



Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, whether you worship with us in-person or online (on Facebook Live or archived at www.holyshepherd.org.) May you know God's grace as we worship.

Know that You Have a Place at the Table! We share in Holy Communion during this morning's service. This is the table of the Lord. Jesus is the host and we are his guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live!

Your Offerings are one way to express both your gratitude for God's love and your commitment to the work of ministry. To support the work of our congregation electronically, visit www.holyshepherd.org and utilize Givelify, our online giving platform.

▲ indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able

GATHERING MUSIC AT THE CROSS
Lyrics and Music by Brian Doerksen

▲ **OUR CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: People of God, before we can truly receive the gifts our Lord stands ready to shower out upon us, we must openly and honestly face up to who we are and what we have done or failed to do that has separated us both from God and from those whom God has called our neighbors. Real life comes not in thinking that we're good. Rather, it comes in knowing that we're forgiven. So let us be honest to God – honest to the One who can and will forgive us.

P: **Holy One, we confess that life for us is not nearly as joyful as it could be, because we forget to make You part of our daily existence. We confess that we've often failed to share Your joy with others, and instead have allowed envy, bitterness, and prejudice to separate us from our brothers and sisters here on earth. We confess that too**

often, we have done what we should not have done — and failed to do that which we should have done. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to straighten out our lives and our values, lining them up with the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ.

L: Hear the Good News. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Know that truth. Experience God's peace. Celebrate God's goodness. And embody God's gift of peace to all who are your neighbors.

▲ **GATHERING SONG** OUR GOD IS HERE
Lyrics and Music by Chris Muglia / arr. by Tom Henry

**Here in this time, here in this place
Here we are standing face to face
Here in our hearts, here in our lives
Our God is here
Here for the broken, here for the strong
Here in this temple, we belong
Here in our hearts, here in our lives
Our God is here!**

**Here in the Word, God is revealed
Here where the wounded can be healed
Here in our hearts, here in our lives
Our God is here
Here we become what we receive
Here in this Eucharistic feast
We are his body, living as one;
Our God is here!**

Refrain

**And we cry: "Holy! Holy! Holy are you!"
We cry: "Holy! Holy! Holy and true!"
Amen, we do believe our God is here
Our God is here
Our God is here!**

**Here in this bread, here in this wine,
Here at this table, Our God we find.
He's in our hearts, he's in our lives,
Our God is here.
Here on this earth, divided it seems,
When all the world is at extremes;
Hear His Good Word, live His Good News,
Our God is here.
(Refrain)**

▲ **OUR OPENING LITANY** CALLED TO LOVE

L: God has not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power and love.

P: **All who love are born of God.**

L: Greater love has no one than this: that a person lay down his or her life for a friend.

P: **God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life.**

L: If God so loved us, we ought to love one another.

P: **We shall love our neighbors as ourselves.**

L: If we keep God's commandments, we will abide in God's love.

P: **This commandment we have from God: Love one another.**

L: Let us not love in word and speech alone, but in deed and in truth.

P: **Let our love be honest and genuine.**

L: Let us love one another.

P: **For love is of God.**

L: So let us pray

P: **Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we marvel that You care enough to give us the very best of Yourself – Your forgiveness, Your love and even Your Son. May we trust in Your power, even as it is often found in weakness; may we trust in Your wisdom, even as it is expressed in seeming foolishness; may we trust in Your wholeness, even as it comes to us amid brokenness. . Amen.**

THE LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were

powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

SONG OF THE DAY

COME TO JESUS

Lyrics and Music by Josh Blakesley and Sarah Hart

***People of the God of ages
Welcome to your brand new day
Leave the world and all it's trappings
Come into amazing grace
Let go your every fear
There is only mercy here***

Refrain

***Come to Jesus, hope that frees us,
life that breathes in us
Come to Jesus, and believe that he is love
Oh come. Oh come***

***All who walk alone in shadow
All who stand with faith assured
Those who follow with abandon
Those who long for something more
These are the gifts we bring – our lives the offering***
(Refrain)

***Welcome pauper, rich one, leper
Hungry, exiled, joyful, poor
Come you pris'nr, free one, sinner
Come to the Lord. Come to the Lord***
(Refrain)

THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

▲ OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the

Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*Strengthened in faith and hope by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need — using the prayer refrain: "God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**"*

THE OFFERTORY

IT'S ABOUT THE CROSS
Lyrics and Music by Jamison J. Statema

▲ THE COMMUNION LITANY

L: In the breaking of bread and the sharing of the cup, Jesus offered his first followers peace and friendship, trust and forgiveness, the love and embrace of God - and Jesus offers those same gifts. For - on the night in which he was betrayed - our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." And that same Jesus who called us to remember, and who is present with us now, is the One who taught us all to pray:

P: **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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

As we share in the gift of Holy Communion, we invite you to come to the Altar Rail and kneel or stand as you are able. Note that the Communion Assistant offers both (red) wine and (white) grape juice. After receiving Communion, please return to your seat by the side aisle, and place the communion cup in the small basket before returning to your seat.

During the serving of Holy Communion, you are invited to sing the following songs with our Worship Team.

GIVE THANKS

Lyrics and Music by H. Smith

***Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son.***

***Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son.***

***And now let the weak say, "I am strong."
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us.***

***And now let the weak say, "I am strong."
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us.***

***Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks.***

MEET US HERE

Lyrics and Music by Mike Hohnholz

***Meet us here, in this place
Come and fill us with Your power and Your grace
We long to see, the nations one
Let Your glory fall, Lord,
Let Your Kingdom come***

Chorus

***Holy is the Lord, Seated on the throne
Sovereign King of all the Earth,
We crown You Lord of all***

***Meet us here, oh gracious King
Let us see You in Your beauty and Your majesty
We long to see that glorious day
When the ransomed and redeemed
will join to sing Your praise***

(Chorus)

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

L: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

P: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

▲ THE BENEDICTION

L: The God of all, who raised Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

P: **Amen!**

▲ THE SENDING SONG ARE YOU WASHED? Lyrics and Music by E.A. Hoffman

*Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing pow'r?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Are you fully trusting in His grace this hour?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?*

Refrain:

*Are you washed in the blood,
In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb?
Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?*

*Are you walking daily by the Savior's side?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Do you rest each moment in the Crucified?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?*

[Refrain]

*Lay aside the garments that are stained with sin,
And be washed in the blood of the Lamb.
There's a fountain flowing for the soul unclean;
O be washed in the blood of the Lamb?*

[Refrain]

▲ THE CHARGE

L: Go – in peace – to love God by serving your neighbor!

P: **Thanks be to God!**

SENDING MUSIC ARE YOU WASHED? (Reprise)

Thank you to this morning's Worship Team for sharing their gifts of music with us today, including:

Tom Henry — Vocalist, Guitarist and Creative Director
Bethany Valentine — Vocalist
Diana Riveness Young — Vocalist
Elizabeth Humphrey — Vocalist
Marci Bauer — Vocalist
Bob Schmalz — Vocalist
Steve Swanback – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine — Vocalist
Marc Levine — Pianist

Interested in reading ahead as we journey through Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth? Next text up is 1st Corinthians 3:1-23!

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