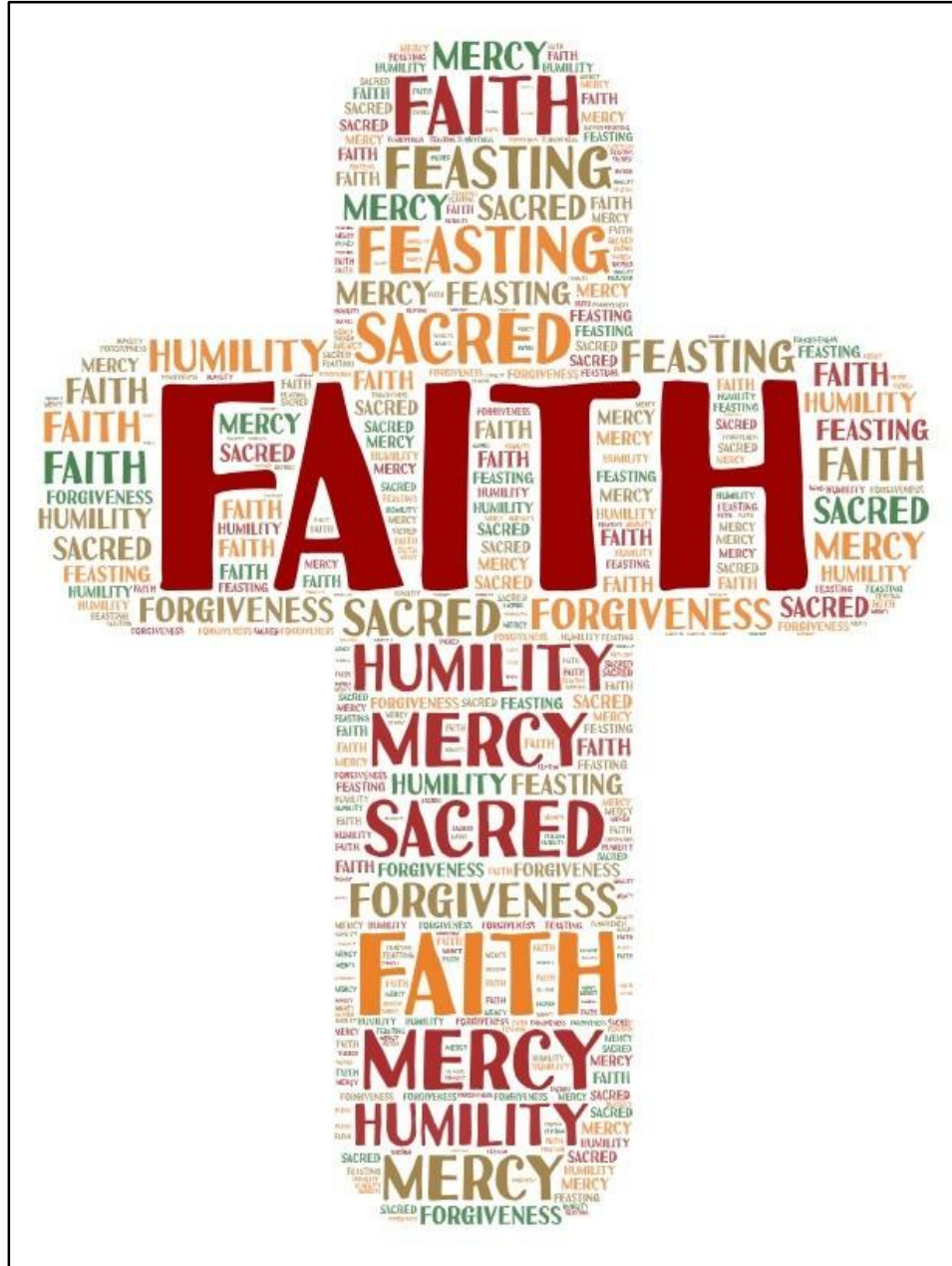


# Big Church Words: Faith



October 18, 2026 | 10:00am



Welcome! We're glad you're here!



If you are a guest and are interested in knowing more about this community and the ministries that Holy Shepherd is engaged in, please add your information on the clipboard located at the **Information Center** kiosk. You may add as much information as you'd like to share. We look forward to getting to know you!

Trusting God + Loving the World

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

## Prelude

## Welcome & Announcements

## Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

Compassionate God, **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**



**God is here! As we your people, meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure, what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit, into open minds and hearts.**

**Here our children find a welcome, in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant, seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living, to believe and to adore.**

**Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt,  
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!**

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## Prayer of Day

Sovereign God, **raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



## Musical Offering

*Gospel Grace*

- Raney

*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching & song*

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

## Scripture Reading

Isaiah 45:1-7

- <sup>1</sup> Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whose right hand I have grasped  
to subdue nations before him  
and to strip kings of their robes,  
to open doors before him—  
and the gates shall not be closed:
- <sup>2</sup> I will go before you  
and level the mountains;  
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze  
and cut through the bars of iron;
- <sup>3</sup> I will give you the treasures of darkness  
and riches hidden in secret places,  
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,  
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
- <sup>4</sup> For the sake of my servant Jacob  
and Israel my chosen,  
I call you by your name;  
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
- <sup>5</sup> I am the LORD, and there is no other;  
besides me there is no god.  
I arm you, though you do not know me,
- <sup>6</sup> so that they may know, from the rising of the sun  
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;  
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
- <sup>7</sup> I form light and create darkness,  
I make weal and create woe;  
I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Scripture Reading

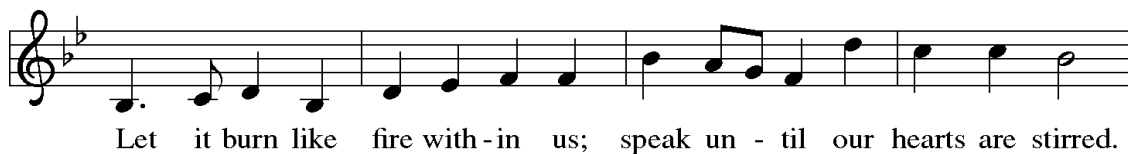
Thessalonians 1:1-10

- <sup>1</sup> Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace.
- <sup>2</sup> We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,  
constantly <sup>3</sup> remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of  
love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> For we know, brothers and

sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup> because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup> And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup> so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup> For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup> For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God <sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation



## Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup> The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup> So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup> Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" <sup>18</sup> But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup> Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup> Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" <sup>21</sup> They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to

them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup> When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

## Song

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3x)  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

## + Children's Time +



### Children's Church

Children age 3yrs – 4<sup>th</sup> grade.  
After children's message, meet  
the leader in back of church.



## Message

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon*

## Song

### **Come Thou Fount**

ELW 807

**Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory, fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be;  
let that grace now like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

# Prayers of the People

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

*Sung before and after all prayers*



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers  
and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Sharing God's Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## Great Thanksgiving

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

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

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

## Eucharistic Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. From age to age your creation sings your praises. You feed even the birds of the air, and you clothe the fields with lilies. You gave your blessing to Abraham and his descendants, and you spoke with Moses, Elijah, and David.

Blessed are you, Lord our God: **Blessed are you, Lord our God.**

You fulfilled your covenant with us in Jesus. He is Emmanuel, your beloved Son, the star that guides us to wisdom, the treasure hidden in a field. He is the landowner who overpays the workers, the judge who separates good from evil.

Blessed are you, Lord our God: **Blessed are you, Lord our God.**

For us he lived, for us he died, for us he rose to eternal life. Then and now he invites us to your banquet.

On the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

We hear his call, we repent our ways, and we enter with joy into the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you, Lord our God: **Blessed are you, Lord our God.**

Send your Holy Spirit here on your gathered disciples. Make of this meal the body and blood of forgiveness. Heal us and grant us your righteousness, that we may love you and serve our neighbors.

Blessed are you, Lord our God: **Blessed are you, Lord our God.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, our Father in heaven, the Rock on which we build, the Dove alighting on us all. We worship you and sing our praises, today and to the end of the age.

Amen. **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,**

**your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

# Invitation

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!



+ *All Are Welcome at the Table* +

## Options for receiving Holy Communion

Please come forward to the front where the pastors are standing. Come forward starting with the front pews, there will be no ushers. After you have received communion please exit by the side aisles and put your empty

cup in the basket. There are kneelers on each side where you are free to kneel and pray before you return to your seat. Bread (gluten-free) and wine or grape juice (center of the tray) will be given to you with the words spoken:

***“The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.”***

If you would like communion served in the pew, please signal to a pastor or let the usher in the back know.

***You are invited...*** To bring **offering** forward during Holy Communion or before or after worship  
The offering is gathered in front of the church in front of the communion table (altar) where we are reminded of  
God’s gifts given to us in Christ and our response to these gifts.

## Communion Song

ELW Setting 10



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

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**Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken**

ACS 966

**Loaves were broken, words were spoken  
by the Galilean shore.  
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven,  
was their food forevermore.**

*Refrain*

**By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,  
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

**Loaves were broken, words were spoken  
in a quiet room one night.  
In the bread and wine you gave them,  
Christ, you came as Light from Light. *Refrain***

**Loaves are broken, words are spoken,  
as in faith we gather here.  
Jesus speaks across the ages:  
"I am with you; do not fear!" *Refrain***

**By the loaves you break and give us,  
send us in your name to share  
bread for which the millions hunger,  
words that tell your love and care. *Refrain***

## Prayer after Communion

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

*God blesses us and sends us out in mission to the world.*

## Blessing

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.  
**Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**



Refrain

Take my life, that I may be, consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move, at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be, swift and beautiful for thee. *Refrain*

Take my voice and let me sing, always, only for my King;  
take my lips and let them be, filled with messages from thee. *Refrain*

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne. *Refrain*

Sending

Go in peace, God's reign is near.  
Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Worship Leadership

- Pastors .....Julie Brooks, Kim Gonia
- Pianist/Organist .....Chris Johnson
- Musical Offering ..... Handbell Choir
- Reader ..... Melinda Powelson
- Communion Assistants ..... Sue Scott, Gaylene Szaltzer
- Greeters ..... Kurt & Darlene Mader
- Usher ..... Jeff Watts
- Altar Guild ..... Joan Meister-Bridges
- Children's Church ..... Children's Church Team
- Worship Technology ..... Mike Madsen, Mark Lee
- Fellowship (October 18<sup>th</sup>)  
Set-up & Clean up: Bradsby's, Wanda Carlson, Christi Young
- Fellowship (October 11<sup>th</sup>)..... Set up/Clean up: Open

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## WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES

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**THANK YOU** for being considerate of disabled worshippers and their families. Please leave the pew cuts and several adjoining seats available for those with walkers & wheelchairs.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES** are located at the sound booth located in the back of the sanctuary on the east side. You can also download the app WaveCast Receiver which is designed for hearing aids with Bluetooth capability. See our sound engineer Mark, in the sound booth if you have any questions. (*Back of the sanctuary, SE corner*).

**CANDLE STATION** is available for candle-lighting. (*In the back of the sanctuary*).

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## RELATIONSHIP BUILDING (FELLOWSHIP)

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After worship, you are invited to get to know one another for the first – or 100<sup>th</sup> time, in the narthex (behind the sanctuary) or in the fellowship hall with coffee and snacks.

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## OFFERING

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Your financial gifts support Holy Shepherd and its vision to nurture trusting relationships with God and with one another, along with its vision to engage in generous activities that serve to love the world as Jesus has shown us. Cash, or checks made out to Holy Shepherd, can be placed in the front bowl by the front pews on your way to communion. (Envelopes are available in your pews if you'd like.) You can also scan the QR code to the left and give through Tithely. *Thank you for your generosity.*

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## KIDS

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**Kids Zone** (un-staffed) is available your family to use if you need a place to step out with kids during the service. It is located off the hallway west of the sanctuary and has a television available for watching the worship live-stream.

**Kid busy bags** are located in the narthex (outside the sanctuary) and contain kid friendly items for families to take into worship. Please return to the stand after worship.

**Children's Church** is offered after the kids, typically 3 years old to 4<sup>th</sup> grade, come up for *Children's Time* with the pastor. This optional activity is during the pastor's message and is led by an adult. It is located in the room just through the nursery off the west hallway of the sanctuary.

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## COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

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