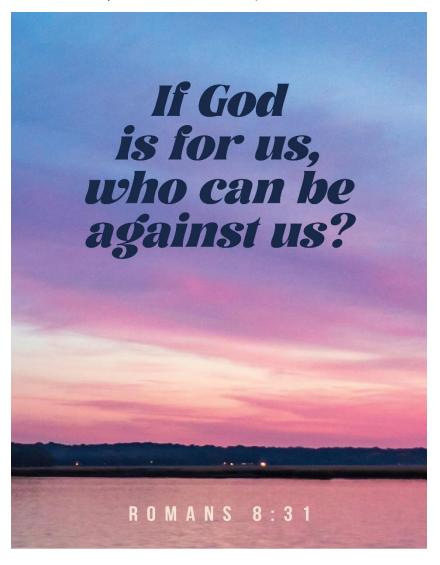
# **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

Worship...Serve...Grow...Connect



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost July 30, 2023 - 8:30AM (Please note this service is being livestreamed.)

# **Welcome & Announcements**

(Please stand)



#### Invocation

- In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# **Confession and Absolution**

- P God's ways are unsearchable; all things and we ourselves belong to Him.
- But we are not righteous, for we have done the evil He forbids. We are not upright in heart, for we have thought to save ourselves. We are not at peace, for we have led others astray in our thoughtless words. We cannot save ourselves. Forgive us and lead us in paths pleasing to You, gracious God.
- P Although you have sinned, God still surrounds you with His protection, like the mountains around Jerusalem. He never rests in His seeking to guide your hands to do good. He has sent His Word to turn your thoughts back to His grace and mercy. His peace is made sure for you in the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. In His gracious love, God declares you to be His good and righteous children. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 
  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen. Thanks be to God!

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# Service of the Word



C And also with you.

## **Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,

- give us an increase of faith, hope, and love,
- P that, receiving what You have promised,
- we may love what You have commanded;
- through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

(You may be seated)

## **First Reading**

### Deuteronomy 7:6-9

"You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading Romans 8:28–39

We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

# Children's Message

(Please stand)

Holy Gospel Matthew 13:44–52

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

**G** Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

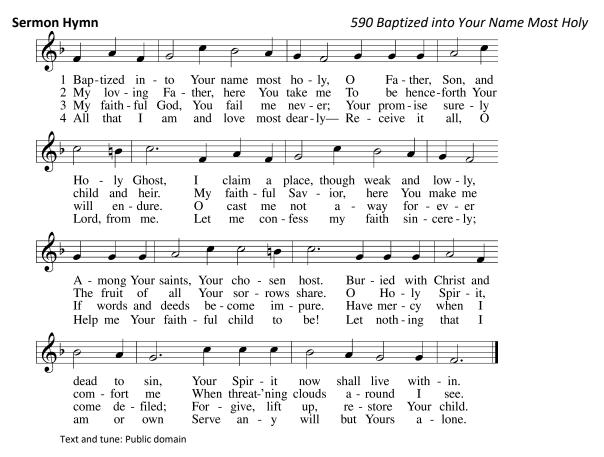
"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.



Sermon Pastor Ted Diedrick

# **Apostles' Creed**

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.



Ushers will collect offerings and prayer cards

Offertory C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God. and re new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Spir - it Ho-ly me the joy of Thy sal - va from me. Re - store un - to and up - hold me with tion, Thy free spir-it. A - men.

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## Response after each petition

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

- Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

#### 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.

#### **Benediction**

- 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 ⅓ give you peace.
- C Amen.



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