

A full moon is visible in the upper right corner of the image, set against a dark, starry night sky. Below the moon, a white A-frame tent is pitched on a dark, flat, desert-like ground. In the foreground, a campfire with bright orange and yellow flames is burning within a circular stone fire pit. The overall scene is a serene depiction of a night camp in a vast, open landscape.

We groan, being burdened—
not that we would be unclothed, but
that we would be further clothed,
so that what is mortal
may be swallowed up by life

2 Corinthians 5:4

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“Bringing Christ to the Tri-County Area”

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June 16, 2024
4th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship Service at 10:30 am
Divine Service Setting Three (Page 184)

Prelude
Announcements

Processional Hymn: Beautiful Savior #537

Hymn of The Day : Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (1-3) #685

Theme “What’s Wrong”
Mark 4:26-28
Pastor Ron Biel

Recessional Hymn: Go, My Children, with My Blessing #922

WELCOME to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod on this day, the 4th Sunday after Pentecost.

Prepare for Worship. Enter reverently, pray thoughtfully, enjoy the time prior to worship in spiritual meditation.

The Nursery/Lounge is located just past the Ladies room, off the Narthex. Please be assured that children of all ages are encouraged to participate in the worship service.

Fellowship Register: We ask (members, friends, and visitors) to fill out The Fellowship Book which is located at the end of each pew. Please include your name, address and telephone number.

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 17:22–24

²²Thus says the Lord God: “I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the top-most of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. ²⁴And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it.”

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5:1–10

¹We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at

home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Holy Gospel: Mark 4:26–34

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.



About the Cover: Paul likens our earthly dwelling to a tent that one day will be further clothed by the life of Jesus. God has created us body and soul. Yet we feel the burden of a fallen and sinful world in bodies that do not always function the way God intends. These bodies, which suffer the effects of sin in this world, will be resurrected and transformed into glorious bodies because Jesus died and rose again.