



Welcome to Good Shepherd

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

Today's Worship

September 6, 2015

“Seeds Planted, Flowers Grown”

God has chosen us, you and I, to grow the Kingdom of God, in this corner of the world. We are called to make God's love alive in our world and the promise is that when we plant the seeds of God's love it will not return empty, but will blossom and grow. Where in your life, or to whom, are you called to plant some seeds of love?

Welcome

***Gathering Song** “Build Us Up, Lord”. ELW 670

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: God of righteousness, bend your ear toward your people and hear our cry:

C: We are weary from our wickedness. We tire of bearing the burden of sin. Fear, jealousy, anger and resentment have drained us. Forgive us and renew in us your hope and your Holy Spirit, that we may rest in your favor, and rejoice in your goodness.

P: People of God, you are forgiven. You are pardoned of your sin. Guilt is erased and your wrongs are washed away. Rest and rejoice, for you have been given new life, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*Prayer of the Day

C: Loving God, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

Psalm 67 (read responsively)

¹May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,

²**that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁴**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.**

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁶**The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.**

⁷May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

*Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of Isaiah, chapter 55.

C: Praise to you, O Lord.

Scripture Isaiah 55:10-12

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

The Song of the Day “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”. ELW 779

***Apostles' Creed.** page 105

*Sharing the Peace

Offering

Offertory Response. “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”. ELW 184

Prayers of the Church (sit or kneel)

Words of Institution/The Lord's Prayer

Distribution

Communion Blessing

*Benediction

***Sending Song** “We Are Marching in the Light” ELW 866

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Preaching & Presiding: Rev. Mary Iverson

Scripture Reader: Ruth Heggen

Communion Helpers: Tom & Lynne Hansen, Kim Stevermer

Birthdays-Sept 6-12 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

6-Cody Melcher	8-Mike Beyer	Carol Lackey	10-Nick Buendorf
Karen Niebuhr	Robert Eckwright IV	10-Don Beckmann	11-Brian Schrader
Marian Sonnek	9-Ruben Groskreutz	Rhonda Loegering	12-Henry Mutschler

Gluten Free Wafers Now Available - Gluten Free Communion wafers are now available each time Holy Communion is served during worship. Please ask the communion server for a gluten free wafer as it is kept in a separate serving container.

September Food Collection - During the month of September a grocery cart located near the pulpit in the sanctuary will be accepting donations of rice and dried beans. Pinto beans are one example of dried beans that are appreciated by food shelf customers. All food collected will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf.

September 15 Photo Session for Church Directory - There is one last opportunity to have your photo taken for the upcoming Church Photo Directory being made together with Lifetouch. The photographers will be at Good Shepherd on September 15. If you haven't yet had photos taken, you can sign up on the Good Shepherd website or by calling Andrea at the Good Shepherd office (553-3513). We hope that the directories will be delivered to us here at the church around mid-November. Thanks to everyone who had their photos taken or submitted photos and a big thanks to Julie Forderer and Lynne Hansen for co-chairing the project

Thrivent Financial Child's Play House Ticket Sales -Thrivent Financial Chapter 31187 are selling tickets for a child's play house to be raffled on Sept. 25, 2015. The proceeds are used by Habitat for Humanity to build affordable housing for people in need. Cost: \$5.00 per ticket or 3 for \$10.00. Contact Laurayne Stern or Karen Niebuhr.

Bring a Friend to Worship- *Wednesday, September 16 or Sunday, September 20*

When a new restaurant once opened in Mankato, several friends recommended it to me. And when a great movie comes out, other friends say, "Make sure you see it!" Maybe that is how you found out about Good Shepherd, through the recommendation of a friend. This 'come and see' invitation is the best way to reach out with God's love. While you are encouraged to invite friends anytime, on Sunday, September 20 and Wednesday, September 16 we are encouraging members to invite a friend to join them in worship. What is recommended is a pressure free and "come and see" invitation. We will have some great special music during worship, an engaging message and fantastic food at Fellowship Coffee and Wednesday Supper. Are there some relatives, friends or neighbors who don't have a church home? Invite and offer to pick them up for worship at Good Shepherd.

Sunday School Class to Begin - Sunday School will begin on Sunday, Sept. 20th. The students will begin in worship with their families. After the Children's Sermon, the teacher for that week will walk the kids out to the classroom near the church offices. The teacher will bring them back to worship before the worship service ends. Please speak with Pastor Mary (553-3513) if you are willing to be a teacher or a substitute in the Sunday School program. Please fill out a registration form and have your child bring it to class the first day they attend.

Wednesday School Classes Begin - Wednesday School Classes begin on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd and will be held from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. Students can be dropped off and picked up at the classroom which is near the church office. Make sure there is a teacher or an adult in the classroom before you leave your child. Please fill out a registration form and have your child bring it to class the first day they attend. Call the church office (553-3513) if you can volunteer as a helper to assist the teachers during September and October. Students are invited to worship from 6:15 to 6:55 p.m. and can take part in worship by ringing the church bell or helping collect offering by taking a tag from the "worship helper" stand near the back pew. PLEASE NOTE: As a change, the students will not be leaving midway through worship as they did last year. The class starts after worship and will end at the same time as confirmation class.

Confirmation for 7th & 8th Graders Begins - An orientation for all confirmation students (along with a parent) is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, Sept. 16th from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. in the basement Church Social Hall near the stage. The first regular confirmation class will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 23. It begins with worship at 6:15 p.m. in the sanctuary followed by class from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. in the basement Social Hall near the stage. A schedule for the full year will be handed out at the September 16 Orientation. Please remember that the Wednesday night supper is served from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. and all youth (grades 8 and below) eat free.

PB & J "Parents, Babies and Jesus" Class - New Class for Preschoolers & Parents. *Wednesdays 7:00 - 7:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 23rd*. Good Shepherd is excited to offer a new Wednesday School class for kids who are ages 2 and 3 years old and a parent. Carol Jacobson, who is an Early Childhood Educator, will teach the class each Wednesday from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Good Shepherd nursery beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd. The PB & J class is a wonderful opportunity to get a free Early Childhood class with your child and help them begin to learn about God and God's love. A parent or grandparent attends each class with the child and will include a "circle time," a Bible story, music and a simple craft. Invite friends or neighbors – all are welcome!

Daily Scripture Readings

Sep 7 - Psalm 55:1-15
Job 8:1-22
1 Corinthians 7:1-9
Sep 8 - Psalm 55:1-15
Job 11:1-20
1 Corinthians 7:10-16
Sept 9 - Psalm 55:1-15
Job 15:1-35
Matthew 5:27-36
Sep 10 - Psalm 22:1-15
Job 17:1-16
Hebrews 3:7-19
Sept 11 - Psalm 22:1-15
Job 18:1-21
Hebrews 4:1-11
Sep 12 - Psalm 22:1-15
Job 20:1-29
Matthew 15:1-9

Dessert Bake Off Sept. 20th - Do you make a dessert that is to die for? Good Shepherd members would like to taste your fantastic creation. On Sunday, Sept. 20th we will hold a "Dessert Bake Off" Any one any age from Good Shepherd can enter their favorite dessert creation in the contest. Bring your dessert entry to the Social Hall before worship. We are hoping to have lots of entries! Those attending Sunday morning coffee will taste the various dessert selections and vote on the ones they feel qualify for the prizes. Please call the church office or Linda Hagen (553-5057) if you have any questions or would like to enter the contest by Sunday, September 13th.

Dessert _____

Made by _____ Phone _____

_____ Adult

_____ Children 18 and under

Good Shepherd Connect Dinner Group -Potluck Kick Off Meal - Sunday, Sept. 20th, 6:00 pm. Good Shepherd basement Social Hall, Please bring a dish to pass. The Connect Dinner Group is starting with a potluck supper. Interested? Sign up on the "Connect Group Bulletin Board" near the church office and plan to come! All are welcome.

Good Shepherd Connect Movies & Plays Group - Kick Off Event - Sunday, Sept. 20th, 10:00 am. Good Shepherd basement Social Hall. The Connect Movies & Plays Group is starting with a kick off planning meeting. Interested? Sign up on the "Connect Group Bulletin Board" near the church office and plan to come! Meet during the Dessert Bake Off immediately after worship (10:00 am) in the Church Social Hall at the table (near the stage) marked "Connect Movies & Plays Group" to gather with others in the group and discuss plans for future events. All are welcome.

Good Shepherd Connect Card & Games Group- Kick Off Event - Sunday, Sept. 20th, 10:00 am. Good Shepherd basement Social Hall. The Connect Walking Group is starting with a kick off planning meeting. Interested? Sign up on the "Connect Group Bulletin Board" near the church office and plan to come! Meet during the Dessert Bake Off immediately after worship (10:00 am) in the Church Social Hall at the table (near the stage) marked "Connect Walking Group" to gather with others in the group and discuss plans for future walks. All are welcome.

NEXT WEEK!

God's Work. Our Hands.

Sunday, September 13th immediately

following worship (about 9:50am)

The ELCA is encouraging all churches to put our faith into action together in our communities on September 13th. We will have five stations and you participate in one activity or several.

1. Make Letters, cards or draw pictures for our military veterans who are at the Veteran's Hospital in Minneapolis.
2. Bake and package cookies to be given to some of the helpers in our communities (such as police & fire department). We will also make cards to accompany the cookies.
3. Cut and tie fleece blankets for the Adolescent Treatment Center of Winnebago.
4. Teams will also head out into the community to do simple landscaping (weeding and shrub trimming and cleaning up) at five different Wells locations.
5. One team will head out to do some "Random Acts of Kindness" around the community. They will have some gift cards to use to surprise people making purchases, clean windshields at the gas station or visit a homebound member with flowers.

Everyone will report to the basement Social Hall to the station of their choosing, where a team leader will help with the activity. Worship will be a few minutes shorter to leave you time to "Go in peace. Serve the Lord." Plan now to put your faith into action on September 13th and dress accordingly, if needed.