



Welcome to Good Shepherd

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

Today's Worship

November 8, 2015

“Elijah at Mount Carmel/Women’s Thankoffering”

After the kingdom of Israel was divided, the people of God struggled from drought and famine. The people in the northern Kingdom started worshiping idols rather than God. While many prophets were killed, Elijah escaped capture. God led Elijah to challenge the king and lead the people back to God. Elijah’s question: “How long are you going to sit on the fence?” In what ways do we sit on the fence, worship both God, money, comfort or power?

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee “ ELW 836

Call to Worship

P: This is the day that the Lord has made.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P: Today brings a gift of life.

C: Holy God, you make us in your image.

P: Today brings all we need to live with purpose.

C: Holy God, you call us to live as a follower of Jesus.

P: Today brings the strength to live more fully.

C: Holy God, you empower us through the Holy Spirit.

P: We gather to worship, we gather to pray.

C: Prepare our hearts, hear our prayers. Amen.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

C: God of the prophets and the prophets' heirs, make your mighty presence known among us. Empower us to be bold in your name. Amen.

Children's Message

Choir Anthem “How Good, Lord, to Be Here!” Adult Choir

Psalms: 150

¹Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!

²**Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!**

³Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

⁴**Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!**

⁵Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

⁶**Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!**

*Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of 1 Kings chapter 18.

C: Praise to you, O Lord.

Bible Story 1 Kings 18:20-39

²⁰ So Ahab summoned everyone in Israel, particularly the prophets, to Mount Carmel. ²¹ Elijah challenged the people: “How long are you going to sit on the fence? If God is the real God, follow him; if it’s Baal, follow him. Make up your minds!” Nobody said a word; nobody made a move. ²²⁻²⁴ Then Elijah said, “I’m the only prophet of God left in Israel; and there are 450 prophets of Baal. Let the Baal prophets bring up two oxen; let them pick one, butcher it, and lay it out on an altar on firewood—but don’t ignite it. I’ll take the other ox, cut it up, and lay it on the wood. But neither will I light the fire. Then you pray to your gods and I’ll pray to God. The god who answers with fire will prove to be, in fact, God.” All the people agreed: “A good plan—do it!” ²⁵ Elijah told the Baal prophets, “Choose your ox and prepare it. You go first, you’re the majority. Then pray to your god, but don’t light the fire.” ²⁶ So they took the ox he had given them, prepared it for the altar, then prayed to Baal. They prayed all morning long, “O Baal, answer us!” But nothing happened—not so much as a whisper of breeze. Desperate, they jumped and stomped on the altar they had made. ²⁷⁻²⁸ By noon, Elijah had started making fun of them, taunting, “Call a little louder—he is a god, after all. Maybe he’s off meditating somewhere or other, or maybe he’s gotten involved in a project, or maybe he’s on vacation. You don’t suppose he’s overslept, do you, and needs to be waked up?” They prayed louder and louder, cutting themselves with swords and knives—a ritual common to them—until they were covered with blood. ²⁹ This went on until well past noon. They used every religious trick and strategy they knew to make something happen on the altar, but nothing happened—not so much as a whisper, not a flicker of response. ³⁰⁻³⁵ Then Elijah told the people, “Enough of that—it’s my turn. Gather around.” And they gathered. He then put the altar back together for by now it was in ruins. Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes of Jacob, the same Jacob to whom God had said, “From now on your name is Israel.” He built the stones into the altar in honor of God. Then Elijah dug a fairly wide trench around the altar. He laid firewood on the altar, cut up the ox, put it on the wood, and said, “Fill four buckets with water and drench both the ox and the firewood.” Then he said, “Do it again,” and they did it. Then he said, “Do it a third time,” and they did it a third time. The altar was drenched and the trench was filled with water. ³⁶⁻³⁷ When it was time for the sacrifice to be offered, Elijah the prophet came up and prayed, “O God, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, make it known right now that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I’m doing what I’m doing under your orders. Answer me, God; O answer me and reveal to this people that you are God, the true God, and that you are giving these people another chance at repentance.” ³⁸ Immediately the fire of God fell and burned up the offering, the wood, the stones, the dirt, and even the water in the trench. ³⁹ All the people saw it happen and fell on their faces in awed worship, exclaiming, “God is the true God! God is the true God!”

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Song “Have You Thanked the Lord?” ELW 829

***Apostles' Creed.** page 105

***Sharing the Peace**

Offering

Offering Blessing for Women's Thank Offering

Prayers of the Church/Choir Anthem “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

The Lord's Prayer

Sending Hymn “I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me”. ELW 860

Dismissal

P: Go in peace and share God's abundance.

C: Thanks be to God!

Birthdays-Nov 8-14 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

9-Reese Druckenmiller	11-Arla Sorom	Lesley Richardson	14-Myrna Boggess
Zach Linde	12-Dale Thompson	Lyssa Warmka	Harvey Malakowsky
10-William Groskreutz	13-Danielle Drugg	Blair Wegner	Irene Niebuhr
Elise Theede			

Thankoffering - As we collect the Thankoffering today, we share in a tradition dating back to the 1800s, when Christian women formed “mite” or “cent” societies to fund mission. When others in the church said there was not enough money to carry out these projects, the women believed otherwise. In these societies, each woman collected offerings at home. On occasion, they would gather as we do today to worship and combine their offerings and offer them up with thanks and praise. When Women of the ELCA was formed nearly 30 years ago, we committed to continue this tradition of giving in gratitude for blessings. Each year, in thousands of congregations, Thankofferings are collected and sent to support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA. Together, we do more than we could ever do apart. In gratitude for all God has given to us, and with hope for all that is to come, we now collect our Thankoffering.

November Food Collection - During the month of November, a grocery cart located next to the pulpit in the sanctuary will be collecting donations of toilet paper and Kleenex. All items collected this month will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf. A special thanks for the canned fruit donated in October.

“Tie Night” Youth Event - Sunday, November 8 ~ 4:00-6:00 p.m. Grades 3-12 We will tie fleece blankets to gift to the Adolescent Treatment Center in Winnebago, play games, hear a report about the We Day event from Allison Swanson and enjoy a free pizza dinner. Wear a neck tie (that will

be donated to the necktie altar project). Please sign up on the church office door! Invite a friend – all are welcome!

Bishop Steven Delzer Preaches at Good Shepherd - Sunday, November 15 at 9:00 a.m. Bishop Delzer will preach and preside at Holy Communion on Sunday, November 15. Following worship he will be at Fellowship Coffee in the basement Social Hall for a forum where he will tell more about the synod and his focus during his term as bishop. He will also take questions during the forum. The Rev. Steven Delzer was elected in 2013 to a six-year term as bishop of the SE MN Synod of the ELCA. Previous to his call he served as lead pastor of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Faribault, Zion Lutheran, West Union, Iowa, interim pastor at First Lutheran, Albert Lea. Prior to 2000, Bishop Delzer served congregations in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. He was ordained as pastor in 1978. Delzer and his wife, Donita, have three adult children and currently reside in Faribault.

Bishop Delzer’s initiative is to work together to end hunger in our synod. In his honor, you are invited to bring an offering of food for our Wells Area Food Shelf. May we offer a large ingathering of food as our effort to end hunger.

Confirmation Pictures are in and may be picked up in the Church Office.

Children's Worship Center - Families are welcome to bring their babies, toddlers or preschoolers into our new Children's Worship Center, which is in the chapel on the west side of the sanctuary. It is difficult to expect our youngest worshipers to sit still for an hour. In the Children's Worship Center, the children have the opportunity to experience worship but yet move around naturally. Parents are required to supervise the children and are asked to clean up the toys.

Sr. Saints - November is the time of the Thanksgiving feast when we think a lot about food. Check your recipe file so you can share a recipe that is special to you and tell why it has special meaning. Did you get it from a special friend or was it passed down in your family? Join us on this path of memories at Senior Saints on November 18 at 11:00 a.m. Everyone 55 and older is invited to share in the fun and fellowship as we partake of the food provided by the November service group.

Needed for Funerals - Clean ice cream pails with covers for left overs for the family. If you have any pails and would like to donate them to the church, please drop the ice cream pails off in the church office. Thank you.

2015 Community Thanksgiving Dinner - The annual community Thanksgiving Dinner is being served here at Good Shepherd this year on Thurs., Nov. 26th. We will be inviting people to donate dinner ingredients, time to prepare or help serve. Watch for sign up sheets at the church. Dinner is served from 11 :00 a.m. to 1 :00 p.m. Sign up sheets for Volunteers and food donations are located

on the table by the church office.

Address for Tom Wetzell: Oak Terrace, 1575 Hoover Dr Apt 159, North Mankato MN 56003

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Community Thanksgiving Eve Worship - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wells, is hosting the Community Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service on Wednesday, November 25,2015 at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Brynn Harms of Wells Assembly of God will be the preacher. We will gather together as a community to join our hearts in giving thanks to God. The offering collected that night will to the Wells Community Help Fund which provides assistance to those in need. We also invite worshipers to bring non-perishable food items for the Wells Area Food Shelf

Christmas Wreaths will again adorn the Sanctuary at a cost of \$15.00. If you would like to purchase one or more in memory of a loved one please contact the church office soon, as there are only 12 wreaths.

Name _____ Phone Number _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____



Daily Scripture Readings

Nov 2 - Psalm 51

Deuteronomy 6:10-25

Romans 12:17-21; 13:8-10

Nov 3 - Psalm 51

Deuteronomy 28:58—29:1

Acts 7:17-29

Nov 4 - Psalm 51

Micah 6:1-8

John 13:31-35

Nov 5 - Psalm 146

Numbers 36:1-13

Romans 5:6-11

Nov 6 - Psalm 146

Deuteronomy 15:1-11

Hebrews 9:15-24

Nov 7 - Psalm 146

Deuteronomy 24:17-22

Mark 11:12-14, 20-24