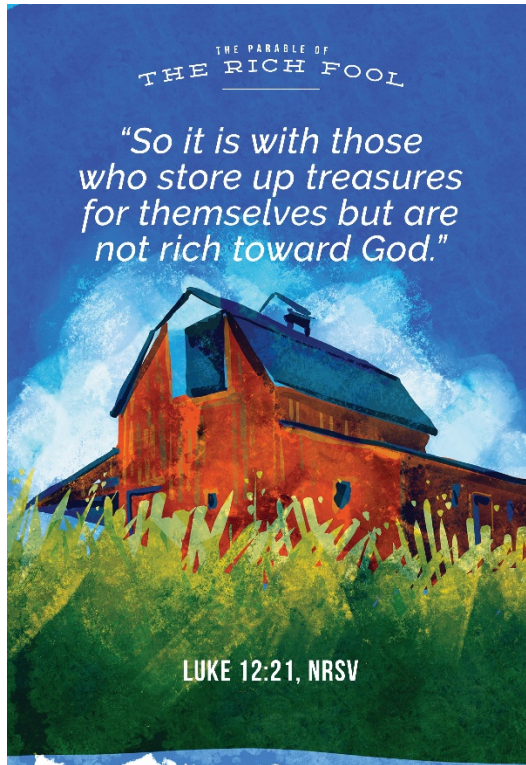


Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Contemporary Worship
August 3, 2025



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
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INTRODUCTION

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's Supper and the encouragement of God's word.

WELCOME

Please stand

CALL TO WORSHIP – FROM COLOSSIANS 3:1–11

We have been raised with Christ!

We will seek the things that lead to life.

Let's put to death the things that drag us down:

Anger, greed, and hateful speech.

We have been clothed in newness;

We have taken off what is old.

In Christ, every label falls away.

And Christ is all in all!

Open The Eyes Of My Heart

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy holy holy**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
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**To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy holy holy**

**To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy holy holy, holy holy
holy**

**Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
I want to see You**

**Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
I want to see You**

**Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
I want to see You**

**Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
I want to see You**

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please sit

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³ applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴ I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³ For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 49:1-12

¹ Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

² **you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

³ My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴ **I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

⁷ One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

⁸ **for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

⁹ in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.

¹² **Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

The holy gospel according Luke. **Glory to You, O Lord!**

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵ And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.”

¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

HOMILY

Please stand

Reckless Love

**Before I spoke a word You were singing
over me
You have been so so good to me
Before I took a breath You breathed Your
life in me
You have been so so kind to me**

**(And) O the overwhelming never-ending
reckless
Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God yeah**

**When I was Your foe still Your love fought
for me
You have been so so good to me
When I felt no worth You paid it all for me
You have been so so kind to me**

**(And) O the overwhelming never-ending
reckless
Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God yeah**

**There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me**

**There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me**

**There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me**

**There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me**

**(And) O the overwhelming never-ending
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Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God yeah**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear. Give strength to those who give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

The gifts we use and share matter! Thank you for sharing your gifts for the sake of the world. Use the green Give button on our church's website to support our mission of nurturing lives for following Christ. Offering baskets will be passed by the ushers.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Place of Freedom

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy Is The Lord

Holy is the Lord God Almighty

The earth is filled with His glory

Holy is the Lord God Almighty

The earth is filled with His glory

The earth is filled with His glory

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please sit

LAMB of GOD



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, when your Son Jesus gathered a crowd and blessed the loaves and fish, all ate and were filled. And still there was more. In your love and care, extend this meal to all who will receive it. Give us all the comfort of your abiding presence and the courage to be the body of our Lord, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAMILY TIME

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

Please stand

SENDING HYMN

Our God Reigns Forever

**Our God is great and Glorious
We put our trust in Your Name, Jesus
Able to save and deliver us
We put our hope in Your Name, Jesus**

**Blessing and honor, glory and power
Unto our God forever and ever
All of the honor, all of the praise is
Yours! Yours forever!**

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Our God reigns
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Our God reigns
Ohhh, Ohhh, Ohhh, Ohhh
Ohhh, Ohhh, Ohhh, Ohhh**

**Our God is mighty and marvelous
We put our trust in Your Name, Jesus
Nothing to fear, you are here with us
We put our hope in Your Name, Jesus**

**Blessing and honor, glory and power
Unto our God forever and ever
All of the honor, all of the praise is
Yours! Yours forever!**

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Our God reigns
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Our God reigns**

**Our God is in control, steadfast
unmovable
Nothing's impossible, Our God reigns
forever
Our God is in control, steadfast
unmovable
Nothing's impossible, Our God reigns**

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Our God reigns
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Our God reigns**

**Our God is in control, steadfast
unmovable
Nothing's impossible, Our God reigns
forever
Our God is in control, steadfast
unmovable
Nothing's impossible, Our God reigns
Ohhh, Ohhh, Ohhh Ohhh
Ohhh, Ohhh, Ohhh Ohhh**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, nurturing lives for following Christ.

Thanks be to God!

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"Open The Eyes Of My Heart"

"Reckless Love"

"Our God Reigns Forever"



Each year, the Women of the ELCA at Good Shepherd Sponsor Mildred Helms School for back-to-school items. The information for the 2025-2026 school year is listed below! The back-to-school drive ends today, August 3, 2025 so the school received them in time for the new school year beginning August 11, 2025.



Monthly Financial Summary

	Monthly: June 2025			YTD: January - June 2025		
	Total	Church	Little Lambs	Total	Church	Little Lambs
Budgeted Expenses	\$88,941	\$31,699	\$57,242	\$523,348	\$179,897	\$343,451
Actual Expenses	\$76,419	\$22,830	\$53,589	\$497,080	\$162,079	\$335,001
Budgeted Giving / Income	\$71,588	\$15,338	\$56,250	\$431,025	\$93,525	\$337,500
Actual Giving / Income	\$73,394	\$13,432	\$59,962	\$462,185	\$96,501	\$365,684
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$3,025)	(\$9,398)	\$6,373	(\$34,895)	(\$65,579)	\$30,684
Annual Deficit will be funded from the Good Shepherd Money Market Account			Balances as of June 30, 2025			
			General Money Market Account			\$295,055