



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A Mission & Ministry of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod that is...
Proclaiming Christ's Word through Truth, Innovation & Fellowship!*

Celebrating the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 5th & 8th, 2024



“Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy...” -From Isaiah 35



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

2450 West 9th Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54904

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Pastor Greg Koepsell: Office 920-231-0530 or Cell 763-913-8445
or pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Web Site: www.goodshepherdinoshkosh.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/oshkoshgoodshepherd

E-Mail Address: church@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Worship Services: Thursday: 6:30 pm

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 am

Sunday school for all ages Sunday mornings starting next Sunday, 9:15-10:15

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 8:00-1:00 pm

(Pastor always available via cell! Call or text!...763-913-8445)

As We Gather...

Good morning and welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. It's our honor and privilege to have you with us this Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost as we worship the One True God; Father, Son & Holy Spirit, and receive the gifts of forgiveness and grace our God loves to give...and even more, to celebrate the life we have on account of our Good Shepherd, Jesus. Please make yourself at home, you are among family.

For many people, the time of autumn leaves brings a sense of anxiety or dread as the cycle of the year and of life draws to a close. The prophet Isaiah used this image as he prophesied the demise of the nations and peoples opposed to God: "All their host shall fall, as leaves fall from the vine, like leaves falling from the fig tree" (Isaiah 34:4b). Strengthened by the promises of God fulfilled in Jesus, God's people have a special sense of His mercy. They rejoice in His power made evident in His works that display His goodness. They live out their days demonstrating faith that is truly alive and evident in good works. Today, Pastor Koepsell will expound on that with the message, "Be Opened!"

Service Notes...

In preparation for worship: Please take some time to greet the people you are worshipping with! The order of worship for today is printed for you below, you may want to take a few minutes to look it over and mark the songs: **839, 528, 763, 842, 524 & 805** in the Lutheran Service Book (*LSB*) as you prepare to receive the gifts of God and sing His praises. **Reminder:** If you have a smart phone, and you're on Facebook, please "check in" at **Good Shepherd** Lutheran Church...then turn the sound off! May our Good and Gracious Shepherd bless your worship this day...this NEW day of salvation!

To Stand or Sit: There are certain parts of the service where you will be invited to stand. Sometimes, “wrestling” with kids, or a personal health condition makes standing uncomfortable... please know: **It is okay to either stand or sit. Both are appropriate!** So please, make yourself comfortable, receive the gifts God loves to give and **BOLDLY** sing His praises!

Children: We are blessed to have a lot of young families and young children here at *Good Shepherd*. We take Jesus’ words very seriously when He says, “Let the little children come to me...” For your convenience, “Quiet Bags” have been provided for young worshippers. They are located in the narthex to your right (on the “Noah’s Ark” wall mounting, next to the big bulletin board) when exiting the sanctuary. Also, for your convenience, a “Crying Room” is located at the back of the sanctuary for use during those “difficult” times. *Please note: Non-Communion services may have a children’s message which could be recorded via Facebook live. If you have any issues with your child being seen at church on the World Wide Web just listen from the pew!*

Guests, Visitors & The Offering: If you are our guest today, you are **not** expected to contribute monetarily to God’s work at *Good Shepherd* ... you are our guest! Please take this service as our gift to you! If you choose to give an offering, know this: **The gifts we give back to God are used by His church to transform lives.** *(The offering plate is located at the sanctuary entrance)*

The Lord’s Supper: *(Thursday & Sunday at 10:30 am)* *Good Shepherd* joyfully celebrates the Lord’s Supper, and we do that in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another *Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*. **Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes** *Matthew 5:23; 18:15-35*. Because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm *1 Corinthians 11:27-29* and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession *Matthew 10:32* differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. Because Scripture says we ought to “examine ourselves” before receiving the Holy Meal *1 Corinthians 11:28*, it is recommended that we review the “*Christian Questions with Their Answers*” section of the *LSB* before communion (*page 329 of the LSB*), please take a few moments before the service or during the offering to do so. Thank you! *Please note: There are two or three cups at the center of each tray that are non-alcoholic wine for those who prefer such for personal or medical reasons (The wine containing alcohol is white, the non-alcohol is red/pink).*

Pre-Service Meditation...

Please check out some of the pre-service prayers in the front of the LSB and/or meditate on one or more of the Psalms printed in the LSB (specifically Psalm 146 today)...or just spend some time quietly in meditation and prayer before we begin.

Prelude...

Words of Welcome...

The Opening Song: “O Christ, Our True and Only Light”
(LSB pg. 839...please stand for verse 5)

The Invocation & Opening Sentences

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

All: Amen.

Pastor: To You, O LORD, I call;

All: my rock, be not deaf to me,

Pastor: hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to You for help;

All: when I lift up my hands toward Your most holy sanctuary.

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD!

All: for He has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy. *From Psalm 28*

We Confess Our Sins [1 John 1:8-9].

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

All: I, a poor sinner, plead guilty before God of all sins. I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most. My Lord's name, I have not honored as I should; my worship and prayers have faltered. I have not been thoroughly persuaded by His love for me, and so my love for others has failed. There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I have failed to help. My thoughts and desires are soiled with sin. I am sorry for all my sins and I ask for grace that I may do better. Amen.

We Hear God's Forgiveness [John 20:19-23]

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

Pastor: Having received the forgiveness of Christ, hear these words. The peace of the Lord be with you.

Philippians 1:6

All: And also with you.

We Sing: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (LSB pg. 528)

We Pray

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

All: And also with you.

Pastor: O God, You are always ready to hear the prayers of Your people. Grant that we may, with all boldness and courage, bring to You our petitions, having the assurance that for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, You will hear them and will grant us every good thing for this life and every blessing in the life to come. This we ask through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

+ We Hear God's Word +

Isaiah 35:4-7a (Be strong, fear not, the Lord comes for you.)

Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.⁷ The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs... This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Sunday 8:00 am Service) The Children's Message: "Looking Forward"

James 2:1-10, 14-18 (Faith without works is dead.)

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism.² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in.³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet,"⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?⁵ Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?⁶ But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court?⁷ Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong?⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself,"^a you are doing right.⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him?¹⁵ Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food.¹⁶ If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do... This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Alleluia! The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel.

All: He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Mark 7: 24--37 (Jesus casts out a demon from a young girl and heals a deaf man.)

Pastor: The Gospel according to Mark the seventh chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord!

(Continued...)

Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre.^a He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret.²⁵ In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an evil^b spirit came and fell at his feet.²⁶ The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.²⁷ “First let the children eat all they want,” he told her, “for it is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to their dogs.”²⁸ “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “but even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”²⁹ Then he told her, “For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter.”³⁰ She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.³¹ Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis.^a³² There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to place his hand on the man.³³ After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man’s ears. Then he spit and touched the man’s tongue.³⁴ He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, “*Ephphatha!*” (which means, “Be opened!”).³⁵ At this, the man’s ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.³⁶ Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it.³⁷ People were overwhelmed with amazement. “He has done everything well,” they said. “He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.” This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ!

We Profess our Christian Faith with the words of the Nicene Creed (Romans 10)

(As found on back, inside cover of the LSB)

We Sing: “When Peace Like a River”

(LSB pg. 763)

The Message: “Lord, Open My Lips...and My Eyes & Ears & Heart!”

(Sermon Application...)

What did God teach you in His Law today *(What you should do, or have failed to do for God)?*

What did God teach you in His Gospel today *(What God has done for you through Christ)?*

What is the main thing you’re taking home from this message today?

*Have a comment or question about today’s message? Have **any** questions about any of this Jesus/Christian stuff? Text the pastor at 763-913-8445 or email him at pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org. If you’d like to hear Sunday’s message, or share it with a friend, it posts on our Facebook page and/or Website by 10 am on Monday...*



^a Many early manuscripts *Tyre and Sidon*

^b Greek *unclean*

^a That is, the Ten Cities

The Prayer of the Church [1 Timothy 2:1-4]...

(Sunday at 8:00 am the service continues with the Lord's Prayer, blessing and closing hymn...)

The Words of our Lord...

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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. *Matthew 6:9-13* For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Peace of the Lord

Pastor: The peace of our + Lord be with you always. *John 20:19*

All: Amen.

The Distribution...

We come forward to receive the Body & Blood of Christ in, with and under the bread and wine for remembrance; for forgiveness; for the strengthening of our faith. You may sit and sing while you wait for the Holy meal. The ushers will assist you.

Sung During the Distribution...

"Son of God, Eternal Savior" (LSB pg. 842)

℟

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" (LSB pg. 524)

(After communion...)

We Pray

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

All: His mercy endures forever. *Psalms 118:1*

(A prayer is spoken)

The Blessing

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The LORD look upon you with His favor and + give you His peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

All: Amen.

*The Closing Song: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
(LSB pg. 805)*

Postlude...

Thank you for worshipping with us today. It's better with YOU here!

*Please stick around for some food and fellowship, **Good Shepherd** style! Followed by a congregational meeting at 9:15!*

If you're visiting us today, please remember to sign the guestbook before you depart...and come soon to see us again!

If you haven't checked in at the Good Shepherd Kiosk, please take a moment to do so before you leave! It's fun!

To God Alone all Glory Goes!

Questions about the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod? Check out, www.lcms.org

**Altar Flowers are sponsored by Mike and Stacy Martin in
Celebration of their 24th wedding anniversary**

Next Week's Texts: Is. 50:4-10; James 3:1-12; Mark 9:14-29

Search the Scriptures! (John 5:39)

Serving Us Today

Pastor & Celebrant.....Pastor Koepsell
Organist.....(Thu) Stuart Giese (Sun) Cam Bedroske
Elder.....(Thu) Craig Dreger (Sun) Tom Dunham & Dave Eichhorn
Ushers.....Noah Hinrichs, Aaron Bray, Jane Eichhorn, and Richard Cullen

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 8	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service
	9:15 A.M.	Special Voter's Meeting
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service with Communion
Tuesday, September 10	6:30 P.M.	LWML Meeting
Wednesday, September 11	12:30 – 4:00 P.M.	Craft Time
	5:15 P.M.	Confirmation Class Open House
	7:00 P.M.	Youth Group
Thursday, September 12	6:30 P.M.	Worship Service with Communion
Friday, September 13	6:30-8:30 P.M.	Game Night
Saturday, September 14	7:00 A.M.	Men's Group
	8:30 A.M.	Women's Group
Sunday, September 15	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service with Communion
	9:15 A.M.	Education Hour
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service

SEPTEMBER 8TH: A special Voter's Meeting will be held this Sunday, September 8th between services in the church sanctuary to discuss if we should authorize the Elders to begin the call process for a second pastor or other options (Director of Christian Education/Director of Christian Ministry?). Since this affects all members, we hope to see everyone there. Please come prepared with your questions or opinions.

SEPTEMBER'S MISSION: This month, Good Shepherd is excited to support the Oshkosh Police K9 Kare Fund. The police K9 Program is not only an invaluable resource to the Oshkosh Police Department, it also serves as an effective tool in the protection and safety of our citizens. The Oshkosh Police Department K9 Unit is funded solely through donations from the public.

SCRIP NEWS: August 31st - September 27th, Kwik Trip Scrip cards will be offering an extra bonus rebate to the church. Kwik Trip gas cards will be a 9% rebate and Kwik Trip Grocery cards will be a 15% rebate instead of the regular 10%. This is a great time to stock up on cards for yourself or to give to your kids to use as they return to school. Please contact Linda, 920-252-2942, with any questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School starts next Sunday. You can register your kids online at: <https://forms.gle/v5caeQ33ifSt32Q87> or pick up a paper form in the church atrium. Please remember to fill out a photo release form which also available in the atrium or online at: <https://forms.gle/3h2bK4u2dbkvRoLk8>

SUPER SUNDAE SUNDAY: Typically, Good Shepherd serves ice cream sundaes on the second Sunday of the month as a thank you for Mission support, including non-perishable food items for the Lutheran Food Pantry. Due to the Voter's Meeting on September 8th, we will postpone Super Sundae Sunday to the 16th. However, you can still bring food donations into the church. We only had 61 pounds of food donated last month. Let's see if we can surpass that amount in September!

COUNCIL OPENINGS: The nominating committee is in the process of creating a slate of candidates for the Church Council positions at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. These are two-year positions and will be voted on at the October Voters' Meeting. The positions up for election are President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Evangelism, Fellowship, and Stewardship. We are also accepting interest for the Board of Youth Chair which will be a one-year position to fill a current vacancy. Please contact Kevin Konrad, 920-279-7694, no later than September 16, 2024, if you have any questions about a specific Council position listed above or if you would like to be a candidate for any of these positions.

LUTHERAN LAYMAN LEAGUE: The North and South Wisconsin LLL Districts invite you to come together and celebrate Energizing Mission. Learn of God's impact in people's lives every day at their annual convention on October 12th. Special speakers include: Dr. Kari Vo, Theological Editor & Author of LHM Daily Devotions, Dick Gast, LHM Float & Tournament of Roses Parade Presentation, and Kathy Robinson Orphan Grain Train: Wisc. Division. Download the registration form at: <https://www.nw-sw-lll-lhm.org/>

GAME NIGHT: It is almost time for the return of Game Night! On the second Friday of the month (Sept-May) we meet at church 6:30-8:30 and just have a fun evening. Consider bringing a friend, they don't need to be a member to have fun with us! This year we are doing things a bit different! We are going to have some theme nights along with some nights of independent games, like we have done in the past. Our next fun night is September 13th. If you have any questions, please contact Stacy (920)229-9736. A list of the dates and themes can be found on the atrium bulletin board.

THIS WEEK ON KFUE.ORG: Continue studying Psalm 119 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), begin a study of Hosea on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and tune in for a discussion of Christ's return for judgement on Concord Matters (9/14 at 11:00 a.m. CT). Remember to save the date for KFUE Radio's 100th Anniversary Celebration broadcast, October 12 at 10:00 a.m. CT! Tune in at kfuo.org or RSVP for the in-person event at kfuo.org/rsvp.

Last Week at Good Shepherd...

Attendance: Thursday: 30 Sunday: 110 Weekly Total: 140

Offerings For Week of 8/25:

- General Fund: \$3,858.00
- Missions: \$151.00
- Strategic Fund: \$80.00

Total Offerings: \$4,089.00

Weekly Budget Needs at Good Shepherd: \$7,381.00

("...So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.") -1 Corinthians 14:1

Offerings For Week of 9/01:

- General Fund: \$9,932.00
- Missions: \$100.00

Total Offerings: \$10,032.00

Weekly Budget Needs at Good Shepherd: \$7,381.00

("...So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.") -1 Corinthians 14:1

Please remember in your prayers:

Church Members:

Wayne Guy, Diane Flouro & Family (on the passing of Diane's sister, Sherry), Don Borgen, Bonnie Wenzel, Marion Fenlon, Kelly Crowe, Liz Hoversten, JoAnn Haskins, Tom Dunham, Bill Zorr, Joann Behm, Jim & Sharron Ziemer, Sharon Leinweber, Ed Huebner, Louise Gabert, and Brenda Hawig.

Friends & Relatives of Church Members:

Linda Brehmer's friend, Deanne Schubring; Marie; Lee Paris' nephew & nephew's wife; Pastor Koepsell's mother, Lorraine; Jan Peterson's sisters & niece & son, Scot and daughter, Paula; Ron & Chris Feutz's grandson, Logan Feutz; Kim & Keith Reetz's grandbaby, Tobias; Janet Weier's son, Adam & family; Gene & Donna Gohlke's nephews, Kirk and Michael, & granddaughter, Karley; and Doug Flouro's brother, Allan.

Those Who Want to Worship with Us But Aren't Currently Able:

Bill & Louise Gabert, Jim Ziemer, Muriel Guy, Lee Paris, Emily Brunner, Edward Huebner, Jean Stauber, Vicki Beck, Bill Zorr, Bette Lienhard, Marge Bolding & Milt & JoAnn Haskins.

Military/Overseas Members & Their Families:

*Malayna Brehmer (granddaughter of Barry & Linda Brehmer),
Ryan Weber (son of Tim & Liz Hoversten), Chris Hibben, Alycia Mueller, and Jared Rivera*

**Please let Lynn Paulus, our Prayer Chain Coordinator, know when we can take you or your loved one off the prayer list lynn@travellleaders.com*

Next Big Things

Sunday, September 8th: Join us at 9:15 for a special Voter's Meeting to discuss next steps for staffing at Good Shepherd ... we will be discussing if the Elders should be authorized to call a second pastor or a Director of Christian Education (DCE) or other options. Please make a point of being there and letting your voice be heard.

Tuesday, September 10th: The LWML resumes their monthly meetings (the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm) Our LWML mission statement says we are to assist every woman of The Lutheran Church in affirming her relationship with God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world. Before we start with the world, we need to start at home in our congregations. Please consider attending our meeting and see what we are all about. If you have questions, please contact Mary at 920-229-9561.

Wednesday, September 11th: There will be a Confirmation Class Open House starting at 5:15 pm. If you have a youth in grades 6th, 7th or 8th, please plan on attending with your child. You will meet other parents, learn about the curriculum and expectations for this year.

Wednesday, September 11th: Good Shepherd is re-launching their Youth Group for students in grades 9-12. Come at 7:00 pm to re-connect with each other, set goals, gear up for the National Youth Gathering, and meet your new youth leader, Pastor Koepsell.

Friday, September 13th: Do you like to play games and meet new people? Consider joining us on the second Friday of most months from 6:30-8:30 pm as we get together for laughs and games. You don't need to be a member to attend. This month our theme will be "Getting to know you game" followed by some corn hole. Themes change every month. Please contact Stacy if you have questions: 920-229-9736

Sunday, September 15th: Sunday School begins at 9:15 am. Please take a moment to register your kids before this date so that we can order any needed Sunday School supplies. Registration forms are in the atrium or are found online at: <https://forms.gle/TYUjUtx1tG5boQ3Y8>

Sunday, September 29th: We will be welcoming new members to *Good Shepherd*. If you are interested in becoming a member, please fill out the information sheet and a New Member Packet. They are both located on the green table in the atrium.