

A BATTLE WON FOR US



The Second Sunday After Pentecost
Living Shepherd Lutheran Church
1301 S. 5th St. Laramie, WY
March 29, 2016



WELCOME TO LIVING SHEPHERD!

A FEW NOTES BEFORE WORSHIP

- *We're so glad you joined us for worship today!*
- *Our restrooms are located in the basement through the door nearest the piano.*
- *We love having children in our worship service! However, if your child becomes restless, for your convenience we have a children's play area downstairs along with an audio and video feed of the service.*
- *You are our guest! If there is something else we can help you with, please let an usher know!*
- *Finally, with the exception of a few hymns and the Psalm, you'll find everything you need for worship printed in this service folder. Lord's blessings on your worship!*

TODAY'S SERVICE

This Sunday at Living Shepherd, we'll hear about an amazing battle. Since we're looking at a battle, you might expect stories of incredible heroism—stories of men and women who gave their lives to win freedom in the land God promised to their ancestors and descendants alike. But that's not what you'll hear. You're going to hear the story of a battle God won, not through people, but for people. Lord's blessings on your worship this morning!

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Dear Lord, I thank you for giving me this opportunity today to gather together with fellow believers to join in worship and praise. May my worship and meditation this day be pleasing in Your sight and be deserving of Your honor. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

HYMN 255 — OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY

INVOCATION

*The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross
remind worshipers of their baptisms.*

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION

P: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

ABSOLUTION

*The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth:
to forgive the sins of penitent sinners." For further information see John 20:21-23.
Also see Luther's Small Catechism, "The Use of the Keys and Confession."*

P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, you rule over all things in wisdom and kindness. Take away everything that may be harmful and give us whatever is good; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

GOD'S WORD

JAMES 1:2-12

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

⁹ The brother in humble circumstances ought to take pride in his high position. ¹⁰ But the one who is rich should take pride in his low position, because he will pass away like a wild flower. ¹¹ For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich man will fade away even while he goes about his business.

¹² Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

LUKE 7:1-10

When Jesus had finished saying all this in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. ² There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. ³ The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. ⁴ When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, "This man deserves to have you do this, ⁵ because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue." ⁶ So Jesus went with them.

He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: "Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. ⁷ That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁸ For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

⁹ When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." ¹⁰ Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Hymn of the Day is assigned to this day because of its rich content and connection to the day's Gospel.

HYMN 190 — WE NOW IMPLORE GOD THE HOLY GHOST

(The children may come forward during verse 3 for the children's devotion)

GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

JOSHUA 5:13-6:5,20

A BATTLE WON FOR US

Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"

¹⁴ "Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"

¹⁵ The commander of the LORD's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

^{6:1} Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

² Then the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. ³ March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in."

²⁰ When the trumpets sounded, the people shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the people gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so every man charged straight in, and they took the city.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

- P: Living in a world where people believe that the universe was formed through chance and accident, what do you believe?
- C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**
- P: Living in a world where people are confronted with the guilt and punishment of sin, what do you believe Jesus did for you?
- C: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**
- P: Living in a world where people are without hope and certainty, what do you believe?
- C: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING

*Moved by God's love in Christ, the people of Living Shepherd
offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks
to him. To those visiting, you are our guests.
While your gifts are welcome, please
do not feel obligated to give.*

WORSHIP REGISTERS

*Thanks for visiting us today! We'd love to have a record of your visit!
Any information you'd be willing to share would be greatly appreciated!*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*We pray on behalf of this church as well as on behalf of
God's people throughout our nation and the world.*

P: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: **We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

P: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: **Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

P: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state and local governments

C: **Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

P: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: **Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

P: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your creation.

C: **Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

P: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: **Lead us to love one another as you have loved us**

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions

Silent Prayer

P: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear us and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare. For it was your only Son who taught us to pray:

C: **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.**

BLESSING

*The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years.
The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them],
and I will bless them" [Numbers 6:27].*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN

HYMN 401 — YOUR WORKS, NOT MINE, O CHRIST

Psalm 142

Refrain



I cry a-loud to the Lord; I raise my voice to God; I



cry a - loud to the Lord, my God: Lord, have mer-cy.

Psalm Tone



I cry aloud to the LORD;
I lift up my voice to the LORD for mercy.
I pour out my complaint before him;
before him I tell my trouble.

When my spirit grows faint within me,
it is you who know my way.
Look to my right and see; no one is concerned for me.
I have no refuge; no one cares for my life.

Refrain

I cry to you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."
Listen to my cry, for I am in desperate need;
rescue me from those who pursue me, for they are too strong for me.

Set me free from my prison,
that I may praise your name.
Then the righteous will gather about me
because of your goodness to me.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

*Sing to the Lord
praise his name
proclaim his salvation
day after day*

*Scripture taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. NIV®.
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Living Shepherd Logo by Rachel Westra — Westra Design

WELCOME!

We welcome everyone here today and thank you for joining us for Worship! We hope that you will join us again soon.

JUNE CALENDAR

Check your mailboxes after worship! You'll find your June calendar as well as other information.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE NEXT SUNDAY

Mark your calendars! Worship moves to 9:30 AM next Sunday June 5th!

SUMMER VICAR

Our summer vicar (intern) Steven Saatkamp will be installed in worship next Sunday. His wife Joanna will arrive 2 weeks later.

JUNE 18TH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Our brothers and sisters up and down the front range will be getting together on Saturday June 18th for a softball tournament. If you are interested in playing let pastor know!

Pastor Pete Zaferos

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Call or Text Anytime!!

