
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
September 18, 2022 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost

“You cannot serve God and wealth.”

[Luke 16:13]



WELCOME

We're glad you chose to worship with us this morning.

9:30 A.M. Evangelical Lutheran Worship

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

"Jesus tested the boundaries of his faith. He intensified the moral demands of Jewish law by teaching that God expected the full transformation of *inner* motives. At the same time, He de-emphasized the ritual distinctives of the law, including Sabbath observance and dietary restrictions. "The Sabbath was made for man," He said, "not man for the Sabbath." And: "A man is not defiled by what enters his mouth, but by what comes out of it."

Michael Gerson

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

PRELUDE

Be Thou But Near

J.S.Bach

BELL

GATHERING PRAYER

Praise the Lord!

Blessed be the name of God.

From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is praised.

Blessed be the name of God

Who raises the poor from the dust and lifts up the broken hearted from the ashes?

Blessed be the name of God

Who makes light shine in the darkness, gives joy in sorrow, and brings life out of death?

Blessed be the name of God!

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WHOLENESS

Holy God, we confess our willingness to worship almost anything but you. Our devotion is given to our work, play, fears and insecurities. We spend lots of time pursuing idols, only to find them unsatisfying. We have masters, and we trade them back and forth, hoping that one eventually will have what we need. Have mercy on us. Curb our boundless appetites and feed us with bread that will last. Focus our hearts on Jesus, who alone is worthy of our worship, who alone is able to make us anew. **Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Our loving God desires everyone to come to the ways of truth.

Hear the good news!

In Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks Be To God.

Stand facing the cross.

GATHERING HYMN

We Are Called

ELW 720

Sit

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful God, we give you thanks that in Christ you have trusted us with hope, mercy, justice and grace. Make us faithful stewards of your good gifts, that we may show your love to this generation and welcome us into your eternal home, where we will worship and serve you forever; through Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

READING

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

¹⁸My joy is gone, grief is upon me,
my heart is sick.

¹⁹Hark, the cry of my poor people
from far and wide in the land:

"Is the LORD not in Zion?

Is her King not in her?"

("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
with their foreign idols?")

²⁰"The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
and we are not saved."

²¹For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,
I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

²²Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people

not been restored?¹ O that my head were a spring of water,

and my eyes a fountain of tears,

so that I might weep day and night

for the slain of my poor people!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers,
intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for
kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a
quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is
right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who
desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge
of the truth. ⁵For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,

⁶who gave himself a ransom for all

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE



Luke 16:1-13

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in

dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

Sit

SERMON

The Balm of Gilead

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

There is a Balm in Gilead

ELW 614

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil - e - ad to make the wound - ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil - e - ad to heal the sin - sick soul.



- 1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
- 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
- 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
 and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

GSLS 4th Grade

Dear God, we wish it would rain this weekend because a bunch of fires are happening and we need rain to grow more crops. Thank you God for making all of us, and the earth. Please help the teachers to get through the school year and please bring more rain to end the drought. Please help end the war in Ukraine. We pray that all animals without homes find a home and have water. Finally, thank you God for our families and all that mom and dad give us. **Lord hear our prayer.**

SUNG CREED (tune: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee)

**We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
Earth and heaven sprang to being,
All created things began.**

**We believe in Christ the Savior,
Son of God in human frame,
Virgin-born, the child of Mary
Upon whom the Spirit came.**

**Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
Like a lamb to slaughter led,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
He descended to the dead.**

**We believe in Jesus risen,
Heaven's king to rule and reign,
To the Father's side ascended
Till as judge he comes again.**

**We believe in God the Spirit;
In one Church, below, above:
Saints of God in one communion,
One in holiness and love.**

**So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Savior, Lord and friend,
We shall rise with him in glory
To the life that knows no end.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, you keep your church in faith and truth. Accompany those preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Enlighten preachers, teachers, seminarians, and all those who share your good news with the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Divine teacher, you instruct your children to be responsible stewards of your creation. Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide those who work to develop sustainable practices. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Ruler of the nations, you direct those in authority. Give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. Inspire public servants to follow the example of courageous leaders and safeguard the dignity of each person. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed. Breathe justice into economic and social systems that perpetuate poverty and hunger. Sustain food ministries, clothing banks, and emergency shelters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustainer and giver of life, you bless this congregation with abundance. Instruct us in the proper and faithful use of wealth and resources, that we share generously. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of glory, you gather your saints around your throne.
Keep us thankful for the witness of those who have gone
before us, and bring us with them to the heavenly feast that
has no end. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy
Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to
you; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

Sit

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

O God before time, O God at the end,
we delight in the splendor of your universe.

Daily we praise your continuing creation,
and we give thanks for your people.

We glorify you, now and forever.

O God of the covenant, O God of the church,
we come as your children to this table,
and we give thanks for your presence
in congregations around the world.

We praise you, now and forever.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION

Stand as you are able

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.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Postlude in G Major

G.F. Handel



Morning Prayer-

We praise you O God. From the heights of the heavens you look upon those who hunger and thirst for your love. Help us live from the rising of the sun to its setting; through Jesus Christ. Amen

Evening Prayer-

Keep us faithful as you are faithful- in all things, great and small-so that when this world passes away we may be welcomed into your eternal home. Amen

Question for Good Shepherd

“What about Jesus do you wish every person experienced or knew to the depths of their being?”

GSLC GIVING

*What shall I render to the Lord
For all His benefits toward me?
Psalm 116:12*

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church has served the Novato community through its various ministries over the past 60 years with the music programs and the school being its largest, ongoing ministries. To continue providing these ministries, we rely on the generosity of our members and friends.

As Christians, we are asked to give to God's work in thanksgiving for all that He has given to us. There are several ways in which members and friends of the congregation can support the ministries and activities at Good Shepherd within the Novato community. In addition to contributing in person or by mail, you may opt for contributing online.

Online donations on a one-time payment or recurring basis made be scheduled by clicking on the following link: <http://www.gslcnovato.org/donate>. It is an easy to contribute to the Congregation's activities and ministries. The funds are deducted from your account and directly credited to the Church's account. You can donate on a weekly, monthly or annual basis and can adjust your giving or cancel at any time.

If you have any questions, regarding making financial contributions or donating of your time and talents, please contact one of the members of the Stewardship Committee listed below.

Committee Members: Tom Gannon, Joan Groves, Susan Nissim, and David Perotti.



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Communion Class

Students 2nd Grade and up...Parents welcome too!
October 5 & 12 | 4:30 PM | GSLC Sanctuary

RSVP AT CHURCH.OFFICE@GSLCNOVATO.ORG



GOOD SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

New Member Class

WITH PASTOR DAN CHRISTIAN

FOR ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE FEEL FREE
TO CONTACT PASTOR DANIEL
CHRISTIAN AT
REVDAN@GSLCNOVATO.ORG

OCT 11 & 18 | 5-6 PM

RSVP at church.office@gslcnovato.org

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION CLASS

SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 30

10:45am - 11:45am

CONFIRMATION ON NOVEMBER 6 at 9:30AM

IF YOUR STUDENT IS INTERESTED IN THE UPCOMING
CONFIRMATION CLASS PLEASE SEND THEIR
NAME, GRADE, AND SCHOOL TO
CHURCH.OFFICE@GSLCNOVATO.ORG





Would you like to sponsor altar flowers? We have many dates to choose from...

You can give flowers for many reasons: in memory of loved ones who have died, in honor of the birth of a child, or any other important event in your life or theirs – or in thanks to God for a blessing or simply to give glory to God. When you give the flowers, your commemoration is shared with the congregation in the worship bulletin.

After worship, the flowers are yours to take home or you may share them with family and friends.

Sign up for a Sunday on the Flower Chart on the window of the church office, giving your preferred date(s), your name and your commemoration. Make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. The cost for flowers on a Sunday is \$30 – please write ‘flowers’ on the memo line of your check and offering envelope.



SUNDAY LECTORS, ACOLYTES & GREETERS NEEDED!

We are looking for people of all ages to volunteer at Sunday Worship.

Please contact Falon in the church office at 415-897-2123 or church.office@gslcnovato.org to volunteer.

*****Reading at Sunday Worship counts towards 1 volunteer hour*****



The GSLC Outreach Committee is collecting canned food through September for the Gilead House in Novato. Please bring your canned food to the church and put in the marked box outside of the sanctuary.

Gilead House

Established in 1999, Gilead House provides a stable home environment for low income, vulnerable, and often homeless single mothers and their children. Our 24-month program offers women the opportunity to learn vital skills in a supportive environment so our residents can make permanent changes in their life. The cultivation of self-esteem takes place in a home - not a shelter or institution. It is there where the transformation from homelessness to self-reliance and a future filled with promise takes place.

Each resident brings about changes for herself and her family in a multi-tiered and multi-faceted infrastructure of relationships including a personal mentor, a case manager, life skills teachers, the other families, and a large base of volunteers who help create a learning and loving community. The main components of the program include a strong focus on education, family advocacy, mental health support, and mentoring and personal goal-setting. Through each of these avenues, the residents learn independence and self-sufficiency and make plans for life beyond transitional housing.

Questions? Contact Toni Shroyer Outreach Committee Chair: 415-640-2754 text/call or tonishroyer@hotmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Confirmation Class - September 18 - October 30 at 10:45-11:45am

Bible Study will resume weekly Zoom meetings 9/30 at 11:00am

First Communion Class - October 5 & 12 at 4:30-5:30PM

New Member Class - October 11 & 18 at 5PM

HELP WANTED



St. Andrew Presbyterian is looking for a
Part-Time Church Admin

If interested please contact Dawn Wright
(415) 533-0532

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION

Regular Office Hours: Monday - Friday - 10 AM to 3 PM
Mailing Address: 1180 Lynwood Drive, Novato, CA 94947
Phone Number: (415) 897-2123
Email Address: church.office@gslcnovato.org
Website: www.gslcnovato.org

PASTOR’S INFORMATION

The Rev. Daniel Christian
RevDan@gslcnovato.org

OUR MISSION

As a community formed by God’s grace, guided by His Holy Word, the Bible,
and powered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to:
Grow in faith and discipleship,
Share the good news of Jesus through word and deed,
Love others as Christ loves us, and
Celebrate life in Christ through worship, sacrament and service.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

The Members of Good ShepherdServants of Christ
The Rev. Daniel ChristianPastor
Falon BarmakiCongregational Life Coordinator/Admin.
Carl Jech.....Musician
Donna Peters.....Lector

Many thanks to those who serve as Ushers, Greeters, Singers,
Instrumentalists, and the Altar Guild.

The flowers this week are given by Bonnie Lilleodden and her
husband Jim and their family in memory of her sister Barbara
Fewer’s 79th birthday.

The flowers on the piano are given with
Love by Jim and Toni Shroyer.

- If you would like to sponsor the weekly flowers or be a reader please sign up
on the sheet in the narthex -