GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 14, 2025 (Radio FM 89.9)



AS WE GATHER - LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

A great temptation before Christians is to presume that sincerity is more important than doctrine. The reality is that both are deeply important. Jesus does not countenance hypocrisy but neither does He offer false consolation to those who refuse to hear the voice of His Word. Part of faithfully hearing the Word of God is discerning what is commanded from what is given—what Lutherans describe as the Law and the Gospel. Confusing or confounding the two will distort our picture of God and lead us away from that which Christ has done.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

(Please stand)

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING SONG: Whom Shall I Fear? (God of Angel Armies)

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INVOCATION

Pastor In the name of the Father and of the

→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor O Lord, my God, I cry to You for help.

Congregation Heal and restore me, O Lord.

Pastor Most holy and merciful Father,

Congregation like sheep, O Lord, we have strayed and wandered from You. We have sinned against You

and one another. We have done the evil You forbid, and we have not done the good You desire. There is no health in us. O merciful and divine Shepherd, cover our sins with Your forgiveness, clothe us with Your perfect righteousness, and preserve us in this faith and fear, that we may be kept to the day when Your Son comes to judge all people. Have

mercy, O Lord, and fulfill Your Word to us in Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Pastor Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your

sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all

your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

Pastor He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus

Christ. His peace be with you.

Congregation And also with you.

SONG: Lamb of God

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+ WORD +

SALUTATION

Pastor The Lord be with you. **Congregation** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray. Merciful Lord, You have made known to us Your Word and revealed to us Your

mercy in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Grant that we may rightly divide Your Word of truth and be brought to repentance for our sins and faith in the redemption accomplished through the death and resurrection of Your Son, with whom and the Holy Spirit, You are one God and one Lord,

now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

(Sit)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11-24

¹¹"For thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GoD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

¹⁷"As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

²⁰"Therefore, thus says the Lord GoD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE 1 Timothy 1:3–17

³As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, ⁴nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith. ⁵The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ⁶Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, ⁷desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

⁸Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, ⁹understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, ¹¹in accordance with the glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

¹²I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 15:1–10

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

Congregation Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ⁴"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.**

SONG: Scandal of Grace

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(Sit)

SERMON: "FIGHT...Against False Teaching"

(Stand)

APOSTLES' CREED Nicene Creed

Congregation I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints.

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life + everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor Let us pray for ourselves and for all people as they have need. O merciful Shepherd, You came

into the world to save sinners. Grant to us forgiveness of our sins, renewal of our lost lives, and

the grace to serve You in willing obedience all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Pastor O merciful Shepherd, grant us grace that we know Your Word as the sound of Your voice. Grant

to Your church faithful pastors who will rightly divide Your Word of truth and bless all church

workers and those in training to serve us in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Pastor O merciful Shepherd, guard against all false doctrine and against those who teach in conflict

with Your Word that the sheep of Your flock be preserved in faith to know and believe rightly by

the power of Your Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Pastor O merciful Shepherd, give us good and faithful leaders who will govern us according to Your will

and lead us and all nations in the ways of peace, justice, and virtue, that we live good, holy, and

upright lives without fear or threat. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Pastor O merciful Shepherd, You do not abandon Your sheep even when they are wounded and infirm.

Deliver the weak, the suffering, the troubled in mind, and those with hearts weighed low with grief. We pray that they be healed and comforted according to Your will and delivered from all that afflicts them on the day when You raise Your people to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Pastor O merciful Shepherd, You daily and richly supply all things good and beneficial to us and guard

us against the evil one. Give us a discerning mind and a generous heart that as You have done for

us, we do for others in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Pastor O merciful Shepherd, hear us and grant us all things beneficial to us and profitable for our

salvation, but keep from us all things harmful. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Silence for meditation.

Pastor Into Your hands, O merciful Shepherd, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray,

trusting in Your mercy, and confident that You will hear and answers us, O Lord.

Congregation Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Congregation 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.

(Sit)

OFFERING

Your continued tithes and special offerings are appreciated and support God's work at Good Shepherd. You may give by plate, by mail, or make a secure gift online by scanning this QR code with your smartphone.



(Stand)

BENEDICTION

Pastor The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Congregation Amen.

CLOSING SONG: Come Lord Jesus (Even So Come)

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DISMISSAL

Pastor Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

Congregation Thanks be to God.

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Altar Flowers

are given in memory of Max Downs by June Downs & Family

(If you'd like to dedicate flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, the flower chart is posted in the hallway.)

NEEDING OUR PRAYERS for body, soul, and spirit:

(names in italics are new or have a new development)

Adams family; Hester Allen; Josh Allen; Frank Altland; Sonya Alwine; Annette Anderson; Tina Bell; Darlene Bentzel; Tammy Bosley; Bill Bucher; Nancy Buckley; Jeffery Cogan; Dawn Coley; Dona Dellinger; Joyce Devan; Judy Eckenrode; Dave Eicholtz; Jane Esterby; Bob & Marge Filangeri; Pastor Thurman Frey; Jack & Donnalene Gingerich; Bob and Sandy Hahn; Wayne, Allyson & Christopher Hoffmann; Alice Jakupciak; Bob Jakupciak; Beatrice Jeanette; Sandy Knisely; Linda Latif; Joe Miller; Randy Miller; Neenan family; Norma Orsie; Dave Polimeni; Yvonne Rudacille; Denise Sater; Tom Shearer; Bill Smith; Cary Smith; Pat Smith; Bill Svobota; Beth Ann Thompson; Joe & Donna Toomey; Elizabeth Turner; Rick Weidner; Ella Weisbord; Jim Williams; John Wills Jr; Cole Young Let's remember our Homebound Members in Prayer too: Will & Chris Candisky; Denise Eckert; Bob & Sandy Hahn; Patty Hoshall; Jo Reese; Doris Ruesskamp; Pauline Schaefer; Donna Siple; Joe & Donna Toomey; Sharon Warnecke; George Yovich

CAN'T BE HERE IN PERSON? Join us online at the Good Shepherd Youtube channel: **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church York, PA.** Alternatively, you can tune into the service on your car radio at 89.9 FM from our parking lot.

"MANY ARE CALLED" says Jesus, but please silence your cell phone during worship.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES IN SANCTUARY: Please refrain from bringing any food or beverage into the sanctuary except for water. Thank you.

NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD! We are glad you are here today and hope you have found a warm welcome. If you are our guest, please sign our guest book at the Welcome Center; we would like to thank you for worshiping with us and would appreciate your feedback on your experience today. This bulletin includes the Order of Worship, which is also projected on-screen at our 9am service. Good Shepherd follows a traditional Liturgy (order of service); if you are unfamiliar with a liturgical service, beneath several chairs in your row, you'll find a tall, laminated pew card that explains the various elements of the service. (Our 9am service follows a similar order, but this resource is more suited for the 11am service.) Our nursery, located down the hall to the right, is available to parents with young children and offers comfortable chairs, interactive play space and a TV monitor to follow worship. Childcare volunteers are also available for those who wish to return to the sanctuary.

TROUBLE HEARING? Assistive listening devices (personal receivers/earpieces) are available upon request of the AV booth.

SEPTEMBER LOCAL MISSION: *Human Life Services*

"Because we love our Creator, and He loves life, we are committed to helping women and men in crisis – often alone and frightened – discover the wonder and awesome privilege of carrying life." (from friendsofhls.org) If you would like to give to this mission, please note this on your offering.

SERVING GENEROUSLY FAIR – AGAIN: The Stewardship, Fellowship and Outreach committees is once again providing an opportunity to view and volunteer for the many ministries happening at Good Shepherd this upcoming fall and winter. These dates coincide with Good Shepherd's hosting the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life Car Show, as well as with our own annual Yard Sale. Since we open our doors to visitors during those events, the Serving Generously Fair will also be a visual communication to those visitors as to the activities with which our church is involved. These sign-ups also assist church staff, leadership and ministry leaders in identifying those who would like to serve in specific ministries. Please join us for these events.

GOOD SHEPHERD QUILTERS are back at their sewing machines **every Tuesday** at 9:30am. If you have a desire to help make quilts for Lutheran World Relief - stop in the quilt room. Instructions available. The Ham and Cheese on a Pretzel Roll Sandwich sign-up ends **next Sun. Sept. 21**. Sandwich pick-up will be **Thurs. Sept. 25** from 4-6pm. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex.

AUGSBURG CONFESSION STUDY: If you are interested in discussing the history of Lutheran teachings and their Scriptural basis, come **Mondays** from 6:30-7:30pm **starting tomorrow Sept. 15** to read and discuss the Augsburg Confession along with its Scripture references. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Copies of the study guide will be provided. See Al Mokris for any questions.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY is a personal finance class based on biblical principles of money management. It is focused on budgeting, debt elimination, and behavior modification. First St. John's has provided funds to cover the tuition cost of this program for each of the families participating. We will still be collecting \$20 at the start of the program (so participants still have some skin in the game) but we will be returning \$50 to all families that "graduate" (attending 8/9 sessions). This course will be on Tuesdays starting at 6:30pm at First St. John's with the first session **this Tues. Sept. 16**. See the flyer on the narthex table or scan the QR code for more information.

Our **REGULAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** is scheduled for **next Sun. Sept. 21**, following the 11am worship service. The following proposal from the Council will be presented: That MR Roofing of Manheim, PA, be contracted to replace the roof of the Church building in the Spring of 2026. See the proposal from MR Roofing for details. If approved, the Financial Committee is requested to review options for financing the roofing project, to include current church savings, a loan for \$60,000.00 and a program for soliciting funds over and above current giving to pay for the work and to develop a comprehensive plan to keep the cost, to the congregation, of replacing the roof in 2026 at a minimum. [Note: This is a combination of two motions approved by the Council on Aug. 13, 2025.]

Help LWML **RAISE SOME DOUGH**. We are having a fundraiser on **Sun. Sept. 21**, all day, at **MOD Pizza** at 370 Town Center Dr, York, PA 17408. Grab a flyer from the narthex table and present it at the register. We will receive 25% of the proceeds from the day--as long as you present the flyer. Please share the flyer with your friends as well! Look for other dining fundraisers coming in the future. Thank you for your continued support!

CALLING ALL LUTHERANS! Gather with pro-life Lutherans on **Mon. Sept. 22** prior to the 2025 PA March for Life at The Hilton in Harrisburg, One N. 2nd St. to be encouraged and take a stand for the dignity of all lives from conception to natural death. A full breakfast, free of charge, will be served from 9am-10am. Scott Licht of Lutherans for Life (slicht@lutheransforlife.org) and Mary Ann Albertini, Advancement Director of A Woman's Concern Pregnancy and Parenting Resource Center (MaryAnnA@pregnancylancaster.com) will briefly address us before we walk together to the Capitol steps for the 11am Rally and 12pm Mile March.

MUMS FOR FALL: LWML is taking orders for mums to be displayed for LWML Sunday on Oct. 12, which can be taken home after the service. Price is \$10 for a 9" pot. Payment is due when ordering; make checks payable to LWML. Questions? Contact Shirley Dreyer. All orders must be in by **Sun. Sept. 28.**

CARING FOR A LOVED ONE WITH DEMENTIA: GRACE Caregiver Network offers a free monthly session with speakers, discussion of memory support challenges and advice to provide education, strategies and empathy. Monthly sessions take place at Country Meadows (1920 Trolley Rd - just 3 minutes from Good Shepherd: right on Roosevelt Ave, left on Kenneth Rd, then right on Normandie Dr. and straight to the entrance). This month's session is **Tues. Sept. 30** at 5:30pm and is entitled "Winter Calm; Coping with Dementia when the days get shorter." Interested? See the poster in the Narthex and RSVP to Tammy Sharp: tsharp@countrymeadows.com.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE: Lot's wife, Delilah, Jezabel, the woman at the well – each exhibited behavior that, to put it mildly, would be considered unacceptable. Each week, we will discover how God reached out to one of them with mercy, compassion and love – just as He reaches out to us. All women are welcome. Please sign up in the narthex. We will meet on Thursdays at 10am beginning **Thurs. Oct. 2** and continuing for 10 weeks.

OCTOBERFEST DINNER TICKETS NOW ON SALE: Tickets for the **Oct. 10** Octoberfest dinner are now being sold. Details on the dinner with ticket prices are displayed on the poster in the narthex. See Larry Kaetzel if you have questions. Proceeds for the event will benefit a new roof for the church.

LUTHERAN WITNESS MAGAZINE: If you would like to renew or subscribe for the first time, please place a check for the \$22 on Kelly's desk. **Please make the check out to Good Shepherd, but be sure to include "Lutheran Witness" in the memo.** Payment is due on or before **Sun. Oct. 12.**

24/7 CONFIDENTIAL CRISIS SUPPORT: 1.866.482.LIFE (5433) Are you or is someone you know facing personal challenges like struggling in a marriage? Depression? Substance abuse? Anxiety? Thoughts of harming yourself? Confidential, Caring, Christ-Centered help is literally a phone call away! Call the number or scan this QR code to learn more. Cards are available on the chest of drawers in the Narthex



UNTAPPED RESOURCES: Do know where you can find information about a program to help you <u>remain at home</u> as an alternative to moving into assisted living? Did you know there's a grief support ministry to help you <u>survive</u> the loss of a loved one and get through the holidays? What resources are available to parents of <u>children struggling</u> with sexual orientation or gender identity issues? What's happened this summer when 20,000 young people gathered to worship and serve the city of New Orleans at the National Youth Gathering? What has the LCMS done about HIV/AIDS in Kenya? Where can you find support when you're taking care of someone with dementia? What are some <u>Biblical perspectives when facing stress</u>? You'll find these questions answered and more, just outside the sanctuary on the bulletin board, bureau, and brochure stand.

MISSING YOUR HOTDOT? A portable electric HotDot hand-warmer was found in one of the counseling rooms. If this is yours, please contact the office.

Pray for your fellow members and friends this week:

Monday – Snook; Tuesday – Sollenberger; Wednesday – Stetler; Thursday – Stonecipher; Friday – Stoner; Saturday – Street

The Week Ahead

Date	Time	Event
Sun. 9/14	9:00 am	Alternative Worship Service
	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service
	12:00 pm	Serving Generously Fair
	7:00 pm	Confirmation Class
Mon. 9/15	6:30 pm	Augsburg Confessions Study
Tues. 9/16	9:30 am	Good Shepherd Quilters
Wed. 9/17	9:45 am	Biblical Tabernacle Experience
	10:00 am	New Members' Class
	6:30 pm	New Members' Class
Thurs. 9/18	9:30 am	Men's Zoom Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Chime Choir Rehearsal
Sun. 9/21	9:00 am	Alternative Worship Service
	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service
	12:15 pm	Congregational Meeting
	7:00 pm	Confirmation Class

Zsalm 119:169-176

- 169 Let my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word!
- ¹⁷⁰ Let my plea come before you; deliver me according to your word.
- ¹⁷¹ My lips will pour forth praise, for you teach me your statutes.
- ¹⁷² My tongue will sing of your word, for all your commandments are right.
- ¹⁷³ Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts.
- ¹⁷⁴I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight.
- ¹⁷⁵ Let my soul live and praise you, and let your rules help me.
- ¹⁷⁶ I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

Praise Team Leader: Rachel Booz **Scripture Reader:** Jen Cooper

Usher: Drew Dreyer

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Rev. Brian K. Smith

 $C/T:\,585\text{--}301\text{--}8564-yorkshepherd@verizon.net}$

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gsyork.wixsite.com/goodshepherdlutheran