

**Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**Building up God's people through His word for His world**

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**June 28, 2026**

*The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.*

**We especially welcome our guests who are worshipping here today.** What a privilege to greet you! If you have no church home in the area, we invite you to participate in the life and ministry of Good Shepherd. For information about our congregation, visit [gslcva.org](http://gslcva.org). Also, please fill out a Welcome card, which you'll find near the hymnals, and place it in the offering plate.

**Our worship reflects the liturgical tradition of the Christian church.** During the summer, Holy Communion is celebrated on the first, third, and fifth Sundays at the 9:30 a.m. "traditional" services in the sanctuary. Our summer schedule runs through September 6.

**To all worshippers:** The presence of children in worship is a gift to the Body of Christ and a reminder that our congregation is growing. Remember that Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Please welcome our young ones and give their parents a smile of encouragement or a helping hand, if needed.

**To the parents of young ones, here are a few suggestions for worshipping with your children:** Relax! God put the wiggles and giggles in kids; don't feel that you have to suppress them in His house. All are welcome! Sit toward the front, where it is easier to see and hear what's going on. Quietly explain the parts of the worship service and actions of the pastor, ushers, communion assistants, etc. Sing the hymns and songs, pray, and voice the responses aloud. Children learn worshipful behavior by copying you. If you have to leave the worship service with your child or stand up and walk around the back of the sanctuary, feel free to do so, but please come back! And finally, if you so choose, . . .

**You are welcome to use our nursery**, as well as our parents' room next to the nursery, if your young ones need a break from the service. The Parents' Room is also a comfortable place where mothers may nurse their babies. The worship service is livestreamed to a monitor in the Parents' Room.

**We offer Bible studies** for adults on Sunday mornings during the summer. See News and Announcements for class information. Sunday School classes for children and youth resume in the fall.

**Need hearing assistance?** Ask an usher for a headset, which has a direct feed from our sound system.

**Flowers and plants in our worship areas** are supported by financial donations to the Flower Fund. These floral offerings beautify the church, uplift service participants, and remind us of God's good creation. You can find information about being a flower sponsor on the bulletin board near the Fellowship Hall and at [gslcva.org/giving](http://gslcva.org/giving) (look for the sponsorship form at the bottom of that page). Today's flowers are sponsored by Linda Wetzel in memory of her husband, Tony Wetzel.

**Prelude** "America the Beautiful" arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen

**Welcome** Pastor Johann

*Please stand*

**Opening Hymn** "God Himself Is Present" **Hymn No. 907**

**Invocation, Confession, and Forgiveness**

*The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence for reflection on God's word and for self-examination. You may kneel or remain standing.*

P: Compassionate God,

C: **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: **Amen.**

*Please stand*

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**Kyrie** ~ *Lord, have mercy* **Music in hymnal, pages 168-69**

**Hymn of Praise** "Glory to God in the Highest" **Music in hymnal, page 170**

**Salutation and Prayer of the Day** **Music in hymnal, page 172**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

*Please sit*

## First Reading

## Jeremiah 28:5-9

*Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).*

R: <sup>5</sup> The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, <sup>6</sup> and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup> But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup> The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup> As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

## Romans 6:12-23

*Sin is an enslaving power that motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.*

R: <sup>12</sup> Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. <sup>13</sup> No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup> For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

<sup>15</sup> What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted <sup>18</sup> and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. <sup>19</sup> I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

<sup>20</sup> When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup> So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup> But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**Alleluia**

**Music in hymnal, page 173**

**Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 10:40-42**

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Music in hymnal, page 173**

*When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.*

P: [Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>40</sup> “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup> Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, <sup>42</sup> and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Music in hymnal, page 173**

*Please sit*

**Kids’ Message**

Elizabeth Huang

**Hymn of the Day**

“Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service”

**Hymn No. 848**

*If you think your child might be unable to sit through the entire service, this would be an appropriate time to take him/her to the nursery.*

**Message**

“Welcoming – Yes? No?”

Pastor James

**Musical Reflection**

*Please stand*

**Apostles’ Creed**

C: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Please sit*

### **Installation of the Board of Servant Leaders**

#### **Announcements**

Pastor Johann

#### **Offering**

*Please fill out a Welcome card and place it in the offering plate.*

#### **Anthem**

*"Be Thou with Me"*

Ferdinand Hiller

*Stephanie Kruskol, soprano*

Lord! whom my heart holds dear forever,  
Be Thou with me!  
Thou, both of woe and joy the Giver,  
Be Thou with me.  
O guard me at the fount of gladness  
From headstrong pride,  
And when in self-distrust I waver  
Be Thou with me.

Like dew upon the vine, Thy blessing!  
Myself am naught,  
But when I bravely would endeavor,  
Be Thou with me, be Thou with me!  
O Thou my strength, my only solace  
My glad'ning sun,  
Till death by thread of life shall sever,  
Be Thou with me, be Thou with me!  
Till death my thread of life shall sever,  
Be Thou with me, with me.

*Please stand*

#### **Offertory Prayer**

**C: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.**

#### **Prayer of the Church**

*At the end of each petition, the prayer leader will say, "God of grace, ..."*

*The congregation responds, "hear our prayer."*

*Please see the News and Announcements sheet for a listing of intercessions.*

**Lord's Prayer**

**C: Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**Blessing**

**P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, + one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.**

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

**Hymn No. 850**

**Dismissal**

**P: Go in peace. Share the good news.**

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

“The Lord Reigneth”

Brian Glyncannon

*During the postlude, please take a moment to get up and greet guests and worshippers at this service who are new to you. You are also welcome to stay seated for a time of prayer and reflection.*

*Please remember Good Shepherd in your prayers and giving this summer.*

+ + +

***Please join us for coffee and conversation following the service.***

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We hope you will continue to connect with us by liking our Facebook page and following us on Instagram. Find them by searching @gslcva on those platforms. We also encourage you to subscribe to our YouTube channel and follow us on Vimeo so that you don't miss any of our virtual services, kids' messages, and more. Questions? Contact Communications Director Jeff Donahue, [jeff@gslcva.org](mailto:jeff@gslcva.org)

### Serving Today

<b>Worship Leader</b>	Pastor Johann
<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor James
<b>Crucifer</b>	*
<b>Acolyte</b>	*
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Marty Gurtz
<b>Prayer Leader</b>	Melinda DeWan
<b>Cantor</b>	Stephanie Kruskol
<b>Ushers</b>	David Ellison (lead) Bernie Schoch Jeff Peterson Jim Micsan
<b>Organist</b>	Anne Lee
<b>Altar Care</b>	Cynthia Lion
<b>Projectionist</b>	Jen Pelletier
<b>Audio Engineer</b>	Adam Sherman
<b>Livestream Manager</b>	Matt Hardy
<b>Greeters</b>	Donna Harper (door) Carolyn Linke (welcome center)
<b>Guest Welcome</b>	Brian Cors
<b>Engagement</b>	Heidi Cooper
<b>Opener</b>	Ric Nickerson
<b>Closer</b>	Martin Farley
<b>Coffee Setup</b>	*
<b>Kitchen Cleanup</b>	Drew Lipman

\* = unfilled as of June 24

### **Board of Servant Leaders**

Tony Esse, chair  
Paul Devine, vice-chair  
John Purtilo, secretary

Rob Fekete  
Andrew Otterbacher  
Dan Pelletier  
Bernie Schoch

### **Core Ministry Areas**

#### **Worship**

*Team Leaders: Georgia Thorstenson and Julie Schorfheide; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann*

The Worship Team encompasses music, seasonal celebrations, arts, worship schedule, Sanctuary Choir (Anne Lee), Handbell Choir (Anne Lee), traditional worship, and contemporary worship (Matt Hardy), the worship spaces, and support personnel (e.g., ushers, greeters, acolytes).

#### **Discipleship**

*Team Leader: Pastor James*

The Discipleship Team oversees adult education, Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, children's ministry (Michelle Tenhaeff), and youth ministry (Holly Vanderhoof).

#### **Parish Life**

*Team Leader: Brian Cors; Staff Liaison: Heidi Cooper*

The Parish Life Team helps foster our community through Life Groups, member engagement, fellowship events, new member inclusion, concerts, public events, picnics, and intergenerational events, and reaches out to guests who worship at Good Shepherd.

#### **Mission**

*Team Leader: Pastor Johann*

Through this core ministry area, Good Shepherd supports a variety of mission efforts: financial and prayerful partnering with missionaries, worldwide and local (Randy and Melanie Stockman); synod/district, social ministry, and community service (Holly Vanderhoof); evangelism, publicity, media, and social media (Jeff Donahue).

#### **Congregational Care and Nurture**

*Team Leader: June McGurn; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann*

The Congregational Care and Nurture Team helps support the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health of the congregation through literature, programs, and opportunities to serve others at Good Shepherd. This ministry's volunteers help in many ways: at memorial services and receptions; through member care visits and transportation; by sending cards for life events; and by arranging meals ("Take Them a Meal" team) for the sick and infirm, for their families, and for families with newborns.

#### **Administration**

*Team Leader: Pastor Johann*

This team is in charge of property and contracts (Roger Thorstenson), financing the mission (Mike DeWan), stewardship (Don Kidwell), human resources/personnel (Matt Franker), communications (Jeff Donahue), and technology (Gary Budzier).

### **Good Shepherd's Staff**

**Jotham Johann, Senior Pastor**

Room 201; pastorjo@gslcva.org; 703-439-2754

**Gary James, Assisting Pastor**

Room 209; pastorgary@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

**Sarah Brazell, Preschool Director**

Room 101; preschool@gslcva.org; 703-437-4511

**Georgia Thorstenson, Business Manager**

Room 212; georgia@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x803

**Jeff Donahue, Communications Director**

Room 209; jeff@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x811

**Heidi Cooper, Director of Engagement**

heidi@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

**Anne Lee, Organist & Director of Choirs**

Room 215; anne@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x807

**Michele Clair, Administrative Assistant**

Room 210; michele@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x806

**Holly Vanderhoof, Community Service Coordinator & Youth Ministry Director**

Room 208; holly@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x213

**Matt Hardy, Praise Band Director & Video Production Specialist**

matt@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

**Michelle Tenhaeff, Children's Ministry Coordinator**

childministry@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

**Julie Schorfheide, Communications Assistant**

julie@gslcva.org

**Reid Otterbacher, Communications Assistant**

commassist@gslcva.org

**Chloe Vanderhoof, Social Media Assistant**

chloe@gslcva.org

*Please note that the church office is closed on Mondays.*

Good Shepherd is a member congregation of the Southeastern District  
of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod