



# **SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Saturday Evening Worship

September 23, 2023

5:00 p.m.

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

## **Prelude**

(please stand as you are able)

## **Call to Worship**

(based on Psalm 145)

We will bless your name forever.

**You are great and greatly to be praised. Your greatness  
is unsearchable and unknowable.**

Every generation will tell of your work to one another.

**We will meditate on your splendor and majesty. We  
will worship you in the name of the Father, Son, and  
Holy Spirit. Amen!**

**Hymn**    “Oh, That I had a Thousand Voices”    ELW 833

## **Confession**

God, your grace flows over us and into our lives. We do not earn or deserve your grace, yet you shower us with radical mercy and generosity. Because you are filled with grace, we can confess our sin to you in the full confidence that you forgive sin.

**We admit that we are dead in our sin. We cannot live as we should. We cannot love as you have called us to love. Forgive us. Bring your restoration and reconciliation to our troubled world.**

**Hymn**      “Blessed Assurance”      ELW 638

## **Forgiveness and Prayer of the Day**

Because of God’s grace and mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord. I can say these words to you. “I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins.”

**God of grace and mercy, you have blessed us to be a blessing to others. We have been loved to love others. We have been given mercy to extend mercy. We have been forgiven that we might forgive others. We have been given power to empower others. We live in abundance so that we might live out of abundance. We thank you! We worship you! Amen!**

(you may be seated)

**Message**      Jonah 3:10-4:11      Pastor Curt Gerald

(please stand as you are able)

**Hymn**      “Take My Life That I May Be”      ELW 685

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

## **The Prayers**

### **Sharing of Peace**

(you may be seated)

### **Offering**

(please stand as you are able)

### **Offering Prayer**

Grace-filled God, you have given us an abundance of mercy, grace and love and yet we live as if we barely had enough for ourselves and certainly not enough to share with others. Help us to see abundance through your eyes. Allow us to see the real needs of those around us and respond with your mercy and grace. Accept and bless these offerings in Jesus' name.

**Amen!**

## **The Table**

Come to the table; the risen Christ meets us here.

**In bread and wine, the grace and mercy of God touches us and forgives us.**

Come to the table; eat the bread of life and drink from the cup of love.

**Come and touch with our hands and taste on our lips a love which we cannot comprehend.**

## **Words of Institution**

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we  
proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

**Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

Holy Spirit, come and open our eyes to how deeply you  
love us. Holy Spirit, come and open our eyes to  
understand the abundance of your grace.

## **Lord's Prayer** *(prayed together)*

*(you may be seated)*

## **Invitation to Communion**

All people are called to Christ's table.  
Come, eat what is good.

## **The Distribution**

*(please stand as you are able)*

## **Blessing after Communion**

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.  
**Amen.**

## **Prayer**

Grace-filled God, you have given us an abundance of  
mercy, grace and love and yet we live as if we barely had  
enough for ourselves and certainly not enough to share  
with others. Help us to see abundance through your eyes.  
Allow us to see the real needs of those around us and  
respond with your mercy and grace. Accept and bless  
these offerings in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## **Benediction**

**Hymn** "Rise Up, O Saints of God" ELW 669

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God!**