

The Divine Service



"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son" (Matthew 22:2)

21st Sunday after Pentecost



AD 2020, October 25

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church

41415 W. Nine Mile Road

Novi, Michigan 48375-4306

(248) 349-0565

www.GoodShepherdNovi.org

Good Shepherd is a member of the WELS (www.wels.net)

The Divine Service

This order of service is a variation of the Common Service, p 15 in Christian Worship. To limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus as much as possible, singing will be restricted to only a few places. The responsive portions of the liturgy shall be spoken. Where you see this symbol + you may make the sign of the cross.

Hymn 464 Jesus Christ, My Pride and Glory

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/464>

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and Merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil, and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: **Grant, O merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

C: Amen

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day,

“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.

This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

M: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND LESSON **Philippians 4:4-13**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness^[a] be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me— practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

M: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

THE GOSPEL **Matthew 22:1-14**

M: The Gospel for today is from the Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter, beginning at the 1st verse.

C: **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.”’ But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

M: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

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 him 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 fully 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 and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Hymn 460 **How Can I Thank You, Lord**

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/460>

SERMON TEXT: PHILIPPIANS 4:8-9

SERMON THEME: WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

Hymn 272 **Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God**

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/272>

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

INTERCESSIONS

Intercessions that are requested prior to the bulletin's printing will be included in the bulletin. Requests may be made prior to the service as well.

- For Jim Datte, undergoing surgery on October 27.
- For Irvin Haase, age 98, grandfather of Paul Haase, who is in hospice

In our prayers....

While we offer up prayers for specific requests in our services, petitions and intercessions can be offered up throughout the week for continued concerns. Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

- For the family of Victor Vogt, father of Colleen Fadool, called to eternal rest (10/3)
- For the family of Ken Reisig, Sr., father of Ken Reisig, called to eternal rest (10/9)
- For Paul Haase, recovering from COVID-19

CLOSING PRAYER

M: ... one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor (+) and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn 467 **May the Mind of Christ My Savior**

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/467>

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Preacher & Celebrant Pastor Thomas E. Schroeder
Organist Jeanette Schneider

REGULAR SCHEDULE

Divine Service is Sundays at 10:00 AM, in person and on Facebook Live.

Sunday School & Adult Bible Class is on Sunday at 8:45 AM.

Bible Matters, a Bible discussion group, meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. Topics may be suggested to the pastor and will be announced prior to each session. Upcoming topics:

Oct 28 – Marriage: Still God's plan; still a good idea

Nov 4 – Is it important that I'm special?

Nov 11 – Are all judgmental people bad?

If anyone wants to follow along on Zoom, contact the pastor (welsnovi@aol.com) and I will send you a link. Your contribution to the discussion may have to be limited to the Chat feature.

OFFICE HOURS – Monday – Thursday (9:00 AM - Noon)

The pastor will be in his office unless a meeting has been scheduled elsewhere (consult the weekly schedule). The pastor is also available by appointment. Call or text (248-719-5218). You may also email (welsnovi@aol.com), but the response may be slower.

Worship Tidbit for the 21st Sunday after Pentecost

The Pastor's Vestments – Why wear them?

It has long been the custom of the Christian Church for the priest or pastor to dress in certain vestments for worship. The practice, in fact, can be traced back to God's instructions for the Old Testament priests. The pastor does not just wear a suit, he wears a robe or an alb or some other garment. Among the reasons for this practice is this: The pastor is not leading the worship service as his own person. He speaks for Christ. Since the pastor is a representative of our Savior, he wants all attention given not to him but to Christ for whom he speaks and acts. The vestments take the attention off of the person who serves and focus us on the Lord for whom he speaks.

THIS WEEK AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Sunday (10/25)	Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM Divine Service – In church at 10:00 AM; Facebook Live at 10:00 AM Reformation Celebration at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Westland 5:00 PM – Vespers 5:30 PM – Bratwurst dinner 6:30 PM – Luther Lecture (What good are good works?)
Wednesday	Catechism Class – 3:30-5:00 PM Bible Matters (Topic: Marriage—Still God's plan; still a good idea.) – 7:00 PM

PREPPING FOR THE ELECTION

On Sunday, November 1 after church, we will need people to stick around to prepare the church and fellowship hall for Good Shepherd's use as a polling place. We will arrange the chairs to make a path through the chapel and protect it with plastic liners that will need to be put down. More hands make for lighter work, and is appreciated.

CALL FOR NAMES – ALL SAINTS' DAY

Every year, we remember the names of loved ones who have died in the Christian faith, praising God for the mercy he has had upon them and thanking God for preserving them in that saving faith throughout their life. Normally, the names of these departed souls are recalled in a prayer on All Saints' Day, which is November 1. Good Shepherd will transfer this prayer and these remembrances to the 3rd Sunday of End Times (November 15) which focuses on Saints Triumphant.

In addition to members of Good Shepherd who have been called to eternal rest, you may submit the names of your own loved ones who have died in the Christian faith between November 19, 2019 and November 15, 2020. When submitting these names, please include

1. the name of the deceased
2. your name
3. how he/she was related to you
4. the dates of his/her birth and death, if known

All names given by **Thursday, November 12** will be submitted in the bulletin. Names may still be submitted as late as Sunday morning, but will not be printed in the bulletin.

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Food Drive

Annually, Good Shepherd has been participating with the WELS congregations throughout Michigan for a food drive for the married students at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, alleviating their expenses while they study for the ministry and take care of their families. COVID-19 has made the collection of food prohibitive; the Seminary is not accepting such donations. Instead, they have asked us to take a monetary collection which will be exchanged for gift cards to be handed out to the students. Checks can be made out to "Good Shepherd" (designate it: Seminary), and we will send in one check from our congregation to Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Your contributions are appreciated by these students and their families.

NOTES from Huron Valley Lutheran High School (HVL)

Join HVL's Mailing List - Go to HVLHS.org and click on "Sign up for Newsletter" or call or email the school office at mail@hvlhs.org to be added.

International Host Families - We may have the possibility of enrolling additional international students for the second semester. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about hosting an international student this would be a great opportunity to try it out. Hosting would be needed from January-May, and families would receive a \$3500 stipend for the 5 months of hosting. Call the school office for more information.

CONCERNING PASTORAL CARE

Divine Services: We have in-person services on Sundays at 10:00 AM.

Online Worship: You can join in our services via Facebook Live (Sundays, 10 AM). You can find it here, or by searching for "Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church." Make sure you click to the one in Novi.

Archived Resources: We are posting our services on YouTube. A search for "Good Shepherd Novi" should bring up services. As always, sermon manuscripts are posted on the pastor's blog (www.LutheranSubject.blogspot.com). You can use the search bar to find a particular date, day of the Church Year, or Scripture reference.

Person-to-person care: Pastor Schroeder will be in his office to offer private devotions, Holy Absolution, and Holy Communion to members in small groups or to individuals. Please set up your visit by appointment at any time.

In case you contract COVID-19: Please contact Pastor Schroeder. He will alert the congregation so that your fellow members may pray for you, and he will keep everyone informed of your condition. If possible, Pastor Schroeder will visit you during your quarantine. At the very least, he will keep in contact with you and provide devotional materials. If you want to ask for intercessions for loved ones, we will certainly remember them in our prayers, too. If your loved one has no pastor, ask if they would like Pastor Schroeder to visit them.

SERVING THE MILITARY, THE INCARCERATED, AND THE MENTALLY DISABLED

Extend your ministry Can you imagine a young person leaving home, facing life and death situations and pressures to sin? It happens to our military members. Can you imagine someone who went to your Lutheran elementary school facing years in prison? WELS members and others we love get incarcerated. Do you have members with an intellectual or developmental disability (IDD) and wish that they experienced more Christian love? Please provide Special Ministries with contact information for your members who are in the military, incarcerated or have developmental disabilities. In less than a minute, you can connect a member who is not able to attend your church with WELS military ministry or prison ministry. A member who may be isolated because of his IDD will love being part of the He Cares / We Care program. Just go to wels.net/refer.

FREEDOM FOR CAPTIVES

Safety First Parents are looking for “safe” schools during COVID 19, but at all times informed parents are also alert to questions of safety from sexual abuse. They look for clues on websites and in your published information. Take steps to protect children in your school and church. Freedom for the Captives provides sample protection policies and resources at freedomforcaptives.com. Please take a few minutes to listen to what Anita, a WELS member who survived child sexual abuse, says in her Freedom for the Captives video at wels.net/abuse-prevention. For more information, email freedom@wels.net.

CALL FOR NAMES – SAINTS TRIUMPHANT

Every year, we remember the names of loved ones who have died in the Christian faith, praising God for the mercy he has had upon them and thanking God for preserving them in that saving faith throughout their life. Normally, the names of these departed souls are recalled in a prayer on All Saints' Day, which is November 1. Since Good Shepherd does not have a specific All Saints' Day service, we transfer this prayer and these remembrances to the 3rd Sunday of End Times which focuses on Saints Triumphant.

In addition to members of Good Shepherd who have been called to eternal rest, you may submit the names of your own loved ones who have died in the Christian faith between November 17, 2019 and November 15, 2020. When submitting these names, please include

1. the name of the deceased
2. your name
3. how he/she was related to you
4. the dates of his/her birth and death, if known

All names given by to Thursday, November 15 will be submitted in the bulletin. Names may still be submitted as late as Sunday morning, but will not be printed in the bulletin.

Christian Education

We encourage our members to utilize opportunities for Christian education, grounded in the Evangelical-Lutheran faith. While we do not own and operate a school on our property, we are able to enroll our children at the following schools.

St. Peter Lutheran School

(Pre-K only)
1343 Penniman Avenue
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 421-9022

www.splp.org

Becky Lohrmann, teacher

St. Paul Lutheran School

(Pre-K through 8th grade)
17810 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48152
(734) 453-0460

www.stpaulslivonia.org

Mr. Paul Leifer, principal

Huron Valley Lutheran High School

(9th grade thru 12th grade)
33740 Cowan Road
Westland, MI 48185
(734) 525-0160

www.hvlhs.org

Mr. Matt Foley, principal

SHUT-INS - Please remember our shut-ins in your thoughts and prayers.

Sylvia Campbell

1745 Wickhamn

Royal Oak, MI 48073

Jim Hobley

6950 Farmington Road

West Bloomfield, MI 48322

Margaretha Lester

935 Union Lake Road Apt. 218

White Lake Twp., MI 48386

Elaine Patton

42600 Cherry Hill Road, Rm. 115

Canton, MI 48188

Mary Zuehlke

29451 Halsted Road Apt. 118

Farmington Hills, MI 48331

WELS RADIO HOUR broadcasts 10:30-11:30 AM, Sundays, out of Lola Park Evangelical Lutheran Church of Redford. It airs on WLQV, AM 1500 and 92.7 FM. It is also simulcast on faithtalkdetroit.com and can be heard on the faithtalkdetroit phone app.

A LOOK AT THE UPCOMING SCHEDULE

OCTOBER *Note: All dates are subject to review, based on the COVID-19 updates.*

- 25 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
- 25 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
- 25 Nominating Committee Meeting – 11:15 AM
- 25 Reformation Rally at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Westland
 - Vespers – 5:00 PM
 - Dinner – 5:30 PM
 - Luther Lecture – 6:30 PM
- 28 Catechism Class – 3:30-5:00 PM
- 28 Bible Matters (Topic: Marriage: Still God's plan; still a good idea) – 7:00 PM

NOVEMBER *Note: All dates are subject to review, based on the COVID-19 updates.*

- 1 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
- 1 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
- 1 Sunday School Teachers' Meeting – 11:15 AM
- 3 Election Day (Good Shepherd serves as a polling place.)
- 4 Catechism Class – 3:30-5:00 PM
- 4 Bible Matters (Topic: Is it important that I'm special?) – 7:00 PM
- 8 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
- 8 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
- 8 Sunday School Teachers' Meeting – 11:15 AM
- 8 Elders' Meeting – 11:25 AM
- 9 Pastors' Circuit Meeting at Our Saviour, Westland – 9:30 AM – Noon
- 10 Redford Pregnancy Care Center Board Meeting – 3:30 PM
- 11 Catechism Class – 3:30-5:00 PM
- 11 Bible Matters (Topic: Are all judgmental people bad?) – 7:00 PM
- 15 Deadline for Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Student Aid
- 15 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
- 15 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
- 17 Redford Pregnancy Care Center Bible Study – 10:00 AM
- 17 Church Council – 7:00 PM
- 18 Catechism Class – 3:30-5:00 PM
- 18 Bible Matters (Topic: TBD) – 7:00 PM
- 22 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
- 22 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
- 22 Open Forum (in person and on Zoom) – 11:15 AM
- 22 Voters' meeting to follow Open Forum
- 25 Catechism Class – 3:30-5:00 PM
- 25 Thanksgiving Service – 7:00 PM
- 29 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
- 29 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)

DECEMBER *Note: All dates are subject to review, based on the COVID-19 updates.*

- 2 Catechism Class – 3:30-5:00 PM
- 2 Advent Vespers – 7:00 PM
- 6 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
- 6 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
- 6 Sunday School Teachers' Meeting – 11:15 AM
- 6 Church Decoration (?) – 11:20 AM
- 9 NO Catechism Class; memory work still as scheduled
- 9 Martin Luther Memorial Home Board Meeting, Lansing – 4:00 PM
- 9 Advent Vespers – 7:00 PM
- 13 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
- 13 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
- 13 Sunday School Teachers' Meeting – 11:15 AM
- 14 Pastors' Circuit Meeting at Our Saviour, Westland – 9:30 AM – Noon
- 15 Redford Pregnancy Care Center Bible Study – 10:00 AM
- 15 Church Council – 7:00 PM
- 16 Catechism Class – 3:30-5:00 PM
- 16 Advent Vespers – 7:00 PM
- 20 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
- 20 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:00 PM
- 25 Christmas Day Festival Service – 10:00 AM
- 27 NO Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
- 27 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)