



GOOD NEWS  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Better End *of the Deal*

*What you gain following Jesus  
is always greater than what you give up.*

Service Focus:

**Endurance from resistance › Fatigue from compliance**

Good News Lutheran Church | Mount Horeb, Wisconsin  
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost | August 17, 2025



# GOOD NEWS

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Welcome!

We are grateful to have you with us for our service today. You have joined us for the most important time we spend together. Each time we gather as a family of faith, we make the gospel (or good news) of Jesus our central focus. We do so relying on Jesus' promise that, wherever two or three come together in his name, he is present among them to deliver his gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

### For Your Convenience

- » **The order of service** is printed in this folder. Large print copies are available from an usher. If a song is not printed in this service folder, it can be found in the blue hymnal located near your seat.
- » **Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the north of the atrium.
- » **Children** who are with us during the service are a source of joy and encouragement to us all. Children's activity bags are available in the atrium. If your child needs a moment, a nursery is available to the left out of the sanctuary doors. Let us know if we can offer a hand with your little ones.
- » **Hearing assistance** devices are available from an usher in the atrium.

*Should you have questions or need assistance, please ask an usher.*

### Service Leaders

Pastor of Good News: Jonathan Bauer

Vicar of Good News: Calvin Arstein

Pianist: Jonathan Bauer

Vocalist: Mark Pitzen

Instrumentalists: Lois Stecklein, Brock Havens

## Time of Year: Sundays after Pentecost

The Festival of Pentecost marks the transition from the first half of the Christian Church Year to the second. During this Sundays after Pentecost, our attention shifts from the life of Christ to the teachings of Christ. Jesus' words establish our faith, transform our hearts and minds, and guide our lives in him. The liturgical color is green for the spiritual growth the Holy Spirit works in our hearts through the Word.



## Current Series: Better End of the Deal

It's easy to think Jesus asks us to give up a great deal in order to follow him. There's a reason for that. He does. But no matter how much we might have to give up to follow Jesus, what we gain is always greater. Join us as we see how a life spent following Jesus is always an exchange of something less for something more.

July 20	Pentecost 6	Being served by Jesus > Serving Jesus
July 27	Pentecost 7	Praying God's promises > Praying our assumptions
August 3	Pentecost 8	Planting for later > Storing for now
August 10	Pentecost 9	Longing for the kingdom > Worrying about details
<b>August 17 Pentecost 10 Endurance from resistance &gt; Fatigue from compliance</b>		

## Service Focus

This week we see how God gives us the better end of the deal through the spiritual struggles he asks us to go through. Though unpleasant, these struggles produce endurance in the same way that training does for an athlete competing in a race. As a result, God compares these struggles to the sometimes-painful discipline a loving father naturally exercises with his children.

## Prayer before the Service

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# The Service



## Hymn

630 Thy Strong Word

*Stand*

*Both the  
invocation and  
sign of the cross  
are reminders of  
our baptism.*

## Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.  
**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

*Psalm 32:1-2*

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy** *Kyrie*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

*Having received the gift of the Lord's forgiveness, we now make our requests on the basis of his mercy.*

*Throughout the service, titles like "Kyrie" refer to the historic names for the ancient texts of the Church's liturgy.*

*Jesus said that the  
angels in heaven  
rejoice over one  
sinner who  
repents. In  
response to the  
repentance  
expressed through  
confession and  
absolution, the  
church sings as  
the angels sang on  
Christmas night:  
"Glory be to God  
on high."*

## Glory to God in the Highest *Gloria in Excelsis*

1 To God on high be glo - ry and peace to all the earth,  
2 O Lamb of God ex - alt - ed, you take all sin a - way;

for God has shown his fa - vor in Je - sus' ho - ly birth!  
ex - tend to us your mer - cy and hear us as we pray.

Al - might - y God and Fa - ther, our hum - ble thanks we bring;  
With God the Ho - ly Spir - it, at God the Fa - ther's throne,

we wor - ship you, we bless you, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
you reign, O Christ, for - ev - er, for you are Lord a - lone!

## The Word

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**



## Prayer of the Day

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Children's Devotion

### First Reading

Jeremiah 23:23–29

*The Lord's words  
have the power to  
divide what is true  
from what is false.*

<sup>23</sup>“Am I only a God nearby,”  
declares the LORD,

“and not a God far away?

<sup>24</sup>Who can hide in secret places  
so that I cannot see them?”  
declares the LORD.

“Do not I fill heaven and earth?”  
declares the LORD.

<sup>25</sup>“I have heard what the prophets say who prophesy lies in my name. They say, ‘I had a dream! I had a dream!’ <sup>26</sup>How long will this continue in the hearts of these lying prophets, who prophesy the delusions of their own minds? <sup>27</sup>They think the dreams they tell one another will make my people forget my name, just as their ancestors forgot my name through Baal worship. <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream recount the dream, but let the one who has my word speak it faithfully. For what has straw to do with grain?” declares the LORD. <sup>29</sup>“Is not my word like fire,” declares the LORD, “and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalms have been  
used by God's  
people in worship  
since the Old  
Testament.*

*The Church sings  
Psalm 4 as a cry  
for relief, peace,  
and joy in the  
midst of turmoil  
and distress.*

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 4

### Refrain



Teach me, O LORD, the way of your stat - utes.

Answer me when I call to you,  
**my righteous God.**

Give me relief from my distress;  
**have mercy on me and hear my prayer.**

Tremble and do not sin;  
**when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent.**

Offer the sacrifices of the righteous  
**and trust in the LORD.**

Many, LORD, are asking, "Who will bring us prosperity?"  
**Let the light of your face shine on us.**

In peace I will lie down and sleep,  
**for you alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen. Refrain**

*Adoption into  
God's family  
includes the often  
painful discipline  
that a loving  
Father carries out  
with his children.*

## Second Reading

Hebrews 12:1–13

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider



him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

<sup>4</sup>In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. <sup>5</sup>And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

“My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline,  
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,  
<sup>6</sup>because the Lord disciplines the one he loves,  
and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.”

<sup>7</sup>Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? <sup>8</sup>If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. <sup>9</sup>Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! <sup>10</sup>They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. <sup>11</sup>No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. <sup>13</sup>“Make level paths for your feet,” so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

1 Corinthians 15:58

*Refrain*



Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord,  
because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. *Refrain*

*By standing and singing “Alleluia” (Praise the Lord) as we prepare to hear the gospel, Christ’s people express their trust in his promise to be present among them through his word.*

*Jesus'  
determination to  
unite us with him  
will often divide us  
from each other.*

## **Gospel**

Luke 12:49–53

<sup>49</sup>“I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!  
<sup>50</sup>But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is  
completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but  
division. <sup>52</sup>From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other,  
three against two and two against three. <sup>53</sup>They will be divided, father against son  
and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother,  
mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-  
law.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **Hymn of the Day**

876 Fight the Good Fight

## **Sermon**

Hebrews 12:1–3

*Stand*

## **Apostles' Creed** *Credo*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **Installation of Ministry Council Members**

Craig LaPlante,  
Tom Hansel, Pat Thomas

### **Prayer of the Church**

Lord of hosts, you inspired your servant Jeremiah to proclaim your Word amid the lies of false prophets. Arm your servants in our day with the power of your Holy Spirit to contradict the lies of the enemy, and build up your Church upon the eternal foundation of your Word. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord God, your Son promises division even as he promises salvation. Inspire our hearts to prize our Baptism and the communion of the saints above all other relations in this world, even as we fervently pray and strive for the salvation of those we know and love. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of our fathers, you bless your Church with the enduring witness of your saints, who now rest from their labors. As we join their heavenly communion in our prayers and praise, grant that we would share their faith in Christ now and to life's end. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Hear us, most merciful Father, in these our humble requests, which we offer unto you in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## Offering

*Thank you for joining us! Ask a question, request information, or submit a prayer request at **GoodNewsLC.org/connect** (or scan the QR code on the back of the service folder). To support our ministry with an offering, visit **GoodNewsLC.org/give**.*

*Stand*

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*Known as the  
Aaronic Blessing,  
these words have  
been spoken to  
God's people for  
3,500 years.  
Wherever God's  
name is  
proclaimed, God  
promises to be  
present with his  
blessing (Numbers  
6:22-27).*

## Blessing

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.  
**Amen.**

## Hymn

### 844 Whate'er My God Ordains Is Right



1 What - e'er my God or-dains is right, his ho - ly will a -  
2 What - e'er my God or-dains is right, he ne - ver will de -  
3 What - e'er my God or-dains is right, though now this cup in  
4 What - e'er my God or-dains is right, here shall my stand be



bid - eth; I will be still what - e'er he does, and fol - low  
ceive me; he leads me by the pro - per path, I know he  
drink - ing may bit - ter seem to my faint heart, I take it  
tak - en; though sor - row, need, or death be mine, yet I am



where he guid - eth. He is my God, though dark my road;  
will not leave me. I take, con - tent, what he has sent;  
all, un - shrink - ing. My God is true, each morn a - new  
not for - sak - en. My Fa - ther's care is round me there;



he holds me that I shall not fall; and so to him  
his hand can turn my griefs a - way; and pa - tient - ly  
sweet com - fort yet shall fill my heart; and pain and sor -  
he holds me that I shall not fall; and so to him



I leave it all, and so to him I leave it all.  
I wait his day, and pa - tient - ly I wait his day.  
row shall de - part, and pain and sor - row shall de - part.  
I leave it all, and so to him I leave it all.

+ + +

## Acknowledgments

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## Serving You Today

Greeter(s):

Ushers: Dan Shinnick, Kevin Hanson

Fellowship Snacks: Hanson, LaPlante

Audio-Video: Christopher Kniprath

Church Cleaning: Bauer, Phillips

Counters: Dan Behringer, Paul Hodgson

Youth Assistants: Aliyah Chovanec Zoey Chovanec, Corinne Bauer

Nursery Care: Sadie Sutter, Elsie Sutter

## The News @ Good News

*August 17, 2025*

## Fall Kickoff Open House

On Sunday, August 24, we will kick off the various opportunities for spiritual growth coming up this fall. After the service, children and teens will have the chance to visit their classrooms, meet their teachers (and have their teachers meet them), do some fun activities and - of course - enjoy some food! In addition to accompanying their kids, adults will have the chance to browse the various Good News Groups opportunities coming up this fall. Plan to stick around after the service as we look forward to opportunities for spiritual growth this fall.

## **Fall Good News Groups Coming Soon!**

Another round of Good News Groups will be starting this fall. Good News Groups are great opportunities for our church family to connect, grow, and serve - up close and personal. Promotion and sign up will start on Sunday, August 25. If you have an idea for a Good News Group, we'd love to hear it! Visit [goodnewslc.org/ministry/good-news-groups](http://goodnewslc.org/ministry/good-news-groups) or talk to Pastor Bauer to get a group started.

## **Fall Festival on September 21**

On Sunday, September 21, we will be holding a Fall Festival following our Sunday service. That morning, musical guests The Lutheran Ceili Orchestra will be leading our service. The festival afterwards will include food from local vendors, and outdoor games and activities. The event is intended to be a great opportunity to invite our community (and friends, family, coworkers) to join us at Good News. Stay tuned for details on how you can help.

## **Collection for Compassion Crew Project**

Our Good News Compassion Crew is planning a project to assist with the rebuilding effort of Kurt's Kluckin' Koop, which was destroyed by fire after being struck by lightning last spring. The project includes building chicken nests and roosts for the new barn. We are hoping to collect \$500 to cover the cost of materials. To make a donation, go to our online giving page and select the Benevolence Fund for your gift. Gifts in excess of the amount required to build the nests and roosts will be used for other Compassion Crew projects.



# About Us

## Our Mission

Good News Lutheran Church was established in 2013 as a mission effort of Resurrection Lutheran Church in Verona. Our mission is to help people find relief from life's distressing noise by preaching, teaching, and sharing the Bible's good news.

## Our Contact Information

Physical Address: 9975 Pepper Drive  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 407  
Mount Horeb, WI 53572  
(608) 437-4646  
GoodNewsLC.org

## Our Ministry

Sunday Worship: 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Online Broadcast: 9:00 a.m. on our website, Facebook, and YouTube  
Bible Classes and Sunday School: Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

## Our Pastor

Pastor Jonathan Bauer  
Pastor@GoodNewsLC.org  
(608) 772-7500

**Let us know you were here!**



## Our Church Body

Good News Lutheran Church proclaims the truth about Jesus throughout the world as a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the Wisconsin Synod as well as the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).