

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

To reach out to all, proclaiming God's love in Jesus Christ

1600 Fowler Avenue, Berwick, PA (570) 752-3737

Sunday morning worship, 8:30AM

www.goodshepherdberwick.org

Facebook: @GSLCBwk

Instagram: @gslcberwick

YouTube: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Berwick



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31st, 2025

10:00am

Good Morning and Welcome !

About our church

*We are a group of Christians who do our best to live our faith. Sometimes we falter and we often fall short of the glory of God. Because of this, we celebrate God's abundant grace poured out through the love of Jesus Christ. It is this same love that inspires us to carry out our mission statement - **reaching out to all proclaiming God's love in Jesus Christ** - so that everyone would know of the freeing, redeeming, calming, peaceful love of God.*

About our worship

Here at Good Shepherd, we marry the reverence of "high liturgy" with a relaxed, contemporary feel. What does that mean? First, the word - liturgy - means "the work of the people." So our worship is our collective effort to place God on the throne of our hearts. Second, the word - high - refers to the high degree of reverence given to God's presence in our midst. You may see people bow toward or before the altar and the cross or tracing the sign of the cross on their bodies at certain points in worship. You may also notice people clapping in celebration or responding to a question asked in the sermon. Join in as you feel comfortable!

Navigating our bulletin

*Italicized text is there to help orient you to our worship. Plain text (like this) is meant for the leader to read. Plain, bold text (**like this**) indicates the congregational response. Join in as you feel comfortable! We do use a hymnal here at Good Shepherd. You will find a green and blue hymnal in the pew rack in front of you. Each hymn is numbered. Join in the singing as you are comfortable!*

COUNCIL UPDATE

The call process is underway. The Ministry Site Profile has been completed and will be released in the near future. At this time the Council is asking for volunteers who would like to be considered to serve on the Call Committee. Please contact John Widger at either 570-204-1286 or at jwidg54@gmail.com. You can also contact any council member or call the church office.

Music Prelude

Call to Worship

Rise in body or spirit

**Processional Hymn-“Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus”
(see insert)**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Sirach 10:12-18

¹²The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker. ¹³For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely. ¹⁴The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place. ⁵The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations, and plants the humble in their place. ¹⁶The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations

of the earth.¹⁷He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth.¹⁸Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM: Psalm 112

- ¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God's commandments!
- ²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
- ³Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.
- ⁴**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
- ⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- ⁶**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**
- ⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
- ⁸**Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**
- ⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.
- ¹⁰**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" ⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life,

and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Rise in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al- le- lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according Luke the 14th Chapter
Glory to you O Lord

GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." ¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite

you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated

Message - Amber Keefer

Rise in body or spirit

The Confession of Faith - The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 PEOPLE

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence (*especially*).

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Amen.

Oh God, we pray for your healing

Kim Nespoli, Kristian Keefer, David & Sandy Campbell, Donald Fausnaught, Charlotte Wands, June Swida, Glenbrook Residents, Pray for Peace in our Country, All victims of violence, Mary Hoida, Emma Shaffer, Lisa Shellhammer, Jamie Raski, Shari Slowick, Sally Wenner, Holly Fry, Terri Cooper, Dave, Shawna, Diane Wasser, Charlotte Wasser, Charlotte Wright, Ashley Webb, Jocelyn Kostansky, James DeCosmo Sr., Diane Wasser, Jennie Murray, Robert Watts, Ryan Fry, Mary Baughman, Ed Stine, Hurley”Duke” Slusser, Donna Lynn, Kix Fester, Kyler Krumenaker, Emily Gomez

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always

And also with you

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Life up your hearts.

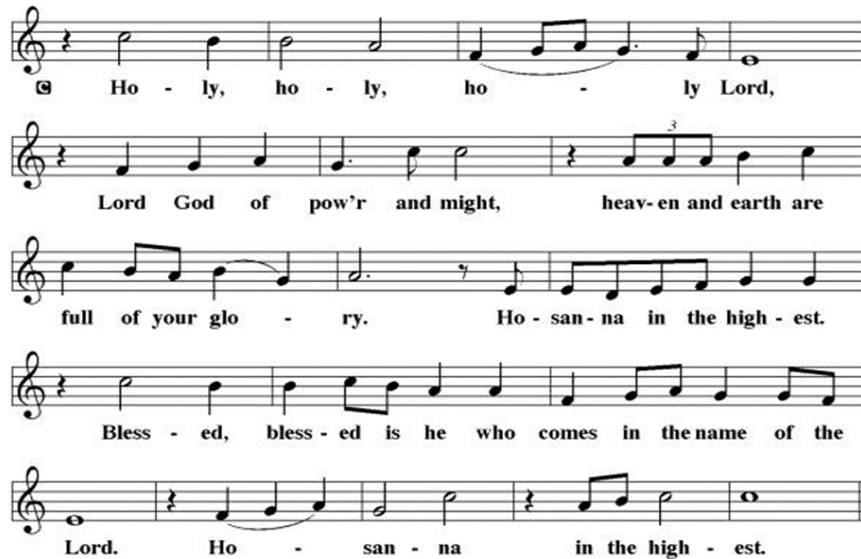
C **We lift them to the Lord**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary..... Therefore, we angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



The Words of Institution - from 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

On the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

The Lord's Prayer

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

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

Please be seated

Invitation to Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you.

Eat and rejoice.

Communion Hymns - "O Christ the Same" (see insert)

Rise in body or spirit

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you to live in His grace **Amen**

Post Communion Canticle



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who
seek the Lord re - jice, re - jice and
bear Christ's ho - ly name. Send us, O God, with your
prom - is - es, and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post Communion Prayer

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Sending Blessing

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. **Amen**

Hymn- “Do Lord” (see insert)

Dismissal

**Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.**

The worship is over, now let the service begin!

* * * * *

Oh God, we thank you for our celebrations

Birthdays

Michelle Ouimet	8/31
Shaun Whitmire	9/03
Donna Hill-Lynn	9/03
Chris Kemp	9/06

* * * * *

Anniversaries

**We send prayers and best wishes to Brent and Lisa as they
will exchange vows on September 3rd**

* * * * *

***Love offering for August will go toward
Sunday School expenses***

***The Sanctuary Light for August is sponsored
by Scott and Jen Berlin
To the Glory of God***

* * * * *

***Thank you Amber Keefer
for leading us in worship today***

Leaders in Worship Sunday, August 31st, 2025
10:00am Services and Picnic in the Pavilion

Presiding	Amber Keefer, ALWL
Assisting Minister	Marilee Ungemach
Communion Assistant	Owen Berlin
Lector	Matt Yeastedt, Marilyn Gibbons
Usher	Dr. Widger, Donna Lynn
Acolyte	
Altar Guild	Sandy Sterner
Counting	Stephanie Jones, Skip Gogle
Depositor	Jackie Titus
Lock/Unlock	Skip Gogle
Live Stream Tech	Brenda Sterner

Leaders in Worship Sunday, September 7th, 2025

Presiding Minister	Pr. Waye Muthler
Assisting Minister	Vance Ouimet
Communion Assistant	Cody Welliver
Lector	Peggy Yeastedt
Usher	Marilee Ungemach, Stephanie Jones
Acolyte	Addy Berlin
Altar Guild	Lois Lingousky, Amber Keefer
Counting	David DeHaven, Dr. John Widger
Depositor	Jackie Titus
Lock/Unlock	Barry Titus
Live Stream Tech	Brenda Sterner

Last Week	8-31-25
Budgeted Offering	\$ 1,538.46
Actual Offering	\$1,095.00
Difference	\$ -443.46
Attendance	65

Weekly Announcements

Sunday, August 31st - The Seafarer's Bags are here. We have 12 to fill. Please return them to the office prior to October 19th.

Tuesday, September 2nd -10:00am -Weekly Bible Study
Topic: Where Old & New Testaments mirror each other.

Tuesday, September 2nd -6:00pm Sons of Zebedee

Tuesday, September 2nd -6:00pm -WELCA - At Berlin's by the Creek - (weather permitting). Please bring a Snack to share.

Wednesday, September 3rd - 6:00pm - Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm -Bell Choir Rehearsal begins weekly

**Thursday, September 4th - 6:00pm - Committee Meetings and
7:00pm - Council Meeting**

Sunday, September 7th - Installation of Sunday School teachers
during worship and the beginning of Sunday School

Monday, September 8th -6:00pm - Bible Study -Deuteronomy.

Wednesday, September 17th -5:00pm - Embracing God's Family
meeting In the parlor

Saturday, September 20th - 3:00pm - Friendship Circle meeting
at Dipped (formerly Fairchild's on Orange St. Rt. 93) for Ice Cream

Wednesday, September 24th - 6:00pm - Service of Healing

Friday, September 26 - 28th -ALIVE-"Better Together" at Camp Nawakwa - Registration deadline September 8th.

Sunday, September 28th - 1:00pm - Amazing "G"Race Road Rally Registration is at 12:30pm. There is a sign up sheet on the Table in the Narthex. All proceeds will be donated to the Nescopeck Area Community Food Cupboard.

Next Book Study by Amber will be later this Fall. Dates TBA. "The Case for Christ" by Lee Strobel--a journalist's personal investigation of the evidence for Jesus . There is a signup sheet on the Table in the Narthex.