

# GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

120 West Gano Chance Road

Centralia, Missouri 65240

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 27, 2025

Theme: Pray Early and Often

## AS WE GATHER

God's Word instructs us to stay connected to Christ. We experience that connection as we gather to hear God's Word, dine at our Lord's Table, and pray persistent, bold prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, communities, and world. Today we hear Abraham pleading with God on behalf of Sodom and Gomorrah. We hear Jesus teaching His disciples to pray. Jesus then illustrates the power of bold, persistent prayer and affirms the goodness of the One who hears our prayers. "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time" (1 Timothy 2:5-6)

## WELCOME

Pastor James Lanning

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING HYMN "Come, Thou Almighty King"

LSB 905

## INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 50:1, 3-5, 14-15; John 15:7, 16; Romans 12:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18*

Pastor: Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

**People: The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Our God comes; He does not keep silence; before Him is a devouring fire, around Him a mighty tempest.**

**Pastor:** Jesus says, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."

**People: He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that He may judge His people.**

Pastor: The apostle Paul writes, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

**God says, "Gather to Me My faithful ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice!"**

Pastor: Jesus said, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give it to you."

**People" "Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."**

Pastor: Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Most merciful God,

**People: we call upon You because we are troubled by our sins—our sinful thoughts, words, and actions. We are equally troubled by those times when we have failed to act or speak up. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus, who delivered us through His perfect life, death, and resurrection so that we may glorify You with our lives.**

Pastor: Our God hears our prayers for mercy and graciously forgives our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace.

**People: Amen.**

**INTROIT**      *Psalm 119:145–149; antiphon: Psalm 50:15*

Pastor: Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.

**People: With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O LORD! I will keep Your statutes.**

Pastor: I call to You; save me, that I may observe Your testimonies.

**People: I rise before dawn and cry for help; I hope in Your words.**

Pastor: My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on Your promise.

**People: Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love;**

Pastor: O LORD, according to Your justice give me life.

**People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.

**KYRIE**

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

**SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. God of mercy and grace, You have heard the prayers of Your people throughout the ages. Continue to point us to the promises found in Your Word to strengthen our faith. Lead and guide us by Your Spirit to boldly and persistently pray to You; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**    *Genesis 18:(17–19) 20–33*  
**(Abraham prays to God, asking for mercy.)**

**Lector: Curt Nadler**

Lector: The LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by

doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has promised him.” Then the LORD said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to Me. And if not, I will know.” So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD.

**People:** Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will You indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will You then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from You to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?”

**Lector:** And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

**People:** Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will You destroy the whole city for lack of five?”

**Lector:** And He said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.”

**People:** Again he spoke to Him and said, “Suppose forty are found there.”

**Lector:** He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.”

**Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.”**

**Lector:** He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.”

**He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.”**

**Lector:** He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.”

**Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.”**

**Lector:** He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

**And the LORD went His way, when He had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.**

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## **GRADUAL      *Romans 10:15b, 18b; Isaiah 52:7b, alt.***

**Lector:** How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news, who publish peace and bring good news of salvation.

**People:** Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.

## **EPISTLE      *Colossians 2:6–19***

**Lector:** Curt Nadler

**(Stay rooted in Christ to be able to stand firm in your faith.)**

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him **and** established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. <sup>8</sup> See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup> For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup> and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ <sup>12</sup> having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup> by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing

over them in him. <sup>16</sup>Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. <sup>17</sup>These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **VERSE *Luke 11:9***

Pastor: Alleluia.

**People: I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.**

Pastor: Alleluia.

### **HOLY GOSPEL                      *Luke 11:1–13***

(Jesus teaches His disciples to pray.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

Pastor: Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” And He said to them, “When you pray, say:

**People: “Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.**

Pastor: And He said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **APOSTLE’S CREED**

p. 207

### **HYMN OF THE DAY “Our Father, Who from Heaven Above”**

***LSB 766 v 1-5***

### **SERMON “Teach Us to Pray”**

**Pastor James Lanning**

### **OFFERING HYMN “Our Father, Who from Heaven Above”**

***LSB 766 v 6-9***

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, I encourage you to lift your hearts to God and pray with me as Jesus has taught us and promises to hear us.

**People: Our Father in heaven,**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, mercifully hear the prayers of your people on behalf of our congregation, community, nation, and world.

**People: Holy be Your name.**

Pastor: Holy Lord, we know Your name is holy. We ask that it be kept holy among us as we bear that name and live as Your people in this world.

**People: Your Kingdom come.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we thank You for planting Your Kingdom among us as You nourish us with Your body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. We eagerly anticipate the fullness of Your kingdom coming and ask that You continue to do Your good and gracious work in, through, and among us while we wait for Your return.

**People: Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we know that it is Your will that all people come to the knowledge of the truth and are saved. Work Your will here on earth. Work through our governing authorities and their agents to bring Your will to all people.

**People: Give us today our daily bread.**

Pastor: Loving Father, we thank and praise You for providing everything we need for our bodies and lives. Prevent us from being selfish and greedy. As You generously bless us, lead us to be a blessing to others, especially those who are in need.

**People: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Pastor: O Jesus, forgive and empower us to forgive others so that our relationships are ruled by Your peace. Create clean hearts within us so that we may approach You boldly, with confidence.

**People: Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

Pastor: Almighty God, as we face trials and temptations, strengthen us by the power of Your Spirit so we can stand firm against the devil, the world, and our sinful nature. Watch over all we name before You this day. Deliver us from evil now and forever.

**People: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**      *2 Thessalonians 2:16–17*

Pastor: May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

**People: Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN “Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise”**

***LSB 917***

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.

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**NEXT SUNDAY**

Adult Bible Study: **The Baptismal River** led by Pastor Lanning 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

**BIRTHDAYS – Karen Richterkessing – July 29**

**ANNIVERSARIES – no anniversaries this week**

## **JULY/AUGUST EVENTS**

07.30 Adult Bible Study – 10 am

07.30 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

**08.02 GSLC Swim Party - 11:15-12:45**

**08.03 OCC Craft Day w/lunch**

08.05 Elders Meeting – 7 pm

08.06 Adult Bible Study – 10 am

08.06 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

08.10 VBS Begins – 9 am

08.11 Women's Guild – 1 pm

**08.11 – 8.13 VBS meal 6 pm; activities 6:30**

08.13 Adult Bible Study – 10 am

08.13 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

08.14 Heritage Hall - 2 pm

**08.15 Teacher Appreciation Lunch at GSLC**

08.17 VBS Ends

08.20 Adult Bible Study - 10 am

08.20 Worship Committee – 4:30 pm

08.20 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

08.27 Adult Bible Study – 10 am

08.27 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**Those affected by changes in their home** (spouse being hospitalized or in a nursing facility); **Cammie Cunningham** (Olivia Hoek's mother) – cancer treatments; **Christ Lutheran School, Perry, GA** – facing financial challenges; **Those affected by the flooding in Texas**; **Lynn Lake and the other communities affected by the wildfires in Canada**; **Barb Gerger** – hip fracture; **Ken Manola** – recent shoulder replacement surgery; **Skip Elkin** – health issues; **The young people and adult volunteers attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer**; **Reverend Tim and Erin Schulte**; **those grieving recent loss of family or friends**; **Terry Plank** – undergoing chemo treatments; **Savannah & Taylor Tarwater** – as they mourn; **Mike Hyde** – recovering from hip fracture; **Tammy Morgan** – (Sherry Morse's daughter) – health issues; **Christina DeJesus** – health issues; **Brenda Belt** (Henry Rainey's sister) – Stage IV Cancer; **Grace** – health issues (friend of Hannah Lanning); **Steve Buckert** – cancer treatments; **Jenni Murray**–Margaret Parker's daughter–recovering from surgery; **Ron Borgman**; **Dick St. John**–Brenda Moss's father–health issues; **Kim & Terry Decker**–health issues; **Ed & Ernestine Ramsey**; **Judy Mahieu**; **Kyle Lutz**–recovering from kidney/pancreas transplant; **Bonnie Berthelsen**; **Mark Ramsey**; **Calvin Stemme**–treatment for cancer; **Julia Rainey**; **Jane St. John**; **Dennis & Jackie Nadler**; **Susan Harris**; **Wayne Nolan**–stepfather of Jeff Jaeger; **Michelle Smith**–daughter of Jane St John; **Arla Benskin**–daughter of Mary Brechler.

**Missionaries - the Alaska and LAMP teams for VBS; GSLC VBS staff and kids; MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term)**

**Community Prayers: Father Mike Coleman**; **Evie Ross**–infant needs heart transplant; **David**–health issues; **Fran Schnarre**–health issues; **Gail Dobbs**–femur fracture; **Bernie Ryan** – health issues; **Charlene** – esophageal cancer; **Robin Wilcox** – treatment of Alpha Gal syndrome; **Shelley R.** – newly diagnosed with melanoma, **Travel Mercies for area churches** as they make mission trips, **Steve Ward** – cancer; **Ginnie Ryan** - cancer

**ARMED FORCES: Veterans of Armed Services** – especially those suffering from PTSD and anxiety; **Christopher Thompson**, U. S. Navy – cousin of Hannah Lanning; **Brandon Lowery**, U.S. Navy–brother of Rachel Rojas; **Donevin Leonard**, U.S. Marine Corps–grandson of Russell & Jacki Stelzer; **Chris Chism**, U.S. Navy–son of Vickie & Eric Chism; grandson of Barbara Fischer; **Brittany Macklin**–great-niece of Ernestine Ramsey; **Community: Ray Finlay**, U.S. Army

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Quarterly Voters Meeting – today**, following lunch in the fellowship hall.

**August Newsletter** items are due by **12 pm on Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**.

**Operation Christmas Child Craft Day** – next **Sunday, August 3** following the worship service. Lunch will be served. Please stay to help prepare things if you are available.

### **Welcome and Prayer Request Cards**

Please place any prayer request cards in the offering plate when it comes around. The ushers will give them to the pastor. Please complete the welcome card and leave it at the end of your pew. Thank you.

### **Church Directory**

**Pastor James Lanning** (512) 968-4587,

**Email:** [pastorlanning@goodshepherdcentralia.org](mailto:pastorlanning@goodshepherdcentralia.org)

**Church office:** (573) 682-3941

**Hours:** 8am-12:30 M; 11:45-4:15 T-Th; 8-10 F

**Email:** [office@goodshepherdcentralia.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdcentralia.org)

**Church Updates:** [www.goodshepherd.churchupdates.org](http://www.goodshepherd.churchupdates.org)

**Website:** [www.goodshepherdcentralia.org](http://www.goodshepherdcentralia.org)

### **Elders:**

Jeff Jaeger (573) 682-0902

Gary Seider (573) 489-6629

Mark Nygren (763) 274-4308



Colossians 2:14, "...nailing it to the cross."

Artwork from [fullofeyes.com](http://fullofeyes.com)





"...nailing it to the cross."