

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Fresno, CA

August 13, 2023

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Opening Hymn "Shout to the Lord" by Darlene Zschech
(c 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing)



My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength; let every breath, all that I
am never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord all the earth; let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands; forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Amen.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have hurt our community.

We have squandered your blessings.

We have hoarded your bounty.

In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have failed to be honest.

We have lacked the courage to speak.

We have spoken falsely.

In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God's mercy:
You are freed and forgiven in the name of +Jesus Christ.
Amen

Prayer of the Day

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid.
Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and
preserve us in the faith of your son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 19:9-18

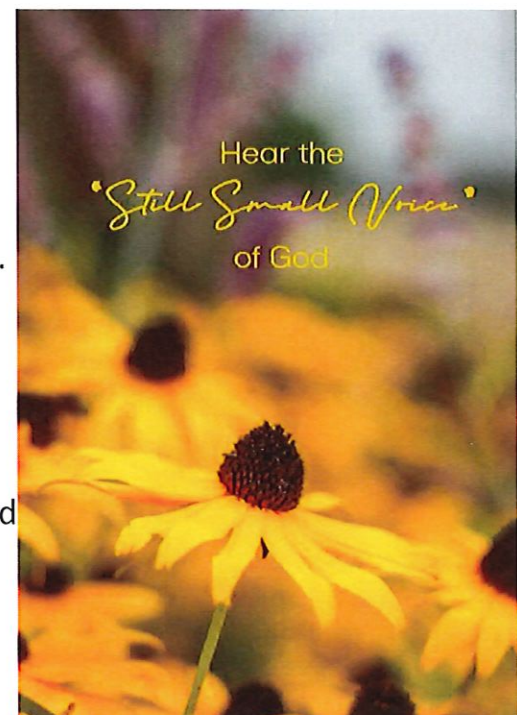
New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

⁹At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

Elijah Meets God at Horeb

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have



forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

SECOND LESSON

Romans 10:5-15




Salvation Is for All

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because^[a] if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe^[b] in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes^[c] with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes^[d] in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?^[e] And how are they to believe^[f] in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to

If you confess with your
 **MOUTH**
“Jesus is Lord”
and believe in your
HEART 
that God raised him
from the dead, you will be
SAVED! 

hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

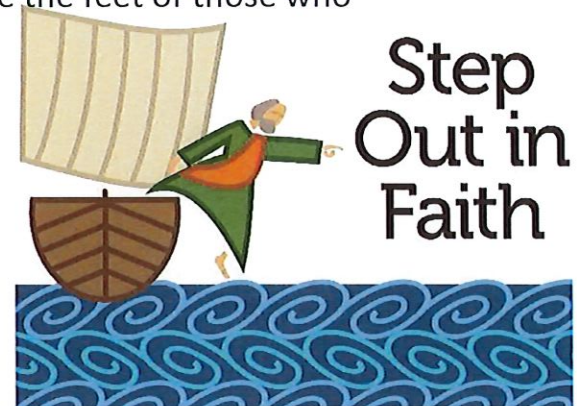
GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus Walks on the Water

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land,^[a] for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind,^[b] he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”



Sermon

“Let Jesus Help You Through the Storms”

*(Pastor’s sermon notes will no longer be provided as part of this devotional. If you would like to hear his sermon you will need to have a Facebook account and access the recordings on the church’s Facebook page.)

Sermon Hymn

“Be Thou My Vision”

Words by Eleanor H. Hull and Mary E. Byrne,
Music arr. by Carlton R. Young,
(c 1964 Abingdon Press)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that Thou art; thou my best thought by day or by
night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me,
Lord.

Thou my soul’s shelter and thou my high tow’r, raise thou me heav’
ward, O Pow’r of my pow’r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, thou mine Inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, the first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou
art.

Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven’s joys, O heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.



Sunday, August 13, 2023

Scripture Reading: Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b

All parts of the human body get tired eventually — except the tongue.

—Konrad Adenauer, Chancellor of West Germany (1949–1963)

Last week, I was cleaning through my files and I found this illustration on a 4-by-6 card that was in a sermon folder for 1 Corinthians. I don't know the source, but the content is the definition of anatomy — an explanation of how our bodies work—and it is obviously written by a very young boy.

"Your head is kind of round and hard and your brains are in it.

"Your face is in the front of your head and where you eat and make faces.

"Your neck is what keeps your head out of your collar. It is hard to keep clean.

"Your stomach is something that if you don't eat enough it hurts, and spinach don't help none.

"Your spine is a long bone in your back that keeps you from folding up.

"Your back is always behind you no matter how quick you turn around.

"Your arms you have to pitch with them and so you can reach the butter.

"Your fingers stick out of your hand so that you can throw a curveball and add arithmetic.

"Your legs is what if you have not got two of you can't get to first base.

"Your feet are what you run on, your toes are what are always get stabbed and that is all there is to you except what's inside and I never saw that."

That's the perspective of a child. But the truth is that our bodies are amazing in conception, design and function. The psalmist David exclaimed, "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14).

We can praise God for giving us bodies which we inhabit in order to give praise to his holy name!

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord, my body is a wonderful thing, to be sure. But it is old and creaking. It doesn't have the energy it used to have. Its "get-up-and-go" has "got-up-and-gone." But like the psalmist, I will still praise you all of my days for your steadfast lovingkindness. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Holy Father, in today's lesson, we learn the power of stillness. God came to Elijah, not in the forcefulness of the wind, earthquake or fire; rather He revealed Himself to the prophet in a still, small voice spoken with authority. God reassured Elijah that even though he seemed alone in his faithfulness to God, there were thousands who still trusted in the Lord. *Lord in your mercy...*

And in Romans, Saint Paul reminds the church that *"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart."* Again, it is the still small voice of the Holy Spirit that guides and directs our lives. And Paul reassures the Romans that *"There is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and bestows his riches upon all who call upon him."* *Lord in your mercy...*

We pray for our nation, state and city; our president, governor, mayor and the leaders of the world that all would work for peace on earth. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus had been praying by Himself on the mountain, communing with the Father, the God of Creation. When he joined his disciples on the lake, he walked in supernatural power over the waves. The disciples were afraid, and Jesus said, *"Take heart, it is I; have no fear."* When we see Jesus manifest Himself supernaturally, can we trust His power and love? *Lord in your mercy...*

Remember this congregation its pastor and people as we share the love of Jesus. Touch those who have asked for prayer with healing, comfort and peace in the Lord. We name those among us who have asked for prayer. And for what else do the people of God pray or praise? *Lord in your mercy...*

That same salvation, brought to us by those who preach the gospel turns our hearts to Jesus Christ. God honors those who tell of His love and goodness. Paul declares, *"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach good news!"* It is the way of peace with God. Again, Paul says, *"Man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved... For everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved."* Yes, Lord, we thank you for your promises. In Jesus' mighty name, we pray. *Amen.*

CAROLYN T. LINN

PRAYER CONCERNS



Members in Need of Prayer:

Jill Anderson
Neil and Verna Walden
Mona White
Jackie Miller
Mary Schmidt
Liz Smith
Bill Biggs
Arlene Robbins
Mary Norris & Family
Connie Alvarado
Susan Berg
Irene Pierini
Jocelyn Miller
Kirsten Linder
Jim Thompson

Family and Friends:

Bill, Wife & Sons (Julie)
Dan Fey & Family (Norris-No Relation)
Renee Family on her passing (Norris)
Belinda Zavala (Norris)
Jennifer Wenzel (Wilk)
Bob Knous (Anderson)
Karen (Vonny)
Lori (Anderson)
Melissa (Sandy T.)
Joy Kensinger (Miller)
Jenna Vance (Kossow)
Emily Burton
Jim D. (Norris)
Jade Dixon (Julie)
Pam (Smith)
Grace Johnson (Fake)
Sierra Ramirez (Norris)
Krystina Ramos (Norris)
Dora Barraza (Norris)
Shauna Espinosa
Carlos & Anne Cortez (Norris)
Sandy Robbins (Robbins)
Pauline Ritterbush
Autumn Dunlop (Anderson)
JJ Werfelmann (Julie)
Gloria Valdez (Norris)
Emily & Sawyer Bogart (Anderson)
Roger Robbins (Robbins)
Michelle B. (Norris)
Bonnie Wolfe (Norris)
Janet Sharp
Hudson Otten (Anderson)
Karen Ohanesian (Hays)
Rosemary (Vonny)
Nathan Robbins (Robbins)
Darlee (Norris)



*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*

The Lord's Prayer

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,

For ever and ever.

Amen

Matthew 6:9-13

Closing Hymn

"This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine; Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine; Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Sending

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Notes

Be Nourished



Date:

Sermon title:



key verses

key words

key people

Notes



Prayers

to study at home:



Sharing the Love of Jesus!



Activity Page

Week of August 13, 2023



Daily Bible Reading

Sunday: Galatians 1-3

Monday: Jeremiah 43-46

Tuesday: Jeremiah 47-49

Wednesday: Jeremiah 50-52

Thursday: Lamentations 1-5

Friday: 1 Chronicles 1-3

Saturday: Psalms 91-93

NORTH AMERICA SCRAMBLE

DIRECTIONS: Unscramble the following words which pertain to North America.

1. xtaes
2. ancaad
3. oexcim
4. amceari
5. titaacnl
6. ifpaicc
7. liuocxomffge
8. sinatroynumkc

ANSWERS TO WORD CHOP:
carnivore, omnivore, herbivore, conservation, diversity, extinction, prey, nocturnal, predator, habitat, invertebrates, vertebrates

ANSWERS TO NORTH AMERICA SCRAMBLE:
1. Texas; 2. Canada; 3. Mexico; 4. America; 5. Atlantic; 6. Pacific; 7. Gulf of Mexico; 8. Rocky Mountains.

WORD CHOP

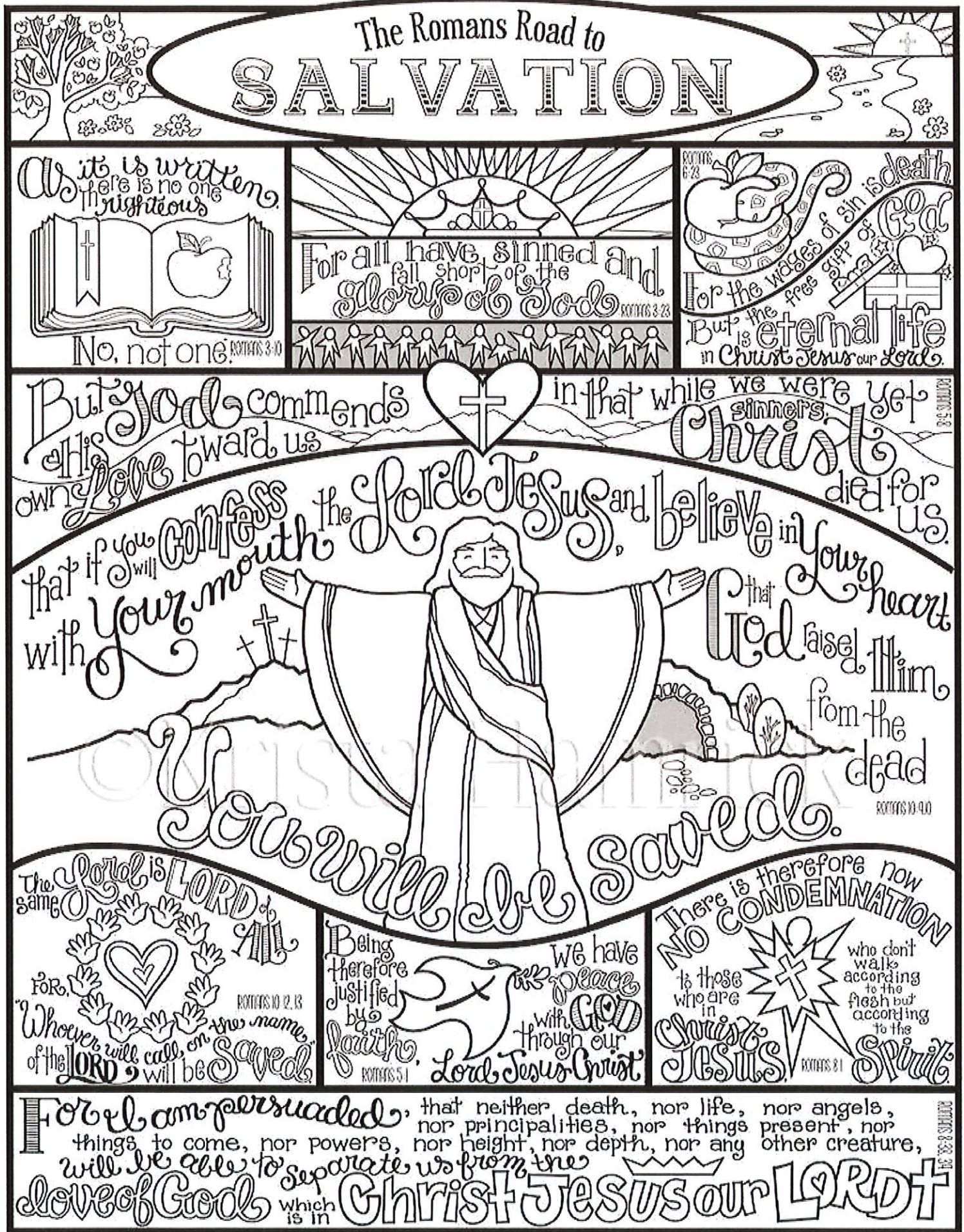
DIRECTIONS: The table below contains words that have been chopped in half. Find the pieces that fit together and write them in the answer area below. Each piece is used only once. The theme is "Animals." Here is one answer: diu-rnal = diurnal, meaning occurring during the day and not night. There are 13 words, including the one we gave you.

carn	diu	ivore	pr	itat	hab
ator	herb	pred	invert	extin	rnal
verte	dive	ebrates	ivore	vore	rsity
urnal	vation	brates	omni	ction	noct
conser	ey				

DIURNAL

It's found that coloring stimulates the brain and relieves stress.

Use color pencils for the following images.





Like a mustard seed...
Matthew 17:20

July 2016

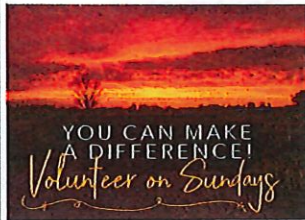
ANNOUNCEMENTS



8/27 VBS Feast & Frolic from 5:30-7

Plan to join your GSLC family as we celebrate the start of school, the end of this year's VBS, and the coming of autumn with a pizza party and water play for the kids. We'll get the pizza and ice cream and ask the congregation to bring salads and sides to go with it. Dinner will be served from 5:30-6 or so, and then everyone who wants to go outside to play in the water or watch the antics is invited to join in the fun. We'll wrap up with ice cream sundaes, a song, and a prayer. Bring your friends and family, too!

Altar Guild Call to Serve



We are looking for someone to serve God by setting the communion table on Sunday mornings. It will be 4 Sunday mornings on (one month) and 8 Sundays off (two months) on a rotating basis. If you feel called to serve in this important function of worship, please contact Pastor Ted or Gloria Miller. Thank you!!

Roeding Classroom Help Request

We received the following request from a Roeding teacher for regular classroom help this fall:



Your church has partnered with Roeding for many years. I teach 1st grade. I would love to have a volunteer come twice a week for about an hour and work with 3-4 students helping them with their reading skills. It can be the same person or two different people. I would need a commitment. The time would probably be before lunch, about 10:30.

Please contact me if you're interested in one or both days, or if you'd like to get more information. Thank you!

Julie W. 13jdixon13@gmail.com or 559-287-3457

Sanctuary Air Conditioner



As many of you noticed, our AC in the sanctuary was on the fritz. They are replacing the motor for the condenser. The cost is over \$2,000. Any financial help you can provide is greatly appreciated!!!

Prayer List Update

We like to keep the prayer list current and up to date so if you've made a request to add someone to the prayer list, please take a minute to see if they are still listed. If they no longer need to be on the list, you can call or email Kathy and let her know the name(s) to be removed. Thanks!!



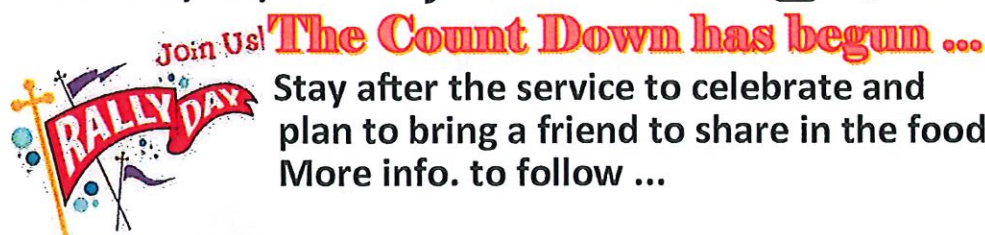
SAVE THE DATE 9/9/23—God's Work, Our Hands



Our congregation will be participating again this year in the ELCA's countrywide service project. Lutheran congregations throughout the U.S. will be serving our communities on this particular weekend in all kinds of different ways, and Good Shepherd is no exception. The Lutheran Hunger Network will take place here. We will put together "Blessing Bags" for our Westside Rescue friends to distribute to their human clients. If you have any

ideas, please see Janet Mc or me. Start making your plans now as to how you'd like to participate. We hope to see everyone involved in some way. Thank you!
Shalom, Julie

GSLC Rally Day—Mark your calendars ☒ 9/10.



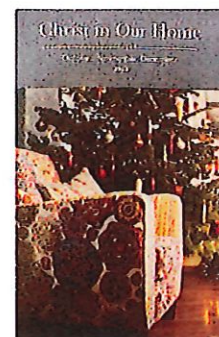
Available Online



The website has the weekly homebound devotional and recent newsletters available to view or download and print. Also, there is information about upcoming events, ways to fellowship and get involved. Visit us at:
www.fresnogslc.org

'Christ in Our Home' Devotional

The 'Christ in Our Home' Devotional for Oct.—Dec. is available on the ushers table and the office. You may pick one up M-F, 9 -1pm or you can email Kathy and she will send one out, just let her know if you prefer regular or large print.





Make a Difference. Volunteer!

Patient Care

Take time to sit with patients to provide companionship or provide much needed respite breaks for caregivers. 18+yo

Hospice Home

Support families and staff by greeting visitors, creating a warm environment, answering phones, and more. 18+yo

Dog Visitors

Take your furry best friend to visit with patients in facilities and homes. 18+yo

Veteran to Veteran

Support a fellow veteran with companionship and being someone who can relate to their experiences. 18+yo

Thrift Stores

Support our mission in a retail environment by serving at one of our three thrift store locations. 14+yo

Flower Power

Bring the joy of flowers to patients by arranging bouquets or delivering them to patients. 18+

Administrative

Use or build your skills by helping with clerical tasks and other projects in various departments. 18+yo

Events

Groups or individuals can help at one of our many special events and fundraisers throughout the year. 14+yo

Grief Support

Assist our Center for Grief & Healing with mailings, office tasks, bereavement calls, and support groups. 18+yo

Survivors of Suicide Loss

Assist with support groups, community outreach, and peer support 18+yo

LOSS Team

Our response team provides immediate support and resources to survivors of suicide loss. 21+yo

Circle of Friends

Our grief program where "special friends" support children who have experienced the recent loss of a loved one. 14-24yo

www.hindshospice.org/volunteer

559-317-6016

volunteer@hindshospice.org

2490 W. Shaw Avenue, Fresno, CA 93711



Hinds Hospice

Honoring the Journey





Hinds Hospice
Since 1981



Volunteer Steps & Requirements

Steps to Becoming a Volunteer:

- 1) Complete an Application
- 2) Schedule an Interview
- 3) Complete all the Requirements listed below
- 4) Attend Orientation & Training
- 5) Start Volunteering!

Requirements for Volunteering:

- Pass a Background & Reference Check
- Follow Hinds Hospice Policies & Procedures
- Complete periodic Trainings



Patient Care & Hospice Home Volunteers must also:

- Be willing to make a minimum 6-month commitment
- Complete 8 hours at-home training & 8 hours in-person training
- Provide clearance from your Physician
- Have a TB Skin Test**
- Provide Record of Immunizations (or a Titers Test): Hepatitis B*, Influenza*, MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), TDAP (Tetanus, Diphtheria, & Pertussis), & Varicella (Chicken Pox), COVID-19***
- Have current Car Insurance & Drivers License (Patient Care Only)

***May request a medical or belief exemption.

**If positive, x-ray clearance & annual questionnaire required.

*May decline with signed declination form.

volunteer@hindshospice.org

559-317-6016

2490 W. Shaw Avenue, Suite 101, Fresno, CA 93711

2023 WELCA Conference 9 Fall Event

Saturday morning, September 9, 9:00 am – Lunch

(That's 9 on 9/9 at 9!)

Bethel Lutheran Church, 187 N. Broadway, Fresno
(1 mile south of the Tower District)



Faith, fellowship, food, and fun! That's what you can expect when we join together at our yearly WELCA Conference 9 event on September 9, 2023:

- ✚ Always-inspiring Pastor Sharon Amundson of Mariposa Lutheran Church will speak on the topic of *Rebuilding...*
- ✚ We'll highlight some special ministries in the Fresno area and the terrific work they do
- ✚ We'll have our annual (*short*) business meeting
- ✚ We'll worship together, led by Pastor Dorothy Lindstrom, guest pastor at Bethel
- ✚ We'll finish up with a delicious lunch and time to visit with other Lutheran women from Fresno to Porterville

Registration: \$15, due August 28; please send your check (made out to WELCA) to Tamara Thompson, 1677 W. Alluvial, Fresno, CA 93711

Questions? Please contact Conf. President Shella Lynch, sdlynchwalk@gmail.com (preferred) or 559-392-3948

See you there!