

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS AT HOME WORSHIP

JULY 5, 2026

RUTH MEETS BOAZ



PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of compassion, your love is spread when members of the community come together. Show us how to make ourselves available for the needs of others, and to receive the gracious gifts of others, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: RUTH 2:1-23

Now Naomi had a kinsman on her husband's side, a prominent rich man, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain, behind someone in whose sight I may find favor. She said to her, Go, my daughter. So she went. She came and gleaned in the field behind the reapers. As it happened, she came to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. Just then Boaz came from Bethlehem. He said to the reapers, the Lord be with you. They answered, The Lord bless you. Then Boaz said to his servant who was in charge of the reapers, To whom does this young woman belong? The servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, She is the Moabite who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. She said, "Please, let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the reapers." So she came, and she has been on her feet from early this morning until now, without resting even for a moment.

Then Boaz said to Ruth, now listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. Keep your eyes on the field that is being reaped, and follow behind them. I have ordered the young men not to bother you. If you get thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn. Then she fell prostrate, with her face to the ground, and said to him, why have I found favor in your sight, that you should take notice of me, when I am a foreigner? But Boaz answered her, all that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before.

May the Lord reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge! Then she said, may I continue to find favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, even though I am not one of your servants. At mealtime Boaz said to her, come here, and eat some of this bread, and dip your morsel in the sour wine. So she sat beside the reapers, and he heaped up for her some parched grain. She ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over. When she got up to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, let her glean even among the standing sheaves, and do not reproach her. You must also pull out some handfuls for her from the bundles, and leave them for her to glean, and do not rebuke her. So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. She picked it up and came into the town, and her mother-in-law saw how much she had gleaned. Then she took out and gave her what was left over after she herself had been satisfied. Her mother-in-law said to her, where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you. So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked, and said, the name of the man with whom I worked today is Boaz. Then Naomi said to her daughter-in law, blessed be he by the Lord, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead! Naomi also said to her, the man is a relative of ours, one of our nearest kin. Then Ruth the Moabite said, He even said to me, "Stay close by my servants, until they have finished all my harvest." Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, it is better, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, otherwise you might be bothered in another field. So she stayed close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests; and she lived with her mother-in-law.

PSALM 34:1-8

- ¹ I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- ² **My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**
- ³ O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together.
- ⁴ **I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.**
- ⁵ Look to him, and be radiant,
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- ⁶ **This poor soul cried and was heard by the Lord
and was saved from every trouble.**
- ⁷ The angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him and delivers them.
- ⁸ **O taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.**

HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 6:36-38

³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY | WE ARE CALLED

ELW #720

<https://youtu.be/CDLjPsRIrYO?is=Wj4E6ROGSafkQI7>

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Confident that God acts on our behalf, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. (*A brief silence*).

God of kinship, by working together, Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz protected one another, and they participated in the incarnation of your son, Jesus. Give us hearts that desire cooperation and collaboration, so that others may be loved, supported, and protected. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Love and protect all the amazing things in your great creation, Lord, and show us how to participate in the tender stewardship of all that you have made. Grant relief from the heat which threatens the lives of your people and fill us with wisdom and the desire to restore the damage we've done to the Creation you've entrusted to us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protect those who sacrifice to preserve lives and property from the wildfires currently burning across the US and Canada. Bring comfort and strength to the families of the fire fighters whose lives have recently been lost. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Show the leaders of this world how to govern in ways that encourage empowerment, cooperation, and community, so that all may be lifted up in your kingdom. We pray for the world, and especially those engaged in war: the United States, Israel, Iran, Ukraine, Russia, and all others known to you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Pour your healing rain upon all who are in need, who suffer from illness, grief, isolation, disempowerment, and abuse. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Knit this world together into one community, united in your name, doing the works of your hands, and the will of your heart. We pray especially for George and Jessika Crawford, Carl Chaney, Chris Newkirk, Devon Warren, Pastor Phil, Matt Melton, Rick and Kelly, Terry Schreier, Jim and Sally, Dave, Dorothy, Clover, and all those named on our Prayer Chain. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of provision, we pray for strength for all those who provide care for their loved ones, especially James and Chris Elkins, and Kirk, Clare, and Gwen Fallon. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of wholeness, we pray for the work of the Joshua School. May our relationship with them reflect your love and care for those with special needs. We pray that all those on the Autism Spectrum, especially those in our faith family, might find fulfillment, joy, and love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With grateful praise we thank you for the saints who have gone before us, teaching us how to live with mercy, kindness, and compassion. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With gratitude for your faithfulness, we pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

May the LORD go with you wherever you go. May His people be your people and He your God. May His presence be your home in times of uncertainty and may He give the courage to follow His leading wherever it takes you. **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.

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

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@SHEPHERDOFTHEHILLSLUTHERAN6221/VIDEOS](https://www.youtube.com/@shepherdofthehillslutheran6221/videos)

SHEPHERD HAPPENINGS: JULY 5 – JULY 12, 2026

Sunday, July 5th– Ruth Meets Boaz

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

Wednesday, July 8th

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

Friday, July 10th

7:00 a.m. – Men’s Zoom Breakfast Bible Study

5:00 p.m. – Friday Night Perspectives Zoom Gathering

Sunday, July 12th – The Threshing floor

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

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JULY</u> <u>BIRTHDAYS</u> JESSIKA C. 7/19 PAULA B. 7/21 FUZZ N. 7/27 ERIC M. 7/28</p>

DAILY NARRATIVE LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 5, 2026

Monday, July 6, 2026

Ruth 2:1-3 Ruth meets Boaz in the field

Tuesday, July 7, 2026

Ruth 2:4-7 Boaz takes notice of Ruth

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

Ruth 2:8-13 Boaz’s kindness to Ruth

Thursday, July 9, 2026

Ruth 2:14-16 Ruth shares her meal with Naomi

Friday, July 10, 2026

Ruth 2:17-23 Ruth returns home with her gleanings

Saturday, July 11, 2026

Psalm 34:1-8 Taste and see that the Lord is good

Sunday, July 12, 2026

Ruth 3:1-18 Daring to act

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 or Pastor Janet at 507-360-1625.

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: RAEANNE MILLER, KEN & GERRY MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY

ASSISTING MINISTERS: TIM KIRCHOFF & REV. PHIL KETTERING

PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF

PRAYER CHAIN ADMINISTRATOR: KATHY WOOTTON

SHEPHERD COUNCIL:

MICHELLE KIRCHOFF, PRESIDENT

JANICE IRISH, VICE-PRESIDENT

KELLY MAUER, SECRETARY

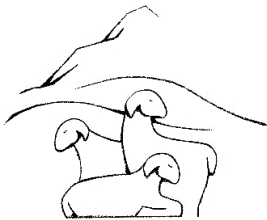
REV. PHIL KETTERING, TREASURER

JIM TIMMERMANN, BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

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



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Check out our Facebook page at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran