

4th of July Worship

July 4, 2021

9:45am



Good Shepherd

LUTHERAN CHURCH

651-451-6225

www.goodshepherdigh.com

Welcome to Worship

Whether one's feet are big or small, fresh or worn, running or crawling
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is:
Together on the Journey, Sharing God's Love

GATHERING

Tune Radio to FM 89.7

PRELUDE *"America the Beautiful"*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism

L. Welcome in the name of the holy Trinity, one God
whose mercy endures forever.

C. Amen.

SONG *"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"*

**My country 'tis of thee, seet land of liberty, of thee I sing: Land where my fathers died,
land of the pilgrim's pride, from ev'ry mountain side let freedom ring!**

**Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song: Let
mortal tongues away, let all that breathe partake; let rocks their silence break, the
sound prolong.**

**Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, to Thee we sing: Long may our land be
bright with freedom's holy light; protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King!**

L. Freedom is coming!

C. We can hear it in the voices of the oppressed.

L. Hope is coming!

C. We can see it in the eyes of all those who despair.

L. God is here!

**C. We count on God's presence with us,
to guide, heal and uplift our spirits. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

L. Let us pray together,

**C. Almighty God, you rule all the people of the earth. Inspire the minds of all women
and men to whom you have committed the responsibility of government and
leadership in our great nation and the nations throughout the world. Give to
them the vision of truth and justice, that by their counsel all nations and people
may work together. Give to the people of our country, zeal for justice and
strength and forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your**

gracious will. Forgive our shortcomings as a nation; purify our hearts to see and love the truth that is in you. We pray all these things through Jesus Christ. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE *“Before You, Lord, We Bow”*

Before you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns above and rules the world below with boundless pow’r and love. Our thanks we bring in joy and praise, our hearts we raise, to you we sing!

May ev’ry mountain height, each vale and forest green, shine forth in wisdom’s light, and its rich fruits be seen! May ev’ry tongue be tuned to praise and join to raise a grateful song.

WORD

BIBLE READING Galatians 5:13-16, 22-23

You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only don’t let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses, but serve each other through love. All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement: *Love your neighbor as yourself.* But if you bite and devour each other, be careful that you don’t get eaten up by each other! I say be guided by the Spirit and you won’t carry out your selfish desires. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this.

The Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Pastor Leesa Soderlind

SONG *“This is My Song”*

This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine. This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine; but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country’s skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine. But other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are ev’rywhere as blue as mine. So hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O God of all earth’s kingdoms, your kingdom come; on earth your will be done. O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you, and hearts united learn to live as one. So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations; myself I give you; let your will be done.

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 believed in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of the saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L. Lord in your Mercy

C. Hear our Prayer

OFFERING *You can give your offering to an usher upon entering or leaving
worship. Or you may give online at our website.
Thank you for your generosity.*

MEAL

HOLY COMMUNION

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, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

LITANY FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

L. On July 4, 1776, our forefathers bravely advanced the cause of freedom and liberty by declaring this nation's independence and sovereignty and that all her citizens possessed the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness given by our Creator. It is appropriate therefore as we celebrate our nation's birthday that we give thanks to that Creator for our liberties and pray for continued blessings upon our country, our government and our fellow citizens.

L. The earth is the Lord's.

C. And all who dwell in it.

L. God is king over the nations:

C. God sits on his holy throne.

L. He rules by his might forever.

C. His eyes keep watch on the nations.

L. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

**C. for God judges the peoples with equity
and guides the nations upon earth.**

- L. O Lord, be gracious to us and bless us,
C. and make your face to shine upon us.
- L. May your ways be known upon the earth.
C. Your saving power among all peoples.
- L. Lord of the nations, guide our people by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give us what outward prosperity may be your will, but above all things, give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name, and blessings to all peoples; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
(Lutheran Book of Worship)

SPECIAL MUSIC *"God Bless the USA"* Bella Studer

BLESSING *(Based on Psalm 139:7-12)*

- P. As we leave this place, let's not forget:
there is nowhere we can go where God is not.
Everywhere we go, God goes before us.
From the farthest ocean to the highest mountain,
from the heights of joy to the depths of despair –
wherever we find ourselves, God is already there.
So, go in peace,
for we do not go alone.

SONG *"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"*

**O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain
majesties above the fruited plain: America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.**

**O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears: America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw, confirm
thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.**

SENDING

- P. Go in peace.
C. We do not go alone!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *"God Bless America"*

Beginning Next Sunday, July 11 – both worship services will be in the Sanctuary!

We will continue to send a recording of the 8:30 service via email. The recording will also be posted on the worship page of our website and on dial up worship.

Parking Lot Project

Paving the Way for All, Together on the Journey

By August, we need to raise \$110,000 for our Parking Lot Project. Please consider contributing a one-time gift to help pay for it. We accept large gifts and small gifts and all gifts! We have already raised \$40,000! Donor names will be put into a drawing to win a reserved parking spot for Christmas or Easter.

Bulletins

Weekly bulletins are now available on the worship page of our website. To follow along with the service on your phone or other device, simply click on the pdf. If you need assistance, ask an usher. Thank you for helping us be good stewards by limiting our paper usage as we try using available technology.

Hats Off in Gratitude

We applaud the following members for rolling out our church's welcome mat

- Ian Anich for choosing Good Shepherd for his Eagle Scout. Ian and his team built patio benches and a moveable altar. Thanks Chris Schipp for guiding Ian as our church rep.
- Katie Gerten and her staff for our lovely outdoor planters
- Tim Schultz for landscaping under our backyard trees
- Jim Smeby and Wayne Gorr and their volunteer crews for weekly outdoor worship set up
- Randy Sell for delivering sound to outside worship

