Shepherd of the Hills LUTHERAN CHURCH

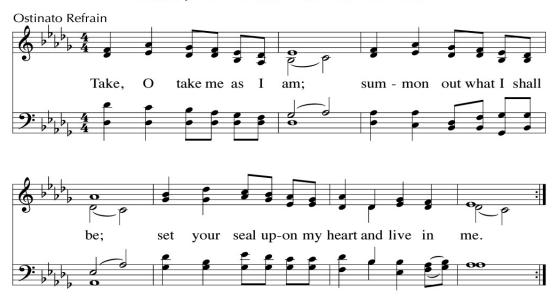
WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 GOD'S NAME IS REVEALED

WELCOME & GREETING

GATHERING HYMN | TAKE, O, TAKE ME AS I AM (REPEAT 3X) ELW 814







Text: John L. Bell, b.1949 Tune: John L. Bell, b.1949 © 1995, The Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

CALL TO WORSHIP

Siblings in Christ, let us call upon our God.

Come, O Holy I AM.

Our God, who is and was and will be, is with us in this place.

We sing our thanks and praise to God!

CONFESSION

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

Holy God, you have created us in your image, protected and nourished us, and called us into your work of justice. Yet while we profess these truths, we forget who we are and whose we are. We put our trust in ourselves, in material goods, and in worldly powers instead of trusting you. We prioritize our comfort over our neighbor's needs. Call us back to you, God. Forgive us our failings, and direct us back onto the path you would have us tread.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news, siblings in Christ. You have been created in wholeness, claimed in love, and forgiven according to God's boundless grace. Nothing—even the worst we do or fail to do—can separate us from the love of our God. Receive this forgiveness with joy, in the name of Jesus, our savior and friend. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of promise, you call us into your holy presence and entrust us with the work of caring for your beloved children—all of humanity and all of creation. Guide us, equip us, and inspire us to follow in your way, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

FIRST READING: EXODUS 2:23-25; 3:10-15; 4:10-17

Lector: After a long time the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned under their slavery, and cried out. Out of the slavery their cry for help rose up to God. God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God looked upon the Israelites, and God took notice of them. Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said,

Assisting Minister: I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up. When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, Moses, Moses!

Lector: And he said, Here I am. Then he said, Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground. He said further, I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said,

Assisting Minister: I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.

Lector: But Moses said to God, Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt? He said, I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain. But Moses said to God, If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them? God said to Moses, I AM WHO I AM.

Assisting Minister: He said further, Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.' God also said to Moses, Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations. But Moses said to the Lord, O my Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor even now that you have spoken to your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.

Lector: Then the Lord said to him, Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak. But he said, O my Lord, please send someone else. Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses and he said, What of your brother Aaron, the Levite? I know that he can speak fluently; even now he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you his heart will be glad. You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth; and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and will teach you what you shall do. He indeed shall speak for you to the people; he shall serve as a mouth for you, and you shall serve as God for him. Take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 8:58

⁵⁸Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am."

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON



Text: David Haas, b. 1957

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone. We live in God's world.

We believe in God:

Who has created and is creating;

Who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new;

Who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

To celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Confident that our God hears and answers our cries, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God, we are not always willing when you call. We make excuses, downplay our gifts, deflect and dodge the responsibility you ask of us. Equip and inspire us that we might move past our doubts and go boldly forth for the sake of your gospel. God of promise, hear our prayer.

We pray for your church throughout the world: For our bishops, pastors, deacons, and for all who serve in your name. Strengthen our congregation in faith and service. Bless and provide for the ministries you call us to support. May we be a place of welcome, learning, compassion, and generosity. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the beauty of the earth and the changing seasons. Teach us to care for the land, water, and all living creatures. Inspire us to live in harmony with creation and protect it for future generations. We pray for the firefighters in our state and nation as they fight the forest fires that plague our land. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace among nations and an end to violence and war. We lift up regions in conflict, especially Ukraine, Russia, Gaza, Israel, Sudan, Myanmar, and all others known to you. Guide world leaders to seek justice, reconciliation, and the dignity of all people. Gracious God, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are hungry, unhoused, unemployed, or oppressed. Open our hearts to respond with generosity and courage. May our faith be active in love and your justice and mercy be known through our actions. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

We lift up those in our faith family who are ill, recovering, or facing difficult diagnoses. We name before you: Pastor Phil, Brett Cotter, Rick and Kelly, Terry Schreier, Jim and Sally, Dave, Dorothy and Clover and all those we lift before you on our Prayer Chain. We also pray for those who care for them—family members, medical professionals, and caregivers—especially James Elkins and Kirk, Clare and Gwen Fallon. Surround them with your healing presence and peace. Gracious God, hear our prayer.

We pray for the work of the Joshua School and organizations like them. Bless and empower those who nurture the minds, bodies and spirits of children and adults living on the Autism Spectrum, and help us to help them reach their fullest potential. Gracious God, hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We remember those who have died and now rest in your eternal care. Comfort those who mourn, and keep us united with all the saints in the hope of resurrection. Gracious God, **hear our prayer**.

We lift all of these prayers, and those of our hearts, to your loving care, O God. Receive them and restore our hope in your promises, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

(Please share a sign of God's love and peace with each other.)

OFFERING/OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, you give us all we need to flourish, and we trust that there is enough for us and for all the world. Accept these gifts, given in gratitude, for the work of caring for all that you have made. Amen.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION THE THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We celebrate the Spirit of God, who hovered over creation and brought order out of formlessness. We celebrate the Spirit of God, who filled Jesus with power and wisdom and, through Him, made the life of God available to all. We celebrate the Spirit of God, who has been poured out on all people, and leads us into the Reign of God.

And so, as we gather at the Lord's table, we recognize the Spirit's Presence among us and we open our hearts to the Spirit's influence. Let us pray: Most Holy and Gracious God, we pray not only for ourselves, but for others—known and unknown, named and unnamed. Deliver to all the comfort and peace of your love that surpasses all understanding.

Bless our world, O Lord, and by your Spirit let your harmony and justice prevail. Bless our church, uniting us in the truth of your Word and empowering us in ministry to the world. Bless our family and friends, watching over and providing peace to them. Bless all who are suffering by embracing them in your loving arms. Bless each person here this morning, keeping us all faithful to you. Amen.

Lord, we come knowing that we depend on you for life and truth and love. We come knowing that you welcome us with open and accepting arms. We come ready to meet with you, and be changed by the encounter, remembering that the Lord Jesus, on the eve of His crucifixion, gathered his friends for a meal. During supper, he took a loaf of bread, gave thanks, 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."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and drink; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

So now, we eat and we drink and we remember Jesus and his great love for us, praying the prayer he taught us until he returns:

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.

Jesus, who was before the world came into being, and who still is, invites us in the here and now to into his holy presence, as Moses to the burning bush. Come to the table and be fed for the journey ahead.

SHARING THE MEAL

This is the body of Christ, broken in love for you.

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text and music © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.

This is the blood of Christ, poured out in forgiveness of you.

COMMUNION HYMN | BY YOUR HAND YOU FEED YOUR PEOPLE

ELW 469



POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

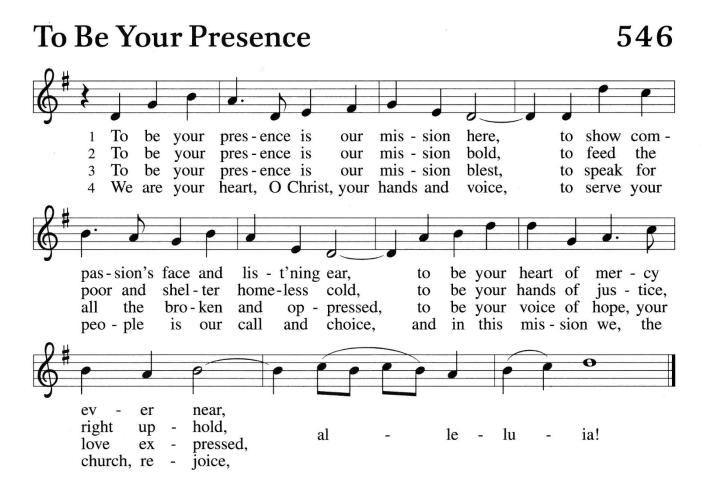
CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN | TO BE YOUR PRESENCE

ELW 546



Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939 Music: Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924 Text © 2000, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc. ENGELBERG 10 10 10 and alleluia

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all.

Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

CLICK LINK TO ACCESS READINGS, SERMONS & SPECIAL EVENTS FROM PAST SUNDAYS:

HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@SHEPHERDOFTHEHILLSLUTHERAN6221/VIDEOS

WORSHIP RESOURCES:

CALL TO WORSHIP — NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2025 CLERGY STUFF

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS — EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP BOOK

PRAYER OF THE DAY — NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES, COPYRIGHT © 2025 CLERGY STUFF

SCRIPTURE READINGS — NEW REVISED STANDARD BIBLE, UPDATED EDITION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD — ERIC MILNER WHITE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — RE-WORSHIP, UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

GREAT THANKSGIVING — FPCSPARTANBURG.ORG, AS ADAPTED.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION – NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES, COPYRIGHT © 2025 CLERGY STUFF

BLESSING & BENEDICTION – JOANNA HARADER, AS ADAPTED

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: CAROLINE MICHALAK

ALTAR GUILD: GERRY & KEN MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY

ASSISTING MINISTER: DICK WERPY

LECTOR: CHRIS BLUM
PASTOR: REV. JANET KETTERING
PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF
ZOOM TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

SHEPHERD HAPPENINGS: SEPTEMBER 28 – OCTOBER 5, 2025

Sunday, September 28th-God's Name Is Revealed

9:30 a.m. - Hybrid In Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion Coffee and Conversation immediately following Worship

Wednesday, October 1st

11:00 a.m. - Amazing Grace Bible Study:

<u>Sermon on the Mount: Jesus' Alternative Plan</u>

Friday, October 3rd

7:00 a.m. – Men's Zoom Breakfast Bible Study 5:00 p.m. – Friday Night Perspectives Zoom Gathering

Sunday, October 5th-God Provides Manna

9:30 a.m. – Hybrid In Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion Coffee & Conversation immediately following Worship SEPTEMBER/
OCTOBER
BIRTHDAYS
JIM E. 9/9
SCOTT F. 9/24
KEN M. 10/7
RON L. 10/7
BOB S. 10/20
RICK M. 10/30

JOIN OUR PARDES LEVAVOT SIBLINGS FOR A VIRTUAL* HIGH HOLIDAYS

In our Orchard of Hearts this year we will welcome the New Year with a contemplative ritual that is sourced in the rhythms and themes of our liturgy, even as it is completely new.

Erev Rosh HaShanah – Monday, Sept 22: 6:00 – 7:00 pm Rosh HaShanah Day – Tuesday, Sept 23: 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Kol Nidre – Wednesday, Oct 1: 6:30 – 8:00 pm **Yom Kippur morning –** Thursday, Oct 2: 10: 00 am – 1:00 pm **Yom Kippur afternoon:** 5:00 – 7:00 pm

*We have made the difficult decision to meet on Zoom this year.

Gathering in Jewish community has become risky. Armed security is recommended for all Jewish communal events. This is beyond our means, and we cannot put our beloved congregation, the Joshua School, or the community of Shepherd of the Hills in jeopardy.

We hope you'll join us on Zoom. Register HERE for the Zoom link.

DAILY REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS: WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

(CLICK ON SCRIPTURE REFERENCE TO GO TO TEXT!)

Monday, September 29, 2025

https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/exodus-628-77-moses-and-aaron-obey-gods-commands2025

Exodus 6:28 – 7:7 Moses and Aaron Obey God's Command

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/exodus-121-13-the-first-passover2025

Exodus 12:1-13 The First Passover

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/exodus-1229-42-death-of-the-firstborn2025

Exodus 12:29-42 Death of the Firstborn

Thursday, October 2, 2025

https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/exodus-1317-22-the-pillars-of-cloud-and-fire2025

Exodus 13:17-22 The Pillars of Cloud and Fire

Friday, October 3, 2025

https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/exodus-141-25-crossing-the-red-sea2025

Exodus 14:1-25 Crossing the Red Sea

Saturday, October 4, 2025

https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/exodus-161-18-god-provides-manna2025

Exodus 16:1-18 God Provides Manna

Sunday, October 5, 2025

https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/exodus-1813-27-jethros-advice2025

Exodus 18:13-27 Jethro's Advice



WELCOME! Thank you for worshiping with us today!

GUESTS

Please sign our Guestbook and/or fill out the brightly-colored Info Slip and place it in the offering plate. This helps us get to know you better so that we can serve you more effectively.

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED PRAYERS?

Prayer Changes Things. The Shepherd Prayer Chain members stand by ready to help. You'll find our Prayer Box on the table to your left as you enter the building, as well as paper and pencils. Please write your prayer request and place it in the box. *You are not required to sign your request or give the name of the person for whom we will pray, unless you wish.* If you desire a private conversation with Pastor Janet, please contact the Church Office or call her on her cell phone at 507-360-1625. **All prayer requests will remain confidential.**

CHILDREN ARE CHERISHED AT SHEPHERD!

In our Sanctuary, you'll see a coloring table and soft toys. Children's bulletins are available on the table just outside the Sanctuary. If at any time you wish to take your child out for some quiet time, our Nursery/Library is stocked with supplies for playing, coloring, studying the Children's Bulletin, or reading.

REMEMBRANCE

On the north wall of the Sanctuary a table is set with candles. You are invited to light a candle in memory of a loved one at any time before, during, or after our worship service.

COMMUNION

At Shepherd of the Hills, we recognize that the Table of Communion is not our table. It is not a Lutheran table. It is our Lord's Table — a meal prepared for all — prepared in love. *Please come*. All who long for the Good News in Jesus Christ are truly welcome at this table. As Jesus called children to be close to him, we, likewise, extend this invitation to all children. Should you not feel comfortable receiving the Sacrament, please come forward indicating that you wish to receive a blessing by folding your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION OUTSIDE OF WORSHIP

Arrangements can be made to bring communion to you at a time convenient for you. If, for any reason, you are unable to attend normal services, such as a hospital stay or for personal reasons, and wish to have communion brought to you, please contact the Church Office, Pastor Janet at 507-360-1625, or Dick Werpy at 720-771-6767.

MEMBERSHIP

At Shepherd, we worship as one Faith Family. If you wish to extend your worship to include membership, please see Pastor Janet.

Shepherd of the Hills LUTHERAN CHURCH

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

THE MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE

PASTOR: REV. JANET COLBY KETTERING

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: CAROLINE MICHALAK

ALTAR GUILD: KEN & GERRY MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY ASSISTING MINISTERS: TIM KIRCHOFF, DICK WERPY & JOHN YARBERRY

PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF

PRAYER CHAIN ADMINISTRATOR: KATHY WOOTTON

SHEPHERD COUNCIL:

JOHN YARBERRY, PRESIDENT DICK WERPY, VICE-PRESIDENT KELLY MAUER, SECRETARY TERRY SCOBY, TREASURER

WAYNE OTTO & JIM TIMMERMANN, BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

JANICE IRISH, MICHELLE KIRCHOFF, CINDIE SCOBY & PASTOR JANET KETTERING

ZOOM TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

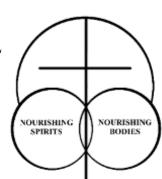
Marked by the Cross of Christ Forever, I

† Gather in Love

t Grow in Faith

t Share God's Love & Grace

† We are Empowered to BOLDLY Proclaim & Witness God's Word



7077 Harvest Road, Boulder, CO 80301 Office: 303-530-4422

Email: shepherdboulder@gmail.com Website: www.shepherdboulder.org

Check out our Facebook page at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran