Church of the Good Shepherd
United Methodist

400 West Duarte Road, Arcadia, California 91007 - (626) 447-2181
www.cgsum.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP
14th Sunday after Pentecost
Heritage and Communion Sunday

Broadcast Live to Facebook/CGSUM and to CGSUM.ORG

Sunday, September 14, 2025 10:00 a.m.

As we prepare for worship, let us be in prayer and meditation.
Please "Check In" on social media, then set all electronic devices to silent mode.
Remember to sign the attendance pad.
The Offering Box is located in the Sanctuary entryway.

Prelude "There Is A Fountain" arr. Leavitt
Stephen Cook

Chimes

Introit "God So Loved the World" by John Stainer
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Director

Welcome and Greeting *Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin*

Passing the Peace

***Call to Worship** (based on Isaiah 43 by Rev. K. Schreiber) *Natalie Poole, Lay Reader*

Leader: Holy One, ever present God.
People: You cut new trails where there are no paths.

Leader: Source of all life, Creator God.
People: You deliver fresh water where the rivers have gone dry.

Leader: Loving God, full of grace and glory.
People: You call us away from a damaging past and into a future where a new thing is emerging.

All: Praise be to God, the Lord Almighty!

**The congregation standing, if able.*

***Opening Hymn** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" *(vs. 1-4))*
Red UM Hymnal #**139**

The Word for Children **Children are invited to come sit in the front.*

Prayer of Confession

O Most Patient God, we recognize how much we need you for life itself. But how often have we behaved as if we did not know or even care about you? How often have we become the ones who do not carry out justice? How often have we participated in the desolation of your creation by our treatment of the heavens, the earth, and its waters? Forgive us for these times when we have lost our way. All Loving God, we want to be among those whom you seek. Shower your mercy upon us. Find us and lead us safely home to faithfulness. Amen.

Anthem "Ponder Anew" arr. Pamela Stewart & John Purifoy
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Director

Scripture Lesson *Natalie Poole, Lay Reader*

Isaiah 43:15-19
*John 3:13-17
Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn of Preparation** "How Can We Name a Love" Red UM Hymnal #**111**

Sermon "Autumn Brings Change" *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

Special Music "Change the World"
by Tommy Sims, Gordon Kennedy & Wayne Kirkpatrick
Susan Holder, Soloist

***Offertory Prayer & Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
Red UM Hymnal #**94**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion "Musical Setting E" Red UM Hymnal Pgs. **24-25**

Lord's Prayer

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. Amen.

Announcements *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

***Closing Hymn** "Standing on the Promises" Red UM Hymnal #**374**

Benediction

***Benediction Response** "Let There Be Peace on Earth" Red UM Hymnal **#431**

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God our Creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow; to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

***Postlude** "Fanfare Postlude on 'St. Thomas'"" arr. Wagner
Stephen Cook

**The congregation standing, if able.*

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Alive!

TODAY - Tech Duck, 11:30 to 12:15 pm, in the Library AND Health Ministries free Blood Pressure Screenings today. Short-sleeved tops are more user-friendly and less/no caffeine will give a more accurate reading.

United Women in Faith has a delicious fundraiser coming up on **Thursday, September 18th from 4 to 8 pm at Cabrera's Mexican Restaurant, 624 East Live Oak, Arcadia.** Come out and treat yourselves to "una comida deliciosa" (yummy meal) in support of local and global missions. *See insert.*

The **Grief Support Group** series is returning tomorrow, **Monday, September 15th from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm, for nine weeks in the AEC.** Linda Brown, Children's Center Director and trained Stephen Minister will lead the group. People at all stages of grief are welcome to join this support group. Please email Linda Brown at childcenter@cgsum.org if you are interested. Please on Holly Ave. lot.

Free English As A Second Language Classes have begun. ***Beginning*** English meets in the **Adult Education Center Sundays from 9-10:30 a.m.** ***Intermediate*** English class meets **via Zoom Fridays from 9-10:30 a.m.** Contact Rowena Zeng at: rowenzeng@gmail.com for more information. ***Advanced*** Conversational English meets **Fridays in the Church Library from 9:30-11 a.m.**

"Come to the Table" is the new ministry coming this Fall! It will consist of Small Groups of 7-8 people meeting once a month from October to June. Folks will gather at a host home and share fellowship, food and prayer. Hosts are needed and will be provided with training, and supplies (including food costs). Childcare will be provided. There will be more info on September 28th. Contact Pastor Eva (pastoreva@cgsum.org or 626-447-2181) to sign up for hosting or co-hosting one of these groups.

Please note that the annual **Crafters' Boutique will be held after worship on Sunday, November 2nd and 9th.** Just in time to pre-shop for early Christmas shopping!

The **Book Group's** current selection is *Pachinko*. They meet on **Wednesdays at 11:30 am in the Music Room.** Join in the discussion!

Adult Sunday School Class 9:00 to 9:45 am in the Library – Don Thorsen will be starting a new series today, entitled "The Christian Understanding of Salvation."

SCAM Alert! Be cautious! Delete any **spam** or **fake emails and texts** from hackers impersonating Pastor Eva or any church staff.

Remember to send your articles, announcements, etc. to **The Word** editor, Stephanie Shen at cgsarcadianewsletter@gmail.com by 3:00 pm Fridays. And for **Master Calendar** requests or changes, please contact Carolyn Noonchester at cgsmastercalendar@gmail.com and please allow time for response.

Save the Date!

- **September 14th - Blood Pressure Screening, Lounge & Tech Duck, Library**
- **September 15th - Grief Support Group – Mondays at 6:30-7:30 pm - AEC**
- **September 18th - UWF Fundraiser at Cabrera's, Arcadia, 4-8PM**
- **September 28th -**



Food, Music, Games, Crafts, Fun!!!

- **October 31st - Halloween Trunk or Treat**



Ministers: Members of the Congregation
Resident Bishop: Bishop Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank
District Superintendent: Rev. Moonyoung Lee
Pastor: Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Franklyn Shen
Director of Music Ministries: Stephen Cook
Director of the Good Shepherd Children's Center: Linda Brown

Church of the Good Shepherd Mission:
At Church of the Good Shepherd, God calls us to welcome all to a vibrant community on a continuing journey of Faith, Growth, Justice, and Service in the image of Christ.