

The Divine Service



"LOVE WORKS TO PRESERVE OUR NEIGHBOR." (Matthew 18:15-20)

16th Sunday after Pentecost



AD 2020, September 20

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 224 God Himself is Present

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/224>

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: **Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

C: **Amen**

THE FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 33:7-11

“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

Why Will You Die, Israel?

“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

M: The word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND LESSON Romans 13:1-10

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For 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." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

M: The word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

THE GOSPEL Matthew 18:15-20

M: The Gospel for today is from the Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter, beginning at the 15th verse.
C: **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

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 308 As Surely As I Live, God Said

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/308>

SERMON TEXT: MATTHEW 18:15-20

SERMON THEME: LOVE WORKS TO PRESERVE OUR NEIGHBOR.

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.

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:



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 494 Blest Be the Tie that Binds

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/494>

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Preacher & Celebrant

Pastor Thomas E. Schroeder

Organist

Jeanette Schneider

THIS WEEK AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Sunday (9/20) Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
Divine Service – In church at 10:00 AM; Facebook Live at 10:00 AM
Bible Information Class – 7:00 PM

Tuesday Redford Pregnancy Care Center Bible Study – 10:00 AM

Wednesday Bible Information Class – 1:00 PM via Zoom
Martin Luther Memorial Home Board Meeting, Lansing – 4:00 PM
NO Catechism Class (Memory work still to be done at home)
NO Bible Matters Session

Sunday (9/27) Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
Divine Service - In church at 10:00 AM; Facebook Live at 10:00 AM

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.

OFFICE HOURS

Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM – Noon. The pastor will be in his office unless a meeting has been scheduled elsewhere (consult the weekly schedule). He may be in his office at other times throughout the day as well. Pastor Schroeder 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 16th Sunday after Pentecost

During the benediction, you might notice the pastor holds his right hand differently. The ring finger and pinky are closed, while the index finger, middle finger, and thumb are extended. (Some pastors may have both right and left hands held this way.) Why that hand position for the benediction? Church artists have portrayed that particular hand position as the “hand of blessing.” Ecclesiastical art uses the hand of blessing being extended downward from a cloud as a symbol for God the Father. Jesus Christ is also pictured extending the hand of blessing in a number of paintings. Since the pastor is extending God’s blessing, he also uses the hand of blessing as a reminder that the blessing is the Lord’s, not his.

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS

The next scheduled Bible Information Class (BIC) will begin on Monday, September 21. Classes will be 7:00 – 8:30 PM.

This notice is given so that our members can consider whom they may invite to BIC. This class is for people who have questions about the Bible. There is no further obligation beyond that. If, on the other hand, you are convinced that we are teaching God's word correctly and faithfully, you are most welcome to become a member. There is no cost for the class. All materials are provided.

Call (248-349-0565) or e-mail (welsnovi@aol.com) to register for this class. The format may be in person (depending upon the comfort level of the participants) or over Zoom. The pastor will confirm the format with any interested parties.

The schedule for this class is:

9/21	God's Plan of Salvation	11/9	God Works through Holy Communion.
9/28	God Created a Beautiful Universe.	11/16	God Gathers His Church.
10/5	Why is the World So Crazy?	11/23	A Conversation with God.
10/12	How did Jesus Save the World?	11/30	Our Spiritual Heartbeat
10/19	The End is Coming!	12/7	Love the Lord your God
10/26	Why do We Need the Bible?	12/14	Love your Neighbor – Part 1
11/2	God Works through Holy Baptism.	12/21	Love your Neighbor – Part 2; Take Good Care

NOTE: Depending upon how many questions or discussions we have with the material, we may be able to complete more than one lesson in a session.

Taking the class does not obligate you to join our congregation. If you simply want to gain knowledge of the Bible, this class is for you. There is no cost. All materials are provided. Come with questions. Come with friends. Come and learn what God wants you to know.

Call (248-349-0565) or e-mail (welsnovi@aol.com) to register for this class.

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.

A LOOK AT THE UPCOMING SCHEDULE

NOTE: All dates will be confirmed the closer we get to them.

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

20 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
20 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
21 Catechism Class – 5:00-6:30 PM
21 Bible Information Class – 7:00 PM
23 Martin Luther Memorial Home Board Meeting – 4:00 PM
27 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
27 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
28 Pastors' Conference at Salem Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor – 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
28 Bible Information Class – 7:00 PM

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

4 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
4 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
4 Sunday School Teachers' Meeting – 11:15 AM
5 Catechism Class – 5:00-6:30 PM
5 Bible Information Class – 7:00 PM
11 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
11 HVL Conference of Congregations – 2:00 PM
12 Pastors' Circuit Meeting at HVL – 9:30 AM – Noon
12 Catechism Class – 5:00-6:30 PM
12 Bible Information Class – 7:00 PM
13 Redford Pregnancy Care Center Bible Study – 10:00 AM
18 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
18 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
19 Catechism Class – 5:00-6:30 PM
19 Bible Information Class – 7:00 PM
20 Church Council – 7:00 PM
25 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class – 8:45 AM
25 Divine Service – In Church at 10:00 AM (Facebook Live – 10:00 AM)
25 Reformation Rally at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Westland
Vespers – 5:00 PM
Dinner – 5:30 PM
Luther Lecture – 6:30 PM
26 Catechism Class – 5:00-6:30 PM
26 Bible Information Class – 7:00 PM

LWMS OFFERING

The LWMS (Lutheran Women's Missionary Society) will be collecting an offering to be applied to a mission supported by the WELS. This offering will be collected at church on Sundays, September 20 and September 27. If you are getting this bulletin online, you may send in any offering you choose to Good Shepherd (41415 W. 9 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375). The LWMS will be holding its Fall Rally online on Saturday, October 18 at 10:00 AM. Links will be publicized when they are received. More information about LWMS can be found at www.LWMS.org.

REDFORD PREGNANCY CARE CENTER UPDATE

The RPCC is seeking donations for gently used fall/winter clothing. We could really use 18 mo. - 4 T clothing. For more information, please contact Carol Beeskow (cbeeskow@gmail.com).

WELS LISTEN LIBRARY

A new online resource You may not think your church has any blind members. What about people who can no longer read your service folder or are too frail to hold a book or have dyslexia? WELS Mission for the Visually Impaired (MVI) posts audio versions of Meditations and Forward in Christ and Christian audio books on a new website called the "Listen Library" at listen.wels.net. You can see the Listen Library for yourself – it's open but the recordings are password protected. For members to listen online, download to their devices or order book or periodical on a USB flash drive, they (or someone in their family or church) applies to MVI. A Service Application form is on the Listen Library landing page. The National Library Service for the Blind has free digital players available to all who are blind. MVI continues to produce braille and large print materials. Coming soon: Professor Emeritus Daniel Deutschlander is recording his books for Listen Library clients to hear for free! Find out more about resources for members who can no longer read a book at wels.net/mvi.

Military Names Needed for WELS Military Services

I once walked past the tent of a WELS Soldier in the war zone without knowing he was there. Only later, when his father emailed me asking to see his son, did I learn of his existence. Because of the dangerous location he was in, I was not given clearance to return to that Forward Operating Base (FOB).

My message to deployed troops is: "Unless you are registered with WELS Military Services, you are invisible to us." That would be sad.

The family may know the address of the warrior. The home pastor may know. But unless WELS/ELS Military Services knows, its civilian chaplains will not know.

Besides face-to-face visits by the chaplain (sometimes over the Internet) WELS/ELS Military Services sends out weekly email devotions written with military people in mind, printed devotional materials written with military people in mind, printed devotional materials including the new Christian Service Member's Handbook, Meditations, and other spiritual helps. National Guard and Reserve troops are of special concern because they do not come from military congregations that ensure registration.

WELS/ELS troops are scattered around the globe right now, including aboard ships in some sensitive locations. We dare not neglect even one of them. Register military names with us at: www.wels.net/ref.

Drop me a note with questions or concerns at: militaryWwels.net. We live to serve our Lord by serving those who serve our country.

Rev. Paul C. Ziemer
WELS National Chaplain to the Military
Armed Forces Liaison of WELS
WELS Chaplain Certification Program
Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN

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.

Upcoming Events:

Sept 26 HVL Auction Program Premiere (7pm)
Oct 11 HVL Conference of Congregations Meeting (2pm)

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.

Crossing Bridges - HVL partners with our Detroit Mission, Palabra de Vida, to make scholarships available to our brothers and sisters at Palabra who desire a secondary Christian education for their children. Typically, HVL has 4-5 students coming from Palabra de Vida. If you are interested in sponsoring a student to attend HVL, please let us know.

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.

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

Sylvia Campbell	1745 Wickhamm	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](http://faithtalkdetroit.com) phone app.

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