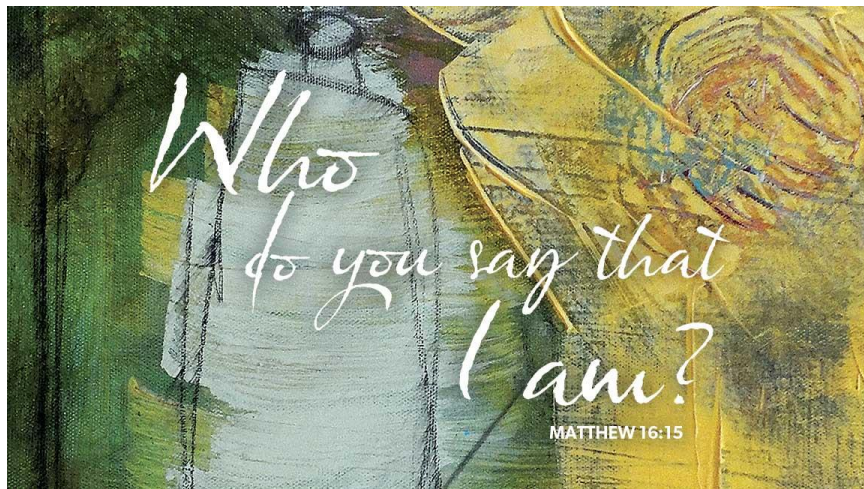


# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

*A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

945 W. Round Bunch Rd., Bridge City, TX 77611

(409) 735-4573



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2023

**PRELUDE**

Variations on *Melita*

- Mark Sedio

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.  
Merciful God,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We have hurt our community.**  
**We have squandered your blessings.**  
**We have hoarded your bounty.**  
**In the name of Jesus,**  
**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Righteous God,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We have failed to be honest.**  
**We have lacked the courage to speak.**  
**We have spoken falsely.**  
**In the name of Jesus,**  
**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

“Seek Ye First”

**WOV 783**

## **GREETING**

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

## **KYRIE**

**ELW S184**

*Refrain*

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

*For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all, for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord; **let us pray to the Lord. REFRAIN***

*That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor, that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord; **let us pray to the Lord. REFRAIN***

*For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord. REFRAIN***

*For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord; **let us pray to the Lord. REFRAIN***

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. **Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

### **FIRST LESSON**

**Isaiah 51:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

<sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.

<sup>3</sup>For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places,  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation;  
for a teaching will go out from me,

and my justice for a light to the peoples.  
 5 I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,  
 my salvation has gone out  
 and my arms will rule the peoples;  
 the coastlands wait for me,  
 and for my arm they hope.  
 6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
 and look at the earth beneath;  
 for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
 the earth will wear out like a garment,  
 and those who live on it will die like gnats;

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 138

*Worshippers are asked to sing the refrain as indicated below. The Choir will sing the psalm text.*



*I will give thanks to you O Lord with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise. I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things. **REFRAIN***

*When I called you answered me; you increased my strength within me. All the kings of the earth will praise you O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth. They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord. **REFRAIN***

*Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; he perceives the haughty from afar. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me. The Lord will make good his purpose for me; O Lord your love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands. **REFRAIN***

## SECOND LESSON

## Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable

to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand if you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Worshippers are invited to sing the refrain; the choir will sing the verse.*



*You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.*

## GOSPEL

**Matthew 16:13-20**

The gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

<sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him,

“Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

*Please stand if you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

**ELW 597**

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

Let us profess our faith, using the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of Sarah and Abraham, inspire your church to pursue righteousness in its ministry. Equip us to share your compassion that unites us as one family of faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Remind us that from the beginning of creation, you knit together a world meant for harmony. Protect and restore the wasted places to joy and gladness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Stir the leaders of nations and towns, militaries, and courts, to respond to your teachings. Let your call for justice reach all people and bring deliverance where there is oppression. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Show your steadfast love and faithfulness to those in despair. Increase their strength, care for all who feel low, keep safe any in the midst of trouble, and protect vulnerable people from harm. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Encourage those who offer their gifts and talents in service to your church. Energize this congregation's rostered and lay leaders, musicians, teachers, greeters, and administrators so they may be transformed in sharing your grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all the saints, death is overcome in Christ's resurrection. We rejoice with the faithful departed. Sustain us in hope until we come at last to our heavenly home. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## **RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS**

### **ANTHEM**

"I Love Thee"

- Benjamin Harlan

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Those who are able shall stand.*

Let us pray. God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. **Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection



opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

**ELW 193**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

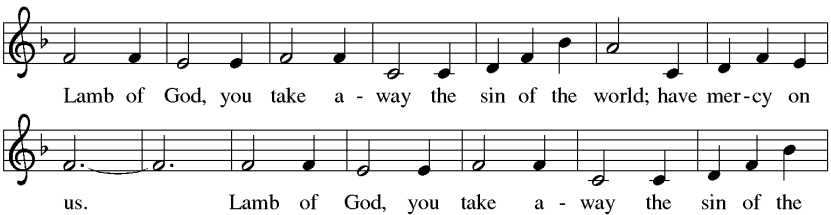
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

*Please be seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD

**ELW 195**



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

### “Gather Us In”

- Marty Haugen

*Worshippers are invited to sing with the choir.*

1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,

van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,

brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.

Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the  
Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

*Please stand if you are able.*

## COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. **Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace. **Amen**

## SENDING HYMN

“Faith of our Fathers”

**ELW 812**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

## POSTLUDE

“Air en Echo”

- Michel-Richard de la Lande

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