

July 30, 2023

“You Are My Witnesses”

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

GATHERING MUSIC Glenn Richter and Bob Cannon

All Creatures of our God and King arr. Jay Althouse

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 139

Assisting Minister: The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

**All: The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?**

Assisting Minister: One thing I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:

**All: to live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in his temple.**

OPENING HYMN #779 vv 1-3 ***Amazing Grace***

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(silent reflection)

Pastor: Most merciful God,

**All: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

SONG OF RESPONSE #779 vv 4-5 *Amazing Grace*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WELCOME/LIFE IN COMMUNITY shephills.org

Altar Flowers: Given by Audrey Lunecki,

“Flowers in honor of Lydia Perkunas. Happy Birthday to an amazing Mom!!”

Gather Us In, Movie Matinee, Giving

SCRIPTURE READING... PSALM 27:1-9, 13-14 NRSV

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh— my adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident. One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
“Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, Lord, do I seek.

Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Assisting Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE #512 *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*

HOLY GOSPEL...MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52 NRSV

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous

and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."

And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Megan Getman

MESSAGE Pastor John Stern

MESSAGE SONG #838 *Beautiful Savior*

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. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THANK OFFERING

- To make a gift online to the mission and ministry of Shepherd of the Hills, use this link: shephills.org/give.
- Scan the QR Code with your camera phone to give now.
- By mail, send to 3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin, TX 78746



MISSION MOMENT Digital Ministry

OFFERING MUSIC Glenn Richter and Bob Cannon

What Wondrous Love Is This ***arr. Jay Althouse***

PRAYER OF THANKS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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;

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 INVITATION

As we celebrate this sacrament, all are invited to receive the
Risen presence of Jesus.

*God is really present—in bread and wine—forgiving sins and
promising new life.*

Bread/wafer— “The body of Christ given for you”;

Wine— “The blood of Christ shed for you.”

COMMUNION MUSIC *One Bread, One Body*

POST - COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG #836 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

COMMISSIONING

Assisting Minister: Here we have received a glimpse of the kingdom of heaven! Filled with the Spirit and strengthened in Christ's love, we go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. And, we will!

POSTLUDE Glenn Richter and Bob Cannon

***O Worship the King* arr. James Curnow**

PRAYERS

We pray for Rodney Varner, Nancy Etzler and Margaret McQuiston.

We pray for family and friends of Shepherd members:

Krista Bowers, niece of Herb and Kathy Palmer.

Stirling Johnson, granddaughter of Sylvia & Curtis Johnson.

Carol Carlos, mother of Sandy Wikelius

We pray in celebration for the birth of Carter Anniston Jones, daughter of Ryan and Katie Jones, sister of Addison. We pray for Carter and her family as they grow in new life together.

We give thanks for the witness of the saints who have gone before us in faith and now rest in eternal life, especially Kim Jackson, daughter of Dee and Robert Jackson. We pray for Dee and family, as they grieve this loss. Give comfort and peace to those who mourn, and a sure trust in the promise of resurrection life.

O God, we pray for our youth and adults heading home from the Boundary Waters trip today. We thank you for their experience in your creation, and we pray for a safe journey on this final leg home.

Merciful and Loving God, as war and violence rage in Ukraine and other parts of the world, we pray that leaders of the world will practice peace-making, bringing together people of every tribe and race under the umbrella of your amazing grace.

We pray for our global ministry partners: Rev. Karen Castillo in Guatemala; Iglesia Luterana Augustina Virgen del Rosario, Aurora 8 de Octubre, Guatemala. We pray for Malcolm and Joy Henderson and the ministry of CHARIS in Haiti.

We pray for our local ministries: Mariposa Family Learning Center, Bread For All, and Upbring Ministries.

We pray for our faith community, that we may be a church without walls and live out loud...faithfully!

**Prayers for family and friends are listed for 2 weeks,
unless we are notified otherwise.*

WORSHIP TEAM

Pastors	Pr. Tom Grevlos, Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner
Preaching Pastor	Pr. John Stern
Director of Worship/Arts	Kevin McClure
Piano	Glenn Richter
Trumpet	Bob Cannon
Acolyte	(10:45) Alicia Calvo
Altar Flowers: Given by Audrey Lunecki, "Flowers in honor of Lydia Perkunas. Happy Birthday to an amazing Mom!!"	
Altar Steward (8:15) Kitt Richter; (10:45) Carole Morgan	
Assisting Minister (8:15) Larry Wikelius; (10:45) Alana Oehler	
AV Bill Dawson, Dave Wegner, Pete Forsberg, Jamie Nichols, Peter Walsh, Jonathan Wolff, Erin Courtney, Devon Schueppert	
Bread Kitt Richter	
Communion Assistant	
(8:15) Larry and Sandy Wikelius, Kitt Richter;	
(10:45) Alicia Calvo, Melissa and Keaton Robertson	
Food For Fellowship Sara Dawson	
Hosts (8:15); (10:45) Christine Stern-Calvo, Anita Knight	
Tellers (10:45) Christine Stern-Calvo, Anita Knight	
Admin Ministry Coordinator	Amanda Forsberg
Campus Operations	Dave Wegner
Communications Director	Dabney Gomes
Program Ministry Coordinator	Joel Timmons
Executive Director	Bill Dawson
Finance Controller	Kevin Marlow
Children's Ministry Coordinator (Interim)	Megan Getman
Spiritual Wellness and Spiritual Director	Rebecca Guengerich

HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran
3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin TX

www.shephills.org