

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**120 West Gano Chance Road**  
**Centralia, Missouri 65240**  
**St. Michael and All Angels**  
**September 29, 2024**  
**Theme: He Will Give His Angels Charge of You**

**AS WE GATHER**

Just as we have turned Satan into a mythological being, so we have turned angels into cute but imaginary beings. In contrast to this, Scripture presents Satan as a real and present force of evil in this world and the angels as strong and mighty ones who do the bidding of God. We see this in the story of Satan's revolt and defeat in heaven, but we also see this in the work of St. Michael and all angels on our behalf. They are the mighty ones whom the Father has sent to serve Christ in His ministry and to serve those whom Christ has redeemed.

**WELCOME**

**Pastor James Lanning**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN – “This Is the Day”**

**AGPS 241**

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*Matthew 22:37, 39; Philippians 1:6*

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Merciful Lord whose love invites us, though our hearts and hands are unclean, cleanse and renew us by Your grace, for You are the God of our salvation and it is Your joy and gift to grant us forgiveness and new life: through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ said, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind” and “Love your neighbor as yourself.” This is both what the Law demands and what our Christian lives seek. Consider now how your lives have reflected these commands.

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Pastor: Holy and gracious God,

**People: I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that my heart may know peace. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the X Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## INTROIT

Bless the LORD, O my soul,

**and all that is within me, bless His holy name!**

Bless the LORD, O you His angels,

**you mighty ones who do His word, obeying the voice of His word!**

Bless the LORD, all His hosts,

**His ministers, who do His will!**

Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion.

**Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

**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.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul,

**and all that is within me, bless His holy name!**

## KYRIE

**LSB 204**

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**LSB 204**

## SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Everlasting God, You have ordained and constituted the service of angels and men in a wonderful order.

Mercifully grant that, as Your holy angels always serve and worship You in heaven, so by Your

appointment they may also help and defend us here on earth; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING – Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

**Lector: Gary Seider**

(The promise of God to send St. Michael the archangel to have charge over God's people)

<sup>10</sup> And behold, a hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. <sup>11</sup> And he said to me, "O

Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you." And when he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling. <sup>12</sup> Then he said to

me, "Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. <sup>13</sup> The prince of

the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia, <sup>14</sup> and came to make you understand what is to happen to

your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come." **12** "At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such

as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. <sup>2</sup> And many of those who sleep in the

dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup> And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to

righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**

*Psalm 91*

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
**will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.**

<sup>2</sup> I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress,  
**my God, in whom I trust.”**

<sup>3</sup> For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler  
**and from the deadly pestilence.**

<sup>4</sup> He will cover you with his pinions,  
**and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.**

<sup>5</sup> You will not fear the terror of the night,  
**nor the arrow that flies by day,**

<sup>6</sup> nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
**nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.**

<sup>7</sup> A thousand may fall at your side,  
**ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.**

<sup>8</sup> You will only look with your eyes  
**and see the recompense of the wicked.**

<sup>9</sup> Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—  
**the Most High, who is my refuge—**

<sup>10</sup> no evil shall be allowed to befall you,  
**no plague come near your tent.**

<sup>11</sup> For he will command his angels concerning you  
**to guard you in all your ways.**

<sup>12</sup> On their hands they will bear you up,  
**lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

<sup>13</sup> You will tread on the lion and the adder;  
**the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.**

<sup>14</sup> “Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him;  
**I will protect him, because he knows my name.**

<sup>15</sup> When he calls to me, I will answer him;  
**I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.**

<sup>16</sup> With long life I will satisfy him  
**and show him my salvation.”**

**EPISTLE READING – Revelation 12:7-12**

**Lector: Gary Seider**

(Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come)

<sup>7</sup> Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, <sup>8</sup> but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. <sup>9</sup> And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. <sup>10</sup> And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. <sup>11</sup> And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE** *Revelation 12:11*

Alleluia. They have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. Alleluia.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

**All: Glory to You, O Lord.**

**HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 18:1-11**

**(Do not despise the little ones for the angels always see the face of the Father in heaven.)**

18 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”<sup>2</sup> And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them<sup>3</sup> and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.<sup>4</sup> Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.<sup>5</sup> “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me,<sup>6</sup> but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.<sup>7</sup> “Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes!<sup>8</sup> And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire.<sup>9</sup> And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.<sup>10</sup> “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

**SERMON HYMN – “Thy Word Is a Lamp”**

**AGPS 247**

**MESSAGE “Angels – the Servants of God”**

**Pastor James Lanning**

**OFFERING HYMN – “I Love to Tell the Story”**

**AGPS 128 1-4; 9**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: God of power and might, as once You sent Your angels under Michael’s command to banish Satan from heaven, so now through Your holy angels protect us from the devil and all his works and all his ways. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Deliver Your people, O Lord, from their fears, and give them courage in time of threat, boldness to give witness to Christ, and peace amid all troubles. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Guard and guide Your church, O Lord, established by the blood of Christ and kept by Your promise, that there may be ministers who speak Your name and teach Your Word and willing ears and hearts to receive this instruction. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Confound and foil the purposes of evil in our world and give to those who lead us wisdom and discernment from Your Word and Spirit that they may govern according to Your will and for our best interest. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give aid and comfort to those afflicted in any way that they may have healing according to Your will and patience to endure the day of trouble, [*especially* . . .]. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: To the grieving, give Your peace that those who grieve may not sorrow as a people without hope but with the comfort of Your promise as their consolation, [*especially* . . .]. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Deliver us from the days of our trouble, keep us in perfect peace, and grant us strength to endure to the day of Christ's coming, when at last we shall be one people before our one God, and the enemies of Christ and of His people shall trouble us no more. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Remembering Your grace and having confidence in Your mercy, we plead the merits and mercies of Christ alone and pray You to teach our hearts to be content with the answer Your fatherly wisdom will grant us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### **LORD'S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9-13*

**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 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.**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in Your steadfast love and mercy You have granted us the gift of Your Son that by His victory on the cross, we may belong to You forever. We give You thanks for also surrounding us with St. Michael and all angels, that we may not be alone in the face of temptation and trial but, by Your grace, endure to the end and be saved, enjoying the ministrations of Your messengers until we rest in Your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN – “They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love”**

**AGPS 237**

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**NEXT SUNDAY**

Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

**OCTOBER EVENTS**

10.01 Elders Meeting 7 pm

10.02 Adult Bible Study 10 am

10.02 ZOOM Prayer Group 8 pm

10.06 OCC Craft Day after worship/with lunch

10.08 Ministerial Alliance at Good Shepherd noon

10.09 Adult Bible Study 10 am

10.09 ZOOM Prayer Group 8 pm

10.10 Heritage Hall 2 pm

10.13 Church council follows worship

10.14 LWML Meeting 1 pm

10.16 Adult Bible Study 10 am

10.16 Worship Committee 4:30 pm

10.16 ZOOM Prayer Group 8 pm

10.20 Pastor’s Conference at Lake of the Ozarks

10.23 Adult Bible Study 10 am

10.23 ZOOM Prayer Group 8 pm

10.26 GSLC 66<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

10.27 Voter’s Meeting following service

10.27 Hot Dogs/Bonfire/Hayride w/Campus 4:30 pm

10.30 Adult Bible Study 10 am

10.30 ZOOM Prayer Group 8 pm

10.31 Trunk or Treat 4-6 pm

**BIRTHDAYS – Aaron Seider - September 29; Ernestine Ramsey – 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday is September 30; Ronald Borgman – October 4**

**Ernestine’s address is 2910 Bluff Creek Dr Apt 516 Columbia, MO 65201 if you wish to send a card**

**ANNIVERSARIES – no anniversaries this week**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**Robert Moss (Brenda’s husband) – recently diagnosed with melanoma; Steve Buckert – cancer treatments; Jenni Murray-Margaret Parker’s daughter-injured in motorcycle accident; Savannah Tarwater - high risk pregnancy, baby has CDH; Ron Borgman – cancer treatment; Ryan James-cousin of Betsy Cochran–health issues; Dick St. John–Brenda Moss’ father–health issues; Sherry Morse–health issues; Kim & Terry Decker–health issues; Craig–suffering with spinal stenosis-friend of Randy Simmons; Verda Adkisson; Mark Blanton–Betsy Cochran’s cousin–waiting for liver transplant; Susan Ross; Ed & Ernestine Ramsey; Bill & Judy Mahieu; Kyle Lutz–recovering from kidney/pancreas transplant; Bonnie Berthelsen; Mark Ramsey; Calvin Stemme–treatment for cancer; Julia Rainey; Jane St. John; Dennis & Jackie Nadler; Susan Harris; Wayne Nolan–stepfather of Jeff Jaeger; Michelle Smith–daughter of Jane St John; Arla Benskin–daughter of Mary Brechler.**

**Missionaries - Pastor Tim Schulte and wife Erin**

**Community Prayers: Father Mike Coleman; Evie Ross–infant needs heart transplant; Dylan Dick-health issues; David–health issues; Marlene–health issues; Fran Schnarre–health issues.**

**ARMED FORCES: Brandon and Jesse Lowery, U.S. Navy–brothers of Rachel Rojas; Donevin Leonard, U.S. Marine Corps–grandson of Russell & Jacki Stelzer; Chris Chism, U.S. Navy–son of Vickie & Eric Chism; grandson of Barbara Fischer; Brittany Macklin–great-niece of Ernestine Ramsey; Zachary Warden–grandson of Betty Warden; Community: Ray Finlay, U.S. Army**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD CRAFT DAY** – Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, following worship – with lunch. Please see the information in the newsletter.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** – meets **October 13<sup>th</sup>**; the **Quarterly Voter’s Meeting** will be **October 27**. Reports for the voter’s meeting packet are due by 10:00 a.m. October 17.

**SHARED MINISTRY HAYRIDE** will be October 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 – please plan to attend for fellowship with our sister congregation at Campus – there will be hotdogs, chips, S’Mores ingredients and cookies. Please bring your firesticks for roasting your hot dogs.

I would prefer not to take the straw bales home after the church hayride on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>. If anyone would like to take some home afterward, please contact me. Thank you. Curt Nadler 573-682-4541.

### Welcome and Prayer Request Cards

Please place any prayer request cards in the offering plate when it comes around. The ushers will give them to the pastor. Please complete the welcome card and leave it at the end of your pew. Thank you.

### Church Directory

**Pastor James Lanning** (512) 968-4587,

**Email:** [pastorlanning@goodshepherdcentralia.org](mailto:pastorlanning@goodshepherdcentralia.org)

**Church office:** (573) 682-3941,

hours: 8 am–12:30 pm M, T, TH; 8-10 am, 11-1:30 pm W.

8 am-10 am F

**Email:** [office@goodshepherdcentralia.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdcentralia.org)

**Church Updates:** [www.goodshepherd.churchupdates.org](http://www.goodshepherd.churchupdates.org)

**Website:** [www.goodshepherdcentralia.org](http://www.goodshepherdcentralia.org)

### Elders:

Curt Nadler (573) 682-4541

Jeff Jaeger (573) 682-0902

Gary Seider (573) 489-6629

Satan—the Great Dragon—is decisively conquered when the “Male Child” (Christ) is raised to the throne of God (Rev.12:5), which is to say, when He is lifted up on the cross. Christ’s ascent to the cross of Calvary (which is the throne of the universe, Rev.5:6ff), is the judgment and final casting out of Satan (John 12:31). The Dragon is conquered through the slaughter of the Lamb—the very Lamb who (as the slain one) is raised up to live and reign from the Altar-Throne of God forevermore.

And yet, this passage does not say that the Dragon is defeated by the slain and living Lamb, per se, but by the disciples of the Lamb. It seems, then, that the blood of the martyrs who hold fast to Christ even unto death IS the blood of the Lamb, the blood of their Lord—whose body they are. Christ’s witness unto death on the cross—His witness to the Truth about God—is the decisive and definitive victory of God. But this victory is embodied/extended throughout time in His body, which is to say, in the saints. WE are the extension throughout time and space of the single Body of the Crucified Jesus who is Risen. As WE bear witness and join Him in His death of God-revealing love, we too overcome the Dragon, enacting, extending, embodying the single decisive victory of our Lord upon Calvary.

One implication of this is that the disciples of Christ will always, only, and ever conquer as their Lord has conquered. We conquer the Dragon (be it Satan or the world system that follows him), NOT by a show of force, BUT by being slaughtered in faithful witness to the self-giving love of our God, to whom alone our allegiance belongs. If we are disciples of the Lamb, we will look like the Lamb. Christian, are we settled in our minds and hearts that our victory comes not through the strength or anger or violence of the world, but through following our Lord in humble and enduring witness unto death?



*Rev.12:11, "...they have conquered him [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death."*

*Artwork from [fullofeyes.com](http://fullofeyes.com)*