



## **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 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

*July 2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026*



*“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will  
give you rest...”*

*-From Matthew 11:28*



## GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

2450 West 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54904

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod 920-231-0530

Web Site: [www.goodshepherdinoshkosh.com](http://www.goodshepherdinoshkosh.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/oshkoshgoodshepherd](http://www.facebook.com/oshkoshgoodshepherd)

E-Mail Address: [church@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org](mailto:church@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org)

Pastor Greg Koepsell

Cell 763-913-8445

Email: [pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org](mailto:pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org)

Director of Christian Ministry (DCM)

Lori Sansoucie: Cell 314-956-1709

Email: [dcm@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org](mailto:dcm@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org)

**Worship Services:** Thursdays at 6:30 PM & Sundays at 9:00 AM

**Holy Communion** is typically celebrated every Thursday/Sunday during the Summer.

**Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday:** 8:00 AM -1:00 PM

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

### *As We Gather...*

*A warm & hearty welcome to you! It's a privilege and honor to worship our Crucified & Risen, Ascended & Glorified Good Shepherd, Jesus, with you this Sixth Sunday after the Pentecost! We're glad to have **you** here! As always, make yourself at home, you are among family!*

*The Christian life is often a daily battle between what we know is right and what our sinful nature keeps drawing us back toward. Yet even when we cannot free ourselves, Jesus comes to us with forgiveness, rest, and lasting hope. Our confidence is not found in our strength, but in our King, who continues to seek, save, and restore His people.*

### *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; **966, 684, 335, 606, 864 & 965** 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..." We also know how difficult it can be to keep children sitting quietly for any period of time, much less an hour long church service! For your convenience, "Quiet Bags" have been provided for young worshippers. They are located in the narthex to your right (on the black stand, next to the big bulletin board) when exiting the sanctuary. Also, for your convenience, a "Quiet Room" is located at the back of the sanctuary for use during those "difficult" times. *Please keep in mind that there might be a children's talk and we might be recording it to post on the World Wide Web. If you mind having your child on video, 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! But please do take a minute to check in at one of our kiosks in the atrium and sign the guestbook so we can thank you for your visit...and come soon to see us again! 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:** *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 145 today)...or just spend some time quietly in prayer before we begin.*

### *Prelude...*

### *Words of Welcome...*

*The Opening Song: “Before You, Lord, We Bow”*  
(LSB pg. 966...verses 1-3; please stand for verse 3)

*The Invocation & Opening Verses*

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

**All: Amen.**

Pastor: Jesus invites you: “Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

**All: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”**

Pastor: Let us come to Jesus in a time of silent prayer... (*We reflect upon our need for Jesus’ rest and forgiveness.*)

*We Confess Our Sins* [1 Jofm 1:8-9]

Pastor: Almighty God, heavenly Father,

**All: We confess that we are burdened by our sin. What we want to do, we don’t do. What we end up doing, we know that we are not supposed to do. We feel trapped. Your Word teaches us that we cannot escape our sinfulness. Only in Your mercy is there rest for our souls and relief from the burdens of our hearts. Father, fill us again with the assurance of the cross and the empty tomb, that we may receive anew the victory that is ours through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

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

Pastor: The burdens that are so heavy for you are light for Jesus! As you have now confessed your sins, it is my privilege and joy to announce to you that Jesus has taken away your burdens by His death and resurrection. According to His own command, I, as a servant of the Word and as Your pastor, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Alleluia! Amen.**

*We Sing: “Before You, Lord, We Bow”*  
(LSB pg. 966...verses 4 & 5)

*We Pray...*

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

**All: And also with you.**

(A prayer is spoken)  
**+ We Hear God’s Word +**

***Zechariah 9:9–12*** (*The King is coming with righteousness.*)

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king<sup>a</sup> comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. <sup>10</sup> I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River<sup>b</sup> to the ends of the earth.<sup>c</sup> <sup>11</sup> As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup> Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you... This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

**All: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!**

Pastor: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things!

**All: To Him be glory forever! Amen.** (*From Romans 11:33, 36*)

***Romans 7:14–25a*** (*Thanks to God through Jesus Christ.*)

We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. <sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. <sup>16</sup> And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup> I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature.<sup>b</sup> For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. <sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! ... This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

***Matthew 11:25–30*** (*Jesus promises rest to those who are heavy laden.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**All: Glory to You, O Lord!**

At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup> Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. <sup>27</sup> “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal

(Continued...)

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<sup>a</sup> Or King

<sup>b</sup> That is, the Euphrates

<sup>c</sup> Or the end of the land

<sup>b</sup> Or my flesh

him. <sup>28</sup> “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” ...This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*We Profess our faith in the Triune God with the words of The Apostles' Creed*

**(All) I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*Christian: the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian teaching.*

*Children's Talk*

*We Sing: "Come unto Me, Ye Weary"*

*(LSB pg. 684)*

*The Message: "Prisoners of Hope"*

*(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](mailto:pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org). If you'd like to hear Today's message, or share it with a friend, you can find it on our Facebook or Website...*



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

*(The Pastor will conclude each short petition with the words, “Lord, in Your mercy...”*

*Please respond with, “Hear our prayer.”)*

## *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 the + 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...*

*“O Bride of Christ, Rejoice” (LSB pg. 335)*

*“I Lay My Sins on Jesus” (LSB pg. 606)*

*“Shepherd of Tender Youth” (LSB pg. 864)*

*(After communion...)*

## *We Pray*

Pastor: Gracious Savior, we thank You that in Your body and blood we have tasted and seen that You are good. Having filled us again with the benefits of Your cross and resurrection, empower us to go forth and share the victory that is ours through You; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All:** Amen.

*The Blessing*

Pastor: Who has delivered us from our sins and given relief to our weary souls?

**All: Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!** *Romans 7:25a*

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

**All: Amen!**

*The Closing Song: "God Bless Our Native Land"*  
*(LSB pg. 965)*

*Thank you for worshiping with us today... it's better with you here!*

*Please stick around for fellowship as long as you'd like... Good Shepherd Style!*

*If you're visiting us this today, please remember to visit our guest table & sign the guestbook before you depart... and come soon to see us again!*

*To God Alone the Glory Goes!*

*Questions about the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod? Check out [www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org)*

*Postlude...*

**Next Week's Texts: Is. 55:10-13; Rom. 8:12-17; Matt 13:1-9, 18-23**

**Search the Scriptures! (John 5:39)**

*Serving Us Today*

Pastor & Celebrant.....Pastor Koepsell  
Organist.....(Thu) Stuart Giese (Sun) Bridget Cullen  
Elder.....(Thu) Craig Dreger (Sun) Todd Klauer & Tim Hoversten  
Ushers.....Richard Tritt, Howard Danula, Mike Phillips, Craig & Jodie Skadahl

## OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday, July 5</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship Service with Communion</b>
<b>Tuesday, July 7</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Elders Meeting</b>
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Fellowship Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday, July 8</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Youth Group</b>
<b>Thursday, July 9</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Worship Service with Communion</b>
<b>Saturday, July 11</b>	<b>7:30 AM</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Women's Group -Meeting at Parkview</b>
<b>Sunday, July 12</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship Service with Communion*</b>

\*Alaska Mission Team debrief following service

**MISSION OF THE MONTH:** July Mission of the Month is the Oshkosh Back to School Fair! This is the 27th annual event and Good Shepherd is joining up with other local churches to outfit students for the new school year. There will be backpack tags located on the Mission of the month bulletin board, select a tag, purchase the requested items, and return them UNWRAPPED to be placed under the tree. Please help us help the kids in our community. Please support this mission by shopping or giving a monetary donation in the month of July. The items will be distributed to the kids on August 12th & 13th at Vel Phillips Middle School. Thank you for your generosity.

**FOOD DONATIONS:** Thank you for your generosity in the month of June! For the month of July, our food drive theme will be "Shark Week!" We will be collecting canned/smoked fish, like salmon or tuna. Other canned meats would also be appreciated. Thank you for your help; let's take a bite out of hunger together!

**THANK YOU:** Dear Friends, thank you for your thoughts and prayers during my sister, Ruth's, 12 weeks of hospitalization. Many miracles and prayers for healing were answered. The Lord chose to call her home June 13. The cards and prayers we have received since then have continued to give us comfort and peace. Thank you for your kindness – Vivian & Craig

**KFUO.ORG:** Our study of the book of Matthew continues on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 AM CT)! Tune in to "The Reign of Heaven Stands Near" as we look at Matthew 8 and 9. Join us on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 AM CT) as we move forward in our study of Acts! We'll be picking up this week with chapter 9. Don't forget to listen to Concord Matters this Saturday (7/11 at 10 AM CT)! Pastor Finnern is leading us through a mini-study on the significance of the Lutheran Confessions. This week, we answer the question, "Is the Book of Concord even practical?" Find your favorite programs on demand by visiting [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org)!

**ALASKA DEBRIEF:** Next Sunday, July 12, please plan staying after worship service to hear from the members of the Alaska Mission Team. They will speak briefly about their experiences and then be available for questions in the atrium while a slideshow will be playing. There will be ice cream sundaes for Fellowship or possibly Baked Alaska.

**REGISTER NOW FOR VBS:** Now is the time to make plans to join us for a True North adventure at Vacation Bible School. Registration is currently open, not only for student participants, age 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, but also for youth and adult volunteers to help make the week an incredible experience as we learn how Jesus is our True North. Scan the QR code to register and to learn more.



**Last Week at Good Shepherd...**

**Attendance:** Thursday: 73 Sunday: 9:00: 182 Total: 255

**June Giving Summary**

*Contributions Received: \$48,612.17*

*Monthly Budgeted Expenses: \$34,428.40*

*("...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:**

*Jan Peterson; Joanne Brinkman; Jim Purath; Bob Loewe; David Doan; Bev Zink; JoAnn Meier; Frank Jarvenpaa; Donna Gohlke; Shirley Radloff; Jim & Sharron Ziemer; and Louise Gabert*

**Friends & Relatives of Church Members:**

*Bill Zorr's daughter, Cathy; Dave, Erlinda's friend; Ellen Konrad's mother, Joyce; Jerry Cooley's mom, Ann; JoAnn Meier's son, Pastor Mark Meier; Pastor Hayman's cousin, Ron Johnson; Glen & Iris Lienhard's friend, Pastor Bob Benke; Pastor G's neighbor, Paul; Anne Fogtman's sister, Jane; Brian Luethy's mother, Cindy; Barry & Linda's niece, Jenni Fuhrman; Gary Bunke's daughter, Brielle; Barry & Linda Brehmer's friend, Jeff Freund; Lee Paris' son, Andy; Pastor Koepsell's mother, Lorraine; Jan Peterson's sisters & niece & son, Scot and daughter, Paula; Gene & Donna Gohlke's nephews, Kirk and Michael, granddaughter, Karley & friend, Paul.*

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

*Bev Zink; Bonnie Wenzel, Joann Behm, Shirley Radloff, Jane Nowicki, Manette Flouro, JoAnn Meier, Bill & Louise Gabert, Jim & Sharron Ziemer, Lee Paris, Emily Brunner, Jean Stauber, Vicki Beck, Bill Zorr, Marge Bolding & Milt & JoAnn Haskins.*

**Military/Overseas Members & Their Families:**

*Malayna Brehmer (granddaughter of Barry & Linda Brehmer), Ryan Weber (son of Tim & Liz Hoversten)*

*\*Please let Lynn Paulus, our Prayer Chain Coordinator, know when we can take you or your loved one off the prayer list [lynn@travelleaders.com](mailto:lynn@travelleaders.com)*



Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Worship starting at 9:30 AM  
Food being served at 11:30 AM

Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us as we worship outside and then enjoy food, fun, and fellowship! Good Shepherd will be providing hamburgers, brats, and hot dogs plus activities such as a dunk tank, bounce house, cornhole tournament and Bingo! Please see the sign-up sheets in the atrium to find out ways to help make this event fun for all!