



SHEPHERD of the HILLS
Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Alan J. Eckert, Pastor
David C. Rau, Pastor

Welcome: A warm welcome to our friends and visitors! Shepherd of the Hills is eager to share with you the blessings of its Christ-centered ministry. If you are a new or long-time resident of Tucson looking for a church home, we invite you to meet with the pastor at the close of this worship service or at your convenience.

The Order of Service we are following has been printed out in its entirety in this worship folder.

10:30 a.m. Service Nursery: A staffed and equipped nursery is available in our education building for children up through 3+ years of age.

Parents' Room where parents may tend to their children's needs and still be able to hear and see the church service, is located off the church entry.

Hearing Assistance Available: This sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. If you would like a receiver, please speak to one of the ushers.

Wheelchair spaces in the sanctuary are located in the front and at the back of the side pews.

A **CD** of this morning's worship service may be obtained by speaking to the pastor or an usher.

Coffee & Donuts are served following our 8:00 a.m. service. Please join us.

Guest Cards are located next to the hymnals. If you are visiting this morning, please fill one out and place it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor as you leave. Thank you!

Growth in the Word: In addition to worship each Sunday we offer a variety of opportunities to grow in God's Word. Sunday School and three Bible classes (high school, young adult, and adult) begin at 9:15 a.m. A staffed nursery is available during this time. Midweek Bible classes, Confirmation Class and Bible Information Class are held during the week.

"Be on your guard so that you may not fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen."
2 Peter 3:17-18

The Opening Hymn: "Thy Word is a Lamp"

Refrain

Choir: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.

**Cong.: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path**

Choir: When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way
Still you're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.

**Cong: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path (repeat)**

Choir: I will not forget Your love for me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus be my guide, and hold me to Your side,
And I will love you to the end.

**Cong: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path (repeat)**

**Cong: Nothing will I fear As long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.**

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path (repeat)**

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The Confession:

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Christian Education begins in the home. God speaks to us in the Holy Scriptures about the home and about the relationship between parents and children.

He speaks first to parents: “Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.”

He speaks also to children: “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother”— which is the first commandment with a promise —“that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”

Let those who are parents confess their sins to the Lord.

Parents: Heavenly Father, we who are parents confess that we have not been the perfect fathers and mothers you ask us to be. We have not carried out all our responsibilities and have often made instruction in the Lord a low priority in our daily lives. Sometimes we have set bad examples. We have permitted the mixed messages of the world to drown out the one source of truth. At times we have been impatient, unloving, harsh, and unforgiving. We have even blamed You for our frustration. Lord, we confess our many sins to You and ask for Your mercy.

Pastor: Let those who are children confess their sins to the Lord.

Children: We who are children confess that we have not always obeyed and respected our parents. We make excuses, try to get out of jobs, don’t always listen, and sometimes make it hard to be a mom or dad. Lord, we know that parents represent You. When we disobey them, we disobey You. Lord, we confess our many sins to You and ask for Your mercy.

Pastor: Let us all together confess our sins to the Lord.

All: We all, who were sinful even at birth, have not honored You as our Maker and our Lord. We have set aside divine command for sinful pleasure. We have doubted Your gracious and precious promises. We have allowed Your Word to become a faint glimmer rather than a bright light. We have allowed ourselves to grow lazy in our personal study of Your Word. Lord, we confess our many sins to You and beg for Your mercy.

Pastor: The Lord, the Lord is the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and in. Greater love has no one than this, that He lay down His life for His friends. This our Savior, Jesus Christ, did. He was given over to death for our sins. He was raised to life that we might be declared perfect in God’s sight. What was scarlet is now white as snow. What was crimson is now white as wool. The blood of Jesus Christ has cleansed the world of sin. Do you believe this?

All: Yes, I believe.

Pastor: Then let us commit ourselves and our families to be guided by His Word.

Congregation: (sung) Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
To keep His statutes still!
(#462) Oh, that my God would grant me grace
To know and do His will!

Order my footsteps by Your Word,
And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
But keep my conscience clear.

The Prayer of the Day:

Pastor: O God, you reveal your power by showing mercy and love. Grant us your grace to receive what you have promised and to forgive as we have been forgiven, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: (sung) Amen.

The Lesson: 1 Samuel 1:20-28

So in the course of time Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, "Because I asked the LORD for him." When the man Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his vow, Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, "After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the LORD, and he will live there always." "Do what seems best to you," Elkanah her husband told her. "Stay here until you have weaned him; only may the LORD make good his word." So the woman stayed at home and nursed her son until she had weaned him. After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. When they had slaughtered the bull, they brought the boy to Eli, and she said to him, "As surely as you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the LORD. I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life he will be given over to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there.

C: (sung) You parents, hear what Jesus taught
When little ones to Him were brought:
(#516) "Forbid them not, but heed My plea
And let the children come to Me."

For if you love them as you ought,
To Christ your children will be brought.
If thus you place them in His care,
You and your household well shall fare.

The Epistle Reading: Ephesians 4:11-16

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

C: (sung) The man is ever blest
Who shuns the sinners' ways,
(#475) Among their counsels never stands,
Nor takes the scorners' place,

But makes the law of God
His study and delight
Amid the labors of the day
And watches of the night.

The Gospel Reading: John 21:15-17

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

C: (sung) How shall the young secure their hearts
And guard their lives from sin?
(#509) Your Word, O Lord, the truth imparts
To keep the conscience clean.

Your Word is everlasting truth;
How pure is ev'ry page!
That holy Book will guide our youth
And well support our age.

The Hymn: #500 "For Christian Homes, O Lord, We Pray"

Children's Sermon:

The Sermon: 2 Timothy 1:4-7

“Fan into Flame the Gift of God”

1. For Power
2. For Love
3. For Self-discipline

Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. (5) I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. (6) For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. (7) For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

A Statement of Faith:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We believe that God has made the family to be the sustaining unit of His creation, that He gives life to all, and that, as life is His to give, so it is His to take.

We believe that God has placed within the family certain responsibilities and duties:

for fathers - to lead the family with love, to train the family in faith, and to care for the family in life;

for mothers - to follow the lead of their husbands with constructive support, to correct the children with patient but persistent discipline, and to serve their families with willing and wise love;

for children - to honor their parents, to respect their parents, to love their parents, even when their parents are old or mistaken or out of touch with the times.

We believe that family problems are directly the fault of sinful human selfishness and can be solved not by man, but only by the Word of God.

We believe that God will bless that family which makes Him the head of its home and His Word the guiding light of all its activity.

We believe that it is to God’s glory, for our good, and for the benefit of others that we grow in our belief that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

We believe that through the power of the Word, the Holy Spirit will rest upon our labors and will strengthen our faith we have now confessed. Amen.

The Sermon Hymn: “God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage”

God’s Word is our great heritage, and shall be ours forever.
To spread its light from age to age shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way, in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, we keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations.

Through years gone by, God’s Holy Word has guided and sustained us.
Its light has brought us to the Lord And in His ways maintained us.
With gracious words of truth this Word has trained our youth,
And through the years gone by has taught us to rely
On God for every blessing.

Today this Word still guides our way, And keeps us with our Savior.
Whatever good we have today, Whatever grace or favor,
Comes by His grace alone, as His pure Word has shown,
The knowledge of His truth, implanted in our youth,
Will bring increasing blessing.

Now as we look to years to come Our future lies with Jesus.
We trust in His pure Word alone, His Word will not mislead us.
His blessing He will pour upon us evermore,
As we His Word retain and in His ways remain.
Lord, grant us this great blessing.

The Offering:

The Installation of Sunday School Teachers: (8:00 a.m. service)

The Presentation of Bibles: (8:00 a.m. service)

The Responsive Prayer:

- P: Heavenly Father, on this special Christian Education Sunday, we give You thanks for bringing the message of salvation to each of us. We remember today those who served You by sharing that message with us.
- C: We thank You for parents who taught us Your ways. We praise You for pastors and teachers who led us to deeper understanding. And we glorify You for sending us the Holy Spirit, who used this instruction to create and strengthen faith in our hearts.
- P: You promise that Your Word will not return to You empty, but will accomplish what You desire and achieve the purpose for which You sent it. You tell us that You want all to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- C: Remind us of Your Word's power. It has brought the dead to life. It has made common man walk on water. Use it to work miracles in our life. Use it to increase our trust in You. Use it to focus our eyes on that better country, our heavenly home. And lead us to use it in our homes, that Your good promises might be passed on to the next generation.
- P: Father, we thank you especially for the many institutions which assist families in bringing up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord. Continue to shower Your favor on our Lutheran elementary schools and high schools; on our Christian colleges and our Seminary. Within our own congregation we ask Your blessings upon our Adult and LYFE Bible classes on Sunday morning, our Sunday School, our Confirmation classes, our Bible Information classes, our many weekday Bible studies and our Women's Bible Study.
- C: Give to teachers patience. Give to students faithfulness. Bless the efforts of the Board of Education, the Sunday School teachers, the LYFE and Adult Bible class instructors. Enable us all to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to identify and encourage youth who might go on to serve the church in our classrooms and in our pulpits.
- P: Lord, Your Word is our life. With it instruct us, correct us, discipline us and guide us, that we might walk safely through this dark world to our eternal home.
- C: In Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

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.

The Words of Institution:

- P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying "Take and eat. This is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."
- P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: (sung) Amen.

The Song to the Lamb:

- C: (sung) O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us Your peace. Amen.

The Distribution:

The Solo: "Speak, O Lord" (Lorrie Palmquist)

The Song of Thanksgiving:

- C: (sung) Thank the Lord and sing His praise. Tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He renews His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- P: Hear the prayer of Your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised You here may glorify You in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for His coming again, and that all who have received in His true body and blood the pledge of Your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: (sung) Amen.

The Blessing:

P: 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.
C: (sung) Amen, amen, amen.

The Closing Hymn: #510 “I Pray You, Dear Lord Jesus”

For Today’s Service:

Worship Leader Pastor David Rau
Organist Paula Schmugge
Ushers 8:00 a.m. service Perry Biberdorf/Sam Salzwedel
10:30 a.m. service Tom Milster/Mikal Milster

For Your Personal Meditation before our service begins you may wish to read the psalm of the day, Psalm 103 (*The Lord is to be praised because he has not treated us as our sins deserve. He has provided cleansing for our souls and health for our bodies.* .) It is found on page 105 in the front of the hymnal.

The Flowers on Our Altar this morning have been placed there to the glory of God by Mr. & Mrs. Bob Palmquist on the occasion of Hannah’s birthday and by Laurie Miranda on the occasion of her and her husband’s first wedding anniversary.

The Lord’s Supper will be celebrated in our worship services today. There is a sign-up sheet by the bulletin board. If you have not communed with us previously, please speak with the pastor before approaching the Lord’s Table.

A Free-Will Basket will be placed on the table by the coffee pots beginning today to help offset the \$2,000/year cost for providing the coffee and donuts.

Thank you! The Labor Day Weekend Pancake Breakfast was a big success! A huge THANK YOU to all of our helpers! Without volunteers like you, we couldn’t have events like this.

Today has been designated as “Christian Education Sunday.” In our worship services we will be focusing our attention on the value of Christian education in the home and in Christ’s church. In the 8:00 a.m. service, we will have the induction of the Sunday School teachers. New Bible classes will begin for Adults and LYFE, and the Sunday School will begin their new semester. The purpose of the whole day is to emphasize the importance of studying God’s Word, not just on Sunday mornings, but everyday in as many ways as God allows us to get to know Him and His love more and more.

Sunday School: Paul wrote to the Colossians: *My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.* (Colossians 2:2-3) Paul’s purpose in preaching to the Colossians is the same purpose which we have in teaching God’s Word to the children. It is our goal that the children with whom we are privileged to work may “*know the mystery of God, namely Christ.*” To that end, we reach out to the children of our congregation and in our community with the precious gospel of Jesus Christ. **Today marks the beginning of our fall schedule for Sunday School.** The Sunday School students will advance to their next grade level. Regular classes will be held; Bible stories will be taught; the new teachers will begin their duties. We pray that God will bless your ministry to children so that they may receive the “full riches” which God has for them.

The Induction of our Sunday School teachers for the 2007-2008 Sunday School year will be held in our 8:00 a.m. worship service this morning. We thank God for their willingness to serve Him in this capacity and ask His blessing on their labors of love. We also take this opportunity to thank last year's teachers for their help, guidance, and Christian instruction of our young ones.

2008-2009 Sunday School Teachers Will Be:
Nursery - Shanda Gunn/Kylene Slack
Kindergarten/1st - Erica Hartman
2nd/3rd/4th - Mike Orlando
6th/7th - Rita McCandless & Marilyn Ekstrand
LYFE - Pastor Rau
SS Superintendent - Mike Orlando/Seth Wise

Last Year's Sunday School Teachers Were:
Nursery/Kdg - Jan Krueger/Jody Pepin
1st/2nd/3rd - Audrey Jacobs
4th/5th/6th - Susie Nicolay
7th - Rita McCandless & Marilyn Ekstrand
LYFE - Pastor Rau
SS Superintendent - Mike Orlando/Seth Wise

NIV Concordia Self-Study Bible brings the New International Version (the one we use in our worship services) together with Lutheran interpretative notes on more difficult Bible passages. Special features include a 2-3 page introduction to each book of the Bible, a 35,000 word concordance, 35,000 cross references, full-color maps, time lines and charts. The thumb-indexed version is available for \$35.00.

Giant Print Bibles are also available. The cost is \$10.00.

If you are interested in a Concordia Self-Study Bible or Giant Print Bible please speak to Pastor Eckert, Pastor Rau or Pat Weber.

2009 Entertainment Books and 2009 Calendars are available after services on the church patio. The Entertainment Books are \$35.00 each. God's Creation calendars are \$6.00 each, and LWMS Prayer Calendars are available for \$12. Please make your checks payable to LYFE. Thanks for your continued generous support of all our activities!

Scholarship Fund: Our congregation wants to encourage and support young adults who are considering careers in church work; e.g., pastors, teachers, lay ministers, etc. A Scholarship Fund has been established to provide financial support for any member who pursues such a career at one of the WELS higher education institutions. Please contact any member of the Church Council to apply for such assistance. Anyone wishing to contribute to this fund may use one of your Special Offering envelopes and designate "Scholarship Fund" on the front of the envelope.

ALA Scrip: Scrip is available for purchase before and after Bible class. These gift cards are used as cash at grocery stores, home improvement stores and a variety of restaurants. A portion of each purchase (2% to 20%) is split 50/50 between our LYFE Group and Arizona Lutheran Academy. If you have any questions or wish to purchase Scrip, please see Pat Weber.

Dew from the Lord

"The remnant of Jacob will be in the midst of many peoples like dew from the Lord, like showers on the grass" Micah 5:7

The "remnant" was a name used in the Old Testament for those Jews who remained faithful to Jehovah. They were the elect of God, the children of the heavenly Father, believers in the coming Messiah. They were the people who had found the same hope and the same joy that we have in our Savior.

This remnant of Jacob (and we can count ourselves among them) is to be as a dew from the Lord and as the showers upon the grass. During the rainy season in Palestine, the seed that had been sown sprouted and flourished, but in the hot, dry weather that followed the rainy season, the only thing that kept the fields green and growing was the heavy dew that covered the ground almost every morning. The dew from the Lord was therefore the source of many blessings.

Children of God are to be a blessing to those among whom they live. "I will bless you and you will be a blessing," said God to Abraham. He still speaks the same words to us. When the hopes and the joys of our neighbor begin to wither and to die, then we are to be as a refreshing dew from the Lord to him. In times of trouble, we are to help him. In days of sorrow, we ought to comfort him. In the hour of need, we should share what we have with him. And at all times, we ought to act in such a way that we will do good to all those with whom we live. And above all, we can be as a dew from the Lord in the midst of many people if we will bring them the glorious, refreshing message of the Savior's endless love.

Lord, you have showered many blessings upon us. Help us to do good to all people. Amen.

Read 1 Peter 2:9-21

- Dr. Siegbert W. Becker

Our Use of the Means of Grace:

- Sunday (Early Service) 112
- (Late Service) 117
- Men's Bible Breakfast 9

Our Church Calendar:

- Monday 10:30 a.m. - Mountain View Bible Study - *Harmony of the Four Gospels*
- Tuesday 6:30 a.m. - Men's Bible Breakfast - *1 Thessalonians*
- 6:30 p.m. - Board of Elders
- 7:00 p.m. - Night LYFE
- Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - Confirmation Class
- Choir
- 7:30 p.m. - Bells
- Thursday 9:00 a.m. - Bible Study - *Job*
- Friday 6:30 p.m. - Creation/Evolution Bible Study & Sandwich Buffet
- Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Worship Service
- 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
- LYFE Bible Class - *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*
- Adult Bible Class - *Christian Citizenship*
- 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service