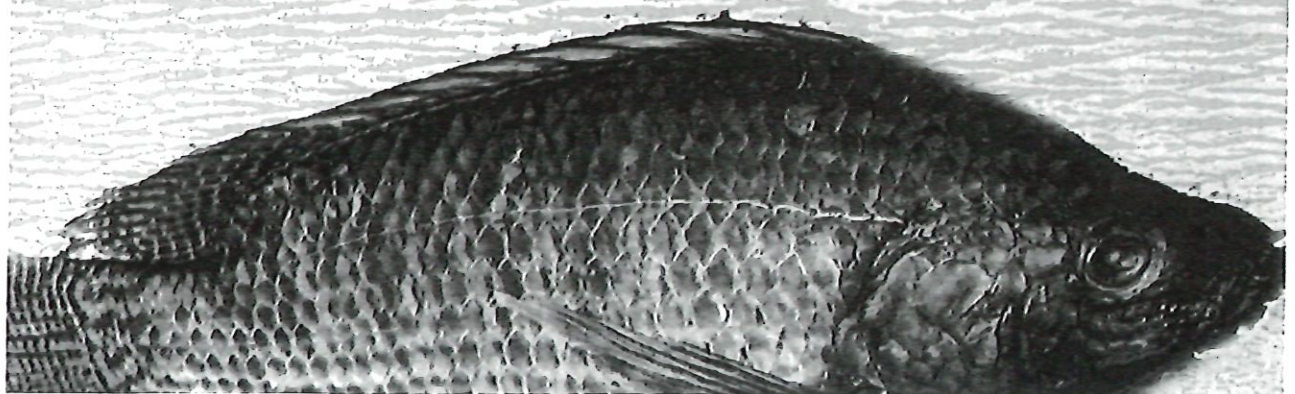




• JESUS FEEDS THE 5,000.

AND ALL ATE AND WERE
FILLED, AND THEY TOOK
UP WHAT WAS LEFT OVER
OF THE BROKEN PIECES,
TWELVE BASKETS FULL.

MATTHEW 14:20, NRSV



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Worship Service
August 2, 2026 - 10AM
Tenth Sunday of Pentecost

Prelude Susan Berg, Piano

Congregation Singalong Happy Birthday to all those with August birthdays!

Announcements

Opening Hymn "Give to Our God Immortal Praise! #848 (vv. 1-3)
Song Leaders and Congregation

1. Give to our God immortal praise!
Mercy and truth are all his ways.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.
2. He sent his Son with pow'r to save
from guilt and darkness and the grave.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.
3. Give to the Lord of lords renown;
the King of kings with glory crown.
His mercies ever shall endure
when lords and kings are known no more!

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, whose compassion, endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ name, we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me all you who are weary, and are carrying, heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.
In the name of God, father, son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: We pray together...

C: Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and joy cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world: through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Special Music

"Surely the Lord Is in This Place" by Douglas E. Wagner (c 2006 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation)
Choral Ensemble with The Good Shepherd Chimes

Lesson 1	Isaiah 55:1-5	Page 671 in the cranberry Bible Page 340 in the red Bible
Lesson 2	Romans 9:1-5	Page 1030 in the cranberry Bible Page 165 in the red Bible
Gospel	Matthew 14:13-21	Page 891 in the cranberry Bible Page 16 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

"Who, Me?"

Pr. Ted Niemi

Sermon Hymn

"The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing" #531(vv. 1-30)
Song Leaders and Congregation

1. The trumpets sound, the angels sing,
the feast is ready to begin.
The gates of heav'n are open wide,
and Jesus welcomes you inside.

Refrain:

Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight.

Come and revel in heaven's love and light.

Take your place at the table of the king.

The feast is ready to begin; the feast is ready to begin.

2. Tables are laden with good things;

oh, taste the peace and joy he brings.

He'll fill you up with love divine;

he'll turn your water into wine.

(Refrain)

3. The hungry heart he satisfies,

offers the poor his paradise.

Now hear all heav'n and earth applaud

the amazing goodness of the Lord.

(Refrain)

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

"Jesus Loves Me" Music by William B. Bradbury, Arr.
by Gary Lanier (c 2015 by Gary Lanier)
John Montgomery, Cello

Offertory

Offering Response "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise" Hymn 207
Congregation

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.
Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of Thanksgiving, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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 "Bread of Life from Heaven" #474 (vv. 1-5)
Song Leaders and Congregation

Refrain:

Bread of life from heaven, your blood and body given,
we eat this bread and drink this cup until you come again.

1. Break now the bread of Christ's sacrifice;
giving thanks, hungry ones, gather round.
Eat, all of you, and be satisfied;
in Christ's presence the loaves will abound.
(Refrain)

2. Seek not the food that will pass away;
set your hearts on the food that endures.
Come, learn the true and the living way,
that the fullness of life may be yours.
(Refrain)

3. Love as the one who, in love for you,
gave himself for the life of the world.
Come to the one who is food for you,
that your hunger and thirst be no more.
(Refrain)

4. Dwell in the one who now dwells in you;
make your home in the life-giving Word.
Know only Christ, Holy One of God,
and believe in the truth you have heard.
(Refrain)

5. Drink of this cup and declare his death;
eat this bread and believe Easter morn;
trust his return and with ev'ry breath,
praise the one in whom you are reborn
(Refrain)

Blessing

Closing Hymn "All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises" by
 Paul Baloche (c 2003 Integrity's
 Hosanna! Music, CCLI Song # 409281)
 Song Leaders and Congregation

1. You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise.
You did, You're alive.
You rule, You reign, You said You're coming back again.
I know that you will, And all the earth will sing Your praises.
All the earth will sing your praises.

You took, and You take our sin away, O God.
You give, and You gave, Your life away for us.
You came down, You saved us through the cross.
Our hearts are changed because of Your great love.

You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise.
You did, You're alive.
You rule, You reign, You said You're coming back again.
I know that you will, And all the earth will sing Your praises.
All the earth will sing your praises

Sending

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Susan Berg, Piano

******HEALING STATION****** Anyone who would like personal prayers
for healing for themselves or loved ones is invited to come forward to
the pulpit to receive them - with laying on of hands if desired.

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

Members Needing

Prayer:

Please pray for Gordon and Diane Fake upon the three recent losses of Diane's family members: her sister Janet Sharp in April, her nephew Russ Pate in June and most recently her sister Linda Hannah in July.

Gloria Miller
Steven Smith
Jo Anderson
Cate Casa
Yvonne Smith
Chris Dueker
Arlene Robbins
Robert Harris
Mona White
Julie Werfelmann
Betty Montgomery
Neil and Verna Walden
Liz Smith
Bill Biggs
Mary Norris & Family
Connie Alvarado
Jocelyn Miller
Kirsten Linder
Jim Thompson

Family and Friends:

The Hannah Family (Fake)
Stormy White (Mona)
Paula (White)
Ro (Sandy T.)
Randy Williams (Dueker)
Christopher Robbins (Robbins)
Nels (Harris)
Karen Tabler (Vonny)
Julie Schneider (Vonny)
Kaitlyn (Lisa K.)
Pauline Ritterbush
Julie Schnieder (Bender)
Jade Dixon (Julie)
Elaine (Werfelmann)
Ivonne Garcia (Zamora)
Phil (Anderson)
Jennifer Wenzel (Wilk)
Zyg Zee (Norris)
Claire (Vonny)
Anthony Collichio (Norris)
Mickey Cecil (Norris)
Dorothy Lee Bruce (Julie)
Frank and Anita Porco (Vonny)
Pam (Smith)
Grace Johnson (Fake)
Hudson Otten (Anderson)
Karen Ohanesian (Hays)

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

Scripture Reading: Matthew 14:13-21

Little is much when God is in it. —Kitie Suffield (1884-1972)

Every summer, at least once during the summer months, often in August, and after the final “Amen” rings out in the sanctuary, a second, equally important service begins on the church lawn: the annual church potluck. For a congregation of about 100 people, this isn’t just lunch. It’s a meticulously planned, community-driven act of love, fellowship and a grand culinary choreography of social engineering.

The preparation starts days in advance with the sign-up sheet, a silent contract ensuring a balanced spread. Then, as the service concludes, the great migration begins. Every family

arrives bearing their offering: a bubbling tuna noodle casserole in an insulated carrier, a massive cooler of sweet tea, platters of ham and cheese sliders, the ubiquitous green bean casserole and sticky “no-bake” cookies. This is a dance of abundance, where volunteers move like ninjas,

setting up folding tables, running cords for crockpots, and deploying the industrial coffee urn. It’s this familiar, generous overflow that offers us a perfect entry point into the ancient story of the loaves and fishes covered in today’s reading from the gospel of Matthew.

Jesus and the disciples are facing a ravenous crowd of not 100 souls, but more than 5,000! All they can find is a boy’s lunch — five loaves and two fish. It is laughably inadequate. But Jesus simply says, “Bring them here to me” (v. 18).

This is the heart of this story. Jesus doesn’t ask for what we don’t have; he asks for what we do have. The miracle begins not with abundance but with scarcity. Jesus takes what is small, blesses it, breaks it, and multiplies it in his hands. And somehow, the little they bring becomes more than enough for everyone.

We understand the ache of limitations — fewer responsibilities, but also fewer abilities. Yet Jesus still says, “Bring what you have to me.” A prayer. A phone call. A word of kindness. A quiet offering of patience. Nothing is too small for him to use. The thing is, God does not measure the size of the gift; God measures the heart in the giver. When we offer our little, God fills it with his abundance.

And notice something beautiful: the disciples are the ones who distribute the bread. Jesus could’ve made bread fall from the sky. Instead, Jesus puts the miracle into their hands. Even when they feel inadequate, Jesus lets them serve. God is still doing that with us. God takes simple faith and turns it into nourishment for others.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, take what we have today — our limited strength, our simple offerings, our few loaves — and bless them for the benefit of others. In your name. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings
 Sunday: James 1-2
 Monday: Jeremiah 9-12
 Tuesday: Jeremiah 13-16
 Wednesday: Jeremiah 17-20
 Thursday: Jeremiah 21-23
 Friday: Jeremiah 24-26
 Saturday: Psalms 85-87

August 2026						
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30	31					

WORD LADDER

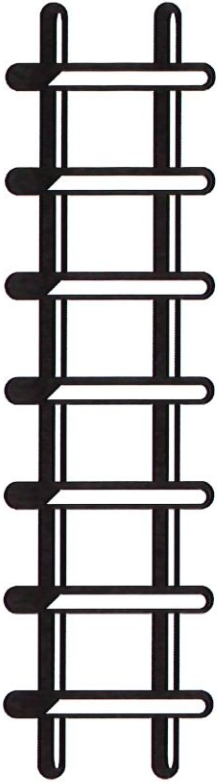
DIRECTIONS: At each step down, subtract one letter to form a new word. Each step has a clue.

SWEAT

— — — — — chair
 — — — — — consume
 — — — — — location
 — — — — — indefinite article

SPINET

— — — — — backbone
 — — — — — twirl
 — — — — — brooch
 — — — — — not out
 — — — — — first person pronoun



ANSWERS: seat, eat, at, a / SPINET: spine, spin, pin, in, I

Verse to Remember

This week's Verse to Remember is presented as a cryptogram. See if you can decode the message before looking up the verse in the Bible.

Clues: Y=T, D=I

YKTPY DX YJZ VQKR FDYJ
 OVV CQTK JZOKY, OXR RQ
 XQY KZVC QX CQTK QFX
 DX PDLJY. — Proverbs 3:5 (NRSV)

GOSPEL
Matthew 14:13-21

Feeding the Five Thousand

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer Needed—Instagram Posts

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



Food Pantry Needs Restocking



We could use: Rice, bagged pasta, canned sauces, canned vegetables, 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.

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.

July 5th Art Mehl

July 12th Art Mehl

July 19th

July 26th Jim And Ruth Thompson



Property Shout-Out!



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

This is a shout-out to everyone who has had the honor of taking care of our huge property. I would like to set aside an early morning walk through our property. I will take note of any issues that are in need of attention. I will then put this list up for everyone to see the needs we have. I have not decided on a date; any suggestions are welcome. Please let me know if you have interest. You may call or text me, **Mary Norris 559 905-0615**. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated!

Paint Night HVAC Fundraiser - Aug. 22nd in Jacobson Hall 4-6 pm



Please plan to come exercise your creativity as we paint our own canvases and enjoy one another's company. All proceeds benefit our HVAC fund.

Also, we would like to offer a bake sale in conjunction so people can buy some snacks to eat while they're painting.

Please let Julie know by text (559-287-3357) or email

(13jdixon13@gmail.com) if you'd like to contribute. Items could be dropped off at the office Friday, 8/21 between 9-1 or brought along on the 22nd. Questions - see Julie or Shauna. Thank you!

HVAC GoFundMe Fundraiser Goes Live

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.

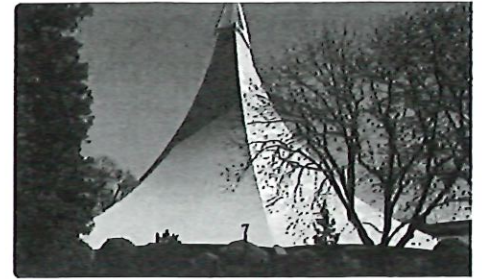
Every donation, big or small, will make a tremendous difference. Together, we can bring warmth back to our church and restore the place where our community worships and grows faith. Thank you for your support.

We are truly grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Blessings, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Fresno

Thank you, Reynaldo Villalobos

Support New HVAC at Good Shepherd
Fresno



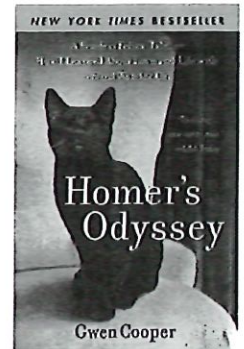
SUMMER BOOK CLUB

For the **Summer Book Club**, we usually read books that are lighter or more "summer reads." This year we have a book about a cat adventure.

Sun, August 9th at 4 pm in the Community Center

Homer's Odyssey by Gwen Cooper

Everyone warned that Homer would always be an "underachiever," since he was blind. But the kitten nobody believed in quickly grew into a three-pound dynamo with a giant heart who eagerly made friends with every human who crossed his path.



New Number



Please make note of the new number for Mona White: (559) 242-0466.

"God's Work. Our Hands." September 12th

Our annual day of service will be coming the 2nd Saturday in September, on 9/12. Please plan now to join in one (or more!) of the following ways to serve.



We will be hosting the Lutheran Hunger Network FREE food distribution here @ GSLC from 9-11 (plus set up and clean up), and that will also be our first Saturday Sports & Crafts at Roeding Elementary. In the afternoon there will be an opportunity to assemble Blessing Bags for our friends @ Westside Rescue. Please see Julie or Janet if you have other ideas of ways to serve our community, and be sure to add this to your calendar now. Thank you!

Collecting Toiletries Until 9/12/26 for Blessing Bags



Please help GS bless the unhoused clients of Westside Rescue. We are collecting all kinds of toiletries, which need to be travel sized please.

We are looking especially for the following: Deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes,

chapstick.

We also will need soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, combs, and some granola bars and cookies or other treats. Please bring in your items and place them in the bin labeled Westside. We have put together 40-50 bags in the past. Thank you!!

Rally Day is September 13th! Please make a note of it.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) 8/9, and 8/16

VBS will begin with an intergenerational opening, followed by a class with Pastor Ted for adults while the kids have games, crafts, and the like. We will all be focusing on the Apostle Paul and his journeys.

