

Offering Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory

Doxology #607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all creatures here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Pastor Sheri Fry

God, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills and our works, a continual thank offering to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SENDING IN GOD'S LOVE

*Closing Hymn #722

Live into Hope

Charge and Benediction

Pastor Sheri Fry

Postlude

Jeremy Kurn

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Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

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Good Shepherd Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Sheri Fry

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Liturgist: Mary Kennedy

Accompanist: Jeremy Kurn

Choir Director: Sara Love

Chancel Choir

www.thegoodshepherd.org

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*A Service for the Lord's Day
October 10, 2021 ~ 10:00 am
20th Sunday after Pentecost*

Parts of the service in **bold** are for everyone to speak in unison.
Parts with an asterisk * mean that all are to stand in body or in spirit.

GATHERING TOGETHER

As the music begins, we invite you to use this time to make the transition from getting here to being here. Take these few minutes to silently prepare for worship and allow the Spirit to refresh you.

Prayer of the Day

Once again, I close my eyes; I open my heart. I ask that my words be expressions of your beauty. In Jesus' reflection. Amen

Gathering Music

Jeremy Kurn

Welcome

Rev. Sheri Fry

Introit

Jeremy Kurn

*Call to Worship (unison)

Liturgist Mary Kennedy

ALL: We come to this place seeking something...something better than ourselves; something that gives life meaning; some relationship that reaches deep into our souls to fulfill us; maybe even something to which we cannot put a name.

One: But we come seeking and even more important, we are sought by one who gives us worth and meaning and value and love.

All: So, today let us enter into this time of worship with hearts and minds that are open to the one who has laid down his life for us, who stands at the throne of God in support of us, and who reigns in power for us. Come, let us worship.

Lighting the Christ Candle (unison)

It is God, in the dawning, in the renewal, in the arrival, in the new day. Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life and let the light we kindle go before us, strong in hope, wide in good will, inviting the day to come.

*Opening Hymn #302 *When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace*

*Prayer of Confession (unison) Rev. Sheri Fry

God of all people, we come humbly before you. We know we have fallen short of your expectations of us. When we could have shared your love with a stranger, we looked the other way. When we could have given out of our abundance, we stored your gifts to us. When we could have spoken a word for justice, we were silent. We ask for another opportunity to let our light shine in a world desperate for hope. We want to witness to your grace and love. We invite you into our lives that our hearts might be open to your promises. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Love Rev. Sheri Fry

One: What marvelous love, what wondrous grace, what abundant mercy God offers to us! We are God's people.
All: We are God's children those whose lives have been changed by the One who loves us and forgives us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Response of Praise *Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination (unison) Mary Kennedy

That our hearts would be open to you, O God. That we may release every defense against your Spirit's guidance. That we would receive the wisdom you intend for us. May it be so. Amen

First Lesson Deuteronomy 15: 1-11 Mary Kennedy

Leader: Listen to the voice of the Spirit speaking to the church.
All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Down to the River to Pray* Chancel Choir
Lloyd Larson - Traditional Spiritual, quoting "Shall We Gather at the River?"

Second Lesson Luke 4:14-21 Rev. Sheri Fry

Sermon *Fearless Service* Rev. Sheri Fry

Moment of Silent Reflection

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE



Affirmation of Faith (unison) Mary Kennedy

I believe in God, the Great Knitter – who weaves us together in community, collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging. I believe in the Holy Spirit – who hems us in before and behind, catching us when we fall and writing us into God's holy narrative. And I believe in Jesus Christ – who loved and claimed the people society had thrown out, refusing to disregard anyone as scrap. I believe God has woven part of God's self into the fiber of our being, making us inherently worthy of love and belonging. I believe in the Church, and that like a quilt of different fabrics, she is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God's creation, and I believe that when life unravels, God is there to stitch my wounds together, to hold me in the palm of God's hand, to tell me of love, and to invite me into a new journey. Amen.

Call to Prayer Jeremy Kurn

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Unison) Rev. Sheri Fry

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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

FREE ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES. (ESL)

Tuesdays & Thursdays Starting October 12th 6-7:30pm

Good Shepherd will be hosting free ESL classes beginning Tuesday, October 12 from 6:00-7:30pm. This class is open to beginning and intermediate English speakers. Certified teacher Catherine Schyling will teach the class. To register, call 720-207-3328 or sign up at the Food Bank.



Vecinos "Neighbors" Program ~ Oct. 13 & 27 and Nov. 10 & 17

The Interfaith Immigration Network and the Denver Presbytery is offering an opportunity to participate in an 4 part educational series on ZOOM to provide education, outreach, & support for faith communities to catalyze their engagement with immigrant lives & immigrant rights.

Pod One: *Faith Based immigration practices:* what in our collective faiths compels us to welcome the stranger; *history of immigration: how has the path of immigration into the US shaped our policies;* *Immigrant Voices:* How do the stories from today's immigrants inform our beliefs & practices

Pod Two: *How to be an ally:* how can we learn to walk with our new immigrant neighbors; *Intro to immigrant status and resources:* what are the community resources & legal avenues available; *Resources & Actions for Allies:* what avenues for action and engagement are available in our area for allies

Please contact Rev. Sheri Fry at Revmo25@gmail.com if you would like to register for this zoom opportunity.



GoodStuff@GoodShepherd



SERMON MUSINGS

Luke 4:14-21

Luke tells us that, fresh from his forty-day journey into the wilderness and filled with the power of the Spirit, Jesus begins to teach in the synagogues. Coming to Nazareth, the hometown boy stands and reads from the scroll of Isaiah. From his lips flow some of the most powerful words in all of scripture:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Finishing his reading, Jesus rolls up the scroll, returns it to the attendant, and sits down. One can imagine him pausing for dramatic effect before he then says to his listeners, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

On that day in the synagogue, Jesus comes among them as the sacred story of God for all to read; the ancient, sacred texts coming together and taking form...coming to life in him, for the life of the world.

And we who are the body of Christ and followers of the Word: what will we do with these words about good news for the poor, release for the captives, sight for the blind, freedom for the oppressed, and the year of God’s favor? How do we, let these ancient words show up in our own lives? How do we, like the Christ whom we follow, give flesh to these words? Amid the brokenness of the world, how do we become bearers of these words that are so radical and so challenging in the hope to which they call us?





Fearless Service

We are in the midst of exploring what it means to live and give generously at Good Shepherd. We have many examples in the Bible of fearless leadership and service. The one I'm thinking about today is the Exodus story. The Israelites have been in desert wandering mode for 40 years, and they are getting impatient to arrive at this land of milk and honey. God has given them the 10 commandments to follow as a blueprint for their lives. Moses heads up Mt. Sinai to have a talk with God and leaves his people for what feels like a long time, and they get scared and feel abandoned. In his absence they make an idol out of gold - a calf - for them to worship. Of course, that action leads them to break the first two of the commandments. This is not what we would call *fearless living*.

How do we live fearlessly and generously when the world around us is a scary place? It's easy for us to want our own golden calves. So, we look for them...things that make us feel successful, important, and in control of our world. We don't really need a god if we have all of these things. These golden calves will make us happy; they will make us feel safe, they can be what we worship because we can see them, and they are ours.

Good Shepherd's mission statement is that the church is committed to bringing the love and teachings of Christ to our community by welcoming all, serving together, and growing in faith. It leads us in study and worship and sends us out in mission and service. To welcome, serve and grow calls us to bear witness to God's faithful compassion and presence in our lives. We have this message to give and share, and this body of Christ we call Good Shepherd Church can do that with your help. It can be the place where compassion can be found. We can be the people who share the message of God's faithfulness and love. We can be the place where we can loosen the bonds on our idols because we trust in God's providence.

So as you journey this week, think about our mission statement. Think about your own personal mission statement. Think about Moses and Aaron's experience with the Israelites when they tried or failed in sharing the message of God's compassion and presence. **And as you go into your week may you find your talents enlarging the opportunities and lives of others.** Peace~ Pastor Sheri

Joys and Concerns

Former member Steve Wilson passed away on Monday September 20th in Georgia. Please keep his friends, family, his wife Megan, their three children as well as Megan's mother Nancy in your thoughts and prayers. Please also pray for those dealing with health issues: for Jane S.; for Gil and Karen Siebel; for Maxine K; for Norma, Teddie's mom; for all those grieving the loss of loved ones: for Julie K.'s family; ; Sue H.'s family; Sue C.'s family; the Burress' family; Barb W.'s family; and for Burton K., who is in memory care; for communities affected by COVID-19 or by human rights violations here in the United States and throughout the world; and for our church, that it may thrive as it brings the good news to our area.

Here's What's Happening

- October 11 - Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:10 - 7:45 pm
- October 13 - Mission Committee Meeting 10 am
- October 12 & 14 - ESL class 6 - 7:30 pm
- October 16 - Food Bank open 9 am - 12 pm

The food bank served 82 households in September, including 235 individuals. There were 66 children served, and 49 Seniors.



I truly and humbly appreciate the cards and gifts. I was not expecting them. If people believe that I helped the church over the years by working the sound system, then I'm glad I was able to.

Thanks to everyone,
David Blount

Holiday Stockings for our Food Bank Clients

*The holidays can be such a difficult time for food and housing insecure families and individuals. **Would you be willing to help? The Mission Committee would like to invite you to assist our Food Bank clients by filling stockings for them.** Please choose an age group and fill up a stocking or two for your chosen recipient.*

Stockings are Due by November 21st

Please turn in with the tag provided on the display in the narthex. Thank you for sharing during this season of LOVE and HOPE!

Holiday Stocking Ideas for Food Bank Recipients:

*We will add small toothpastes to stockings. **We have about 75 children** and many senior citizens.*

Age 0-2

- Safe toys (no choking hazards)
- Wash cloths
- Small books
- Wet wipes
- Diapers
- Onesies
- Baby blankets

Age 3-5

- Small books (no choking hazards)
- Toys
- Socks
- Clothes
- Shampoo for children
- Small brushes or combs
- Mittens and hats

Age 6 - 10

- Books
- School supplies, e.g. crayons, colored pencils
- Nail polish
- Jewelry for children
- Socks
- Mittens or hat
- Clothes
- Shampoo for Children
- Comb or brush
- Deodorant
- Target or Wal-Mart gift card

Age 11-17

- Books
- Makeup
- Jewelry
- Socks
- Gloves, hat, scarf
- Full size shampoo/conditioner
- Clothes
- Wash cloth
- Comb or brush
- Target or Wal-Mart gift card
- AMC movie tickets or gift card

Adult (18+) (Female or identifying as female)

- Full-size shampoo, body wash, conditioner
- Hat, gloves, scarf
- Socks
- Hand warmers
- Hot cocoa packets or tea
- Makeup
- Deodorant
- Target or Wal-Mart gift card
- AMC movie tickets or gift card

Adult (18+) (Male or identifying as male)

- Dental floss
- Hat, gloves, scarf
- Socks
- Hand warmers
- Playing cards
- Hot cocoa
- Deodorant, full-size shampoo, body wash
- Target or Wal-Mart gift card
- AMC movie tickets or gift card

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