



O, The Depths of God's Grace!
**GOD'S GRACE IS FOCUSED
OUTSIDE HIMSELF**

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Kearney, Nebraska*

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 24, 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

How profound the love of Jesus! He is talking about his impending suffering and all the Twelve can think and talk about is the glory they expect to get out of it, and whether someone else might be getting more and therefore too much! Wouldn't you think that at least when he is describing his coming Passion he would get a little attention, just a bit of sympathy? But no! The perversity of the best of us is indeed deep and profound. But the love and compassion of the Savior is a thousand times deeper and more profound! He does not cast them off; he does not cast us off either. Instead he patiently demonstrates his love and bids us once more to be concerned only with receiving it and then imitating it.

Today is the second 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 17*An Understanding of God's Grace Begins With a Heart of Faith*

TODAY*God's Grace is Focused Outside of Himself*

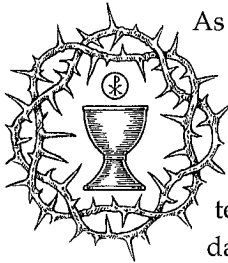
October 1.....*God's Grace is Found Under His Protective Care [Festival of St. Michael and All Angels]*

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

October 15.....*God's Grace is Found in Wealth*

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

O Holy Spirit, Enter In | CW 184

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

Please stand.

M In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C 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.

"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 BE TO GOD — *Gloria in Excelsis*

Luke 2:14

Tune: TALLIS' CANON [CW 597]

"Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth"

— Luke 2:14



1 All glo - ry be to God on high!
 2 Our grate - ful thanks to you we bring,
 3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
 4 You, Christ, are ho - ly— Lord a - lone;



Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;
 For your great glo - ry, heav'n - ly King,
 You take all hu - man sin a - way.
 The Fath - er's glo - ry you made known.

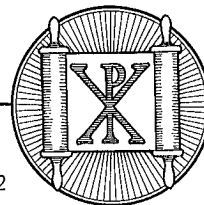


We praise you for your peace and grace,
 For all, O Fath - er, you have done
 Have mer - cy, Lord; re - ceive our prayer;
 We by your Spir - it sing a - gain:



Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.
 Through Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.
 From God's right hand, your mer - cy share.
 "All glo - ry be to God!" A - men.

The Service of the Word



SALUTATION

Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — *Collect*

M Let us pray.

Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; 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

Numbers 12:1-15

MIRIAM AND AARON SPOKE AGAINST MOSES because of the Cushite woman whom he had married, for he had married a Cushite woman. ² And they said, "Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has he not spoken through us also?" And the LORD heard it. ³ Now the man Moses was very meek, more than all people who were on the face of the earth. ⁴ And suddenly the LORD said to Moses and to Aaron and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tent of meeting." And the three of them came out. ⁵ And the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance of the tent and called Aaron and Miriam, and they both came forward. ⁶ And he said, "Hear my words: If there is a prophet among you, I the LORD make myself known to him in a vision; I speak with him in a dream. ⁷ Not so with my servant Moses. He is faithful in all my house. ⁸ With him I speak mouth to mouth, clearly, and not in riddles, and he beholds the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?" ⁹ And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them, and he departed.

¹⁰ When the cloud removed from over the tent, behold, Miriam was leprous, like snow. And Aaron turned toward Miriam, and behold, she was leprous. ¹¹ And Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord, do not punish us because we have done foolishly and have sinned. ¹² Let her not be as one dead, whose flesh is half eaten away when he comes out of his mother's womb." ¹³ And Moses cried to

Moses faces a new rebellion when Miriam and Aaron claim equal status with their younger brother. They learn the danger of challenging God's authority. God's punishment is swift, yet merciful. Our Lord is a Lord of both Law and Gospel, by which he always calls people to repentance and pronounces grace.

the LORD, “O God, please heal her—please.”¹⁴ But the LORD said to Moses, “If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be shamed seven days? Let her be shut outside the camp seven days, and after that she may be brought in again.”¹⁵ So Miriam was shut outside the camp seven days, and the people did not set out on the march till Miriam was brought in again.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY *(Insert)*

Psalm 115 | CWS p. 55

SECOND LESSON

James 3:13-18

WHO IS WISE AND UNDERSTANDING AMONG you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Please stand.

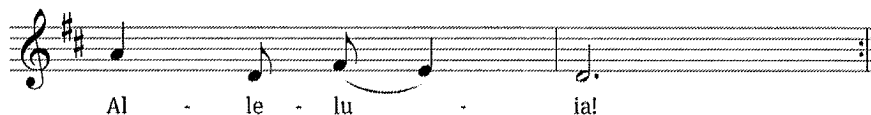
“It is certain that no man who is busy with commandments or righteousness performs this true service. They cannot even comprehend it intellectually. For it is a teaching revealed from heaven which does not arise from the human heart or mind. The Holy Spirit must be the Teacher and Guide. Since He reaches men only through faith in Christ, whereas the work-righteous reject faith and retain the Law, it is impossible for them to perform this service. Therefore the Christian religion is easy, as I said, if you regard only the outward acts. But if you consider this spiritual service, it is most difficult, for you cannot perform this unless your heart is changed.”

— Martin Luther

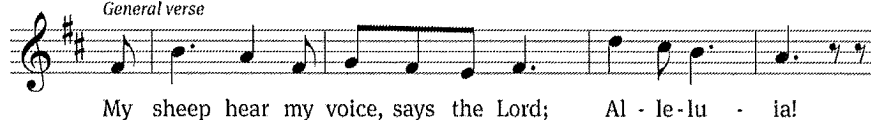
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10:27

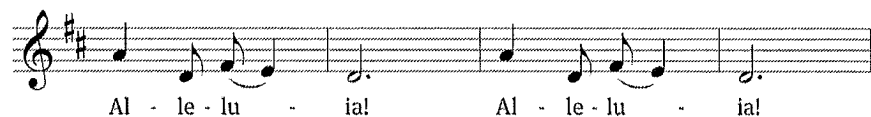
The Pastor will sing the refrain once. The congregation is invited to repeat the refrain a second time. The Pastor will sing the verse, and the congregation is invited to sing the final refrain.



General verse



Final refrain



HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

[M] The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter nine.

THEY WENT ON FROM THERE AND PASSED THROUGH Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, ³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him.

Confused by Jesus' prediction of His death, the disciples return to a subject they know well—their own greatness. Jesus

shows them that true status is found in serving those whom God values. When we are tempted to debate who is the greatest, we should instead look to where the Master hangs on the cross. He represents us before the Father in order to redeem us, and He leads us by the cross into a new life.

And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.”³² But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

³³ And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?”³⁴ But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.³⁵ And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”³⁶ And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them,³⁷ “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

M The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us | CW 486

SERMON

Mark 9:30-37

The G.O.A.T.

NICENE CREED

Please stand.

C We believe in one God,	<i>Dt. 6:4</i>
the Father, the Almighty,	<i>2 Cor. 6:18</i>
maker of heaven and earth,	<i>Is. 51:13</i>
of all that is, seen and unseen.	<i>Col.1:16</i>
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,	<i>1 Cor. 8:6</i>
the only Son of God,	<i>Jn. 3:18</i>
eternally begotten of the Father,	<i>Heb. 1:2,5</i>
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,	<i>Jn. 1</i>

begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.	<i>Jn. 10:30</i>
Through him all things were made.	<i>Jn. 1:3</i>
For us and for our salvation,	<i>1 Th. 5:9</i>
he came down from heaven,	<i>Jn. 6:38</i>
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,	<i>Lk. 1:35</i>
and became fully human.	<i>Gal. 4:4</i>
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.	<i>Mk. 15:15</i>
He suffered death and was buried.	<i>1 Cor. 15:3-4a</i>
On the third day he rose again in accordance	<i>1 Cor. 15:4b</i>
with the Scriptures.	
He ascended into heaven	<i>Ac. 2:33-34</i>
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.	<i>Heb. 1:13</i>
He will come again in glory	<i>Mt. 25:31</i>
to judge the living and the dead,	<i>2 Tim. 4:1</i>
and his kingdom will have no end.	<i>Lk. 1:33</i>
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,	<i>Job 33:4</i>
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,	<i>Jn. 15:26</i>
who in unity with the Father and the Son	<i>Jn. 4:24</i>
is worshiped and glorified,	
who has spoken through the prophets.	<i>2 Pet. 1:25</i>
We believe in one holy Christian	<i>Mt. 16:18; Eph. 2:19-20</i>
and apostolic Church.	
We believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.	<i>Eph. 4:5; Ac. 2:38</i>
We look for the resurrection of the dead	<i>1 Cor. 15:21-22</i>
and the life ✚ of the world to come. Amen.	<i>Rev. 22</i>

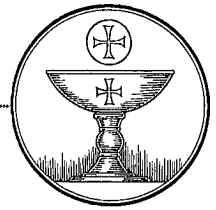
Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the 4th century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

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

C 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.

M 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]

1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly blest is
might, Your glo - ry, earth and heav - en In
he Who in God's name is com - ing To
count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and
set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -

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.

save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And
va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -
liv - er us from bond - age—Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!

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

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,

"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

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.

LAMB OF GOD — *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29

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."

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

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.

Psalms 107:1

M Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C 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

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.

M We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you 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.

C Amen.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:22-27

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."

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

I Know My Faith Is Founded | CW 403 (3)



SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Preaching & Presiding Minister Pr. Nathanael Seelow
Keyboardist Michelle Reinsch
Ushers Jim Cantrell & Logan Hansen
Greeters Donna Haas & Bert Mues

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