Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
November 15th, 2026

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude *Adagio in D flat* by Franz Liszt



Give online here

Welcome

Invitation to Pledge: Anna Quanbeck

Announcements

***Gathering Acclamation** God is Here! vs. 3 ELW 526

Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

***Confession and Forgiveness**

God's steadfast love is everlasting,
and God's faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Trusting in the mercy of God, we acknowledge the sin and brokenness in us and around us.

Reconciling God,
we confess that we do not trust your abundance.
We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.
We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.
We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.
We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us;
through your love, renew us;
and in your Spirit, lead us;
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.
Amen.

Beloved of God,
by the radical abundance of grace and mercy
we have peace with God through ☩ Christ Jesus.
Your sins are forgiven.
Let us live now in hope.
For hope does not disappoint,
because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

***Gathering Hymn** "*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*" ELW 858 (LCGS Favorite)

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.
Generous God, you open your hand and give us every good thing. You call us to be good stewards of all you have given us, so that through us, our neighbors and all creation might flourish. Continue to show us generosity and teach us how to reflect your generosity, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

WORD

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

Children's Sermon

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A reading from First Thessalonians:

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, siblings, you do not need to have
anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the
Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and
security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come
upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and
sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you
are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of
darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake
and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk
get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on
the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For
God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord
Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we
may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each
other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation** Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones ELW 424

O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing: Alleluia! Alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30**

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples, "then the kingdom will be like this:] 14 … it is
as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his

property to them; [15] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once [16] the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. [17] In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. [18] But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [19] After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20] Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents. '[21] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master. '[22] And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents. '[23] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master. '
[24] Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, [25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours. '[26] But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? [27] Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." '

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak* ELW 676

*** Prayers of the People**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation:

We pray for your church in every nation. Guide all churches as they steward your gospel, so that your love might be multiplied through all neighborhoods. Help us at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd to respond to your generosity with our own generosity, so that this church would overflow with love and service to our neighbors. Give us an invitational spirit, so that everyone here has a group in this church with whom they serve, grow, pray, and learn. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for every nation, their people, and leaders. Bless and guide our newly elected leaders, especially those who are transitioning into new roles. Grant that everyone with power would think of the needs of others, especially the people who are most vulnerable. Bring an end to all conflict and give us peace. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all in need of healing, especially those we name aloud and in our hearts ——. We pray for all who are experiencing cancer, addiction, mental illness, and estrangement. Send your healing and comfort to all in need.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in greatest need and all who serve with love and generosity. Help every person celebrate that they have gifts to give to serve their neighbors. Bless the households who will be receiving Thanksgiving baskets that include the canned fruit we gathered and gifts from many others.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all who have died and now rest in you. Inspire us by their lives of faith and generosity.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

~Our prayers come from this community. Please join in crafting them by writing on the bulletin insert titled Prayers of the People. If you have a prayer request you would like to be kept confidential, please drop a note into the prayer request box on the welcome desk.

***Peace - Pastor**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering and Presentation of Pledges

As the offering plates are passed through the pews, you are welcome to place your offering, including one of the laminated cards representing your electronic offering or offering of service to church and community, as well as your pledge card, in the plates.

Special Music: *How Firm a Foundation* by Samuel Walter - Sanctuary Choir

***Offering Presentation Verse:**

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow ELW 885
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offering Prayer and Blessing of Pledges

Eternal God,
our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.

Bless these pledges, our intentions to participate in the ongoing ministry of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, so that through the flourishing of our shared work, we might continue to encourage one another and build up all who are touched by our ministry.
Receive what we offer and transform the world through our offerings and your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***Words of Institution**

Lord's Prayer

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.

Distribution

In communion, we experience Jesus for us. The simple elements of bread and wine/juice convey Jesus' love, forgiveness, and grace. All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. Ushers will invite your pew; continue forward to the communion server on your side of the sanctuary. Please put a hand over your heart for a blessing only. If you wish to receive communion, hold open your hand to receive a wafer. Please tell the server if you need a gluten-free wafer. Dip the wafer in the wine (red) or juice (clear). You may immediately eat the wafer. Continue along the outside of the pews to return to your seat.

Songs during Communion: *Let Us Break Bread Together* ELW 471

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Blessing**

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

***Sending Hymn:** *For the Fruit of All Creation* ELW 679

***Dismissal**

Go in peace, serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Postlude** *Praise to the Lord* by Paul Manz

Thank you all our volunteers who signed up this morning and the following who prepared ahead!

Altar Guild	Pollie Vallie, Grace Monson	
Projections Preparer	Bruce Johnson	
Projectionist	Marcia Semerau	
Streaming	Brian Fischer	
Hospitality	Jodi Stacken	Next Week: Jena Hart

Generosity Sunday, November 15 - The ministry of LCGS is making a difference! We celebrate that God gifts us all things so that we and our neighbors might thrive! Please bring your pledges to be blessed as we celebrate the generosity of our congregation that sustains our shared ministry.
Pledge forms are available at church and here:
https://www.lcgsduluth.org/estimate-of-giving

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Story Project with Pastor Liz will be TONIGHT at 5:30pm.

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TODAY! Serve at Damiano Center! Sunday, November 15th. Food prep starts at 1:30pm and goes until 5:00 (come as long as you are able). If you have questions, see Brian Fischer or Marcia Semerau

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TOMORROW! Spirited Faith (Gen X and Elder Millennials) will meet at Bulldog Pizza & Grill on Monday, Nov 16 at 6pm. Contact Elizabeth Pappas Weitzell at _ with questions or to RSVP.

Shared Worship Leadership:

Worship leadership belongs to all of us. You are invited to take a more active role in creating a welcoming, meaningful, worshipping experience for our congregation. The whiteboard in the entrance area presents an opportunity for everyone to be involved in a variety of roles in worship. Starting today, the back side includes a sign up for next Sunday. We recognize some folks might want the readings ahead of time, or some folks come at 9:30am or are at Sunday School and never get the chance to sign up to lead. We hope you will join in sharing leadership! Pastor Liz will be happy to work with you to ensure you feel confident.

TOMORROW! Our PRAYER SHAWL ministry meets on the 3rd Monday at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall! Please see Lois Opseth, Grace Monson, or Leanne Viche if you have any questions or need patterns!!Experimenting with Morning Prayer at Good Shepherd.

THURSDAY MORNINGS Experimenting with Morning Prayer at Good Shepherd.
Join us for a time of guided prayer and morning meditation; all are welcome - all ages
7:45 am Thursdays: November 12th, 19th, and December 3rd, 10th, and 17th
The church building and sanctuary will be open at 7:30 am
The guided prayer experience will start at 7:45 am and it will last about 15-20 minutes

LAUNDRY LOVE TUESDAY! TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH 8:30AM
Extra special help needed Two days before Thanksgiving, will be our Laundry Love wash day.
I wanted to get this out so that if you have time to come that morning, we will be helping many in need of clean clothes. We have become a fine-tuned merry group of giving and receiving joy from those in need. Thank you everyone for showing up!
Susan Boutin

NEWS FROM THE SYNOD!
The congregation at Lutheran church of the Good Shepherd in Duluth voted unanimously to open their space to us. The new synod office will be located in the current Lower Lakeside room, and the other two classrooms on the lower walk-out level near the Fellowship Hall. The month of November will be busy with packing and moving in!! **STARTING THIS MONDAY!** We plan to have an open house in the new year — stay tuned!

THE KID'S CLOSET NEEDS YOUR HELP!
Gently used children's clothing needed!
The Kid's Closet provides FREE clothing to Duluth Public Schools students with a referral from the social worker.
GREATEST NEED: Boys & Girls Pants sizes 6, 7 & 8!
Donations can be dropped off at the church or text Leigh Ann .
Thank you for supporting our kids!

The next special treat is coming up on December 6th: traditional foods from their heritage or family favorites. Examples might be a special cookie, candy, bread, beverage etc. Share something at the gathering after church on December 6. Bring samples to church by 9:30 that day and include a note or display to show the way your family celebrates.
IF YOU BRING THEM DURING THE WEEK, WE CAN PUT THEM IN THE FREEZER. OTHERWISE BRING THEM BY 9:15 SUNDAY MORNING TO THE GATHRING SPACE!

Salvation Army Bell Ringing - December 5th & 12th (our 27th year)
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd members, families and friends have the opportunity to donate one or two hours of time to assist with this critical work. We will cover two full days of bell ringing at one location: Cub Foods on Central Entrance (inside!). The dates are Saturday, December 5th and 12th, from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Look for the signup poster in mid-October. It will be on an easel in the gathering space. Please fill in your name for one or two one-hour time slots to offer your help for this worthwhile cause. Call Marcia Semerau at with questions. THANK YOU!

Young Adults! *Gather* is for people 18-30's in the Twin Ports area! Join us December 10th! See Parker with any questions!

Join us for a discussion on

Decolonizing Theology

Join us as we discuss these key concepts:

1. Why does this matter?
2. What is colonialism and it's impact?
3. What is decolonization?
4. How can we engage in Decolonial Theology?

All are welcome! whether you are familiar with Decolonial Theology or this is your first time hearing about it—you are welcome!

- **Location: Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Duluth**
- **When: Thursday, Dec 10th**
- **Time: 6:30 - 8:00 PM**
- **What to bring: yourself, a non-alcoholic bevergae of your choice, and something to take notes on if you choose.**
- **We will also be having pizza! If you plan to attend and have dietary restrictions, please let us know.**

For questions or more information, please email gathertwinports@gmail.com

GATHER twin ports



Christi Belcourt- The Wisdom of the Universe, 2014

This Week at LCGS!

Nov 15, Generosity Sunday
8:45AM Sunday School
8:45AM Choir rehearsal
9:30AM Worship
10:30AM Coffee Fellowship
1:30 PM Serving at Damiano Center
5:30PM Austin Story Project

Nov 16, Monday
9:00AM –2:00PM Quilters
10:30AM Shawl Ministry
6:00PM Spirited Faith @ Bulldog's

Nov 17, Tuesday
10:00AM Women's Ministry
6:00PM Congregational Council

Nov 18, Wednesday
7:00AM Men's Bible Study
11:30 AM Staff meeting
6:00PM Confirmation

Nov 19, Thursday
7:45AM Morning Pray – All are welcome!
9:30AM Women's faith study

Nov 20, Friday
8:00AM Women's "Son"rise Bible Conversation (ZOOM)

Nov 21, Saturday

Nov 22, Christ the King Sunday
8:45AM Choir Rehearsal
8:45AM Sunday School
9:30AM Worship
10:30AM Coffee Fellowship

LCGS Office is open: M – Th: 9am-4pm Friday: 9am – noon
Pastor Liz Davis: pastorliz@lcgsduluth.org, 218-216-2522
Katie Rich, Director of Faith Formation: KatieRich.lcgs@gmail.com
Parker Hinnenkamp: music@lcgsduluth.org
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