

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**120 West Gano Chance Road**  
**Centralia, Missouri 65240**  
**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 24, 2025**

**Theme: The Lord Disciplines His Soms**

**AS WE GATHER**

The word *discipline* is derived from the Latin word *discipulus*, which means “learner.” One of the most interesting documents found among the Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered at Qumran in the Holy Land in 1947, is called *The Manual of Discipline*. It outlined the expectations for new members joining the Essene sect of Jewish men at the time of Jesus. As part of the of their community’s discipline, they were to have evidence in their lives of faithfulness to God, to show justice toward all people, and to love truth and hate falsehood. Their behavior was to reflect that discipline whatever age they were. As our God’s beloved sons and daughters, we are under His loving discipline. May we continue that blessed learning through all the seasons of our lives!

**WELCOME**

**Pastor James Lanning**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***SUMMER SAINT CELEBRATION SEQUENCE*** *Bartholomew, Apostle (pre-service reading)*

*One of the first of Jesus’ disciples, Bartholomew was a native of Cana in Galilee, where Jesus performed the miracle of changing water into wine. Also known in the Gospel record as Nathanael, Bartholomew was brought to the Savior by Philip, who told him that Jesus was truly the long-awaited Messiah. At first a skeptic about who Jesus was, Bartholomew became a believer and a devoted follower of the Lord. Not much is written in the four Gospels about Bartholomew, whose name means “son of Tolomai.” He was resent on the occasion after Easter when the risen Jesus appeared and shared a meal with His disciples. Church tradition relates that Bartholomew traveled widely on missionary journeys after the ascension of Jesus, visiting and sharing the Gospel in India, Persia, and Armenia. Although he is said to have died a martyr’s death at the order of the king of Armenia, his enduring witness there led that ancient land to become the first nation to adopt Christianity as its national faith.*

*One of the most extensive hymns in Lutheran Service Book is “By All Your Saints in Warfare,” which takes up four full pages of print and has twenty-seven stanzas. The initial hymn was written by an English layman, Horatio Bolton Nelson, in 1864. A gifted writer, Nelson decided to compose a hymn that could easily be used on days in the life of the church when the disciples of Jesus and other important people in His life were remembered individually. In the decades since his original stanzas on saints were written by the earl, a member of the British nobility, many additional stanzas have been composed. The special stanza that commemorates Bartholomew was added to the hymn when it was included in Lutheran Book of Worship in 1978. It calls to mind the time when Jesus reached out to Bartholomew, calling him and referring to him as “an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” (John 1:47). Following in the footsteps of Bartholomew, we pray that we may see the glory of God revealed in Christ, our Lord. Together we sing the first stanza of the hymn, then the special stanza for Bartholomew, and then the concluding stanza.*

**HYMN**

**“By All Your Saints in Warfare”**

**LSB 518 v. 1, 23, 3**

## INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 103:1-2, 8, 13, 21-22*

Pastor: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

**People: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.**

As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear Him.

**People: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Pastor: Bless the LORD, all His hosts, His ministers, who do His will!

**People: Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

**People: Have mercy on us, Lord, and grant us Your forgiveness. We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of our sins, those known to us and those unknown as well. Create in us clean hearts, gracious Lord, and put new and right spirits within us that we may be reconciled to You and at peace with all people. We trust in Christ alone for the forgiveness that we seek today and at all times. Give us the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us into paths of righteousness and finally bring us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

† WORD †

## INTROIT

**Psalm 117; antiphon 96:6a**

Splendor and majesty are before him;

**we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!**

Praise the LORD, all nations!

**Extol him, all peoples!**

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

**and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!**

**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.**

Splendor and majesty are before him;

**we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!**

## KYRIE

**P. 204**

## SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide

us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 66:18–23***

**Lector: Gary Seider**

(The glory of the Lord shall be declared.)

“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, <sup>19</sup>and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. <sup>20</sup>And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. <sup>21</sup>And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD. <sup>22</sup>“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain. <sup>23</sup>From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

***Psalm 50:1–15***

**People: The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

*Women: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. Our God comes; He does not keep silence; before Him is a devouring fire, around Him a mighty tempest.*

Men: He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that He may judge His people: “Gather to Me My faithful ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice!”

**People: The heavens declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge!**

*Women: “Hear, O My people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God. Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before Me.*

Men: I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds. For every beast of the forest is Mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is Mine.

*Women: “If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are Mine.*

Men: Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?

**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.”**

**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.**

**GRADUAL *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.***

Pastor: Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!

**People: Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

**EPISTLE READING *Hebrews: 12:4–24***

**Lector: Gary Seider**

(An exhortation to faithful, peaceful living)

<sup>4</sup>In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. <sup>5</sup>And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the

Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. <sup>6</sup>For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” <sup>7</sup>It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? <sup>8</sup>If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. <sup>9</sup>Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup>For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. <sup>11</sup>For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. <sup>12</sup>Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, <sup>13</sup>and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. <sup>14</sup>Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup>See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; <sup>16</sup>that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. <sup>17</sup>For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears. <sup>18</sup>For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest <sup>19</sup>and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup>For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” <sup>21</sup>Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” <sup>22</sup>But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup>and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup>and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **VERSE *Luke 13:29***

**People: Alleluia. People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. Alleluia.**

### **HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 13:22-30***

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

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

**(Jesus shares insights into His kingdom that is to come.)**

[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup>And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, <sup>24</sup>“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. <sup>25</sup>When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ <sup>26</sup>Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ <sup>27</sup>But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ <sup>28</sup>In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. <sup>29</sup>And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup>And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

### **APOSTLE’S CREED**

## HYMN OF THE DAY “A Multitude Comes from the East and the West”

LSB 510

## SERMON “Sons of Discipline, Sons of Grace”

Pastor James Lanning

## OFFERING HYMN “Glory Be to Jesus”

LSB 433

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ and for all people according to their needs. We begin this time of prayer as we sing the first stanza of the prayer hymn “In Holy Conversation.”

### HYMN “In Holy Conversation”

LSB 772 v. 1

Pastor: We pray for the whole church throughout the world that, as people united in faith and active in love, we may witness to the Good News that is ours in Christ Jesus. We pray for all nations of the earth, that in those places where strife and discord rule there may be times of peace and reconciliation, and we pray for our own nation that it may be an ensign of hope. We bring our special petitions today to God’s throne of grace as we pray for our families, thanking God for the blessings that are received from caring parents, grandparents, public service and emergency workers, and caregivers who intersect with our lives. We thank God, our heavenly Father, for listening to our petitions and responding to them—as we sing of in the second stanza.

### HYMN “In Holy Conversation”

LSB 772 v. 2

Pastor: We pray for the varied situations of daily life in which we are placed, especially in our workplaces and neighborhoods, that we may be peace bringers in all our actions and words. We pray for the special needs of this day, remembering those who are ill and those who mourn, and for all those matters on our hearts currently, [*including . . .*]. For all those saints who have completed their earthly journeys in faith and have left us a legacy of love, we thank You, Lord, and faithfully commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Confident that our gracious Lord hears our prayers, we conclude our prayer hymn with the final stanza.

### HYMN “In Holy Conversation”

LSB 772 v. 3

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-13*

**People: 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 *Numbers 6:24-26*

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.

**People: Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN “Take My Life and Let It Be”

LSB 784

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3.

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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.

## AUGUST/SEPTEMBER EVENTS

8.27 Adult Bible Study – 10 am

8.27 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

9.2 Mission Planning – 7 pm

**9.3 Adult Bible Study – 10 am**

9.3 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

**9.4-9.11 Pastor Lanning Vacation**

**9.6 Pictures for Church Directory**

**9.7 SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY**

9.8 Women's Guild

9.10 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

**9.17-9.24 Pastor Lanning Vacation**

9.17 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

**9.19-9.29 Catherine out of the office**

9.24 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

**BIRTHDAYS – Christina Gronefeld – August 29**

**ANNIVERSARIES – Curt & Starr Nadler – August 24**

**Quarterlife will have a night of fellowship on Monday, September 1, at 6pm at Midway Golf & Games.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

**Bob Maseman** – thyroid cancer treatment (Judy's brother in law and Steve's uncle); **Steve Ward** – home hospice care; **Bruce Mills** – hospitalized with health issues; **Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan** – recovering from a stroke; **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** – recovering; **Skip Elkin** – health issues; **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** – recovering; **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 - MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term)**

**Community Prayers: Father Mike Coleman; Evie Ross**-infant needs heart transplant; **David**-health issues; **Bernie Ryan** – health issues; **Charlene** – esophageal cancer; **Shelley R.** –melanoma; **Geri Ward** – health issues; **Gerry Southard** – health issues,

**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

## 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-1pm M & Th; 11 am – 4 pm T-W

**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

*Artwork from fullofeyes.com*

What exactly is this “sprinkled blood” that the author talks about here? We know it is the blood of Christ, but why “sprinkled”? Why not spilled or poured? I think the answer there is that “sprinkled” alludes to the purifying application of sacrificial blood. The blood that speaks from Zion is the blood that Christ offered through the eternal Spirit to God for the purification of our consciences (i.e., the taking away of condemnation) (Heb.9:13-14) so that we can draw near to God (Heb.10:22); and it is the blood that has inaugurated the New Covenant and opened the way into God’s gracious presence (Heb.9:18-24). The sprinkled blood that speaks from Zion is the blood of Christ, sprinkled on the Altar of the cross and on the “mercy seat” of Heaven’s Throne (indeed, in Christ, the Altar and the Throne are united); a sprinkling by which those who hide in Christ are made perfectly pure so as to draw near and enter into the final and true rest of YHWH Himself...

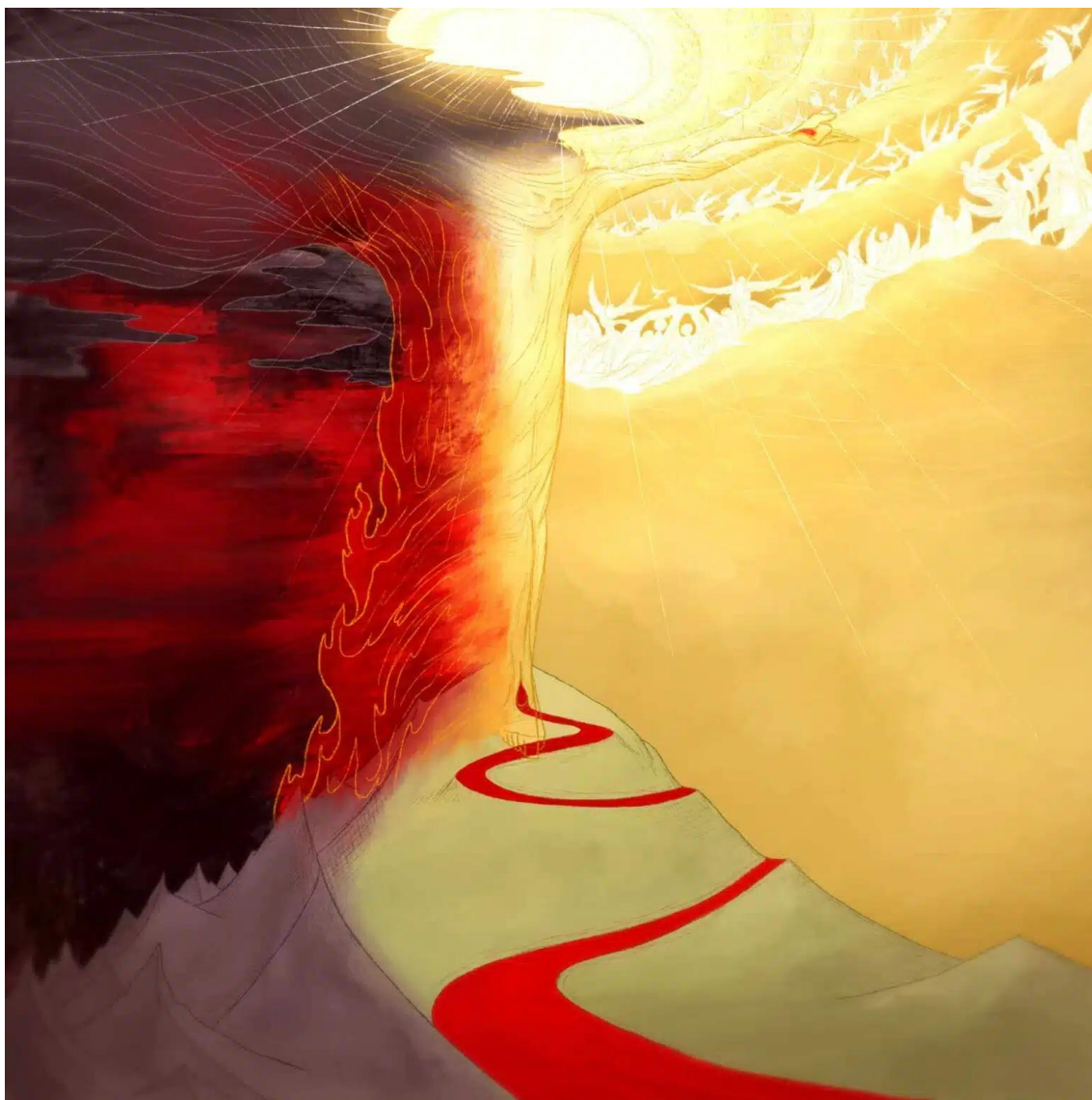
The voice of thunder caused those who heard it to shrink back in terror, the sprinkled blood causes those who “hear” it to draw near in full assurance of faith. And to be clear, the beauty here is that these two “voices” (one of thunder, one of blood) are NOT two Gods. The same God speaks in both....the One True God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the Creator of all, the YHWH of Sinai Himself speaks now from Zion through the Mediator—who is Himself; His own image and radiance—and in the blood.

Now—just because the blood that speaks from Zion invites us to draw near does not mean that it is not also a voice of weight and awe....indeed, the author implies that the word of the Sprinkled Blood is an even weightier word than that spoken by the Voice of Thunder (12:25). More than that, it seems that it will be through the speaking of the Sprinkled Blood that the Lord will “yet once more” shake all of creation so that only new creation remains (v.26-27). I think we can see at least a hint here that the word by which YHWH dismantles the present reality will not be spoken by the Voice of Thunder, but will instead be spoken by the Sprinkled Blood. The blood of Christ is the voice of God in this new era, and it will be by this voice that He “yet once more” shakes all of creation.

Does this seem nonsensical or farfetched? Consider that this is precisely what we see in Revelation. There it is the blood of the (Paschal) Lamb, sprinkled before God as a ransom for many (5:9) that serves as the impetus to / catalyst for / means of the dismantling and re-formation of all creation.

The blood that speaks a word of purification rather than condemnation, the blood that inaugurates the new covenant and opens the way into God’s own heart, the blood of the Image and Radiance of God, sprinkled

on the Altar and on the Throne, the blood of the True Paschal Lamb, this blood is the final word of God by which He shakes not only the earth—as at Sinai—but all of created reality, and by it makes all things new.



*Hebrews 12:18-19 / 22,24, “For you have not come to...a blazing fire and darkness and gloom...and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken....But you have come to Mount Zion...and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.*