

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 26, 2026

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE LIVE AND WORSHIP ON THE UNCEDED TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE KWIKWETLEM FIRST NATION, WHICH LIES WITHIN THE SHARED TERRITORIES OF THE TSLEIL-WAUTUTH, KATZIE, MUSQUEAM, SQUAMISH AND STÓ:LŌ NATIONS. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE CARED FOR THIS LAND SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL AS WE SEEK TO JOURNEY TOWARDS A MEANINGFUL RECONCILIATION.

Liturgy: ELW Setting 10

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Welcome & Announcements & Land Acknowledgement

Call to Worship

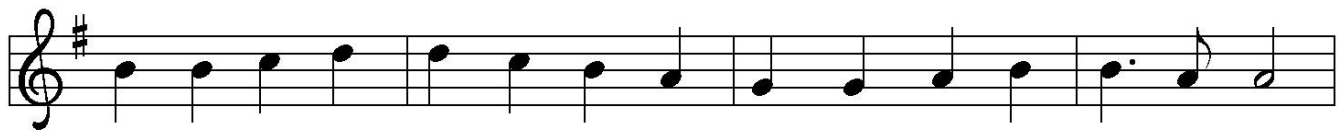
- P: A field filled with treasure...
- C: **The realm of God is beyond price.**
- P: Yeast that makes bread to rise...
- C: **The realm of God brings life.**
- P: A pearl of unsurpassed beauty...
- C: **The realm of God is worth a lifetime of waiting.**
- P: A net that catches all the fish of the sea...
- C: **The realm of God catches us all.**
- P: Come let us worship the one who offers us the kingdom.
- C: **Praise the Lord!**
- P: Sing praises to God's name.
- C: **Praise the Lord!**
- P: Give thanks to God.
- C: **Praise the Lord!**
- P: Praise the Lord!
- C: **Praise the Lord!**

Gathering Song ELW # 532 – Gather Us In

Greeting

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

Canticle of Praise – Glory to God in Heaven



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.

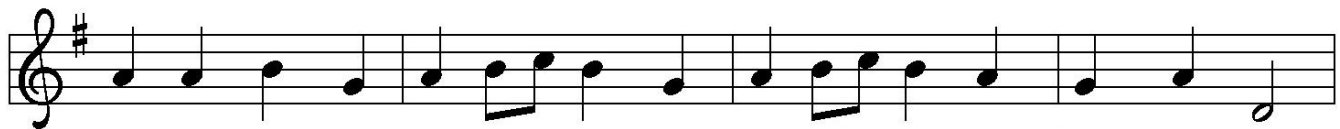
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;

Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.

For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Children's Time

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:129-136

Refrain:



Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth.

L: Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore my soul keeps them.
The unfolding of your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.

C: **Refrain**

L: With open mouth I pant,
because I long for your commandments.
Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as is your custom towards those who love your name.

C: **Refrain**

L: Keep my steps steady according to your promise,
and never let iniquity have dominion over me.
Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may keep your precepts.

C: **Refrain**

L: Make your face shine upon your servant,
and teach me your statutes.
My eyes shed streams of tears
because your law is not kept.

C: **Refrain**

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his

own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord!

P: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Verse



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.

Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P: The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Text: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

[Jesus] put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them still another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it

was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

‘Have you understood all this?’ They answered, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.’

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Video Sermon by Rev. Christie Morrow-Wolfe, Assistant to the Bishop, Eastern Synod

Hymn of the Day ACS # 952 – The Reign of God, like Farmer's Field

Response to the Word

We respond to God's grace with expressions of generosity and thanksgiving

L: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.** *(Ephesians 1:13-14)*

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: **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**

L: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: **pray in the Holy Spirit.** *(Jude 20)*

L: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: **look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.** *(Jude 21)*

L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C: **Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!** *(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

L: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: Gracious God,
C: **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.
Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

L: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.
C: **Amen**

Sharing of the Peace

L: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another,
agree with one another, live in peace. *(2 Corinthians 13:11)*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

All are invited to share a sign of peace with those around them, as we recognize the image of God in each other.

Special Music – Yvon Malenfant – I Saw Your Prayer by David Edwards

Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray.
Gracious God,
C: **in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from
idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the church through all the ages
we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Prayers of the People

*After each petition, the leader will say "God of grace" and the congregation will respond "**hear our prayer.**"*

Lord's Prayer

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: **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.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Sending Blessing

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen

Sending Hymn ELW # 622 – Neither Death Nor Life

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

We welcome you to worship today. It is our prayer that you sense the joy that is present in Jesus Christ. God loves and values each of you without conditions attached. We bring our joys and needs before God, trusting in God's presence.

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General Office Hours				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00

We always recommend phoning before stopping by.



Good Shepherd
Website

