August 23rd 2015 at 9:30 am

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 E. Mason, Lena, Il 61048

Phone: (815) 369-5552 Email: gslchurch@aeroinc.net

Pastor Miranda: (815) 291-5793 & mirandaeh@hotmail.com

Website: www.GoodShepherdLena.org Facebook: "GSLCLenaIL"



Welcome to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church If you are visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and to know that we are delighted to have you here

WELCOME! We want you to be at ease - we won't ask you to stand up and be recognized, but we'd love it if you would introduce yourself. Welcome to Good Shepherd!

We would like everyone to fill out the Friendship Pad at the end of the pews and pass it along for all to fill out. Please also mark the names of all in the family who are receiving Communion. If you are visiting, please include your address and phone number.

Nursery Children are always welcome at our worship services; however, if you desire, please feel free to use the nursery located out the north entrance of the sanctuary.

<u>Pastor:</u> Pastor Miranda Klosterboer <u>Custodian:</u> Taylor Bastian

Secretary:Darlene BarrPianists:Tena Rackow, Sarah BakerOrganist:Karen NiemeierMissionaries to Tanzania:Randy&Carol Stubbs Family

 Choir Dir. /accomp:
 Janis Kurth / Marion Fahr
 Lector
 Lee Wenzel

 Acolyte:
 Braden Diddens
 Assisting Minister
 Austin Andrews

Worship Assistant: Sue Diddens Communion Usher Troy and Cindy Doubler

<u>Welcome Visitor</u>: Wayne Kurth <u>Communion Set-up</u> Sheridan and Marybeth Brinker

Sound System: Wayne Kurth, Dan Kurth, Ashtyn Brinker

Greeters: Troy, Sheila and Krista Keene, Bob and Sharon Schlacter, Jean Wenzel

Ushers: Troy and Cindy Doubler, Jim Swain, Lee Wenzel

Communion Asst: Jay and Michelle Andrews

Elevator Operator Dana Diddens

THIS WEEK	AT GOOD SHEPHERD	August 23 rd thru August 30 th 2015
Today	Worship with Holy Communion/Rally Sunday	9:30 am
	Blessing of Backpacks/Teacher Installation	
	Fellowship	10:30 am
	Sunday School Kickoff	10:45 am
	Rally Day Carnival – Games	11:15 am
	Family Meal	11:45 am
	Sunday School Teacher meeting	12:30 pm
Wednesday	"Piece Corps" Quilting Group	8:00 am-11:30 am
	First After School Program of the School Year! At the hangou	t. 3:30-5:00 pm
Saturday	Men's Group	4:30 pm
Next Sunday	Worship with Holy Communion/Rally Sunday	9:30 am
	Special Music – Deb Leninger	
	Fellowship	10:30 am
	Sunday School	10:45 am
	Summer Bible Study	11:00 am

Worship Attendance August 16th was 81

Total Offering for August 16th, 2015: \$1, 866.10 - Amount needed to meet budget: \$2,905.77 We pray for all of those who are lonely, injured, sick, needing healing, or in need in any way. This week we especially pray for Ellen Kyles, Ray Stamm, Brian Albrecht, Gerry Harnish, Jon Forsythe, Steve Gray, Donna Euler, Sue, Kim, Katy Lartz and homebound member Laura Derr and Lois Paulsen.

Thank You to Glenda Linneman for sharing her special music this morning.

Order of Worship

The Work of the People: Dakota Road Music

Tena Rackow **PRELUDE:**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY CONCERNS

INVOCATION: (congregation stands)

A: We welcome each other to worship in the name of God our creator, and our redeemer, who walks with us and promises to be with us every step of our lives.

L=*congregation left or pulpit side led by Assisting Minister* **CONFESSION:**

R=congregation right or font side led by Pastor

- We have not loved you with all of our hearts. L:
- R: We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
- All: We have not responded to your promise.
- We have put up walls to keep people at a distance. L:
- R: We have failed to respond when someone is hurting.
- All: We have not responded to your promise.
- We are captured by our desire for material wealth. L:
- We forget those who do not have food or shelter. R:
- We have not responded to your promise. All:
- L: We abuse the gifts of your creation.
- We destroy your beauty out of ignorance and greed. R:
- We have not responded to your promise. All:
- We fail to respond to your call to do justice. L:
- We seek only comfort for ourselves. R:
- All: We have not responded to your promise.

THE PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS A: We are broken but God's promises are not. Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. **C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: Lord, I Lift Your Name on High (on guitar) ELW#857

Lord, I lift your name on high.

Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I'm so glad you're in my life,

I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from hea ven to earth to show the way,

from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;

from the cross to the grave,

from the grave to the sky;

Lord, I lift your name on high.

GATHERING SONG: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (on guitar) **ELW#807**

- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love, teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:
 "Hither by thy help I've come";
 and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
 safely to arrive at home.
 Jesus sought me when a stranger,
 wand'ring from the fold of God;
 he, to rescue me from danger,
 interposed his precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be; let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

GREETING:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray. C: Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (*Please be seated.*)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

L: The 1st READING is from Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means agreement or alliance. It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

¹ Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a} And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴ "Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶ Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸ and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God." L: The word of the Lord! **C: Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 84 (*Please join the Assisting Minister in reading the psalm responsively*) **ELW#84** ¹ How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!

²My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

³Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my king and my God.

⁴Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you.

⁵Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

⁶Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

⁷They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob.

⁹Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed.

¹⁰For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹¹For the Lord God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory; no good thing will the Lord withhold from those who walk with integrity.

¹²O Lord of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!

L: The 2nd READING is from Ephesians 6:10-20

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

L: The word of the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

"Help Us O Lord" congregation sings through two times



P: THE HOLY GOSPEL according to John 6:56-69 C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus said, ⁵⁶"Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹ He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. ⁶⁰ When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" ⁶¹ But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶² Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³ It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴ But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵ And he said, "For this reason I have told you that

no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." ⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

P: The gospel of the Lord! C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Please be seated



TEACHER INSTALLATION

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praise the

one

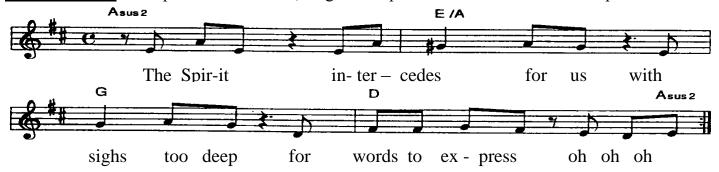
in whom you

are

re - born.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Congregation: After piano introduction, sing "The Spirit intercedes for us" with repeat.



After each petition: WA: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

WA: With confidence in God's compassion and generosity, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation. *brief silence*.

WA Faithful God, we pray for the church. Lead it always to proclaim its faith in you, who gives us the words of eternal life. Give your church the gifts of truth and righteousness. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

WA: We pray for the leaders of the world. Equip them to serve with justice and to dispel the forces of evil. Inspire the citizens of every country to love wisdom and mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

WA: We pray for the brokenhearted and those whose spirits are crushed. Wrap them in the warm embrace of your all encompassing love. Restore them to wholeness especially, *Ellen Kyles*, *Ray Stamm, Brian Albrecht, Gerry Harnish*, *Jon Forsythe*, *Steve Gray, Donna Euler, Sue, Kim, Katy Lartz, and brothers and sisters in the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation*. Strengthen and encourage *Laura Derr and Lois Paulsen*. Lord, in your mercy, **C**: hear our prayer.

WA: We pray for this assembly as it prepares education ministries. Bless those planning and preparing for Sunday school, confirmation, adult education, and intergenerational learning opportunities. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

WA: We give thanks for all who have gone before us. Give us wisdom to follow their example of faithful living and to stay true to the path of peace. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**Pastor: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; ...through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

Congregation: After piano introduction, sing "The Spirit intercedes for us" with repeat.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

Congregation may greet one another using these or similar words: Peace be with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING Special Music Glenda Linneman

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church locally and throughout the world, including those in need. We also offer up prayers to God as we offer ourselves (time, talents, gifts, and interests) to the Lord's service and dedicate our lives to God's work in the world. During this time, the table is set. After the table is set, the offering is gathered & the anthem concludes, the acolyte walks out to the edge of the chancel steps to receive the offering from the ushers.



OFFERING PRAYER (congregation stands)

A: Let Us Pray. C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

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

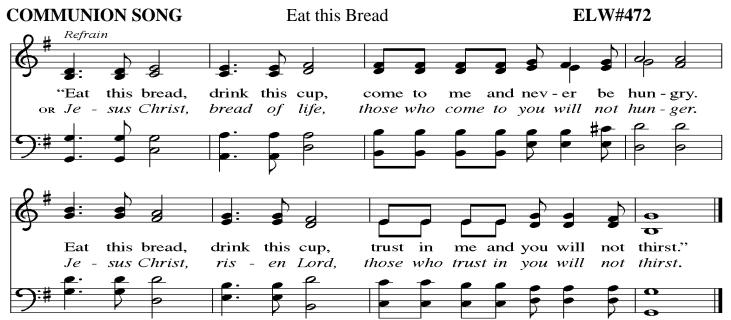
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We practice open Communion here — you don't have to be a member to participate. All who share our belief that Jesus is present in his holy meal are welcome to receive the bread and cup. Children and adults who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a special blessing. Holy Communion will be celebrated today using intinction (you will dip the wafer into the chalice of wine). The gold chalices have wine; the chrome chalices have grape juice. You will be ushered down the center aisle and return to your pew by way of the side aisles. If you wish to commune and are unable to come forward or need other assistance, please let an usher know so that we can serve you.



COMMUNION SONG Walk in the Spirit of Love (*Favorite Hymn*)

Walk in the spirit of love;
Walk in the spirit of love;
Love one another
as Jesus loves you,
Walk in the spirit of love.
(Live in the spirit of love...)
(Serve in the spirit of love...)



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (assisting minister)

A: Let us pray, Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, ...through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **C: Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: Almighty God, who raised our Lord Jesus from death, lift you up and restore you to wholeness. **C: Amen.**

P: Jesus Christ, the Word of life, bless you and send you to be his witnesses. C: Amen.

P: God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth, refresh you in the gift of baptism this day and always. **C: Amen**



DIMISSAL (from back)

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you! C: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

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RALLY DAY TODAY!

An exciting first day of Sunday School! Games! Face Painting! It will be a great chance to celebrate as a family and meet your new Sunday School leaders! Gather in the Sanctuary at 10:45am for Sunday School opening and meeting your new teachers. At 11:15 we will have a family carnival with games, music, and treats! We will gather for a meal together with volunteers and families at 11:45am.

Parents and loving adults are invited to join in on the fun, too!
Register today for Sunday School 2015/2016!
Registration forms and conduct covenants available by bulletin board

Save the date for:

Confirmation Kick-Off with 7th & 8th Grade Youth and Parents
Wednesday September 16th at 6:30 pm

ELCA MISSIONARIES

Carol Stubbs and daughter Marissa will be at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Polo, IL on Sunday August 30th at 9:00am. Carol and Marissa will share about their ministry and life in Tanzania. Light refreshments will be served immediately following the service. All are invited to join them at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 201 N. Division Ave., Polo, IL 61064

Get ready to serve! "God's work. Our hands." Sunday, Sept. 27th, 2015

This fall, the nearly 10,000 congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) are invited to put their faith into action by serving their communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God's people. Save the date to join brothers and sisters in Christ in serving our neighbor on September 27th. We will seek to have service opportunities for all ages and abilities. Make sure to sign up!

The MEN'S GROUP is looking for projects for "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday on September 27th.

If you or someone you know *has a service* project/ need that we could help with as a church. Please contact the church office for a project application.

Your Giving Statements

Please pick up your giving statements they are available at south entry of Sanctuary

LENA LIVING CENTER

Thursday Aug. 27th from 8:00- 10:30 - FREE cholesterol and blood sugar screenings Doll Memorial Apt. Community Room, 1008 S Logan, Lena, II.

Sponsored by FHN Top 50 - Fasting is required.

Today's favorite hymns are listed below with members' name and reasons for choosing them:

Walk in the Spirit – Tena Rackow

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee – Kristy Patterson. "We played it as special music with flutes as a teen"