

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 #694

*Great God of Every Blessing*

Charge and Benediction

Pastor Sheri Fry

Postlude

Jeremy Kurn

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*Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church*  
10785 Melody Drive, Northglenn, CO 80234 ~ 303-452-5478

Good Shepherd Staff  
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revmo25@gmail.com  
Office Admin: Teddie McConnell  
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Accompanist: Jeremy Kurn  
Choir Director: Sara Love  
Chancel Choir  
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*A Service for the Lord's Day*  
*October 17, 2021 ~ 10:00 am*  
*27<sup>th</sup> 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  
*God speaks in the silence. Listening is the beginning of prayer.*  
~Mother Teresa

Gathering Music

Jeremy Kurn

Welcome

Rev. Sheri Fry

Introit

Jeremy Kurn

\*Call to Worship

Liturgist Mary McCarron

One: People of God, look about creation and see the faces of those we know and love – neighbors and friends, sisters and brothers – a communion of kindred hearts.

All: **People of God, look about and see the faces of those we hardly know – strangers, sojourners, forgotten friends, the ones who need an outstretched hand.**

One: People of God, look about and see all the images of God assembled here today.

In me, in you, in each of us everywhere, God's Spirit shines for all to see!

All: **People of God, come, let us worship together.**

Lighting the Christ Candle (unison)

**We light this candle as a sign of God's Spirit at work in the world, may its light brighten our spirits, may the light of God shining through us brighten the world.**

\*Opening Hymn #409

*God is Here!*

\*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Rev. Sheri Fry

**Wise and wondrous God, we come seeking your guidance and your inspiration. Empower us to be more able bearers of hope, more dedicated doers of your Word, more resourceful enablers of others, more open channels of the faith. We confess that sometimes our lives are more cluttered than committed; then we do not know which way to turn. Help us, when we are most lost to find you. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

\*Assurance of God's Love

Rev. Sheri Fry

\*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 McCarron

**God of all creation, send your Holy Spirit among us this day that the seed of your Word might take root in our hearts and bear the fruits of peace, love and justice for all. Amen**

First Lesson

Isaiah 55:10-13

Mary McCarron

Leader: Listen to the voice of the Spirit speaking to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

*Jesus Paid It All*

Chancel Choir

By Elvina M. Hall and John T. Grape

Second Lesson Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Rev. Sheri Fry

Sermon

*Fearless Sowing*

Rev. Sheri Fry

Moment of Silent Reflection



## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Moment for Fearless Generosity

Ruth Vazquez

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

Mary McCarron

**We belong to God, creator of all that is and all that is to come, abundant provider of the gifts in this life and the gifts in our own hearts. It is God alone who gives life, who is generous beyond measure with grace and blessing. We follow Christ, whom God sent to teach and heal, to show us a new way of living, with love and trust and courage, with joy and generosity. In this faith Jesus gave of himself, even his very life. He was crucified and buried; yet God raised him from death, and he lives among us, and grants his spirit to us. We live by that Holy Spirit and entrust ourselves to its guidance and empowerment. As members of the church, the Body of Christ, we devote ourselves to lives of love, rejoicing in the power of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life. 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.**

Hymn #171

*A Sower Came from Ancient Hills*

Offering Ourselves and our Gifts

*Making a financial gift makes Good Shepherd's programs and ministries possible, including this worship service. You are invited to give generously at [www.thegoodshepherd.org](http://www.thegoodshepherd.org) or by placing your offering in the offering plates stationed at the front of the sanctuary.*

Offertory

Jeremy Kurn

## 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](mailto:Revmo25@gmail.com) if you would like to register for this zoom opportunity.



GoodStuff@GoodShepherd



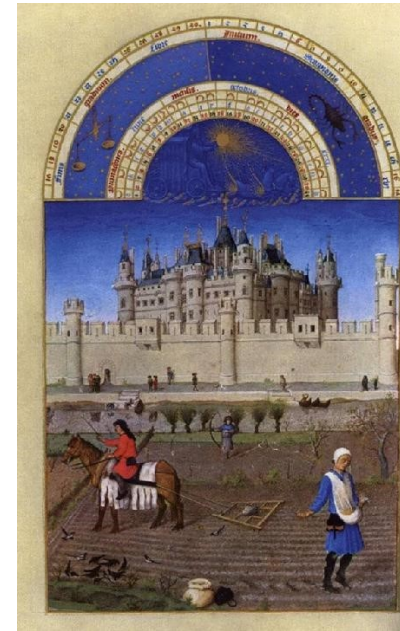
## SERMON MUSINGS

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

### The Generous Sower

Of the seeds you plant, maybe one in four will grow, the adage said. Some versions have the wind or the rook taking away seeds as well. I like the idea of the birds and burrowing rodents sharing the abundance, the wind grasping seeds only to drop them into surprising places. I even like the realistic allowance for biological chance - some seeds folding back into earth without the quickening spark to initiate fulfillment of the life cycle.

The Sower is generous, a little reckless, even. I can't imagine just throwing seed amongst rocks and thorns and pathways. What kind of sower sows with such excess, such uninhibited extravagance?



October, Tres Riches  
Heures, Limbourg Brothers,  
15th century

I guess I no longer think of the thorns, the rocks, the pathways, the birds as "others" with us nice Christians as the fertile soil. Perhaps we embody the impossibly stubborn thorns, the immutable rocks, the shallow soil, the unprotected ground, the carelessly trodden pathways wide open for winged robbers and burrowing thieves. But some patches of good rich soil receive the grace the Sower scatters with such playful abandon. And maybe that little bit is enough to multiply one hundred-fold. I need not hoard grace...so you birds of the air, you little mice, feed your families, eat your fill. Plenty of grace for all!



Stewardship isn't an event or campaign. It's a spiritual practice. The core of stewardship isn't money. It's love. Stewarding financial resources is a part of stewardship but to practice Christian stewardship and be moved

by it is to consider how we shepherd our whole lives – through word and habit, and with God and each other – to be expressions of gospel love in the world.

The spiritual practice of stewardship forms the way we see the world and ourselves within it as people of faith. It also hones each virtue muscle on Paul's list of spiritual fruits: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control – in addition to generosity and gratitude. It calls us to steward every part of who we are, not just money, but for love's sake.

Like all spiritual practices, including prayer or worship attendance, it's an ongoing commitment with endless opportunity for growth and increased attunement to God's call. If we quadruple our church bank accounts but aren't transformed into a community of people who are kinder, gentler, more ready to welcome the stranger, more forgiving and more committed to justice, then we may have practiced fundraising, but perhaps we didn't find ourselves in the deep well of real stewardship where real change lives. We want to look more and more like a beloved community and meet our financial goals.

Investing our resources for the sake of the kingdom can feel risky. It takes courage. As we sow the seeds of our time, talent, treasure, some will fall on deaf ears. Others will fall on ears which are receptive. And our resources will be sown in places where some will accept them, use them and benefit from them.

So, let us create a shared life together where we sow the seeds of hospitality, forgiveness, generosity, risk-taking and selflessness as part of our vocabulary of stewardship.

## Joys and Concerns

Please pray for those dealing with health issues: for Jane S.; for Gil and Karen Siebel; for Maxine K; 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.

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## Here's What's Happening

October 18 - Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:10 - 7:45 pm

October 19 - Session Meeting 4 pm

October 21 - Homelessness Taskforce meeting in the sanctuary 6 - 8 pm

October 19 & 21 - ESL class 6 - 7:30 pm

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



If you are ABLE to drive and help another with a ride to church, please contact the church office at 303-452-5478 or email [office@Thegoodshepherd.org](mailto:office@Thegoodshepherd.org) and we will put you in contact with the individuals who would

like to attend church.

*Currently we are looking for a ride for Jane Seid to attend our church service 2x/month. Jane lives 2 miles from the church. Please consider helping another to attend worship.*

If your transportation abilities change, please contact the church office and let us try and help you find a ride to worship. Blessings ~ Pastor Sheri

## 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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