



Welcome to Good Shepherd

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

Today's Worship

September 27, 2015

“Jacob Wrestles God”

Today's Bible story is about Jacob, the grandson of Abraham. The promises from God continue through Jacob and his family, that they are blessed to be a blessing. In this story, Jacob wrestles with God and it shows how a struggle shapes him. Like his relatives before him, Jacob also struggles to trust in the promises of God.

Welcome

***Gathering** “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”. ELW 779

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: We have our habits of running from the truth. But at some point, we must wrestle with our choices. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection

P: Gracious God, you meet us on the road,

C: And our journeys have changed us. We are not the people we once hoped to be. We turn back toward you, with anxiety, having wandered far from you. Although we hear of your gracious love, we come as beggars with questioning hearts. Forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P: It may be that we wrestle more deeply with our sins and our turning away than God does. We bargain only with ourselves, fighting for a blessing that is offered freely by God. Christ says to you: you have always been loved and you are now forgiven.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

C: Holy God, your servant Jacob wrestled with your angel and prevailed. In honor of his persistence you gave him a new name. Teach us to persist in the face of struggle and call us by name. Amen.

Children's Message

Choir Anthem “Come Down, O Love Divine”. Adult Choir

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 (read responsively)

⁸The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

¹⁵**The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷**The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.**

¹⁸The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

¹⁹He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them.

²⁰**The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.**

²¹My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.

*Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of Genesis chapter 18.

C: Praise to you, O Lord.

Scripture Genesis 32:22-30

²²The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved."

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

The Song of the Day “Jacob Struggled for a Blessing”. Printed

***Apostles' Creed**. page 105

*Sharing the Peace

Offering

Offertory Response/Song of the Month “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”. ELW 733

Prayers of the Church (sit or kneel)

The Lord's Prayer

*Benediction

***Sending Song** “Send Me, Lord”. ELW 809

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Preaching & Presiding: Rev. Mary Iverson

Scripture Reader: Linda Stern

Birthdays-Sept 27-Oct 3 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

27-Charlene Harris	Melany Ehlert	Dennis Sellner	3-Craig Anderson
28-Jon Huper	30-Nick Niebuhr	2-Noah Boeck	Amy Crabtree
Hannah Warmka	1-Tammy Mandler	Ciara Schrader	Jackie Huper
29-Russ Bathke			

In Memory of Elmer Ziegler's birthday anniversary which was Sept. 24th a gift has been received towards the Drive Project. It is given by Barb Ziegler.

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.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser - Communities Fighting Student Hunger Backpack Program will host a Spaghetti Dinner Mon., Sept. 28th from 5:00-7:00 pm or until gone, at United South Central Commons Area. Free will donation. Gluten free pasta available.

MN Harvest Campaign - Help the Wells Area Food Shelf by bringing your extra garden produce to share with those who are not able to have a garden. Also consider additional healthy foods to donate such as dry beans, whole grains and rice. You may drop the items off on Tuesday, Sept. 22nd or 29th.

New Address: Gerald & Bonnie Groskreutz, %Judy Schwerin, 4401 Hypointe Circle, Sioux Falls SD 57105.

JACOB STRUGGLED FOR A BLESSING

1. Jacob struggled for a blessing in the darkness all night long,
holding tightly to a stranger - could he hear a distant song?
God of every person's future, you gave him a change of name'
give to us a new direction out of struggle, out of pain.
2. Jesus struggled in the garden in the night of blood and tears.
He was lonely in the darkness, though there was an angel near.
God of hope and transformation, it took tears and pain and death
to destroy the power of evil, to give us the Spirit's breath.
3. When we struggle in the darkness, take away our fear and doubt.
In the dirt beneath the surface quiet seeds begin to sprout.
God of great surprise and mystery, make us constant in our prayer.
As we ask and search for answers, may we come to know your care.

Robin Mann © 1995 To the tune of 587 "There's a Wideness"

Daily Scripture Readings

- Sept 28 -Psalm 5
Zechariah 6:9-15
1 Peter 1:3-9
- Sept 29 -Psalm 5
Zechariah 8:18-23
1 John 2:18-25
- Sept 30 -Psalm 5
Zechariah 10:1-12
Matthew 18:6-9
- Oct 1 - Psalm 8
Genesis 20:1-18
Galatians 3:23-29
- Oct 2 - Psalm 8
Genesis 21:22-34
Romans 8:1-11
- Oct 3 - Psalm 8
Genesis 23:1-20
Luke 16:14-18