



23
or

FOR WHERE TWO OR
THREE ARE GATHERED
IN MY NAME, I AM
THERE AMONG THEM.

MATTHEW 18:20, NRSV

September 6, 2026

9:30 a.m. Worship

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH
A Lutheran Community of Christian Believers – ELCA
6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples, FL 34113
Website: www.sotgweb.org email: sotg6020@gmail.com
Telephone: 239-775-0696 Pastor Jeff: 641-529-2479

All Are Welcome!

All who have come to worship are heartily welcomed. Let us joyfully open our hearts to God and to one another.

You are encouraged to participate in all that Shepherd of the Glades has to offer and to make Shepherd of the Glades your spiritual home.

If Shepherd of the Glades can be of service to you or if you would like Pastor Jeff to contact you, please so indicate on the pew welcome sheet.

September 6, 2026

9:30 a.m. Worship

Please stand where indicated by +

Congregation is invited to join where indicated by bold type

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Blessing of the Food*

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C **Amen.**

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through + Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C **Amen.**

+ GATHERING HYMN

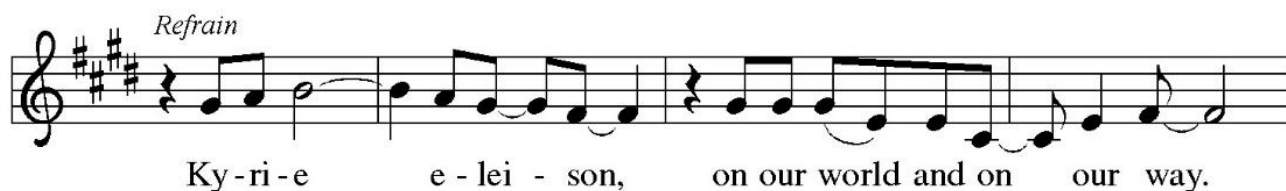
“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

ELW #678

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

C **And also with you.**

+ KYRIE



2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

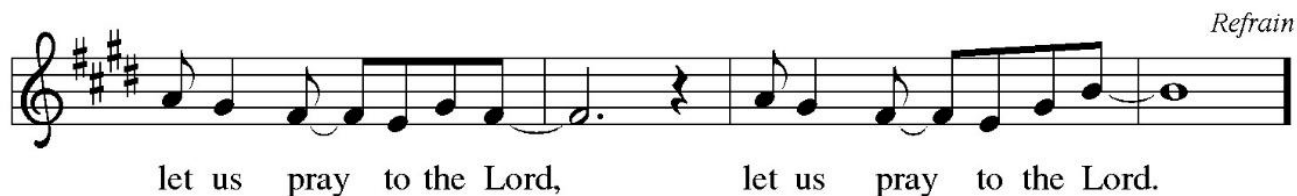
wa - ter and the word; that you



we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, ... for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray.

C O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40 (read responsively)

³³ Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴ **Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

³⁶ **Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.**

³⁷ Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.

³⁸ **Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹ Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰ **Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

+ THE HOLY GOSPEL according to: **Matthew 18:15-20**

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Ungs

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

“As We Gather at Your Table”

ELW #522

+ APOSTLES' CREED

A Let us proclaim our trust in the presence and power of God in our lives with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C 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 everlasting. Amen.

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

A Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. We pray especially for Annie Barikmo, Diane, Doug Walck, Erich Herath, Janice, John Stock, Mark Welch, Nick & Anita Lehr, Susan Schacht and Tom Sullivan. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Rejoice with us as we recognize the birthdays of our friends Kellen Snover, Bobbie Ramsey and Pat Barrack. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
A Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.
C **Your mercy is great.**
P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.
C **Amen.**

+ SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

A The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY

We give an offering to show thanks for God's blessings, and to support the ministries of God's Church, near and far. Offering collection plates are available upon entry to the sanctuary before worship or as you leave after its conclusion. To give electronically, just scan this code with your phone or visit our website: www.sotgweb.org.



OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.
C **God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

PROPER PREFACE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and the blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are invited and welcome to come forward to partake of the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you would like communion brought to you in your pew, please notify an usher. For your safety and convenience, you will have a choice of coming to the altar rail or taking communion in your pew in an individually sealed container.

If, for any reason, you are not comfortable receiving communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms, indicating you wish to receive a blessing.

The Eucharist is celebrated by intinction. Our Altar Guild at all communion services offers grape juice (lighter color), as well as wine (darker color), for intinction, the dipping of the wafer into the wine or juice. One chalice will hold both wine and grape juice. Note: Gluten free wafers are offered, as well, in the Narthex or as you come forward.

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

+ THE BLESSING

P The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

+ SENDING HYMN

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

ELW #836

+ DISMISSAL

P Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C Thanks be to God.

MINISTRIES FOR TODAY

Ushers: Lori Bernabei, Karen Peterson. Judy Ripke and Laurie Sullivan

Lector: Jackie Masterson

Communion Assistants: Lori Bernabei and Laurie Sullivan

Assisting Worship Leader: Brenda Charleston

Altar Guild: Barb Modjeska

A/V Technicians: Kelli Unga and Steve Kautz

The altar flowers are given by Connee Zeman in memory of Tony Zeman and by Ron & Barb Modjeska in celebration of their 64th wedding anniversary.

THIS WEEK

Office hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

The office will be closed on Monday for Labor Day.

Pastor Jeff will be away September 10-23.

Should you need pastoral care during this time, you may call the church office.

ONGOING WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

Mondays	9:00 a.m.	Bone Builders gather in Hanson Hall
	Noon	Alcoholics Anonymous meet in Hanson Hall
Wednesdays	9:00 a.m.	Bone Builders gather in Hanson Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Pastor's Bible Study in the Choir Room – David Ochoa will facilitate the discussion during Pastor's vacation time
Saturdays	9:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous meet in Hanson Hall
Sundays	9:30 a.m.	Worship in the Sanctuary and Online – service is live-streamed on YouTube or can be accessed on our website, www.sotgweb.org .

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2027 Calendars Are Here! Cost is \$8 and proceeds will be used to buy supplies for Blessing Bags. Bonny Dery is selling them following worship or you may purchase them in the church office during normal business hours.

Please remember to sign in on the pew pad and pass it down the row so all may sign. This allows the church office to maintain accurate records for our annual attendance reports to the Synod. Thank you!

Blessing Bags are available in the Narthex. Keep one or two in your car to give to someone you see in need. They contain toiletries, tissues, washcloth, socks, band aids, water, snacks and a list of local assistance resources. Be a blessing to someone in need.



SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Our mission is "Transforming lives through the Living Word of God."

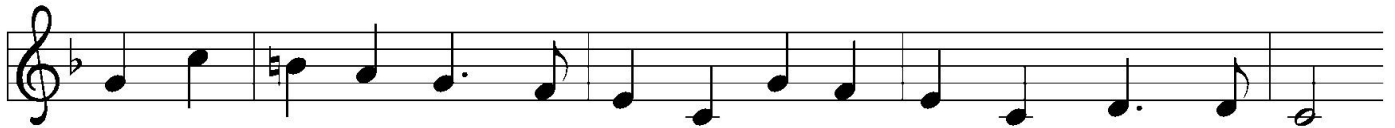
Pastor	Rev. Jeffrey T. Ungs
Director of Music	Megan Cianflone
Congregational President	Penny Morken
Administrative Assistants to the Pastor	Lynn Dickerman
	Deanna Colbert



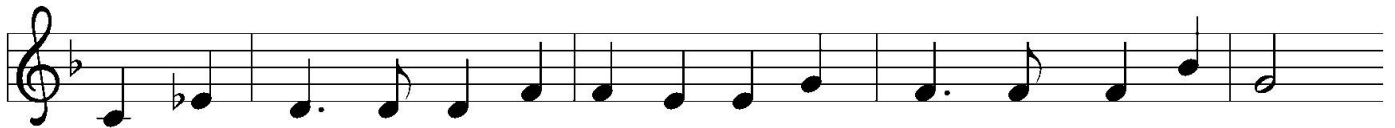
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



- 1 God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store:
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
- 3 Trea-sure, too, you have en-trust-ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con-ferred;



na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door,
all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one.
ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel word.



gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-f'ring up our-selves in praise;
Now di-rect our dai-ly la-lor, lest we strive for self a-lone;
O-pen wide our hands in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,



thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.
born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.
heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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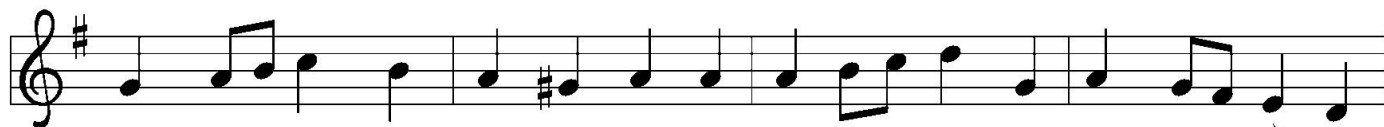
As We Gather at Your Table



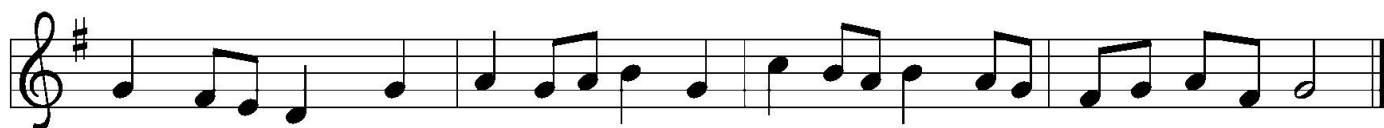
- 1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

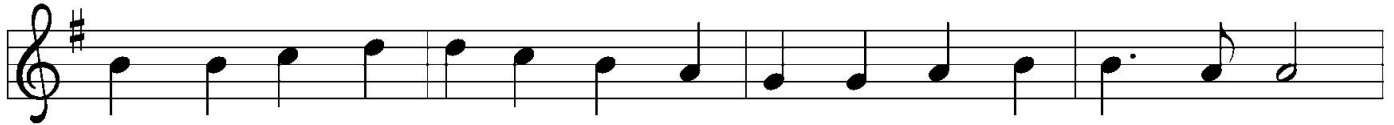
Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710

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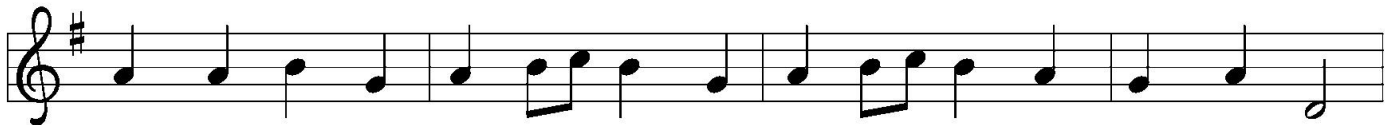
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



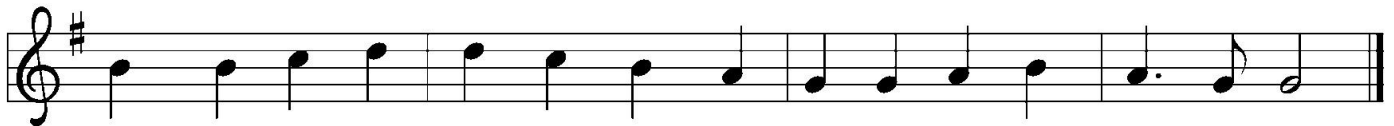
- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.