

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
120 West Gano Chance Road
Centralia, Missouri 65240
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
November 9, 2025
Theme: Love and Traditions

AS WE GATHER

We are not far from the “holiday season.” In the secular world, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s roll into one big celebration. It is typical to have holiday traditions around special times of the year. Traditions can serve to make some moments more memorable and meaningful. But sometimes traditions add stress to an already hectic calendar or distract us from the real reason for celebrating. Before jumping headlong into the holiday season, soak up this moment in worship. See how the Lord repeatedly meets us with His best. See how surrounding ourselves with His Word and sacramental gifts truly makes us ready to celebrate, for this season and forever!

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor James Lanning

OPENING HYMN – “On Eagles’ Wings”

LSB 727

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 118:24; 1 John 3:1; John 13:35; 1 Corinthians 16:14

Pastor: This is the day that the LORD has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Pastor: See what kind of love the Father has given to us,

People: that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

Pastor: Jesus said, “By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

People: Let all that you do be done in love.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Colossians 1:13–14

Pastor: The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness

People: and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Pastor: Almighty God and Father,

People: we confess, as Your people, our need for Your merciful kindness. We are prisoners of our own wants, our own traditions, and our own inborn sinfulness. Our action and interactions often fail as reflections of Your kingdom. Our thoughts and desires often reflect the domain of darkness You have delivered us from. We often act out of our love for ourselves, rather than our love for others or for You. Forgive us and free us, Lord, to love what You love and go where You lead, all by the grace of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Jesus Christ. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son, Jesus, to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word made flesh, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 115:2–4, 8, 17–18; antiphon: v. 11

You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!

He is their help and their shield.

Why should the nations say,

“Where is their God?”

³ Our God is in the heavens;

he does all that he pleases.

⁴ Their idols are silver and gold,

the work of human hands.

Those who make them become like them;

so do all who trust in them.

The dead do not praise the LORD,

nor do any who go down into silence.

But we will bless the LORD

from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!

He is their help and their shield.

KYRIE/HYMN OF PRAISE

p. 186/187

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Eternal Holy Spirit, who has called Your church through the Gospel into the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, protect Your chosen people. Sanctify us that we might hold fast to what is true, standing firm in Your eternal comfort and good hope; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Father, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Exodus 3:1–15*

Lector: Russell Stelzer

(The Lord announces His intention to deliver Israel from slavery and mobilizes Moses to bear His name.)

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, “I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.” When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” Then he said, “Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” And he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the LORD said, “I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may

bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?” He said, “But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.” Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 148; antiphon: v. 13

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his hosts!

Praise him, sun and moon,

praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens,

and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the LORD!

For he commanded and they were created.

And he established them forever and ever;

he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth,

you great sea creatures and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and mist,

stormy wind fulfilling his word!

Mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars!

Beasts and all livestock,

creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and maidens together,

old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people,

praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him.

Praise the LORD! Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

EPISTLE 2 Thessalonians 2:1–8, 13–17**Lector: Russell Stelzer**

(Amid confusion and calamity, Paul exhorts believers to cling to his faithful teaching and the hope of Christ.)

2 Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, ²not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. ³Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. ⁵Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? ⁶And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. ¹³But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. ¹⁴To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter. ¹⁶Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, ¹⁷comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE***Luke 20:38***

Pastor: Alleluia, alleluia!

People: He is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to Him.

Pastor: Alleluia, alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 20:27–40*

(Jesus silences the scribes and Sadducees by witnessing of the God of the living.)

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

There came to him some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, ²⁸and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. ²⁹Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. ³⁰And the second ³¹and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. ³²Afterward the woman also died. ³³In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife.” ³⁴And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, ³⁶for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. ³⁷But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. ³⁸Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.” ³⁹Then some of the scribes answered, “Teacher, you have spoken well.” ⁴⁰For they no longer dared to ask him any question.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

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 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY - “I Know That My Redeemer Lives”

LSB 461

SERMON – “I AM, Your God Forever”

Pastor James Lanning

OFFERING - “Do Lord” (Sunday School sings vs 1-3, congregation joins for verse 4)

Glory be to God the Father and to God the Son; Glory be to God the Spirit, ever Three in One.

As it was in the beginning till our race is won, We can live in the light of the Lord.

Do Lord, Oh, do Lord, Oh, do remember me! Do Lord, Oh, do Lord, Oh, do remember me!

Do Lord, Oh, do Lord, Oh, do remember me! Look away beyond the blue.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Great I AM, who spoke from the burning bush on Sinai’s height, make Your people to know Your voice. Help us to hear Your clear and consistent Word, that we might love what You love and go where You lead. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Great I AM, who heard the cries of Egypt’s slaves, shower Your mercy on the downtrodden, especially victims of oppression and violence. Be their strength and support and bring them comfort and deliverance through the Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Great I AM, who mobilized Moses to bear Your name as a witness to Your ancient people, provide such servants for Your people today. Call pastors, missionaries, deaconesses, teachers, and ministers of Your Word, provide for their training and care, and preserve them in their callings from failure, fear, and burnout. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Great I AM, who faced the Sadducees’ interrogation about marriage, strengthen and support all Christian marriages. Supply them Your holy wisdom, defend them from evil attacks, and hold them in Your faithful hand, that they might trust they never walk alone. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Great I AM, who declared Yourself to be the God of the living, battle for our sakes the enemies of death, disease, and disability that threaten our earthly life. [*Bring Your healing and comfort to . . .*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Great I AM, who revealed Your glory to the world through the Gospel, preserve us in the one true faith, established for every good work and word, that all who believe and belong to You would have the eternal comfort and good hope of grace that comes through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with Father and Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

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

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.

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, as You deliver Your free and full forgiveness, extend to us also Your good hope, which comforts our hearts and establishes us for the good works prepared for us. Hold us in Your truth, that we would not wander or waver from the reliable testimony of Your Holy Word. And captivate our hearts so fully by Your Gospel that we cannot help but tell all creation of the glories of our triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The grace of our Lord †Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN - “I’m But a Stranger Here”

LSB 748

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. Led by **Pastor Nathan Schuetze**

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. Led by **Pastor Nathan Schuetze**

BIRTHDAYS – Vivian Diener – November 9th; Elizabeth Lanning – November 9th; Sheryl Bartels - November 15th

ANNIVERSARIES – Darrell & Alane Gronefeld - November 11th

NOVEMBER EVENTS

11.09 OCC PACKING PARTY w/lunch

11.10 Women’s Guild – 1 pm

11.11 Heritage Hall – 10 am

11.12 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

11.19 Adult Bible Study 10 am

11.19 ZOOM Prayer Group – 8 pm

11.20 Worship Committee 4:30 pm

11.26 Thanksgiving Eve Service – 7 pm

11.30 First Sunday in Advent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers needed to help lower the flags at Centralia City Cemetery on Tuesday, November 12 at 3:00 p.m.

If you are interested in playing special music or singing during Advent and/or Christmas, please let Donna Hoek know.

The Thanksgiving and Advent offerings will be split evenly between Esther’s Pantry and KVC MO (Caring for children and families in crisis – missouri.kvc.org).

Wednesday morning Adult Bible Study is cancelled for November 12th, November 26th and in December. The class will resume January 7, 2026.

Pastor Lanning will be attending PALS on November 11th and 12th.

Pastor Nathan Schuetze will lead the Adult Bible study and worship service November 16th.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Vivian Diener – health issues; **Patti Martinez** – breast cancer; **Dan Keil** (Norma Keil's son) – burns to hands and face from harvesting accident; **Prayers for those with health issues; prayers for caretakers; Bob Maseman** – thyroid cancer treatment (Judy's brother in law and Steve's uncle); **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, **Kim Smith** – 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

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Church office: (573) 682-3941,

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Elders:

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Exodus 3:14, "God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' And He said, 'Say to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"