

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: We give You thanks for Jesus at whose birth the angels sang of the coming reign of peace on earth, who fed the hungry, humbled the mighty, and proclaimed the good news. With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to You, sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ’s dying and rising, and praying: Come, Lord Jesus!

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us - this bread, this cup, this people - Christ’s body and blood, that brings us peace. As You make us one in the Spirit, grant us the strength and wisdom to seek peace in the world. Keep us in the peace of Christ until You gather us at Your table in glory. Guide us in the path of peace. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are Yours, Almighty God, now and forever. And now we join our voices together to pray the prayer Jesus taught us...

People: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

(based on BCW, pp. 172-4)

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People
(gluten free bread served)

Prayer after Communion (Unison)
Gracious God, we offer our thanks, for the whole communion of saints’ witness to this feast, and for the ministry of churches around the world who gather with us today. By this broken bread may we each be restored for the work yet to come, in Your holy name. Amen.

The Offering

Offertory
*Gloria Patri No. 581
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

	WE GO FORTH TO SERVE	
*Hymn of Commissioning	Standing on the Promises	No. 838

*Blessing and Charge (Responsive)
Leader: Jesus Christ is the dawn that lights the way of peace.
People: Alleluia!
Leader: Therefore, let us follow in that way, making peace with all.
People: Amen.

Postlude
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Special Thanks Today:
Usher: Darron Harris
Lay Leader: Kristy Gordon



Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

Sunday Order of Worship

October 4, 2026

Worship Service		
October 4, 2025		11:00 AM
* Those who are able, please stand. Bold is to be read in unison.		

Prayer of Preparation
Holy God, You create streams in the desert and bring new birth every spring. You call forth life out of empty tombs. Fill us with hope and boldness to follow You as You lead us into paths of new life again and again. Amen

Welcoming and Announcements
Everyone is asked to sign the Friendship Folder in the pew rack. **Visitors:** Please completely fill out your name, mailing address, and e-mail address to enable us to extend our Christian hospitality. Please pass the folder to your neighbor, and then return it to the center aisle with the cover open so that you may learn the names of the other worshipers. **For sight impaired worshipers:** Large Print Hymnals are available from the ushers. **For hearing impaired worshipers:** We recommend downloading the Listen Everywhere app.

*Greeting One Another in Love

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

Prelude

Call to Worship (Responsive)
Leader: Praise the Lord!
People: Praise the Lord from heaven! Praise God on the heights!
Leader: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all you ocean depths!
People: Do the same, you kings of earth and every single person.
Leader: Do the same, you young men and women, too - you who are old together with you who are young!
People: Let all of these praise the Lord’s name. Praise the Lord!

*Hymn of Praise	Holy, Holy, Holy	No. 1
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***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**
We confess, God of all people, how easy it is to think that our way of being your church is the one, true way. And so, we tune out the sound of Your Name spoken in another language. We are so comfortable with our rituals of baptism and communion, we believe they are the ones closest to Your heart, and so we close our hearts, eyes, and hands to those around us.
Forgive us, Gracious God, and have mercy. Remind us that while there may be many types of bread, there is that one Love which has been broken for us. Remind us that while there might be wine or juice offered, there is one Life which has been poured out for us. Remind us that while some remain seated, some come forward, and others dance, there is one Table, offered to us by Your grace, through Jesus Christ, our Brother, our Savior.

***Assurance of God’s Grace**
By God’s grace, we are healed, to bring healing to our world; we are strengthened in faith, so we might stand with the vulnerable. We are set free from our bondage to sin, so we may become servants of Christ. Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Leader: The word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.	Isaiah 43:15, 19-21	Pew Bible page 515
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Second Scripture Lesson Leader: The word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.	Luke 24:1-5	Pew Bible pages 748-749
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Anthem		
Sermon	Rise and Shine!	Rev. Dr. Beverly Markham

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*Hymn of the Day	Just a Closer Walk with Thee	No. 835
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***Affirmation of Faith (Unison)**
We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another, that we all share one baptism together, that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together, that we confess one Name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.
adapted from the Belhar Confession

Sacrament of Communion

The Invitation to the Table
On the Lord’s Day, Christians from around the world gather at the table, one family sharing one meal. On this day, we focus our attention on that global gathering that happens every time we share the cup and the loaf. Christ invites us: “Let anyone who is thirsty come to Me, and let the one who believes in Me drink.”
(John 7:37-38)

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Responsive)

Leader: The Lord be with you!
People: And also with you!
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give You thanks and praise, Eternal God, creator of the universe. You made us from the dust of the earth, breathed into us the breath of life, and set us in Your world to love You. We rejected Your love, Your peace. We chose to live in enmity with one another rather than peace with You and all creation. But You did not reject us, and You called us back to You over and over again. We thank You for the prophets like John who prepared the way of peace. Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of Your Name: