

# GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Beaver Dam, Wisconsin 53916

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[www.goodshepherdbd.org](http://www.goodshepherdbd.org) | [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
May 1<sup>st</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## **Welcome to Worship at Good Shepherd!**

It is our privilege to have you here today! We are especially delighted to welcome any guests who are with us. May the Holy Spirit bless your worship and fill your heart with peace, joy, and faith in your Savior Jesus Christ. Please introduce yourself, complete your Connect card, and worship with us again soon!

- Restrooms (with changing stations) are located in the hallway toward the gym, and the nursery is located right next to the sanctuary entrance.
- Children's bulletins, sermon notes sheets, digital offering cards, offering plates, and hand sanitizer are located on tables in the church entryway.
- If you have any questions about our congregation's ministries or facilities, please ask an usher for assistance. If you are looking for a church home or have questions about what we believe and teach, please speak to our pastor.

### **Theme of Today's Worship:**

**Resurrection Reality: Jesus Lives a Life of Love, So We Do Too**

## **The Order of Service<sup>1</sup>**

*The Service, Setting 4 ~ Christian Worship: Service Builder*

♪ **The Opening Hymn: #768, Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace**

*The hymn is printed on p. 14 in the service folder.*

### **The Invocation**

**M(inister):** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C(ongregation): Amen.**

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<sup>1</sup> The "order of service" outlines the progression of our worship activity here in God's house. However, the order of service is more than just an organizational tool. The order of service allows us to worship in a way that clearly presents the truth and character of God, who "is not a God of disorder but of peace" (1 Corinthians 14:33). Just as the courses in a holiday feast follow a proper progression, so also in this holy-day feast we follow an order of service where Christ first serves us in spiritual courses of Word and Sacrament, and we respond by serving him with our prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

# The Confession of Sins

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8-9*

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **(Sunday) Lord, Have Mercy ~ Kyrie**

M: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **The Word of God**

M: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

### **The Prayer of the Day**

M: Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **The First Lesson: Acts 9:36-42**

*Because Tabitha loved Jesus, she was always helping the poor in the town of Joppa. Because Jesus loved the people of Joppa, he had Peter raise Tabitha from the dead.*

<sup>36</sup> In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor. <sup>37</sup> About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. <sup>38</sup> Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

<sup>39</sup> Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

<sup>40</sup> Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called the believers and the widows and presented her to them alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 89

Speak the verses responsively; speak the bold "Gloria Patri" and sing the refrains together.

Refrain

For - ev - er I will sing the good - ness of the  
LORD, the good - ness of the LORD.

M: I will sing of the LORD's great love forever;

**C: with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.**

M: I will declare that your love stands firm forever,

**C: that you have established your faithfulness in heav'n itself.**

M: The heavens praise your wonders, LORD,

**C: your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones. Refrain**

M: Who is like you, LORD God Almighty?

**C: You, LORD, are mighty, and your faithfulness surrounds you.**

M: Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,

**C: who walk in the light of your presence, LORD.**

M: They rejoice in your name all day long;

**C: they celebrate your righteousness.**

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son**

**~ Gloria Patri<sup>2</sup>**

**and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. Amen. Refrain**

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<sup>2</sup> The "Gloria Patri" is a familiar phrase of praise that connects all of salvation history – Old and New Testament alike, for the psalmist just the same as for all of us today – by giving glory to the Triune God who created us, redeemed us, and sanctifies us for eternal life.

**The Second Lesson: 1 John 4:7-11, 19-21**

*Since God so loved us first, we also ought to love one another.*

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup> And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**(Sunday) The Gospel Acclamation: 1 Corinthians 13:13<sup>3</sup>**



*Refrain*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

M: Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. Alleluia! **Refrain**

**The Gospel Lesson: John 15:9-17**

*The living Lord gives us this command: remain in his love, so that we might also love each other.*

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy

<sup>3</sup> In anticipation of hearing the good news about Jesus, we sing, "Alleluia!" (Hebrew for "Praise the LORD!") and speak a significant Scripture verse that highlights the importance of hearing the gospel message.

may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: Love each other.”

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**♪ The Hymn of the Day: #728, This Is My Will**

*The hymn is printed on p. 14-15 in the service folder.*

**The Sermon: John 15:9-17**

Jesus Is Our Best Friend Forever

**The Nicene Creed<sup>4</sup>**

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

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<sup>4</sup> Public Confession is faith's response to God's saving Word, in unity with other Christians around the world and across time. This statement of belief, called "Nicene" because most of its groundwork was laid at a church council in Nicaea in 325 AD, was composed to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **The Prayer of the Church**

### **The Offering**

*The members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church give offerings to show love and thanks to God for doing so much for them, as well as to support the Lord's work here in Beaver Dam and around the world. **If you have an offering to give, please place it in one of the plates at the doors to the sanctuary as you leave after the service. Thank you!***



*Scan this code to give a digital donation!*

### **♪ Offering Verse: CW93 #487, O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sea**

*As the offering is brought forward, the Congregation will sing the verse together.*

**Dear Lord, from you we all derive  
Our life, our gifts, our pow'r to give.  
Oh, may we ever with you live, Who gives us all!**

## **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

### **The Preface<sup>5</sup>**

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**M:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** We lift them up to the Lord.

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<sup>5</sup> Along with the Word of God section, the Sacrament is the high point in our worship service because here God is at work for us, giving us his greatest spiritual gifts of forgiveness, new life, and eternal salvation. The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Holy Communion section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. This is not a somber procession – this is a thankful celebration! The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy, dating from the second century AD.



M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

**Holy, Holy, Holy ~ Sanctus<sup>6</sup>**

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

<sup>6</sup> "Sanctus" is a Latin word that means "Holy." Like Isaiah (Isaiah 6:3), the heavenly angels (Revelation 4:8), and the Palm Sunday worshipers (Matthew 21:9), we are in the presence of the living God and witness his glory as Jesus comes to give us his very body and blood for our forgiveness. Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.

## **The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**M:** Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Words of Institution**

**M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.<sup>7</sup>

**C: Amen.**

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<sup>7</sup> After the Lord shared his Supper with his disciples, he made the same promise to them as he does now to us: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid... I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 14:27, 16:33).

## O Christ, Lamb of God ~ *Agnus Dei*<sup>8</sup>

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O Christ, Lamb of God'. It consists of seven staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first two staves form the first line of the hymn, and the next five staves form the second line. The lyrics are: 'O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.' and 'O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.'

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us your peace.  
A - men. A - men.

### The Distribution

*God's Word tells us that Communion is an expression of complete unity of faith and confession with our God and with our fellow communicants. As such, our congregation and synod follow the historic Christian practice of Close Communion, celebrating the Lord's Supper only with those who have declared their agreement with us in doctrine and practice. We respectfully ask our visitors to wait to commune with us until we have studied God's Word together, so that we may all receive the Lord's Supper on that basis (as our Lord intends) and so be fully blessed through it.*

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<sup>8</sup> Jesus is the Lamb of God (Latin, "Agnus Dei"), who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to take away the sin of the world (John 1:29). In his Supper, Jesus delivers that forgiveness to each of us personally.

♪ **Distribution Hymns: #581, Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose You  
#557, Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice**

*The hymns are printed on p. 15-17 in the service folder.*

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**C: his mercy endures forever.**

*Psalm 118:1*

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

*1 Corinthians 11:26*

M: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **The Lord's Blessing**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**C: Amen.**

♪ **The Closing Hymn: #697, May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill**

*The hymn is printed on p. 18 in the service folder.*



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# Last Week's Use of the Means of Grace

Wednesday – 26

Sunday – 189

YouTube Service Views – 29+

## May Usher Team

Captains: Steve Miller & David Storhoff

David Bradley

Lucas Bradley

Ty Letto

Ken Gertsch

Joe Kierstyn

Nick Reichert

## Sunday School Memory Work for May

Joshua 1:9: Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

## Our Gifts to Jesus

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

General Fund	\$ 4,460.00
Plate	\$ 120.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL	\$ 4,580.00

Missions \$ 495.00

Mixed Choir Fund \$ 5.00

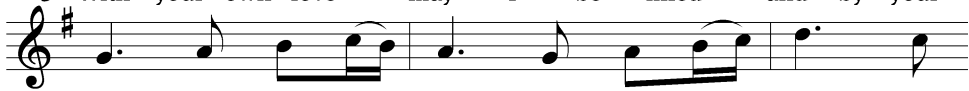
Debt Fund \$ 10.00

Church Repair Fund \$ 105.00

## Hymn #768, Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace to love all  
 2 Break down the wall that would di - vide your chil - dren,  
 3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred by love - less  
 4 Give me your cour - age, Lord, to speak when - ev - er  
 5 With your own love may I be filled and by your



peo - ple, ev - 'ry race; and in each per - son  
 Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bors' good let  
 act and thought - less word. Make me to see the  
 strong op - press the weak; and should I be a  
 Ho - ly Spir - it willed, that all I touch, what -

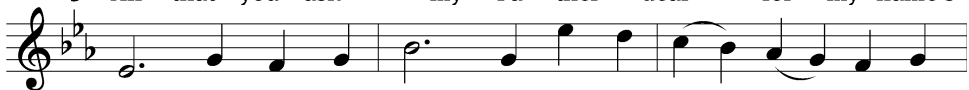


help me view my kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by you.  
 me pur - sue; bind them to me and all to you.  
 wrong I do will hurt my neigh - bor, Lord, and you.  
 vic - tim, too, help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring you.  
 e'er I do, may be di - vine - ly touched by you.

## Hymn #728, This Is My Will



1 This is my will, my one com - mand, that love should  
 2 No great - er love can be than this: to choose to  
 3 I call you now no long - er slaves; no slave knows  
 4 You chose not me, but I chose you, that you should  
 5 All that you ask my Fa - ther dear for my name's



dwell a - mong you all. This is my will, that you should  
 die to save one's friends. You are my friends if you o -  
 all his mas - ter does. I call you friends, for all I  
 go and bear much fruit. I chose you out that you in  
 sake you shall re - ceive. This is my will, my one com -

love as I have shown that I love you.  
 bey what I com - mand that you should do.  
 hear my Fa - ther say you hear from me.  
 me should bear much fruit that will a - bide.  
 mand, that love should dwell in each, in all.

## Hymn #581, Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose You

1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose you; that, I know, could  
 2 It was grace in Christ that called me, taught my dark - ened  
 3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion, praise the Fa - ther's

nev - er be, for this heart would still re - fuse you  
 heart and mind; else the world had yet en - thrall'd me,  
 bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our ex - pi - a - tion,

had your grace not cho - sen me. You re - moved the  
 to your heav'n - ly glo - ries blind. Now I wor - ship  
 Priest and King en - throned a - bove. Praise the Spir - it

sin that stained me, cleans - ing me to be your own; for this  
 none a - bove you; for your grace a - lone I thirst, know - ing  
 of sal - va - tion, him by whom our spir - its live. Un - di -

pur - pose you or - dained me, that I live for you a - lone.  
 well that, if I love you, you, O Fa - ther, loved me first.  
 vid - ed ad - o - ra - tion to the great Je - ho - vah give.

# Hymn #557, Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, with ex - ul - ta - tion  
 2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; death brood-ed dark - ly  
 3 My own good works a - vailed me naught, no mer - it they at -  
 4 But God be - held my wretch-ed state be - fore the world's foun -  
 5 He spoke to his be - lov - ed Son: "It's time to have com -



spring - ing, and, with u - nit - ed heart and voice and ho - ly  
 o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; in sin my  
 tain - ing; my will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, no hope for  
 da - tion, and, mind - ful of his mer - cies great, he planned for  
 pas - sion. Then go, bright jew - el of my crown, and bring to



rap - ture sing - ing, pro - claim the won - ders God has done, how  
 moth - er bore me. Yet deep and deep - er still I fell; life  
 me re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair left  
 my sal - va - tion. A fa - ther's heart he turned to me, sought  
 all sal - va - tion. From sin and sor - row set them free; slay



his right arm the vic - t'ry won. How dear - ly it has cost him!  
 had be - come a liv - ing hell, so firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.  
 on - ly death to be my share and hell to be my sen - tence.  
 my re - demp - tion fer - vent - ly; he gave his dear - est trea - sure.  
 bit - ter death for them that they may live with you for - ev - er."





6 The Son o - beyed his Fa - ther's will, was born of vir - gin  
7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me, I am your rock and  
8 "The foe will shed my pre - cious blood, me of my life be -  
9 "Now to my Fa - ther I de - part, the Ho - ly Spir - it  
10 "What I on earth have lived and taught be all your life and



moth - er, and, God's good plea - sure to ful - fill, he came to  
cas - tle. Your ran - som I my - self will be; for you I  
reav - ing; all this I suf - fer for your good; be stead - fast  
send - ing and, heav'n - ly wis - dom to im - part, my help to  
teach - ing; so shall my king - dom's work be wrought and hon - ored



be my broth - er. No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore; a  
strive and wres - tle. For I am yours, your friend di - vine, and  
and be - liev - ing. Life will from death the vic - t'ry win; my  
you ex - tend - ing. He will a source of com - fort be, teach  
in your preach - ing. Take care that no one's man - made laws should



ser - vant's form like mine he bore to lead the dev - il cap - tive.  
ev - er - more you shall be mine; the foe shall not di - vide us.  
in - no - cence shall bear your sin, and you are blest for - ev - er.  
you to know and fol - low me, and in all truth will guide you.  
e'er de - stroy the gos - pel's cause; this fi - nal word I leave you."

# Hymn #697, May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill



1 May we your pre - cepts, Lord, ful - fill and do on  
2 So may we join your name to bless, your grace a -  
3 Spir - it of life, of love, and peace, u - nite our



earth our Fa - ther's will as an - gels do a - bove;  
dore, your pow'r con - fess, to flee from sin and strife.  
hearts, our joy in - crease, your gra-cious help sup - ply.



still walk in Christ, the liv - ing way, with all your  
One is our call - ing, one our name, the end of  
To each of us the bless - ing give in Chris - tian



chil-dren, and o - bey the law of Chris - tian love.  
all our hopes the same: a glo-rious crown of life.  
fel - low - ship to live, in joy - ful hope to die.

- 1) **May Calendar, *Forward in Christ*, & *Meditations Available*:** Check the counter in the narthex if you'd like to get copies of your own, or check the Google Calendar link on our website!
- 2) **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee:** We have begun the 75<sup>th</sup> year of Good Shepherd's existence! We are looking forward to officially celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 (tentative date), and we are looking for interested individuals who would like to plan special events and commemorative festivities. Is that something you would like to be a part of? Contact Pastor Reichert or Curt Gruenewald.

3) **Communion Distribution Method Change:** As of its meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>, Church Council has decided that we will return to our traditional method of Communion distribution, in tables at the Communion rail (like on Maundy Thursday). Here are some basic instruction reminders:



- a. Approximately 12 communicants will be ushered forward for each table, one on the east side and one on the west side. Please fill the tables starting on the outside first, and then fill in toward the center. The first tables can come directly to the rail; subsequent tables should approach from the center aisle, like normal.
  - b. Communicants will be invited to kneel at the rail, but are not required to.
  - c. After receiving the bread, communicants may take wine from the tray of individual cups or from the common cup.
  - d. The Communion blessing will be given to each table as they commune.
  - e. Communicants will return to their seats from the side aisles, in the same way as we have been doing up till now. For any other questions, please follow the direction of the usher(s).
- 4) **WELS Seniors Dinner:** Area seniors 55 and older are invited to St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Beaver Dam on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. We will have a potluck dinner in the basement at noon. After the meal we will have a devotion, as well as a presentation by retired Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary professor John Brenner, who will speak about the seminary through the years. All those 55 and older are welcome.
- 5) **Examination & Confirmation 2024:** This year we are planning to welcome five young people as confirmed members of Good Shepherd. Examination will take place in our Wednesday evening service at 7:00pm on May 15<sup>th</sup> (NO Communion), and Confirmation will take place in our Sunday morning service at 9:00am on May 19<sup>th</sup> (WITH Communion). Following the Confirmation service, everyone is invited to celebrate with cake & refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. God bless this year's confirmands!
- 6) **Summer Bible Study Schedule Change:** Summer is coming, and that often brings schedule changes with it. The last day of Sunday School for this school year will be next Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Then after Memorial Day, our weekday Adult Bible study classes will take off for the summer (we **WILL** still normally offer a short Bible study after service on Sundays). But even though our schedule is changing, let's continue to prioritize growing in faith through regular worship and personal devotion time!

## The Week of May 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

<b>- 5/5, Sunday</b>	9:00am	Worship with Communion (SCRIP)
	9:30am	St. Stephen's Radio Service (WBEV-FM 95.3)
	10:15am	Adult Bible Class (A Light for My Path) Youth Sunday School
	1:00-2:30pm	Public School Examination/Confirmation Practice
<b>- 5/6, Monday</b>	6:00pm	Mixed Choir Practice
<b>- 5/7, Tuesday</b>	6:30pm	Adult Bible Class (Psalms)
<b>- 5/8, Wednesday</b>	9:00am	LOGS Meeting
	7:00pm	Worship
<b>- 5/10, Friday</b>	1:30pm	St. Stephen's Worship at Good Shepherd
<b>- 5/12, Sunday</b>		<b>Mother's Day!</b>
	9:00am	Worship
	9:30am	St. Stephen's Radio Service (WBEV-FM 95.3)
	10:15am	Adult Bible Class (A Light for My Path) LAST DAY of Youth Sunday School
	1:00-2:30pm	Public School Examination/Confirmation Practice

## Contact Us

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