

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

## Weekly Update

*Our mission is to be more visible, to become more connected,  
and to draw closer, with Christ as our center.*



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



**Wednesday, June 10, 2020**

Look with mercy, gracious God, upon people everywhere who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Rouse us from our complacency and help us to eliminate cruelty wherever it is found. Strengthen those who seek equality for all. Grant that everyone may enjoy a fair portion of the earth's abundance; this we ask through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ELW pg. 79

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may move every human heart; that the barriers dividing us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; and that, with our divisions healed, we might live in justice and peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ELW pg. 79

"We need to stop just pulling people out of the river. we need to walk upstream and *find out why they're falling in.*

Bishop Desmond Tutu

Reflective prayer and calm attention and awareness; what Advent calls "staying awake", are the practices of the Christian in troubled times.

We learned this from Jesus and his Hebrew tradition. Practicing is a call we have all been given. Let's practice...

LV  
PD

## Devotional for the week of June 7, 2020

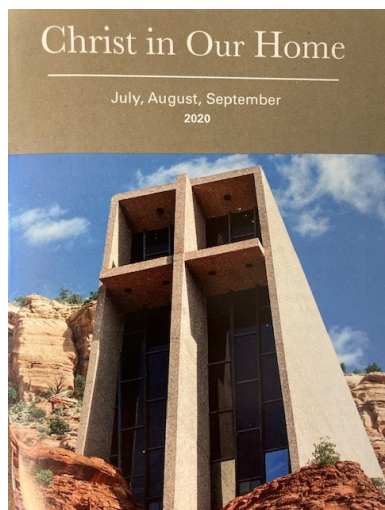
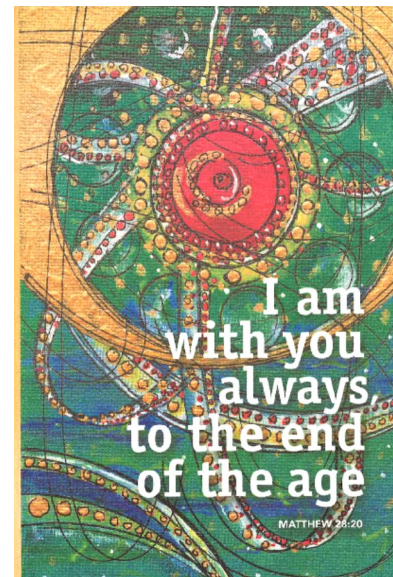
On this Trinity Sunday, we hear Jesus' final words to his disciples. They are words of sending, command, and blessing. They include the great promise, comfort, and empowerment: "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matt. 28:20).

The rest of Jesus' message is all about what happens *until* the end of the age. In the meantime, the church is active in sharing the good news, baptizing, and teaching the way of Jesus. This is done at Jesus' command and under his authority with people of all nations. The word "nations" doesn't quite capture the breadth of what Jesus means. The actual term in Greek is more expansive, including all ethnicities and cultures. Instead of a blank, monochromatic sheet of paper, the church is a colorful patchwork quilt of people pieced together, stitched together, and united in the love of Christ.

Today we celebrate that we know God as Trinity. The Trinity serves as a model for the life of the church: God is not one-dimensional, but multifaceted. The Trinity is not monochromatic, but rather a swirling, colorful dance. There is no division in the Trinity, but an indwelling of the Spirit, the gentle authority of Christ, and the blessing of the Father.

In a world that is often polarized and divided, and in which marginalized groups face persecution and strife, we are called as followers of Christ to live beyond borders and division. The church is to be a gathering of peoples made up of every type of human distinction. By gathering all varieties of people into Christ, we live into the embodied reality of our triune God. May we be emboldened to do so, knowing that we are accompanied and empowered by our Savior "to the end of the age."

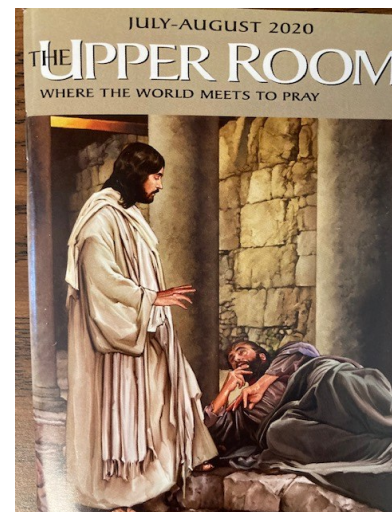
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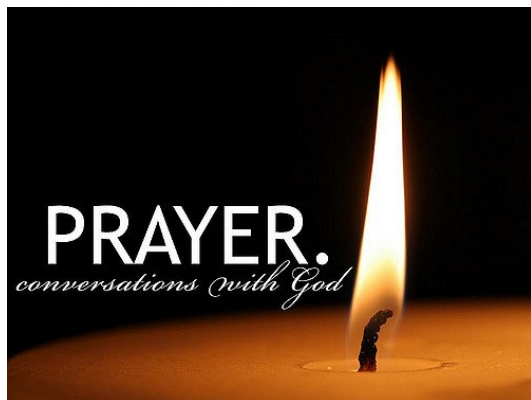


**Daily Prayer Guides** are available. The latest issues of **Christ in Our Home** for July, August, September 2020 and **The Upper Room** for July-August 2020 have just been delivered to church. If you would like a copy, please let us know. We are happy to set up a time for you to pick one up or to deliver it to you.

The Upper Room devotional guides are available online as well.

Go to <https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals> to download the prayer guide for each day.





## A Community of Prayer

*For those in need of healing and comfort:*

Members and Friends of the Congregation: Vicki, Peg, Marie, Karen, Pat, Billie, Audrey, Catherine, Elizabeth, Ray, John, Gordon, Miriam, Sarah, Chuck, Timmy, Bruce, Karl, Kendra, Mary Helen, Carolyn, Irma, Patricia, Cate, Misty, Julia, Sydne, Anna, Scarlet, Jason, Brian.

Military (on active duty), Fire fighters, and Police: Ryan, Teddy, Tyler, Ben, Kenny, Brian, Bill, Ken, John, Glen, and Vic.

Front Line workers in the COVID-19 pandemic: Diane, Alicia, Brittany, Loretta, Jay, Alyssa, Monica, Rachel, June.

*Lord, pour out your Spirit on all people living with illness, as well as their families, loved ones and caregivers. Help them to know that you claim them as your own; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.*

*He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.*

Psalm 147 vs. 3



**Congratulations** to Vic and Nancy Johnson on the birth of their grandson Luca! He was born on the same month and day as his mom! Blessings to all!

### **Do you wonder how to put a loved one, friend, neighbor, or yourself on the prayer list?**

*Simply email the church office at [office@gsllc-ct.org](mailto:office@gsllc-ct.org). If you would like a prayer card sent to your loved one, friend or neighbor, please include the full name and address. Prayer requests may also be made by phone (203-268-7596) and will be included by the church office.*

***For privacy, only the first name of each individual will be listed.***

### **Do you have something you would like to discuss with Pastor Doug?**

*Should you be in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Doug Ryniewicz by cell phone (860-595-9560—text if you like!) or by his email ([dearynos@gmail.com](mailto:dearynos@gmail.com)).*

## **Weekly Offering**



**As worship services have been cancelled for the near future, if you have a chance, please send your offering to the church to help with our expenses. Thank you for your contribution!**

**There are different ways to contribute. You may write a physical check and mail it via the post office. If you write a check, please include your offering envelope to help the counters process it correctly.**

**Another option is to use your bank's online checking and have the bank issue the check and mail it—it's most often a free service offered by banks. Check with the bank you use to see if this works for you.**

**Let us know if you have any questions, we are always happy to help.**



# **MORE!** **75,000** **FACE MASK** **CHALLENGE!**

## **Not all heroes wear capes. Some make face masks.**

Many people in developing countries don't have the option of social distancing or frequent handwashing to slow the spread of COVID-19. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now says cloth face masks, along with hand washing and social distancing may help reduce transmission.

We need your help to sew cloth face masks to help us reach men, women and children in vulnerable communities.

After all, Lutheran World Relief was founded 75 years ago to help neighbors around the globe who were suffering during World War II. What will be our generation's legacy during this time of crisis?



LWR issued this challenge to congregations to make 75,000 face masks for communities in need. The challenge was quickly met and raised to 150,000. We at Good Shepherd are doing our part to help and pledged to make 150 face masks for men, women, and children. This week we reached the goal and Pastor Doug will bless them during worship. We will then pack and mail them to LWR for distribution to those in need.



## Upcoming Events



Where: Zoom

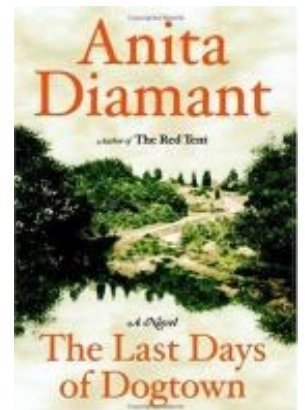
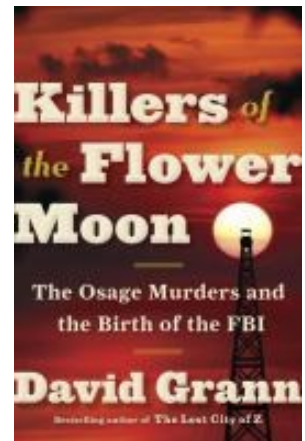
need to RSVP to Donna Duessel for Zoom invite  
anytime before 7 pm on Wednesday.  
[dduessel@hotmail.com](mailto:dduessel@hotmail.com)

When: Wednesday at 7 pm

What: **PD's Potluck Bible Study** - all are welcome, you can join us any week. We are exploring the gospel stories about the people who influenced Jesus, that is, how God formed Jesus and how God might form us.



**The Book Club** is meeting via Zoom and it was wonderful to "see" so many people! We will meet next on July 7th at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom and discuss "Killers of the Flower Moon" by David Grann. In August, we will discuss "The Last Days of Dogtown" by Anita Diamant. We welcome new members! Reply to this newsletter or contact Karen Jackson to be sure to be included in the discussion. The sessions are by invitation only to ensure internet safety guidelines are followed.

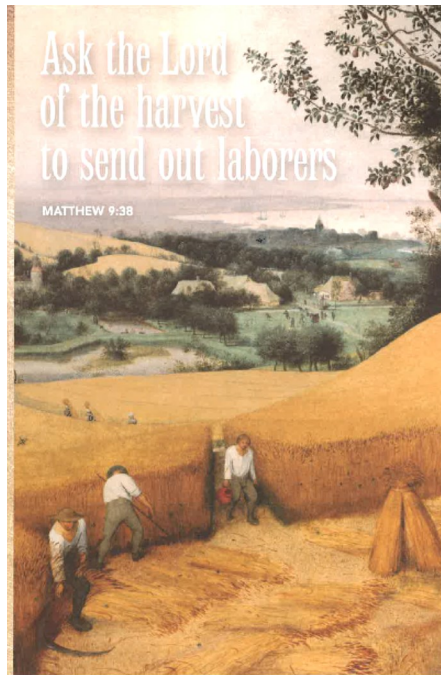


Readings for Sunday, June 14, 2020

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-8a

Psalm 100

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-8



Gospel: Matthew 9:35-10:23

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.