

Old Testament Reading: Ecclesiastes 5:10–20

¹⁰He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. ¹¹When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? ¹²Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

¹³There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, ¹⁴and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. ¹⁵As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. ¹⁶This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? ¹⁷Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger.

¹⁸Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. ¹⁹Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. ²⁰For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

Epistle: Hebrews 4:1–13

¹Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. ²For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. ³For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said,

“As I swore in my wrath,
“They shall not enter my rest,”

although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all his works.” ⁵And again in this passage he said,

“They shall not enter my rest.”

⁶Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, ⁷again he appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted,

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts.”

⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. ⁹So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

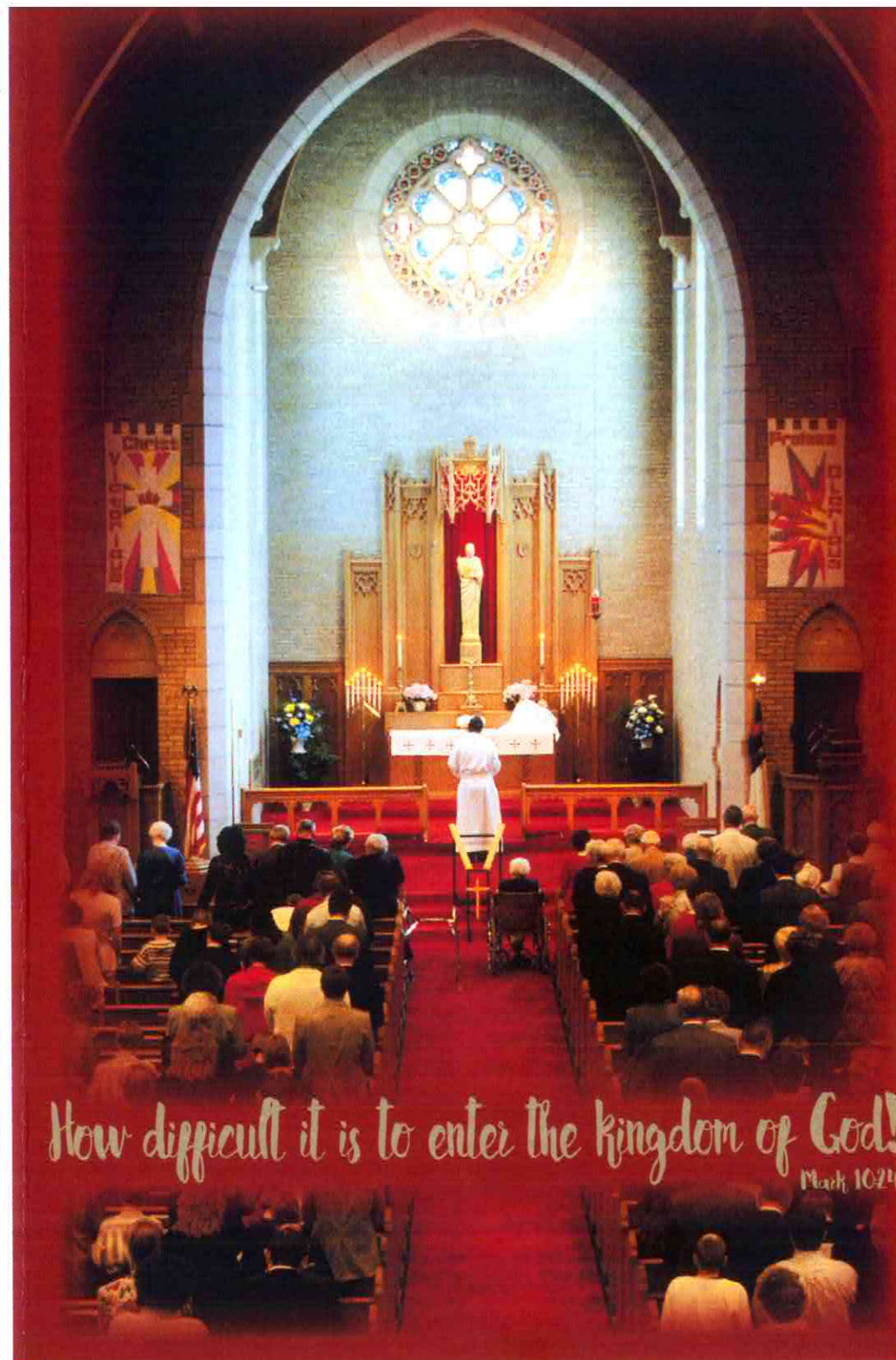
¹¹Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. ¹²For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Holy Gospel: Mark 10:23–31

²³Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.” ²⁸Peter began to say to him, “See, we have left everything and followed you.” ²⁹Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”



About the Cover: Jesus teaches another important lesson in the Gospel text. As sinful humans, we are unable to enter the kingdom of God. Therefore, in order to be saved, we need Jesus' death and resurrection to provide forgiveness of our sins. Through faith in Jesus, we are made able, by God's grace, to enter the kingdom of God. Thanks be to God for His gift of grace, Christ Jesus!



How difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God!
Mark 10:24

**SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
801 E. DENVER AVE.
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
PHONE 258-4231
Rev. Lester Wolfram, Pastor
951-217-3385 - Vicar Woodside
Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost
October 21, 2018**

Divine Service Setting Four	LSB 203
Opening Hymn "Blessed Jesus At Your Word"	LSB 904
Hymn of the Day: "O Day of Rest and Gladness"	LSB 906
Distribution: "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"	LSB 770
"O Jesus, Blessed Lord, To Thee"	LSB 632
"Thy Body, Given For Me, O Savior"	LSB 619
Closing Hymn: "On What Has Now Been Sown"	LSB 921

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Preacher:	Pastor Les Wolfram
Liturgist:	Pastor Les Wolfram
Elder:	Craig Helm
Accompanist:	Shirley Cook
Ushers:	8:15 am Dean Priebe & Dwight Cook
	10:45 am Justin Dever & Pam Dever
Greeters:	8:15 am Wayne & Joy Doll
	10:45 am Bridgette & Arianna Roll
Acolyte:	8:15 am Hunter Peterson
	10:45 am Reagan Dever

WELCOME!! We are glad that you have joined us this morning as we lift up our hearts and voices in response to God's great gift of forgiveness and life in Christ Jesus. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book and introduce yourself to Pastor Wolfram.

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO hear Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, the President of the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod! President Harrison will be one of the special guests at the upcoming, *Faith in Action Conference*, on October 27 in Fargo. **This is truly a one-of-its-kind conference you won't want to miss -- sponsored by Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch!** In addition to President Harrison, the conference features many outstanding speakers and hands-on opportunities; and highlights some amazing ministries of mercy from a three-state region and beyond! Go to www.dakotaranch.org/mercy. Find out more and register today.

THE NEXT HANGOUT will take place on Tuesday, October 30, at 6:30 at the home of Brent and Lyric Purdy, 1224 Billings Drive.

AT SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH we celebrate the Lord's Supper in the confidence that we receive, along with the bread and wine, our Savior's true body and blood "through and in which we obtain the forgiveness of sins." Besides individually receiving Christ's free gift of forgiveness in this sacrament, all those who commune make a confession of the faith that we believe and teach in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. To commune at this altar is to accept the doctrinal position of this congregation. Because of that common confession, we invite those who are members at sister Missouri Synod Churches to join us at the Lord's Table. If you would like more information on our understanding of the Lord's Supper, please visit with Pastor Wolfram.

THE AMAZING CORN MAZE will be the sight of the next youth event for students in grade 6-12 with Bethel Lutheran youth on Sunday, October 21. We will gather for lunch at Shepherd of the Valley at 12:30 pm and then go to the Corn Maze at 1:30.

WE'RE DEBT FREE! Yes, that's right. Shepherd of the Valley is debt free as we paid off our loan with Lutheran Church Extension Fund last week. On November 17, as we celebrate 40 years of ministry, we will also "burn the mortgage", as part of the 3:30 PM worship service. Rev. Tom Eckstein will proclaim God's Word as a part of this very special service. Join us for the day of celebration with our special Saturday service and catered meal to follow.

THE QUARTERLY VOTERS MEETING will take place on November 4 during education hour at 9:30 AM. We will address the 2019 proposed budget for Shepherd of the Valley.

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL, the lesson recalls the account of "Moses and the Burning Bush." Just as God had Moses remove the sandals from his feet, God in Christ removes our sins from us, making us fit to approach God and stand in His presence. *Discuss, "Who makes us holy before God? What did Moses have to do, and why, in order to be in God's presence?"*

THIS WEEK AT SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY

<u>Today</u>	*8:15am Divine Service
	9:30am Education Hour
	*10:45am Divine Service
<u>Wednesday</u>	5:30pm Catechism Instruction
	7:00pm Worship
	8:00pm Bible Study
<u>Thursday</u>	5:30pm Choir
<u>Sunday</u>	8:15am Divine Service
	9:30am Education Hour
	10:45am Divine Service

As a church family, our mission at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church is to share, nurture, and live our faith in Christ.

Worship Attendance		
Wednesday	10/10/2018	14
Sunday,	10/14/2018	
	8:15 AM	57
	10:45 AM	63
Bible Study		13
Sunday School		21

Goals For Our Congregation

The Vision Path leadership team has set the following goals for attendance. It is desired that we reach an average attendance in these areas by March of 2018.

Worship Attendance Wednesday and
2 Sunday services: 175
Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class: 35
Sunday School – Preschool-grade 5: 25
Sunday Morning Youth Study – grade 6-12: 15