



For everyone who *asks receives*,
and everyone who *searches finds*,
and for everyone who *knocks*,
the *door will be opened*.

Luke 11:10, NRSV

We rejoice in the Lord's answers to prayers
and thank God for His goodness.

Members Needing

Prayer:

Mona White
Julie Werfelmann
Rev. Dr. Arlynn
Turnquist
Kay Schumacher
Betty Montgomery
Neil and Verna Wal-
den
Liz Smith
Bill Biggs
Mary Norris & Family
Connie Alvarado
Jocelyn Miller
Kirsten Linder
Jim Thompson

Family and Friends:

Pauline Ritterbush
Jo Anderson
Julie Schnieder (Bender)
Jade Dixon (Julie)
Kathy (Secretary) and Family
Elaine (Werfelmann)
Linda Healy (White)
Ivonne Garcia (Zamora)
Phoebe (Neer)
Phil (Anderson)
Gary Assmussen (Deuker)
Irene Goldman (Dueker)
Jennifer Wenzel (Wilk)
Tonya (White)
Shanese (White)
Zyg Zee (Norris)
Claire (Vonny)
Janet Sharp (Fake)
Anthony Collichio (Norris)
Mickey Cecil (Norris)
Dorothy Lee Bruce (Julie)
Melissa (Sandy T.)
Frank and Anita Porco (Vonny)
Pam (Smith)
Grace Johnson (Fake)
Hudson Otten (Anderson)
Karen Ohanesian (Hays)
Rosemary (Vonny)
Nathan & Sandy Robbins
(Robbins)

Prayers For

All Good Shepherd Families Who Have Lost Loved Ones, Members of
Our Military Service, First Responders, and Those Affected by Illness,
Natural Disasters and War.

For Prayer Requests: Complete the prayer request card on the back of
the pew or call/email the church office 225-2092/gslcfresno@att.net

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Worship Service
July 27, 2025 - 10AM
Seventh Sunday of Pentecost

Prelude Susan Berg, Piano

Announcements

Opening Hymn "When Morning Gilds the Skies" #853 (vv. 1-5)
Song Leaders and Congregation

1. When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:
may Jesus Christ be praised! When evening shadows fall,
this rings my curfew call: may Jesus Christ be praised!

2. When mirth for music longs, this is my song of songs;
may Jesus Christ be praised! God's holy house of prayer
has none that can compare with "Jesus Christ be praised!"

3. No lovelier antiphon in all high heav'n is known
than "Jesus Christ be praised!" There to the eternal Word
the eternal psalm is heard: oh, Jesus Christ be praised!

4. Let all of humankind in this their concord find:
may Jesus Christ be praised! Let all the earth around
ring joyous with the sound: may Jesus Christ be praised!

5. Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,
sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!" God's whole creation o'er,
today and evermore shall Jesus Christ be praised!

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross.

In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit..

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,

You free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.

You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

**You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life.
Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus
And you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of +Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: We pray together...

C: Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Special Music "Enter Now the Gates" by Douglas E. Wagner
 (c 2004 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of
 The Lorenz Corporation)
 Choral Ensemble with The Good Shepherd Chimes

Lesson 1	Genesis 18:20-32	Page 14 in the cranberry Bible Page 15 in the red Bible
Lesson 2	Colossians 2:6-15	Page 1073 in the cranberry Bible Page 214 in the red Bible
Gospel	Luke 11:1-13	Page 947 in the cranberry Bible Page 74 in the red Bible

Kids' Talk

Pr. Ted Niemi

Children are now invited - but not required - to go with the adult leader to kids' church in classroom 2 during the sermon. They will return in time for communion with their families.

Sermon "Prayer Changes Things" Pr. Ted Niemi

Sermon Hymn "He Knows My Name" by Tommy Walker (c 1996
Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Songs, CCLI
Song # 2151368, CCLI License # 2032355)
Song Leaders and Congregation

1. I have a Maker, He formed my heart.
Before even time began, my life was in His hand.

Chorus:

He knows my name, He knows my every thought.
He see each tear that falls and hears me when I call.

2. I have a Father, He calls me His own.
He'll never leave me no matter where I go.

Chorus

Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayers of the Church

Sharing the Peace

Special Music

"Enter His Courts with Praise" by Charles B. Romer
(c 1979 by Singspiration, Division of the Zondervan Corporation)
Choral Ensemble

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Holy Communion

Communion shall be served using the method known as "intinction": the wafer will be handed to you, and you will dip the wafer into either the gold chalice of wine, or the ceramic chalice of grape juice. For those who are not able to come up for communion, please just remain seated and our ushers will be happy to direct the communion servers to bring communion right to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to come up for communion to receive an animal cracker (unless otherwise advised by the parent or guardian). Please come, for all are welcome.

Communion Hymn “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” #742 (vv. 1-3)
Song Leaders and Congregation

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear—
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness—take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

Blessing

Closing Hymn “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” #857 (sing twice)
Song Leaders and Congregation

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
from the earth to the cross my debt to pay;
from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.

Sending

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Susan Berg, Piano

GOSPEL
Luke 11:1-13

The Lord's Prayer

11 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ² So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, ^[a] may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come. ^[b]

³ Give us each day our daily bread. ^[c]

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial. ^[d]

Perseverance in Prayer

⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for ^[e] a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit ^[f] to those who ask him!"

Sunday, July 27, 2025

Scripture Reading: Luke 11:1-13

*Dear Lord, so far I've done all right. I haven't gossiped,
haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish,
or overindulgent. I'm really glad about that.*

*But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed.
And from then on, I'm going to need a lot more help. —Anon.*

In today's Bible reading, Jesus teaches his disciples how to pray and encourages them to approach God with persistence and trust. The chapter opens with a simple yet profound request: "Lord, teach us to pray." Although prayer is essentially just having a conversation with God, Jesus offers a model of simplicity and depth — a prayer that focuses on reverence for God, submission to the will of God and reliance on divine and daily provision. The prayer urges us to forgive as we have been forgiven.

This teaching is then followed by a parable about a man who persistently knocks on his friend's door at midnight seeking bread. The friend eventually rises to help, not because of friendship, but because of the man's shameless persistence.

But oddly, this parable is not about encouraging us to be persistent in prayer to the point of being annoying — like the man in this story, or the persistent widow in another parable (see Luke 18:1-8).

Instead, Jesus seems to be explaining that God is not deaf. We don't need to yell at God, or beg or plea or wake him up in the middle of the night. Instead, we need simply to ask. "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." Wow! This takes away all the pressure. We need only to ask, seek and knock!

For support, Jesus probably points to a nearby parent, and then he says, "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead?" The answer is obvious. Even flawed human parents desire the best for their children, so how much more will our perfect heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask of him?

Prayer, however, is not just about asking for things; it's about deepening our relationship with God. It's a conversation that aligns our hearts with his will, teaches us trust, and reassures us of his love.

— Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help me to approach you with the boldness of a child and the faith of an adult, knowing that you always hear and answer with perfect wisdom. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Acts 10-12
Monday: Micah 5-7
Tuesday: Nahum 1-3
Wednesday: 2 Kings 20-21
Thursday: Zephaniah 1-3
Friday: Habakkuk 1-3
Saturday: Psalms 79-81

Verse to Remember

*Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faith.*
—Habakkuk 2:4

WAR and HATE

The words *hate* and *war* have been removed from the following list of words. The letters of each word, when inserted in the same order, *but not always consecutively*, will give you a new word. Study the examples provided and then write the word in the space provided.

- | | | | |
|----------|---------------|--------------|-------|
| 1. sm | <u>swarm</u> | 11. annil | _____ |
| 2. sn | <u>hasten</u> | 12. ind | _____ |
| 3. eer | _____ | 13. aspyxi | _____ |
| 4. cpr | _____ | 14. reabilit | _____ |
| 5. homed | _____ | 15. wver | _____ |
| 6. posph | _____ | 16. cs | _____ |
| 7. cod | _____ | 17. ern | _____ |
| 8. encnd | _____ | 18. exusd | _____ |
| 9. den | _____ | 19. se | _____ |
| 10. rior | _____ | 20. sete | _____ |

ANSWERS:

3. wearer,
4. chapter,
5. homeward,
6. phosphate,
7. coward,
8. enchanted,
9. warden,
10. warrior,
11. annihilate,
12. inward,
13. asphyxiate,
14. rehabilitate,
15. whatever,
16. chaste,
17. hearten,
- 18 exhausted,
19. swear,
20. sweater.

BIBLE BOOKS: The answer to each clue is a book of the Bible. (You might find this easier if you have a table of contents for the Bible in front of you.)

1. The play "Romeo and Juliet" has five of these.
2. Professions of Judith Sheindlin, Neil Gorsuch and Joe Brown
3. Residents of Italy's capital
4. Before the Euro, Germans had the Deutsche ...
5. He had a "cool hand."
6. His 714 home run record was broken by Hank Aaron.
7. The most famous bullfrog ever.

Answers to Bible Books:

- | | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
| 1. Acts | 2. Judges | 3. Romans | 4. Mark | 5. Luke | 6. Ruth | 7. Jeremiah |
|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shoe Fund Raiser

This fundraiser is for 60 days starting from 5/11/25 thru 7/31/25. Start collecting your shoes starting now and the truck will come to pick them all up around August 18th or 19th.



Volunteer Needed—Instagram Posts



The church is needing someone to step up and begin doing the Instagram post for the upcoming events and activities.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE!

Financial Secretary & Counters Needed
Counter Job Description (2 counters each week):



- Collect tithes and offerings from collection plate.
- Check the Financial Secretary mailbox for checks received from previous week.
- Total all checks and cash, provide adding machine tape for Treasurer.
- Make copies of all checks for data entry purposes (include on the copy the cash received; I just handwrite this).
- Prepare Bank of America deposit slip and place in B of A deposit bag.

Take to the bank (This May be done by Financial Secretary or Treasurer).

Financial Secretary Job Description
Weekly:

- From copy of checks enter in "ICON" our church financial software Email to Treasurer the weekly report of donations.

Monthly:

Every month provide to Kathy the fund totals of donations for the newsletter, this report is run from ICON.

Quarterly:

Every quarter run statements for our donors and end of year the full year for our donors.

We are also in need of a Property person.

Shalom. Peace. Paz. Julie Werfelmann

Food Pantry Needs Restocking

We could use: Rice, bagged pasta, canned sauces, canned vegetables (Corn, Green Beans), canned fruit (fruit cocktail, peaches, pineapple), canned chili beans, egg noodles, Cream of mushroom or chicken soup, Mayo, canned tuna, chicken or beef, ramen noodles, Mac N Cheese, boxed pasta meals, peanut butter and grape jelly. Donations can be dropped off at the office M - F, from 9 - 1PM.



HVAC GoFundMe Fundraiser Goes Live

Support New HVAC at Good Shepherd
Fresno



The Good Shepherd HVAC GoFundMe fundraiser is now live on it's website. <https://gofund.me/05d79cff>

Please send this link: to family, friends, businesses etc., via Facebook, email and any other social media platforms to get the word out to raise funds for a new HVAC system. We have a fundraising goal of \$150,000 to support the purchase of a new HVAC system.

Dear Family, Friends and Supporters,
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Fresno, with it's iconic tent style roof, is in desperate need to replace the antiquated HVAC system. Our church has been unable to provide a comfortable environment for our congregation to gather and praise together for the past two years inside our sanctuary. We have had to use our Jacobson Hall to provide service to our congregation.

Every donation, big or small, will make a tremendous difference. Together, we can bring warmth back to our church and restore the place where our community worships and grows faith. Thank you for your support. We are truly grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Blessings, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Fresno

Thank you, Reynaldo Villalobos

Crafting Fair on Rally Day: HVAC Fund!

Shout out to all crafters. There will be a craft fair at Good Shepherd on Rally Day Sept 7. Mary Norris will be running a craft goods table. If inspired, there will be crafting items available. Show off your crafts by donating them to the craft fair. All proceeds will go to the HVAC fund. Contact Pam Gerster for details and donations. 559-999-5443 . Remember bakers are crafters too!



Many Thanks!!

Many thanks to the wonderful volunteer Counters who have committed for the month of July to sort the Sunday Offering and prepare the weekly deposit.

June 29 Diane Fake

July 6 Yvonne Smith

July 13 Jim and Ruth Thompson

July 20 Art Mehl

July 27 Woody and Deb Wilk



"At the Table" VBS @ 5:45!



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

Our Vacation Bible School will be on 5 Sunday nights again this year: 6/29, 7/20, 7/27, 8/3, and 8/10.

Please mark your calendars now and join us for some summer fun, friends, & food! The schedule

will be as follows:

Dinner: 5:45-6:15

Opening: 6:15 followed by classes for all ages 6:30-7:30

Snacks & Music: 7:30-8

Please see Julie if you'd like to help with crafts, games, &/or science activities, Janet if you'd like to join in the kitchen tomfoolery (her words!), or pastor Ted for any questions about the adult class. It's free, and all are welcome!

Save the date - 10/29

Save the date - 10/29 - Trunk or Treat!! Plan now to come out and support this safe and fun community event!



Thank You!



Thankful
FOR YOUR KINDNESS

Thank you to all of our Good Shepherd family. Patrick is on the mend and I am waiting for my test results to hopefully come back negative.

We are forever thankful for the outpouring show of love, support and prayers. Your cards, texts and emails have been a true blessing.

Mary and Patrick Norris & Family

Pastor Ted's New Phone Number

Pastor Ted has a new phone number. The number is 559-918-1969. Remember to make the change in your directory.



Celebrate Pr. Arlynn Turnquist



July 27, Pastor Arlynn Turnquist will celebrate her 90th birthday. We would love to have a card shower for her. Please send a card to her c/o Carolyn Linn, 6694 E. Kings Canyon Rd, #116, Fresno, CA 93726. I know she would be very happy to receive our love and gratitude for her life and service to the Lord. Thanks very much.