

Worship
The Welcome Table
There is a place for you at Christ's table
October 11, 2026
9:00am



Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH
651-451-6225
www.goodshepherdigh.com

PRELUDE *Special Music*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK – CARE & PRAYER MINISTRY

SONG *"For the Fruit of All Creation"*

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done. In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done. In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C. And also with you.

L. Let us pray together,

C. Lord of all people, open our ears and our hearts to hear the invitation to your table. Gather us into your kingdom where all are welcomed and loved. Amen.

(Those who are able, please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

L. As we come to the table, we listen for the voice of Jesus.

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free, the life of Jesus to recall in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

BIBLE READING Luke 14:15-24

When one of the dinner guests heard Jesus' remarks, he said to Jesus, "Happy are those who will feast in God's kingdom."

Jesus replied, "A certain man hosted a large dinner and invited many people. When it was time for the dinner to begin, he sent his servant to tell the invited guests, 'Come! The dinner is now ready.' One by one, they all began to make excuses. The first one told him, 'I bought a farm and must go and see it. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I bought five teams of oxen, and I'm going to check on them. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'

When he returned, the servant reported these excuses to his master. The master of the house became angry and said to his servant, 'Go quickly to the city's streets, the busy ones and the side streets, and bring the poor, crippled, blind, and lame.' The servant said, 'Master, your instructions have been followed and there is still room.' The master said to

the servant, 'Go to the highways and the back alleys and urge people to come in so that my house will be filled. I tell you, not one of those who were invited will taste my dinner.'

L. The Word of the Lord,

C. Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

MESSAGE Pastor Courtney Steitz

SONG *"The Church of Christ, in Every Age"*

The church of Christ, in ev'ry age beset by change, but Spirit-led, must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry for shelter and for bread to eat, and never live before they die.

Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.

We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord; to care for all, without reserve, and spread his liberating word.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe God's kingdom is like a great banquet where all are invited.

We believe Christ calls us to open doors, widen circles, and welcome our neighbors.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OFFERING RECEIVED

(Those who are able, please stand)

OFFERING SONG *"As the Grains of Wheat"*

Refrain: **As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.**

As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst, may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*

HOLY COMMUNION

L. Words of Institution

C. Come Lord Jesus be our Guest, let these gifts to us be blessed. Amen.

L. The table is ready.

C. Christ welcomes us.

L. The table is open.

C. Let us make room for others.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

SONG *"O Living Bread from Heaven"*

O living Bread from heaven, how well you feed your guest! The gifts that you have given have filled my heart with rest. O wondrous food of blessing! O cup that heals our woes! My heart, this gift possessing, in thankful song o'er-flows!

My Savior, you have led me within your holiest place, and here yourself have fed me with treasures of your grace; for you have freely given what earth could never buy, the bread of life from heaven, that now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted; this food can death destroy. And you have freely granted the cup of endless joy. My Lord, I do not merit the favor you have shown, and all my soul and spirit bow down before your throne.

Oh, grant me then well-strengthened with heav'nly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, to serve you, free from fear; and bring me home to praise you where none can peace destroy, where I will ever raise you glad songs in endless joy.

SONG *"Come to the Table"*

Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread. All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed. Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail scarred hand. Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

L. May you know the joy of God's invitation
and become a sign of welcome wherever you go.

C. Amen.

SONG *"We are Called"*

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love.

Refrain: **We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.**

SENDING

L. The invitation continues.

C. Let us invite others to the table.

POSTLUDE

This week please pray for:

Members

Randy Sell, cancer treatment

Barb Wanna, upcoming procedure

Shirley Benz-Biallas, grieving the death of her stepson, Michael Biallas

The family of Lauren Howard, grieving his death

Family and Friends of members

Lori Elavsky, pancreatic cancer, sister of Michael Crace

Bryan DeGidio, end of life care, father of Dane Roloff

Roberta Hedman, end of life care, mother of Veronica Meyer

Rob Skoglund, recovering from injury and surgery, friend of Pastor Jerry & Julie Storm