiful Bavarian Alps where the Sound of Music was filmed.

For a brochure describing the daily itinerary, reservation form and costs, please e-mail Pastor James Humann at Jhumann383@aol.com. If you'd like a hard copy, be sure to include your name and mailing address. Space is limited!

KIDS AND TEENS SUMMER CAMP Once again, Camp Jefferson will be holding Youth and Teen Camps this summer. The 2016 Theme is "Super Savior," based on Luke 1:49: "The mighty one has done great things for me." The Youth Camp will be held July 15–17, and the Teen Camp will be held July 17–20.

Camp Jefferson is a three-day WELS camp located outside of Fairbury, Nebraska. It offers children and youth an opportunity to have fun and fellowship in a safe and controlled environment. These three day camps offer Bible studies, swimming, crafts and outdoor games during the day and campfires, movies, and other activities in the evening. Camp concludes with a worship service for the campers, family and friends.

A dedicated volunteer staff of adults direct the programs under the leadership of the Camp Directors. The Youth Camp is open to children entering 3rd through 8th grade. The Teen Camp is open to all kids entering 9th grade through age 19.

More information, as well as registration forms, can be found at www.welscampjefferson-welsne.org.

BECOME A CASA VOLUNTEER CASA volunteers donate their time to act as the independent eyes and ears of the court, investigate in the field, and speak solely in the interest of the child. Volunteer Training is scheduled to start May 2016! The training consists of 15 hours of coursework completed online and 15 hours in the classroom. CASA programs in Nebraska operate in compliance with the Nebraska Court Appointed Special Advocate Act (Nebraska Revised Statutes §43-3701 et seq). The CASA training will be held in Kearney during the evenings to get to the 15 hours in class hours required. In surveys, Judges find CASA volunteers to be very effective in a wide range of activities that support the court process. They find volunteers most effective in considering the best interests of the child and in monitoring the case. Volunteer input is most highly valued on issues related to placement, stability, permanence and safety of the children while in care. To volunteer call (308) 865-5675.

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER A copy of the newest "A Congregation at Prayer" is available on the table in the entryway. This packet is not only a good outline for personal and family devotions, but it also includes an up-to-date prayer list for those in (and outside) our congregation.

This Week's Calendar

Wednesday, May 18.....7p — *Connection Sinai to Calvary* Bible Class

Sunday, May 22.....9:30a — Divine Service

10:45 — Sunday School

Ushers: Randy Kahle & Chaden Darby

Greeter: Bauch Family

Sound Tech: Jamie Scott

Cleaning (5/15-5/21)*Church*—Riggins; *Fellowship*—Scott; *Ed. Bldg.*—Stutz

Mowing.....Reinsch



www.goodshepherdkearney.org