



GOOD NEWS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

No 3rd Option

Jesus shuts the door on finding our own way.

Service Focus:

Be Helped or Be Helpless

Good News Lutheran Church | Mount Horeb, Wisconsin
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost | September 28, 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

Pianists: Amy Hansel

Vocalist: Biank

Instrumentalists: Sam Steinich, 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: No 3rd Option

Compromise has its place. Finding middle ground can be good. But when it comes to many of life's most important issues, compromise can be catastrophic and middle ground can collapse. That's why, in love, Jesus often presents us with just two options. He makes it clear we can have one or the other but not both.

August 24	Pentecost 11	Enter the Narrow Door or Stay Shut Out
August 31	Pentecost 12	Be Exalted or Be Humbled
September 7	Pentecost 13	Count the Cost or Quit
September 14	Pentecost 14	Serve God or Serve Money
September 21	Pentecost 15	Get Found or Get Left
September 28	Pentecost 16	Be Helped or Be Helpless

Service Focus

This week, Jesus tells us that we can either be helped or be helpless. It's natural to want to be in control and it's easy to fool ourselves into thinking we can be. Whether during this life or at its end, however, our time to be in control will come to an end. Our helplessness will be exposed, and our only hope will be the help God graciously promises and unconditionally offers.

Prayer before the Service

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; 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

833 I Run to Christ

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

1 John 1:8,9

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Absolution

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

After his resurrection, Jesus promised that when Christians forgive each others' sins, their words are as valid and certain as his. (John 20:22-23)

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

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

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

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

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.

*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

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Amos 6:1–7

Prosperity can lead to false security. God assures his people he can and will reverse the circumstances of the complacent.

¹Woe to you who are complacent in Zion,
and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
you notable men of the foremost nation,
to whom the people of Israel come!

²Go to Kalneh and look at it;
go from there to great Hamath,
and then go down to Gath in Philistia.

Are they better off than your two kingdoms?
Is their land larger than yours?

³You put off the day of disaster
and bring near a reign of terror.

⁴You lie on beds adorned with ivory
and lounge on your couches.

You dine on choice lambs
and fattened calves.

⁵You strum away on your harps like David
and improvise on musical instruments.

⁶You drink wine by the bowlful
and use the finest lotions,
but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.

⁷Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile;
your feasting and lounging will end.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

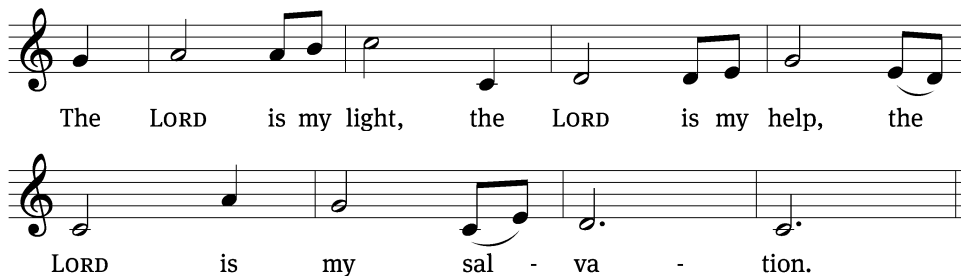
*Psalms have been
used by God's
people in worship
since the Old
Testament.*

*The Church sings
Psalm 146 in
services that
encourage trust in
the Scriptures
because they
testify about Jesus.*

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 146

Refrain



I will praise the LORD all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes,
in human beings, who cannot save.

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God.

He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets prisoners free,
the LORD gives sight to the blind.

The LORD reigns forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD.

**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**

Second Reading

Hebrews 13:1–6

*All Christian virtue
- including a
proper attitude
toward wealth -
comes from
knowing the Lord
is our help.*

¹Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. ²Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. ³Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

⁴Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you.”

⁶So we say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.
What can mere mortals do to me?”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 16:31

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.*

If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets,
they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead. *Refrain*

Gospel

Luke 16:19–31

¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores

*Prosperity and
poverty in life are
reversed eternally
in death.*

²¹and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²²"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

²⁵"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

²⁷"He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, ²⁸for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

²⁹"Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

³⁰" 'No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

³¹"He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

817 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

Sermon

Hebrews 13:1-6

Stand

Nicene Creed *Credo*

**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 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 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.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God, preserve us from the temptation of complacency, lest we confuse your undeserved mercy with sinful self-righteousness and replace repentance with revelry. Give to us penitent hearts that acknowledge our utter sinfulness and rejoice in your unmerited grace, that we might abandon all trust in ourselves and render all glory to your Son. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Father in heaven, you sent your Son who, for our sake, became poor with our debt of sin so that we by his poverty might be rich in holiness and grace. As you have so enriched us, enlighten our eyes to see those in poverty around us, and grant that our faith might be evident in love toward those in need. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O Lord, as you once gave Moses and the prophets so that people might hear your Word, continue to provide messengers to make your gospel known among the nations. Preserve those who currently serve within your Church, and raise up more workers to labor in the harvest. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we praise your name for your faithfulness to Abraham and to all the saints who have gone before us. Enliven us by your Word and Sacraments, that, convinced of Jesus' death and resurrection, we may eagerly await the day of our resurrection for his sake; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Amen.

Offering

Thank you for joining us in worship today! Please visit GoodNewsLC.org/connect (or scan the QR code on the back of the service folder) to let us know you were here. To support our ministry with an offering, visit GoodNewsLC.org/give.

Offertory

My Worth Is Not in What I Own

- 1 My worth is not in what I own,
not in the strength of flesh and bone,
but in the costly wounds of love at the cross.
- 2 My worth is not in skill or name,
in win or lose, in pride or shame,
but in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross. (Refrain)

Refrain

I rejoice in my Redeemer—
greatest treasure, wellspring of my soul.
I will trust in him, no other;
my soul is satisfied in him alone.

3 As summer flow'rs we fade and die;
fame, youth, and beauty hurry by.
But life eternal calls to us at the cross.

4 I will not boast in wealth or might,
or human wisdom's fleeting light.
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross. (Refrain)

5 Two wonders here that I confess:
my worth and my unworthiness.
My value fixed—my ransom paid at the cross. (Refrain)

The Sacrament

Holy Communion is a gift from Jesus intended to strengthen Christians' unity with God and express their unity with each other. If you are not a member of Good News, we would love to speak with you about the process for receiving Holy Communion with us in the future.

Stand

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.




It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

*In the presence of
the Triune God,
angels sing, "Holy,
holy, holy is the
Lord God
Almighty." (Isaiah
6:4). The Church
sings the same
song in
preparation for
Holy Communion,
firmly confessing
the Lord's
presence in the
Sacrament.*


Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus




1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to

death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to 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.**

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

*John the Baptist
saw Jesus and
said, "Look, the
Lamb of God who
takes away the sin
of the world" (John
1:29).*

O Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a
2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can - celled
cross to bleed and die, in per - fect love you took our
sin, has paid its price; your per - fect love will nev - er
place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.
cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

Be seated

Distribution

Those communing may come forward at the direction of the usher.

Distribution Hymn

662 Draw Near

814 Just as I Am, without One Plea

Stand

Psalm 118:1

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

1 Corinthians 11:26

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Be seated

*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).*

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): Behringer

Ushers: Cody Gorski, Dan Biank

Communion Setup: Lindsay Bauer

Fellowship Snacks: Phillips, Sutter

Audio-Video: Jon Schulz

Church Cleaning: Bauer, Phillips

Counters: Paul Hodgson, Lois Stecklein

Youth Assistants: Benjamin Biank. Jaxson Steinich. Easton Steinich

Nursery Care: Lindsay Bauer, Addison Bauer

The News @ Good News

September 28, 2025

Sunday School and Bible Study

Join us today for Sunday School and Bible study after the service. Sunday School starts at 10:15 a.m. with music in the sanctuary. Teen and adult Bible studies begin at 10:30 a.m. All classes conclude at 11:15 a.m. Join us for these weekly opportunities for people of all ages to grow in God's Word.



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

Give Online



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).

