

CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD  
WE ARE CALLED TO SEEK,  
SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST



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**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [PROPER 12]**

**JULY 24, 2005 - 8:30 AM**

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [PROPER 12]

*The mission of the church and each baptized Christian is to serve the reign of God. But what is the reign of God? In today's gospel reading Jesus offers images drawn from ordinary life that reveal something of the reign of God. It is like a tree that becomes a safe and sheltering home, like yeast that penetrates and expands, like a treasured pearl, like a net that gains a great catch. The reign of God is God's steadfast desire to unite the human family, with all its great diversity, in a justice and mercy so great and thoroughly life-giving that people will rejoice at its advent.*

**July 24, 2005**

**8:30 am Worship**

### **One Sure Thing**

What would you be willing to risk for a “sure thing”? When you have had to think about directions to take in life, no doubt you have weighed the possibilities, trying to assess what gain may be obtained at what cost. Many students, for example, increasingly are finding it necessary to examine schools and courses of study relative to the costs of rising tuition and the burden of educational debt. Still, higher education is generally considered a “sure thing”: a good investment that prepares one for life's work and minimizes risks.

Common sense, good judgment, and the shared experience of others all help us to make life's decisions, including how best to use our resources wisely. We invest time as well as money, hoping for a beneficial return on both kinds of expenditures. Wouldn't we like to bank on a sure thing?

Solomon encountered a sure thing: God's offer to grant anything Solomon requested. By asking for an understanding mind able to discern between good and evil, Solomon received God's favor along with the true wisdom he sought. Our sure thing comes in the person of Jesus Christ. Through Christ's death and resurrection and in the waters of baptism, we are assured of citizenship in the kingdom of heaven, now and for all time.

God's free gift of grace in Jesus Christ is the sure thing for which we offer our thanks and praise this day. Such a treasure as this—the kingdom of heaven and no less—is certainly worth our close attention: other pursuits pale in comparison! Today's gospel celebrates those who understand that some risks are more than justified by their prize. Half-hearted responses to God's offers of relationship, forgiveness, and resurrection leave us missing out on the one and only sure thing. The kingdom of heaven is hidden in plain sight, in our midst. What will we risk to gain it?

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\*\* Stand if you are able.

# SETTING ONE -- LUTHERAN BOOK OF WORSHIP

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

Bob Sauer

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (spoken)

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us seek the face of God, confessing our sin.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Holy God,

**we have sinned against you and each other. We pray for your forgiveness and healing. The good we want to do, we often fail to do. The evil we do not want, we find ourselves doing. Deliver us, O God, save us from shame, and guide us in your way. Amen.**

Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us; and God raised him up from death so that we too might walk in newness of life. Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through + Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## GATHERING

\*\* **HYMN** 250 LBW (green hymnal)

*Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

\*\* **GREETING** (spoken)

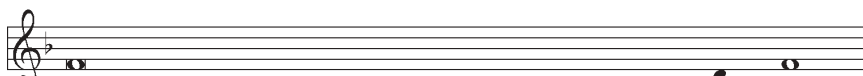
The love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, and the life of the Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

\*\* **KRYIE** (sung)



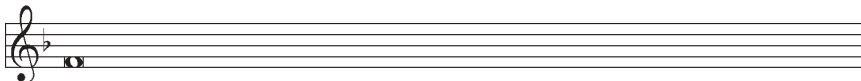
Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



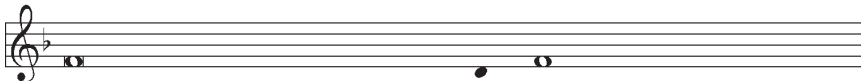
Ⓐ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**☩ Lord, have mer - cy.**



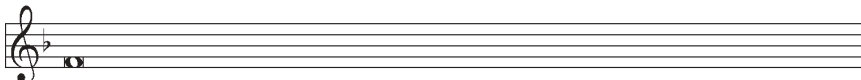
**☩** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



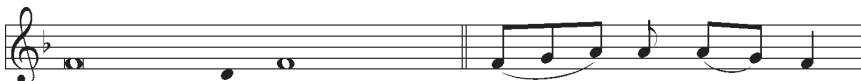
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**☩ Lord, have mer - cy.**



**☩** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

**☩ Lord, have mer - cy.**



**☩** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **☩ A - men**

**\*\* HYMN OF PRAISE (sung)**



**☩** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



**☩** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:  
 You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
 You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.  
 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

**\*\* THE SALUTATION (sung)**

☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.

**\*\* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken)**

Let us pray.

O God, your ears are open always to the prayers of your servants. Open our hearts and minds to you, that we may live in harmony with your will and receive the gifts of your Spirit; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS / GATHERING OF PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOY**

Ushers will Collect the Green / Gold Cards

## WORD

### FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5-12

A reading from 1 Kings.

*This passage reflects a concern for leadership that is also present in the larger corpus extending from Joshua through 2 Kings. Leadership in the community that lives under the rule of God has its basis in the covenant, and leaders depend upon God's gifts of wisdom and discernment.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SHARING

Maxine Yike

### SECOND READING

Romans 8:26-39

A reading from Romans.

*For several chapters in his letter to the Romans, Paul argues that justification by faith produces a life in the Spirit superior to any legal obedience that might be attained through human effort. Now, in the final words of this chapter, his exuberance for this spiritual life leads to a confident hymn in praise of Christ's love.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SHARING

Bill Fahle

### \*\* ALLELUIA VERSE (sung)

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

### \*\* HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.



## MEAL

### \*\* PEACE (spoken)

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

### PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

*The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared.*

### GATHERING OF THE GIFTS

*(The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared.)*

### \*\* OFFERTORY HYMN (sung)

*Let the Vineyards*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### \*\* OFFERTORY PRAYER (spoken)

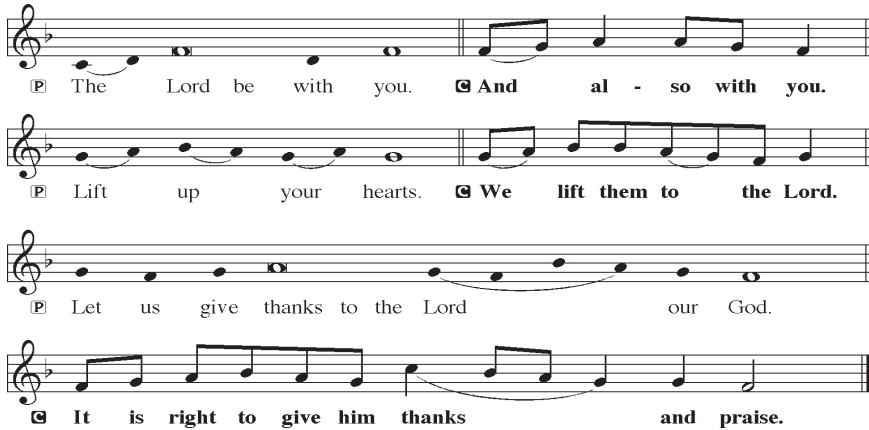
Let us pray.

God of sun and rain, farm and flower,

**we praise you for your wonderful creation and your all-sustaining care.**

**Receive these tokens of our gratitude, and may our lives reflect the goodness and love shown in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*\* GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung)**



Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

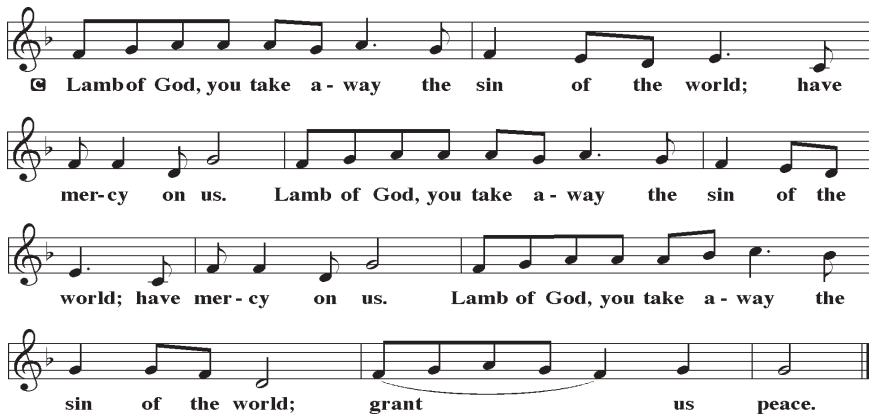
**WORDS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**\*\* LORD'S PRAYER (spoken) (personal option - holding hands)**

Empowered by the Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

**\*\* LAMB OF GOD (sung) (as communion assistants come forward)**



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace.

**COMMUNION** -- Receiving the Lord's tangible presence

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: **Amen.**

*We invite everyone to come forward for Holy Communion, shared around the altar.*

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**

783 WOV (blue hymnal)

699 WOV (blue hymnal)

*Seek Ye First  
Blessed Assurance*

**\*\* COMMUNION BLESSING** (spoken)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

**\*\* POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** (sung)



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*\* POST-COMMUNION PRAYER** (spoken)

Let us pray.

Cultivate and nourish us, O God, that we may be good soil. Let the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, planted within us now, bring forth rich and beautiful fruit for the life of the world. In his name we pray.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

\*\* **BLESSING** (sung)

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

\*\* **HYMN** 534 LBW (green hymnal)

*Now Thank We All Our God*

\*\* **DISMISSAL** (spoken)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

***O LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER***

Praise & Thanksgiving to God For  
The people and friends of Good Shepherd  
Bishop Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop, ELCA, Chicago  
Bishop Callon W. Halloway Jr., Bishop Southern Ohio Synod, ELCA, Columbus  
Companion Synods: East of Lake Victoria Diocese, Tanzania, East Africa  
and Evangelical Church of Mecklenburg, Germany

**HOSPITALIZED**

Dorothy Dadisman, Kettering Medical Center  
Hazel Reel, Miami Valley Hospital

**GOD'S PRESENCE & STRENGTH FOR**

Ruth Lackey	Those recovering from Hurricane Dennis
Darren	Lori
Lygia Harrison, cancer & chemotherapy	Wanda
Harold DeVilbiss, who began chemotherapy on March 4	Mary Jane
Charlotte Nelson, who has cancer	Haley
Roberta	Sheila Stutrud
Lynn Stutrud	For the victims & families of the London bombing
Lowell Overvold, a former member, who has throat cancer	Joe
Barbara Swingen	Shannon
Shannon	Tim & Ann Marie Cillely, brother & sister-in-law of Paula Bennett, expecting 1 <sup>st</sup> child by C-Section either 7/21 or 7/23
Beth, sister of Kathy Seim	Denise Hurley, friend of Sharits', who has cancer
Carol Brayton	Joe Hample
Kim, a young mother, who has brain cancer	Shirley
Connie, who has cancer	Mary
Marilyn Pressnell, a broken hip	DeeDee, a friend of Patty Allen's, who's having a cancer procedure on 7/22
Sue & Laura	
Carol Haroldson	

Remember in prayer the family of Werner Vollrath, who died July 7, and whose funeral was held at Good Shepherd on Tuesday, July 12

**July 24, 2005 – Tenth Sunday After Pentecost [Proper 12]  
Prayers Received July 17, 2005 – Ninth Sunday After Pentecost [Proper 11]**

**Please take this home and use it daily to remember in prayer  
those who are near and dear to the Good Shepherd Community of Faith**

Please email Sheila or Jeff Stutrud with your prayer requests at [prayers@goodshepherdkettering.com](mailto:prayers@goodshepherdkettering.com)