



Welcome to Good Shepherd

Called by God to: Grow; Serve; Love; Care and Worship

Today's Worship

"Deny Yourself and Follow Jesus"

May 31, 2015

The apostle Paul instructs us that when we are a follower of Jesus, we are called to "deny yourself." Quite basically, we are called to look less and less like the world and more like Jesus.

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Violin & Flute Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Gathering Song:** "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

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*Call to Worship:

P: We gather for worship today in the name of the Triune God; the Father who has created us, the Son who came to save us, and the Holy Spirit who is with us now to give us strength for life.

C: We thank you and praise your Holy Name, O Lord.

P: Christ, who valued us more than life itself, calls us to take up our cross and follow him in a life of witness and service.

C: Jesus calls us to put him first in our life, making him our number one priority.

P: Putting Jesus first in our life isn't easy. There are so many other demands ... including family, friends, work, and leisure.

C: But the Holy Spirit can help us and give us the strength we need to follow in faith. We know that if we put Christ first in our life other things will fall in place also.

P: Let us pray today for the courage to faithfully follow Christ and the willingness to serve him.

Confessional Prayer: (sit or kneel)

C: O Lord, out of great love you gave your life for us on the cross. You have called us to take up our cross and follow you, but at times we fear that we will be unable to be your faithful disciples. Increase our faith, and help us to trust in your boundless love and your unending grace. Enable us to know that you will forgive us for our failures, and that your Spirit will empower us to follow and serve you always. Amen.

Promise of Forgiveness:

P: Choose carefully today who you will follow and worship. Choose the new life you will find only in God's forgiving love. Always remember whose you are and to whom you belong.

Through the water of baptism you became God's forgiven children forever.

Song: PW 141 "Holy, Holy"

Children's Message

HEARING THE WORD OF THE LORD

Lesson Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice



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in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Song: PW 134 "Spirit Song"

*Announcement of Gospel:

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel Matthew 16:24-28

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who keeps life for himself shall lose it; and anyone who loses his life for me shall find it again. What profit is there if you gain the whole world - and lose eternal life? What can be compared with the value of eternal life? For I, the Son of Mankind, shall come with my angels in the glory of my Father and judge each person according to his deeds. And some of you standing right here will certainly live to see me coming in my Kingdom."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

The Sermon

Song: "You Are Mine"

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RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Statement of Faith

C: We believe in one true God, creator of infinite wisdom and power, whose love points the direction of the universe, and whose concern is for all of us. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and the Savior of the world. Jesus is the gift of the Creator's love, the reason for our hope, and the promise of forgiveness of sin and eternal life. We believe in the Holy Spirit, God present with us, holding us to the truth of Scripture and the example of Jesus, our Lord. We believe that our relationship to God is born out of grace, and we can experience the true love of God in prayer, the Sacraments, the Word, and the fellowship of all believers. We desire that the Kingdom of God would come to all people, and the joy of Christ would be ours forever.

Sharing the Peace

Offering: "Grace Alone" (worship team)

words printed

Prayers of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Song of Blessing: "May You Run & Not Be Weary" (worship team)

*Benediction

***Sending Song:** PW 204 "My Life is in You, Lord"

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Follow and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!



Church Phone: 507-553-3513

Web site: <http://www.goodshepherdwells.org> E-mail: shepherd@bevcomm.net

Broadcast Cable Mediacom TV Channel 7 Sunday at 4:00 p.m.

Broadcast Cable Bevcomm TV Channel 7 Tuesday at 10:15 a.m. & Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Mary Iverson

Scripture Reader: Bill Groskreutz, Jr.

Acolytes: Kylie Loegering, Olivia Niebuhr

Our support of the Ministry God has given us last week: (from all sources of income)

Current-\$3,644.02 Missionary-\$122.00 Dedicated-\$148.25 5/20-30 5/24-107

Birthdays - May 31- June 6 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

2-Samantha Andrews 3-Gerald Ewert 4-Ron Niebuhr Dynette Niebuhr

Emma Heggen Cindy Ovrebo 5-Chloe Bullerman Jason Niebuhr

Julie Seedorf Jim Prust Sandi Hartman 6-Paula Amy

In memory of Harry Holstad's anniversary of his death which was May 19th, a memorial has been received towards the Elevator Repair. It is given by Barb Ziegler.

New Pictorial Directory - Our church will be producing a new pictorial directory with Lifetouch. July 24 & 25, 27-31, 2015. **Sign up in 3 easy ways:**

- Online at goodshepherdwells.org available now for early registration (you will receive a link to a \$10 coupon, with your reminder email, by signing up this way)
- At church on the sign up Wednesday and Weekends
- Or call the office at 507-553-3513 for assistance

Remember our directory won't be complete without you!

Kernel Days Hamburger Stand - Volunteers are needed for the Good Shepherd Hamburger Stand! The Church Council is addressing the future of the Hamburger Stand because, in recent years, only a few people have done all the work. In order to have the Hamburger Stand this year, we need full cooperation from the congregation. A sign-up sheet with all the shifts has been posted on the table near the office door. We need volunteers for all the shifts by June 8. Last year the church profited \$1,600 from the Hamburger Stand. *Please note:* the WELCA Pie Stand will be held this year and all equipment will be delivered to the site.

Vacation Bible School is June 8-12th, 9:00-11:30 a.m. The theme this year is "Everest" Conquering challenges with God's Mighty Power. **The giving tree is up!** Please help by picking an item off the tree to donate for VBS. Registrations are located on the table by the office.

Looking for these items to be used as decorations for VBS - Skis, ski boots, ski poles and a pick axe. If you have any of these items that may be used please call the church office at 553-3513.

Daily Scripture Readings

June 1- Psalm 20 Numbers 9:15-23

Revelation 4:1-8

June 2- Psalm 20 Exodus 25:1-22

1 Corinthians 2:1-10

June 3- Psalm 20 Numbers 6:22-27

Mark 4:21-25

June 4- Psalm 103:1-13, 22

Ezekiel 16:1-14 Romans 3:1-8

June 5- Psalm 103:1-13, 22

Ezekiel 16:44-52 2 Peter 1:1-11

June 6- Psalm 103:1-13, 22

Ezekiel 16:53-63 John 7:53—8:11

June Food Collection - During the month of June a grocery cart will be parked near the pulpit in the sanctuary, accepting donations of canned pasta. Examples include ravioli, lasagna and Chef Boyardee meals. All food donation will be given to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Let's fill the grocery cart!

Congratulations to our Graduates and we commend you to God's care. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their journey: Samantha Andrews, Kyley Bullerman, Ben Huper, Brennan Magnuson, Login McCormick, Shaynn Meyer, Nathan Niebuhr, Celsey Peterson and Samantha Rollenhagen.



Youth Trip to the Wow Zone - Saturday, June 6th. Good Shepherd Youth in grades 7th through 12 (those who have completed grade 6) are invited to a fun night at the Wow Zone in Mankato. Leave on Saturday, June 6th at 7:15pm from the church and return at 12:30 a.m. Cost to attend is \$10 and this includes transportation, unlimited bowling, laser tag, mini golf and \$5 card for arcade games. Youth must sign up (on sheet at the church office) by June 4. Speak with Pastor Mary if you have any questions or if you can drive/chaperone.