

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS AT HOME WORSHIP

OCTOBER 4, 2026

EPHESIANS 4:1-16: UNITY OF THE CHURCH



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Giving God, you have equipped your children with a variety of gifts. Some are quiet, and some are loud. Some lead, and some follow. Some teach, and some learn. Help us access the gifts you have given to us, so that we might live with gratitude and faith. Amen.

FIRST READING: EPHESIANS 4: 1-16

I therefore, Paul, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ...with all humility and gentleness, ...with patience,...bearing with one another in love, ...making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, ...just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,...one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "when he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, ...for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God,...to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,...from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 24:1-6

- ¹ The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it,
² **For he has founded it on the seas
and established it on the rivers.**
³ Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
⁴ **Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false
and do not swear deceitfully.**
⁵ They will receive blessing from the Lord
and vindication from the God of their salvation.
⁶ **Such is the company of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-14, 24b-26

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.

But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member,
²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 13:34-35

³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY | WILL YOU LET ME BE YOUR SERVANT
<https://youtu.be/OCbVO23IPL4?is=JLFY0ZFGGe6FUQGP>

ELW #659

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With full confidence that your ear is open to us, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. *(A brief silence).*

God of diversity, what a gift that you have given your children a variety of talents and desires! Help us to tap into our potential so that our lives might shine your glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

What a gift that you have given us an earth that sustains life! Help us to nurture your creation so that life might sustain the earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

What a gift that you have equipped many of our world's leaders to serve in your name! Help us to choose our leaders with discretion, so that your work may be done in this world. We pray for all the world, and especially those engaged in the devastation of war: the United States, Israel, Iran, Ukraine, Russia, and all others known to you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Remind us that there are parts of the world, everywhere in the world, that are slaves to the messages of the world. Make us instruments of peace and love so that none are forgotten. Give us hearts to remember those whose lives are so different from ours that forgetting seems easiest. Help us to never forget and turn our remembering into action. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

What a gift that you can bestow healing of body, mind, and spirit. Help us to care for one another, to participate in the act of healing, and comfort each other when we grieve. We pray especially for Terry and his family, Ken, Dorothy, Ben, George and Jessika, Carl, Devon, Matt, Brett, Jim and Sally, Dave, and all those named on our Prayer Chain. Help us to offer with grace and compassion the love and care they need for healing and wholeness, as well as support for all those who provide care for them, especially James and Chris Elkins, and Kirk, Clare, and Gwen Fallon. Where there is no earthly healing, comfort us in our grief. Where there is restoration, rejoice with us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Through the needs of others, you extend your grace into the world. 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.**

What a gift that you have made this world with such a diversity of views, cultures, and lifestyles! Help us to honor our differences, and revel in our similarities. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With all the saints we celebrate your colorful world, rich in diversity, and strong in unity. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We know you are good. We know you are God. With gratitude and confidence we pray all these things in the name of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

Go out now to share God's purpose revealed in Jesus the Christ.

Share that purpose with others by the way you live:

With the words on your lips and the deeds of your hands;

with the prayers in your minds and through the love in your hearts.

The grace of Christ redeems you. The enduring love of God supports you.

The friendship of the Holy Spirit accompanies you, this day and ever more.

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: OCTOBER 4 – OCTOBER 11, 2026

Sunday, October 4th – Ephesians Summer Series: Unity of the Church

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

Wednesday, October 7th

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

Friday, October 9th

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

9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Red Cross Blood Drive at Shepherd

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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

EVERETT 10/3

KEN M. 10/7

BOB S. 10/20

RICK M. 10/30

Sunday, October 11th – Ephesians Summer Series: Armor of God

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



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

AUDIO TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

COUNTER: ERIC MICHALAK

PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF

PRAYER CHAIN ADMINISTRATOR: KATHY WOOTTON

SHEPHERD COUNCIL:

MICHELLE KIRCHOFF, PRESIDENT

JANICE IRISH, VICE-PRESIDENT

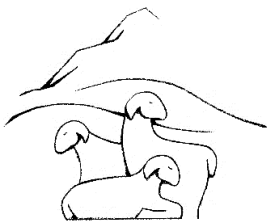
KELLY MAUER, SECRETARY

REV. PHIL KETTERING, TREASURER

JIM TIMMERMANN, BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

PASTOR JANET KETTERING

OUR MISSION STATEMENT



Marked by the Cross of Christ Forever, we

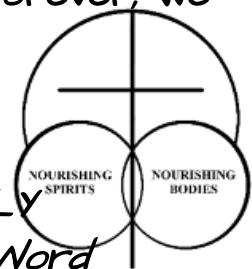
† *Gather in Love*

† *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

Bread Belonging

Bread+Belonging is a campus ministry partnership between Lutheran Campus Ministry and St. Aidan's Episcopal Church.

We offer students:

Inclusive and affirming community	Chaplain support
Weekly free student dinner	Leadership development
Bible studies & faith conversations	Service opportunities
Retreats	and more!

Support Campus Ministry

Pray

For students, for the campus community, and for our Bread + Belonging community.

Connect

Sign up for our newsletters.



Give

Contribute to the LCM annual fund. Checks can be made out to LCM-CU and mailed to us.

Donate groceries for Tuesday student dinners



Volunteer

Gather a team to help cook a Tuesday student dinner

Volunteer at CU Football Concessions fundraisers

Lutheran Campus Ministry CU
2425 Colorado Avenue - Boulder, CO 80302
Pr. Monica Butler - chaplain@saintaidans.org