Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

118 East Mason Street, Lena, IL 61048

Church Office Phone: (815) 369-5552
Pastor Thomas Mosbo: (563) 258-1502
Email: GoodShepherdLena@outlook.com (Office)
Thomas@wyndstar.co.uk (Pastor Mosbo)
Website: www.GoodShepherdLena.org
Facebook: GSLCLenaIL

July 26th, 2026 9:30am

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



God Give Us Life - Ray Makeever Liturgy
Please leave your offering in the plate at the door
You may stand at times marked with an asterisk (*)

Opening

Prelude and Contemplation

Tena Rackow

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

* Hymn *Gather Us In* ELW # 532

* 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.

* Invocation / Make a Joyful Noise

A: In the name of God the Creator of the world,
in the name of Christ the Son,
in the name of the Holy Spirit,.

C: Amen. Amen.

Refrain: **Make a joyful noise to the Lord.**
Enter in with singing.
Join the festival of Love.
Alleluias ringing.

A: Born of the water we recall
Death defeated, Life for all.
In the body of the risen Son
Welcome everyone.

C: *Refrain:* **Make a joyful noise to the Lord...**

* God of Love, Have Mercy

A: Let us pray to God with peace in our hearts.

C: God of Love, have mercy.

A: For the peace from above let us pray to our God.

C: God of Love, have mercy.

A: For the peace of the world, for the health of the church,
for the unity of all people, pray to our God.

C: God of Love, have mercy. God of love have mercy.

A: For the people of God and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to our God.

C: God of Love, have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious God.

C: Amen.

* Glory to God

*Refrain: (***Women): Glory to God**
(Men): Glory to God
(All): Glory to God in the highest:
Glory, glory, glory to God above.
Glory to God in the highest:
Glory, glory, glory to the God of Love.

A: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are God's.

Refrain: **Glory to God…**

A: Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing and honor, glory and praise be to God and the Lamb forever and ever.

Refrain: **Glory to God…**

* Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Readings

First Reading: *I Kings 3:5-12*

L: A reading from the first book of Kings.

5 At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and
God said, "Ask what I shall give you." 6 And Solomon said, "You have
shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, be-
cause he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in up-
rightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and
steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. 7
And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place
of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to
go out or come in. 8 And your servant is in the midst of your people
whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or
counted for multitude. 9 Give your servant therefore an understanding
mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil,
for who is able to govern this your great people?"

10 It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. 11 And God said to
him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself
long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for your-
self understanding to discern what is right, 12 behold, I now do accord-
ing to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that
none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after
you. *[ESV]*

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Psalm: *119:129-136*

L: Let us read responsively from Psalm 119.

129 Your testimonies are wonderful;
therefore my soul keeps them.

130 **The unfolding of your words gives light;**
it imparts understanding to the simple.

131 I open my mouth and pant,
because I long for your commandments.

132 **Turn to me and be gracious to me,**
as is your way with those who love your name.

133 Keep steady my steps according to your promise,
and let no iniquity get dominion over me.

134 **Redeem me from man's oppression,**
that I may keep your precepts.

135 Make your face shine upon your servant,
and teach me your statutes.

136 **My eyes shed streams of tears,**
because people do not keep your law. *[ESV]*

Second Reading: *Romans 8:26-39*

26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. 27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. 28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be
against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us
all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who
shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34
Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that,
who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is inter-
ceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall
tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or dan-
ger, or sword? 36 As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who
loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rul-
ers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor
depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from
the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. *[ESV]*

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

* Gospel: *Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*

P: The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: *(sung)* **From the fullness of God**
have we all received grace upon grace,
peace upon peace.

31 [Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of
heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in
his field. 32 It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larg-
er than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of
the air come and make nests in its branches."

33 He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven
that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leav-
ened."

44 “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

45 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, 46 who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

47 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. 48 When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51 “Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” 52 And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.” *[ESV]*

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **From the fullness of God**
have we all received grace upon grace,
peace upon peace.

Reflection

Sermon Rev. Thomas Mosbo

*** Hymn** ***Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God*** **WOV # 783**

*** Nicene Creed**

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father,
through whom all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers

Prayers of Intercession

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Please respond to each petition with the following:

L: … God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
C: Amen.

We lift our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Denny Bergmann, Rene', Paul Fahr, Gary Hudik, Virgil Martin, Caroline Jam, Cyndy Schumacher, Virgil Gordon, Jerry Martin, Donna Christen, Richard Freitag, Sherry Freitag, Connor Stadermann, Ryse Stone, Nicole, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Richard Gordon, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Connie, Pam, Caroline, Tina D., Jim DeMontigny Jr., Norman, Vivian, Tina Cheeney, Brenda, Christine Beyer, Bob Schulz, Kenny Frie, Steve Rothschadl, Gary L. Hartwig, Josh, Hannah, Ray Phillips, Susan, Allison Biddick, Brad Rackow, Kim Choin, Jeannie, Dianne, Nancy, Pat McCluskey, Jim Briggs, Sandi, Tina, Jim, Ronald Schrader, Christine S., Carol Lartz, Amy and Leta Toelke.

Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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.

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,

In the name of the Father, ☩ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit..

C: Amen.

* Hymn *Be Thou My Vision* **ELW # 793**

* Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Tena Rackow

Concerts in the Park

Lena Park District is hosting free
Concerts in the Park on Sundays during the summer.

Concerts begin at 6:00pm in the parking lot next to the pool at Lions Park. You may stay in your vehicle and listen to the performers, or bring lawn chairs and sit on the blacktop.

The show lasts until 7:30pm and we keep our Snack Shop open until 7:00pm on Concert nights

Sunday, July 26: Silver Alert

Hannah Circle

August 2nd, 2026

After Worship Service, Sheila Keene will be Bible Study Leader.

Friendship Club

August13th

12:30pm Potluck, 1:00pm Entertainment provided by Jeff DeLay Family.

Good Shepherd Council Meeting

August13th at 6:30pm

Attendance - July 12th

In-person 18, Online - 175