

# Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LCMS)

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*Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered family dedicated to reaching out to our community, teaching God's Word, caring for one another and sharing God's genuine love.*

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**September 13, 2020**

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**Covid 19 Mandates** As we seek to protect the health of others and ourselves, please seat yourself and your family *at least* 6 feet away from others, and please wear a mask *at least* when you are speaking and singing, during fellowship, and also when you could be within 6 feet of others. Thank you for your cooperation!

**To Our Guests:** Welcome to Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church! We are so glad to have you with us this morning, celebrating His great love and dedicating ourselves anew to Him! We hope you'll be blessed and that you'll return and worship among us again. Please take a moment to complete the welcome card in the packet you received and give it to the Greeter or Pastor after the service. Thank you!

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** is celebrated every Sunday. We recommend that you speak with the pastor beforehand if you have never participated in Communion at Shepherd of the Valley and that children participate in classes and have parental authorization before participating. For maximum sanitation, we are temporarily using sealed sets. Questions? Please speak with the pastor.

**Sunday Study Time!** NEW TIME: 9:00 in person in the Chapel and also streamed online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86292069694> for

those practicing in-home isolation or away. By popular request, we are studying the Augsburg Confession from the perspective of Scripture. Please join us!

**We Need Sunday Helpers!** Sign-ups continue today. We have openings for Altar Flowers, as well. Questions? Speak with the pastor. THANK YOU!

**Painting Class** Sign-us have begun for the next session: Sunday October 4, 12:00 Noon. See [www.pamscolorpallet.com](http://www.pamscolorpallet.com)

**Did You Know?** We have a church library. It's at the back of the chapel. LOTS of great books that are biblically and theologically sound, books that are informational, inspirational and helpful. It's on "the honor system." K Berni is the librarian

# + The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost +

## Before the Service

### The Welcome

### The Announcements *See page 1*

## The Service of the Word

### The Prelude and Personal Prayer

### The Opening Song *“God Loves Me Dearly”*

God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.  
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

I was in slav'ry, Sin, death, and darkness;  
God's love was working To make me free.  
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer,  
He sent forth Jesus And set me free.  
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;  
Jesus, my Savior, Paid all I owed.  
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

## **The Opening Responses:**

*In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit +  
Gathered as His sons and daughters, redeemed by Christ!*

*If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, our God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins in Christ and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

**We confess to You that we are sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. We have not loved You with our whole heart and we have not loved others as You have loved us. We deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name.**

*Our heavenly Father has had mercy on us and has given us His only Son to die for us. In Christ, He forgives us all our sins.*

**Thanks be to God!**

*Let us speak of the glory of our God! Let us tell of His wonderful grace!  
Let us rejoice in the victory of Christ, let us celebrate the victory of salvation!*

## **The Praise Song: “Come, Thou Fount”**

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
Fills my heart with joy and love,  
Teach me ever to adore Thee;  
May I still Thy goodness prove.

**The First Lesson:** *Ezekiel 33:7-9 ESV*

“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his

iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”  
*This is the Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God!**

**The Psalmody:** From Psalm 25

*Remember me in your kindness and love!*

**Save me!**

*Forgive my sins, for they are many!*

**Save me!**

*Turn to me, O Lord, and be merciful!*

**Save me!**

**The Second Lesson:** *Romans 13:1-10 ESV*

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for

your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes

are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not

murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!*

**The Gospel Lesson:** *St. Matthew 18:1-14 ESV* Please Stand

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to

enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish." *Lord, have mercy on us. Thanks be to God!*

## **The Affirmation of Faith:** *The Nicene Creed (AD 325)*

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things - visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; and who for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered, and was buried. And on the third day He rose according to the Scriptures and**

**ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; His Kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.**

**And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church, we acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins, we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!**

## **The Children's Message:**

### **The Song of the Day:** *"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"*

I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;  
For my Shepherd gently guides me, Knows my need and well provides me,  
Loves me ev'ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.

Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay.  
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, Into pleasant pastures leads me;  
When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.

Who so happy as I am, Even now the Shepherd's lamb?  
And when my short life is ended, By His angel host attended,  
He shall fold me to His breast, There within His arms to rest.

**The Message:** “Childlike” *Text – Gospel reading on page 6*

Since before the universe was created, there has been a WRONG view of \_\_\_\_\_ . One that (unfortunately) even infected the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.

As the model, the example, the paradigm of greatest, Jesus points to a \_\_\_\_\_! But the point is not to be childish but child- \_\_\_\_\_. The point of comparison is not innocence or gullibility or sinlessness but \_\_\_\_\_ and a sense of reliance and dependency.

This is critical for faith AND for \_\_\_\_\_. Indeed, Jesus says no one can enter the Kingdom of God without this quality.

**Reflections:**

1. *How does Jesus turn the concept of greatness upside down?*
2. *How is Jesus renouncing attitudes such as “Look God what I’ve done for you!” “See God, I did you a favor by choosing Jesus, by saying ‘The Sinner’s Prayer’, by responding to the ‘Altar Call?’*
3. *How is humility critical not only for salvation but for Christian living?*
4. *C.S. Lewis said, “Humility is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less.” What did he mean?*

**The Prayers:** Please stand

*Altar Prayer*

*Congregation Petitions*

*The Lord’s Prayer:*

**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!**



**The Distribution:** *See announcements on page one*

**The Thanksgiving:**

*We praise You, O Lord, for having fed us with the Body and Blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ – forgiving us, assuring us and strengthening us.*

**By Your Holy Spirit, help us continue in the fellowship of faith and thank You by the good works that You desire.**

**The Benediction:**

*The Lord bless you and keep you.*

*The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.*

*The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace +*

**Amen!**

**The Closing Song:** *“Jesus Loves the Little Children”*

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world  
Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in His sight  
Jesus loves the little children of the world! *(repeat once)*





