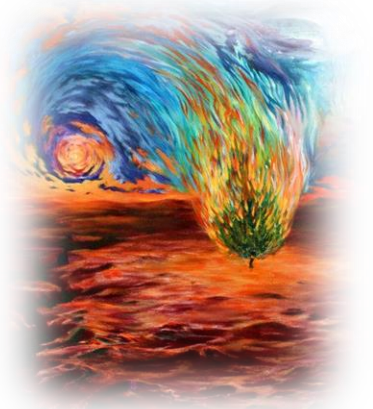


SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS AT HOME WORSHIP
SEPTEMBER 28, 2025
GOD'S NAME IS REVEALED

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.



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

²³After 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. ²⁴God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ²⁵God 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. ²There 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. ³Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He 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.

⁷Then the Lord said, "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, ⁸and 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. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹²He 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." ¹³But 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?" ¹⁴God said to Moses,

"I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I Am has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵God 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.

¹⁰But 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." ¹¹Then 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? ¹²Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak." ¹³But he said, "O my Lord, please send someone else." ¹⁴Then 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. ¹⁵You 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. ¹⁶He indeed shall speak for you to the people; he shall serve as a mouth for you, and you shall serve as God for him. ¹⁷Take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: 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.

REFLECTION BY ASSISTING MINISTER DICK WERP

As I read the readings for this week, the part that spoke the most to me was Exodus 4: 10-17. In that section of the readings, I saw 3 ideas about how God calls us, reassures us and equips us for the things he calls us to do.

Even Moses, the man God chose to confront Pharaoh, felt unqualified. He told God, "I am slow of speech and tongue," convinced his stutter disqualified him. That moment teaches us that doubt isn't a disqualifier—God calls people with real insecurities. When He introduces Himself as the great "I AM," He's saying, "I exist beyond your limitations, and I'll fill in the gaps."

Moses didn't go it alone. God immediately pointed to Aaron—his brother and co-leader—saying, "He will be your mouth." We all need someone to walk alongside us: a friend who encourages our dreams, a mentor who guides our steps,

a teammate who walks with us. Life can feel like a solo sprint sometimes, but Scripture shows it's a relay race. God often gives us community so we don't collapse under the weight of our own fears.

To equip Moses, God handed him a simple shepherd's staff—the very tool he'd used as a shepherd. That staff became the sign through which plagues and partings happened. In our lives, God hands us tangible “staffs” too: our gifts, our passions, even our phones and laptops, tools to share His story. When we yield those tools to the great, I AM, He transforms everyday objects into vessels of His power and presence. During the CO-VID times he gave us Zoom as a tool to worship together and we have been able to continue to worship together even though we live all across America.

At every turn, the “I AM” reminds us that God's name is His promise: He is with us, for us, and before all else. Our Gospel lesson reminds us that Jesus is and always was a part of the Great “I AM”. When Moses felt small, God said, “I AM who I AM,” anchoring Moses in His unchanging presence. Whether you're facing a call to help a friend, a medical issue, or a tough conversation, remember that the same “I AM” walks with you. His call, your community, the tools He gives, and His steadfast presence together make the impossible possible.

HYMN OF THE DAY | YOU ARE MINE

<https://youtu.be/SGM9LKTNQMC?feature=shared>

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.**

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.**

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.

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:
Sermon on the Mount: Jesus' Alternative Plan

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 BIRTHDAYS

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-pasover2025>

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

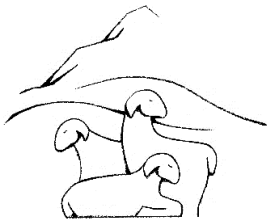
TERRY SCOBY, TREASURER

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, we

† *Gather in Love*

† *Grow in Faith*

† *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