



Welcome to Good Shepherd

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

September 17, 2017

Today's Worship

God Provides Blessings ~ God Provides for Abraham. In today's story, God keeps his word to give Abraham and Sarah a son in their old age. In an odd twist, Abraham is then instructed to sacrifice his beloved son. This is one of the most difficult stories in the Bible. It is hard to understand that God would ask anyone to sacrifice their child! God was asking Abraham to place the future in God's hands. Like Abraham, we are often led to the brink of disaster and then are reminded that God really does provide for us. Do you trust that the future of your life is in God's hands?

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" ELW 843

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us prepare our hearts and our minds for worship as we confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection

P: Loving and forgiving God,

C: Although you have never failed us, we often fail to trust in you. Forgive us for the hurt we have caused by things we have said, thought or done. Forgive us for what we have failed to say or do. Renew us to a new life in your kingdom. Amen.

P: God, who provides, also loves and forgives. Receive now the entire forgiveness of all your sins, granted in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

C: Gracious God, we give you thanks that you provide us with all necessary things. While we may not always understand the ways we are tested in life, we know that you will always provide for us when we are in need. Help us to trust in you and obey you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Children's Message

Choir Anthem "We Walk By Faith" Adult Choir

Martin Luther Moment

Psalms 139:1-9, 23-24 (read responsively)

- ¹O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- ²**You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.**
- ³You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.
- ⁴**Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.**
- ⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
- ⁶**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.**
- ⁷Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
- ⁸**If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**
- ⁹If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- ²³**Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.**
- ²⁴See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

*Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of Genesis chapter 2.

C: Praise to you, O Lord

Bible Story Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

¹The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised.

²Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him.

¹After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. ⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Song "Lamb of God" PW 112

The Apostles' Creed page 105

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offertory Response "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" ELW 623

Prayers of the Church

Words of Institution/The Lord's Prayer

Distribution

Communion Blessing

Benediction

Sending Song "Sent Forth by God's Blessings" ELW 547

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. 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 Bevcomm TV Channel 7 Tuesday at 10:15 a.m. & Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Welcome to Worship at Good Shepherd! It is our mission to Grow, Serve, Love, Care and Worship. It is our prayer and our hope that you will sense the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the midst of worship.

Preaching: Rev. Mary Iverson

Pianist/Organist: Jean Carlson

Scripture Reader: Gerry Baynard

Communion Helpers: Kent & Linda Stern, Kim Stevermer

Birthdays - Sep 17-23 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

17-Al Mattick	20-Corbin Cummings	21-Melissa Niebuhr	Diane Lutteke
Tucker Trytten	Ruth Schaper	22-Nancy Christensen	Dan Treptow
19-Justin Ramaker	Breanna Wegner		

September Food Collection - During the month of September we will collect food donations of nuts for cooking or eating. A grocery cart is parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Thank you for your generous donations in August of Asian foods.

SonGQuest Singing at Good Shepherd - Sun., Sept. 24th at 9:00 a.m. worship. SonGQuest is a barbershop quartet based in the Fairmont, MN area. The group consists of Randy Rogers (Marshall), Brad Gerhardt (Fairmont), Jeff Hagen (Ceylon) and Curt Korn (Kiester). They will sing several gospel songs as a part of our worship service. A free will offering will be collected that day for the group.

Habitat for Humanity is selling raffle tickets for a child's playhouse this year. All of the little boys wanted something more "manly", so we went with an Old West Fort this year. Tickets are \$5 each, and you can purchase them from Staci Thompson or Lauryne Stern, or call the Habitat Office at 526-2500.

Senior Saints - Come to Senior Saints on Wednesday, September 20 at 11:00 a.m. at the Broadway Apartments to hear Gary and Linda Hagen share information about their trip to Norway and Sweden. After they share their pictures and stories, everyone 55 and older who attends is invited to share in the meal that is provided by the September service group.

The Man-Fair Region Auxiliary will be meeting on Tue., Sept. 26th at Bricelyn Lutheran Church at 1:30 p.m. Our speaker is Jan Vetter from the Rochester LSS Office. She is in charge of the "Ways to Give" Program. Some of the things that they can use are dishes, pots and pans, and silverware. They do not need to be new but in good useable condition. Pack breakables accordingly. With winter coming soon, hats, scarves, mittens, and warm white tube socks are in great demand. See you then! If you have any of these items you wish to donate please in the box by the office by Sept. 25th. Thank you.

The Eternal Candle is burning this week in loving memory of Mandy Stern, who died Sept. 22, 2006. It is given by Halie Stern, Lyle & Sharen Stern and family.

Wednesday School Kick Off! - *September 20 ~ 5:00-8:00 p.m.* - On Wednesday, September 20 we will host a kick-off for our Wednesday education program. We will host a great dinner from 5-6pm, followed by worship at 6:15pm. At 7:00pm we will open a BOUNCE HOUSE which will be in the new parking lot near the elevator entrance. We will also serve root beer floats for all ages. If weather cooperates, they will be served outdoor – if it is chilly they will be served in the kitchenette. You are also encouraged to stop by the Registration Table (it will be outside and near Classroom 1) to register your children for Wednesday School (grades kindergarten through 6) and PB&J Class (for ages 2, 3, and 4 year olds). Registration forms will be available on September 20 or you may use the one on page 13 of the September Voice.

PB & J “Parents, Babies and Jesus” Class - *A Wednesday School class for preschoolers and their families - Wednesdays 7:00-7:45 p.m. beginning September 27.* Good Shepherd is pleased to continue our Wednesday School class for preschool students who are ages 2, 3 & 4. The class is held in the church nursery, on the north end of the education hall. A parent, grandparent or older sibling attends each class with the child, which includes “circle time,” a Bible story, music, simple crafts and a snack. Registration for the class is on September 20.

7th & 8th Grade Confirmation Orientation - September 20 ~ 7:15-7:30pm Basement Social Hall An orientation for all confirmation students, along with a parent, is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, September 20 from 7:15-7:45pm. It will be held in the basement Church Social Hall near the stage. A schedule for the entire year will be handed out and the entire program will be explained. Before or after the orientation, you are invited to stop and enjoy a free root beer float which will be served from 7:00-8:00 outside near the elevator entrance. Remember that dinner is also served from 5-6pm and youth always eat free!

Confirmation Classes for 7th & 8th Graders - Begins September 27 at 7:00pm - The first regular class of the confirmation year is Wednesday, September 27. It begins with worship at 6:15pm in the sanctuary followed by class from 7:00-7:45pm in the basement Social Hall near the stage. Please remember that Wednesday Night Supper is served from 5:00-6:00pm and that all youth eat free.

9th Graders Preparing for Confirmation Sunday - Good Shepherd 9th graders will be confirmed on Sunday, October 15 during the 9:00am worship service. In preparation, a class will be held on Sunday, September 17 from 12:30-1:30pm in the Good Shepherd kitchenette (across from the nursery) for all 9th graders who plan to be confirmed. 9th graders need their Faith Papers completed by Sunday, September 10 and can then sign up for “Faith Paper Discussion” with Pastor Mary. The sign up sheet for the Faith Paper Discussion is on Pastor Mary’s office door. *Congregation: please join in prayer for our 9th graders as they prepare to affirm their faith.*

Holy Hot Dish Sale The youth who are attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering are hosting another “Holy Hot Dish Sale.” There are two times that they will be selling their hot dishes:

- Wednesday, September 27 from 7:00-7:30pm (on a table near the church offices)
- Sunday, October 1 from 10:00-10:15am at a table near the front door followed by sales in the basement during fellowship coffee

The hot dishes will be available in both smaller square 7x7 pans and also in cake sized pans. They will all be labeled with the ingredients and baking instructions. All proceeds will go to the youth gathering accounts of each of the hot dish chefs.