

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Todd Bertani

Church Website: smlcestes.org

Office Email: secretary@smlcestes.org 970-586-3900

Pastoral Care: Pastor Todd Bertani, 707-688-6411

Mission Statement:

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church is a community of faith grounded in love for God and love for our neighbors



August 09, 2026

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Julie Varilek, Accompanist

***Prelude: "I Love To Tell The Story/Tell Me The Story of Jesus" arr
by Lorie Line***

Welcome, Friends in Christ,

*To assist in worship, this bulletin includes all portions of our service; prayers, readings, hymns, congregational responses in **bold**. We also provide activity bags for children. You may request these from an usher to use during the service. Please note: The bags contain a treat. Whether you are first time visitors or long time friends returning to share in worship with us, we are grateful for your presence today.*

Liturgy: From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003178. **Scripture:** Quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. **Music:** Reprinted / streamed with permission under Sunday & Seasons.com #SAS003178 and/or ONE LICENSE #A-707376. All rights reserved.

Now the Feast: Text and Music: Marty Haugen: ©1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Welcome: Pastor Todd Bertani

Call to Worship: "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. by Craig Courtney

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity,† one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

(Brief silence for reflection)

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: "The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing" *Hymn 531*

1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - ties, of - fers the

read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud

and the Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.

Refrain
Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.

Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.

Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.

The feast is read - y to be - gin;
the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950
Music: Graham Kendrick

THE FEAST IS READY
LM and refrain

Greeting

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

Kyrie

(Congregation sings the highlighted text)

Assistant:

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:

Refrain Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant:

For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you
world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

Coda

Refrain

Help, save, and de - fend us, O

Ending for Kyrie

God.

A - men.

Now The Feast

(Refrain, Verse 1, Refrain)

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

Salutation



Prayer of the Day

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Please be seated)

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4

¹The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

Second Reading: Galatians 5:16-25

¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent

you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Grace Talk: Amy Baringer



(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: John 15:1-11

The holy gospel according to John Chapter 15.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. ⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Sermon: Pastor Todd Bertani

Sermon Notes:

Sermon Hymn: “Build a Longer Table” ACS Hymn 1062



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Apostle's 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.**

Intercessory Prayer

Each petition ends: "Merciful God"
Response is **"receive our prayer."**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Choir Anthem: "A Place at the Table" by Murray and McDonald

Receiving of Gifts

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

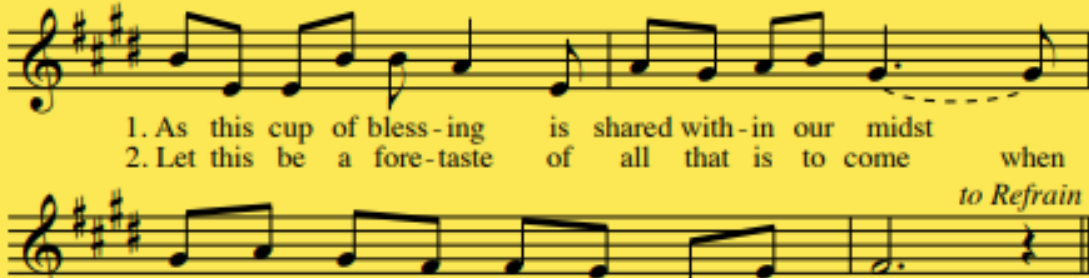
As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain *Congregation:*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be
gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
to Refrain
may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Offering Prayer

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving *(Congregation sings highlighted text)*

Presider: The Lord be with you. Congregation: And al-so with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts. Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Congregation: It is

right to give God thanks and praise.



Preface

Presider:



It is our duty and de - light that we should everywhere and always offer
 thanks and praise to you, O God, through Je - sus Christ...
 who calls us to follow his way of humble service ...and so with the church on earth, all creation and the
 and love,
 host of heaven we praise your name and join their un - end - ing
in rhythm *To Holy, Holy*
 hymn: _____

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Congregation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
 One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Eucharistic Prayer

You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God;
everything is filled with your glory.

We give you thanks for your promise and presence which have
sustained the faithful in this and every generation.

Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and
deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal 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.

After the 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death,
his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again,
even as we cry:

Eucharistic Acclamation

The musical score for the Eucharistic Acclamation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for the *Presider* and the second and third staves are for the *Congregation*. The lyrics are: "A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus." The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating long notes. The congregation part is highlighted with a yellow background.

Presider:

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -

Congregation:

men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord

Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that all of your promises may come to us
and your whole creation.

Presider:

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

Congregation:

men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.
And now, make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba
as we pray:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily
bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save
us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the
power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

*We commune by 'Intinction', by dipping the wafer in wine or grape juice.
We are **all** guests at God's table. **Everyone** is invited to receive communion.*

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God

Congregation:

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,

grant us peace, grant us peace.



Communion Hymn: “For by Grace You Have Been Saved” *Hymn 598*



- 1 For by grace you have been saved and e - ven faith is not your
- 2 “So my grace is all - suf - fi - cient for each child who is my
- 3 So this weak - ness with con - tent - ment I’ll ac - cept now in my -



own, it’s the gift of God for you and not the works that you have
own, for my strength is now made per - fect for each child who is my
self, all my hard - ships, pains, and griefs that still lie deep with - in my -



done. Don’t let an - y - bod - y boast, for this is
own. When you’re weak, then you are strong, for this is
self. When I’m weak, then I am strong, for this is



God’s great gift. A - men.
God’s great gift.” A - men.
God’s great gift. A - men. A - men.

Text: Kari Tikka, b. 1946; tr. Michael Harper
Music: ARMOLAULU, Kari Tikka
Text and music © Fennica Gehrman, admin. Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

Post Communion Blessing

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood
strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

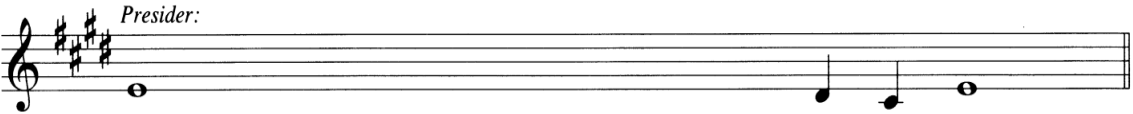
Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the
abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy
meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Ministry Highlights *(see insert)*

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

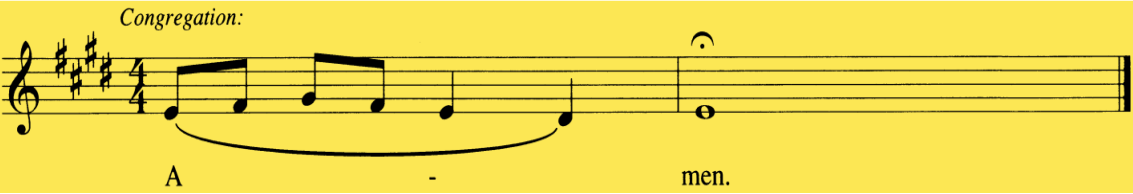
Blessing

Presider:



May God bless us and keep us.
May God's face shine on us and be gracious to us.
May God look on us with favor and + give us peace.

Congregation:



A - men.



Sending Hymn: "Guide My Feet" ACS Hymn 987 (Pastor leads, then congregation)

Pastor Congregation

1 Guide my feet
2 Hold my hand
3 Stand by me while I run this race.

Yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race.

Yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race,

for I don't want to run this race in vain.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual; arr. *This Far by Faith*

Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

Sending

As God's own, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness,
and patience, forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you,
and crown all these things with love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Amen.

(based on Colossians 3:12-14)

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Table of Plenty" Dan Schutte

