GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ... We Are God's People and the Sheep of God's Pasture ...

Psalm 100:3



May 5th-6th Sunday of Easter

ALL ARE WELCOME AT GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH.

God makes no exceptions. In the spirit of Jesus Christ, we offer trust and respect to all, including those who may experience alienation, distrust, or rejection. We rely on the healing, unconditional love of God to shape our community in the name of the Good Shepherd.

In keeping with our welcome, Good Shepherd is a Reconciling in Christ partner congregation, affirming our welcome to persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, and our commitment to anti-racism work so that all may participate fully in the life of our congregation. We are an AMMPARO Welcoming Congregation - Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities.

The Good Shepherd buildings are Carbon Neutral/Net Zero Energy use.

Welcome guests! There is more information for you on the back of the bulletin.

Welcome to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

As you enter the Sanctuary, you are invited to make the transition from "getting here" to "being here". Take a moment to silence phones. You may use these moments of quiet time to listen to the Prelude as you prepare to come fully into the presence of God and our community of faith.

Worship Books are in the Pews

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (**ELW**) - red book

All Creation Sings (**ACS**) - purple book

Page numbers (p.) in front of the books; hymn numbers (#) in back of books.

Congregational responses are in **bold**. An * indicates a time to rise in body or spirit.

Worship Window Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!

Some people always want to make the simple truth more complicated. One time a nit-picking lawyer approached Jesus and asked him what he must do to be saved and inherit eternal life. Jesus said: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and soul and love your neighbor as yourself. Do these and you shall live." Today's scripture helps us to understand this truth... by focusing on the words, "as I have loved you, so love one another." As I have loved you... How has Christ loved me, loved each of us, and loved the world? How has Christ, loved? That is the way we are to love each other.

WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS and especially to Luther College Students! It is a joy to worship with you. You are welcome to enjoy really great coffee, juice, treats, and conversation down the hall after worship — follow the crowd. Sit anywhere!

ALL ARE WELCOME TO SHARE IN HOLY COMMUNION. It is Christ's table and Christ is the host. Instructions are included in the communion section of the Order of Worship.

THE PRESENCE, ENERGY, AND NOISE OF CHILDREN ARE MOST WELCOME HERE!

The sound of a child in worship is the sound of a new Christian being formed. This congregation is glad to share in this work. We welcome and encourage kids to move and play. A nursery with toys and activity bags is available. Mothers are welcome to nurse anywhere that works for you and your child.

RACIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT: This Statement was approved at the annual meeting of the congregation on February 6th, 2022. It was developed through the work of the Racial Justice Team which held listening sessions with the congregation. Find the full statement at **goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement** or by scanning the code.



GATHERING

PRAYER BELL - PRELUDE: "Spring," mvt. II — Antonio Vivaldi

WELCOME

*GATHERING HYMN: ELW #596 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"



Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

*APOSTOLIC GREETING:

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

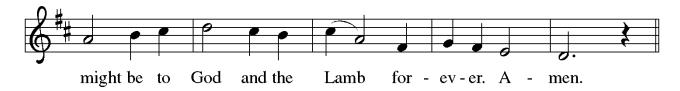
Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*HYMN OF PRAISE:







This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray together... O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

LESSON: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

- Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

- ¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.
- ²O LORD, you have made | known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.
- ³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.
- ⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands; lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.
- ⁵Sing to the LORD | with the harp, with the harp and the | voice of song.
- ⁶With trumpets and the sound | of the horn shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.
- ⁷Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it, the world and those who | dwell therein.
- 8Let the rivers | clap their hands,
- and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the earth.
 - ⁹The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness and the peo- | ples with equity.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:





*GOSPEL READING: John 15:9-17

- The Holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

12"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

- The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"As Plain as the Nose on Your Face"

- Pr. Dave Wrightsman

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW # 705 "God of Grace and God of Glory" vs. 1, 2, 4



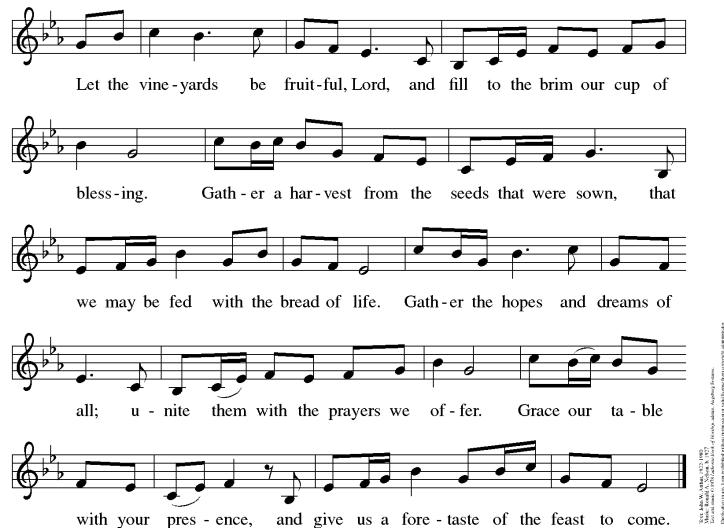
Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932 *PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: Each petition ends... God of grace, hear our prayers.

*PEACE OF CHRIST: The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you. We share peace by waving to those worshipping online or through the public access channel and then with those in the sanctuary. Bows, signs, fist bumps, handshakes, are all honored!

MEAL

OFFERING MUSIC: "Amazing Grace" - arr. Gibson

*OFFERING SONG: ELW #184 "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"



*OFFERING PRAYER:

Let us pray together... Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING - HOLY HOLY: p. 152

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

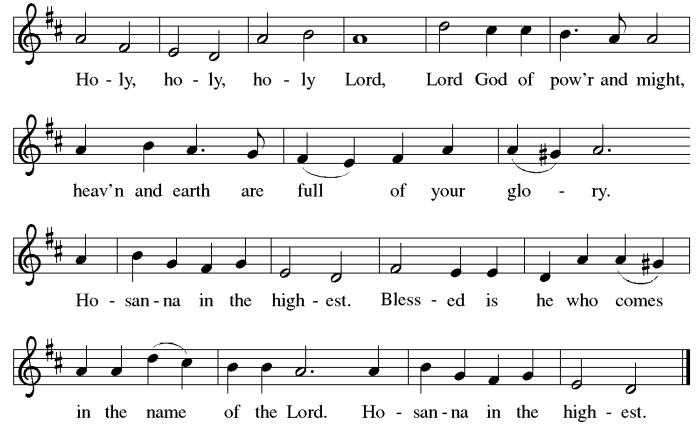
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right... join their unending hymn:



*LORD'S PRAYER: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

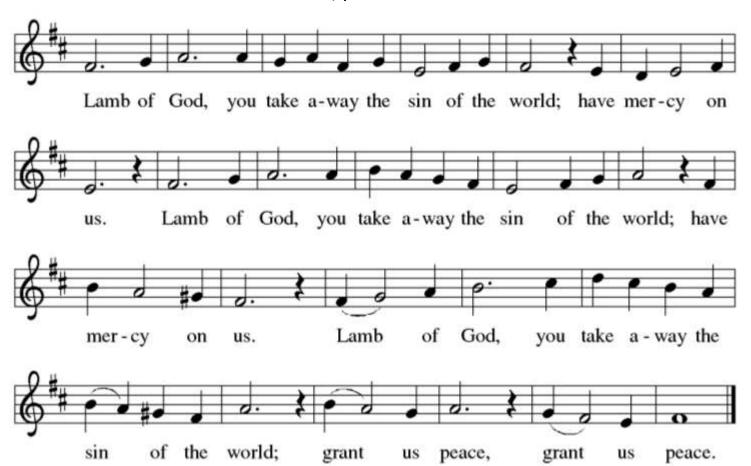
Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. As Lutherans we believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, the body and blood of our Lord. All who desire to receive the gifts of grace, forgiveness, and new life are welcome to come to the Lord's Table. You do not need to be Lutheran or a member of Good Shepherd to receive these gifts.

- Ushers will direct you to the altar rail.
- Gluten and dairy free bread and red wine/white grape juice are available to all.
- If you prefer only blessing, indicate by placing your hands in front of your heart.
- Prepackaged servings of bread and wine are available.

COMMUNION SONGS: Lamb of God, p. 154



ACS #966, "Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007 Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

ACS #962, "In This Feast of Love"



Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954 Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio Text and music © 2017, 2020 Jurkko Maukonen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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*TABLE BLESSING

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Let us pray together... Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

SENDING

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless you now and always. **Amen**.

*SENDING SONG: ELW #376 "Thine Is the Glory"



Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

*PRAYER BELL

*DISMISSAL: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God.

Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: Psalm 121 – Ryan Cayabyab

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TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP AND HOSPITALITY: USHERS: Bob Felde, Steve Holland; CANTOR: Jill Phillips; READER: Martha Monson Lowe; ASSISTING MINISTER: Jane Jakoubek; FELLOWSHIP: Krista and Leah Holland, Jane Jakoubek, Norma and Harley Refsal, Carrie Solberg, and Martha Monson Lowe and George Lowe

Special thanks to Norskkor, Mark Potvin, conductor, for their music this morning!

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are in honor of Richard and Joanne Ylvisaker's 70th wedding anniversary on May 8, with deep gratitude from their family for their admirable lives of love and dedication.

The ELCA has designated May 5th as Missing

and Murdered Indigenous Women's Awareness Day. Indigenous women are more than twice as likely to experience violence crimes and rape or sexual assault compared to other women. Homicide is the third leading cause of death for Indigenous women aged 10-24. Forty percent of victims of sex trafficking are identified as Indigenous women. Indigenous women go missing at a higher rate than any other group in this country. The ELCA has an active national presence on behalf of indigenous people on behalf of Indigenous people through its office of Indigenous Ministry and Tribal Relations. Please take a moment to offer a prayer for protection and justice for Indigenous women and the work of ELCA's office of Indigenous Ministry and Tribal Relations.

TODAY – ADULT FORUM ON PRAYER: Do you wonder how to draw closer to God in prayer in your everyday life? Come learn about *Lectio Divina* (using scripture to listen to God) and how to practice the presence of God in all the ordinary parts of your life at the Adult Forum with Kris Peterson and Jane Jakoubek.

INVEST IN YOUTH FUNDRAISER: Thirteen Good Shepherd youth invite church members and friends to purchase (fictitious) stock certificates, as they continue to raise funds for their trip in July to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Stock certificates cost \$20 each and will be sold in the Fellowship Hall on all 4 Sundays in May, May 5, 12, 19, and 26. Our youth and two adult leaders (15 total) are partnering with Decorah Lutheran and First Lutheran to share transportation and housing costs.

INTERIM PASTORS FOR JULY, AUGUST, AND THIS FALL ANNOUNCED BY GOOD SHEPHERD'S CONGREGATION COUNCIL The Congregation Council, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approved two excellent, highly respected, and treasured pastors to lead Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in pastoral care during the summer and fall seasons of transition and Call process. In July and August, Pastor Marion Pruitt-Jefferson, member of Good Shepherd, will serve Good Shepherd as interim on a half-time basis. Beginning prior to Labor Day, Pastor April Ulring Larson, Bishop Emerita of the LaCrosse Area Synod and associate member of Good Shepherd, will serve Good Shepherd for a period of 6 months, with the potential of an extension. Clergy who are members and friends of Good Shepherd, who are available and willing to assist in supporting the ministry of Good Shepherd, also will serve during this time.

- The Good Shepherd Executive Committee and Council: Kris Peterson, Tim Lecander, Chris Johnson, Anne Clausen, Brian Caton, Marilyn Rue, Lise Kildegaard, Karin Martin-Hiner, and Sara Hopkins.

BLESSING OF THE GRADUATES SUNDAY: Blessing & celebration of graduates from high school and college will be on Sunday, May 12th during worship – there will be a special Fellowship Hour following worship. If you are a Luther student who would like to be blessed and celebrated, please contact the church office.

CALL COMMITTEE CONTINUES PREPARATION OF MINISTRY SITE PROFILE: If you haven't had a chance to respond to the Call Committee's two questions, they can still be submitted to the Church Office or by email to committee member Anne Clausen at anne59clausen@gmail.com. The questions are: 1) What are the top three strengths of our congregation? and 2) What are the top three challenges our congregation is facing?

VBS SAVE THE DATE: MONDAY-WEDNESDAY, JULY 29-31 - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024: GROW IN FAITH. HAVE FUN. CHANGE THE WORLD. All children entering grades K-6th are invited to VBS at Good Shepherd July 29-31 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. each evening. Start the night with dinner, then enjoy a fun evening including music, games, small groups, and crafts! This year's theme is ReNew: The Green VBS. The cost is \$20/child, with \$5 per additional household member. Scholarships are available. Email the office at office@goodshepherddecorah.org for more information. Deadline to register is July 8th.

VOLUNTEER AT VBS: We are also seeking youth and adult volunteers to help support activities, be a positive presence, and/or lead portions. Please connect with Kelli Gapinski, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry, at **kelli@goodshepherddecorah.org** or Pastor Dave if you are interested.

MOWING AT GOOD SHEPHERD: Tis the season for growing grass and mowing the Good Shepherd property! This year, the lawn will be less of a time commitment and easier as much of the backyard is being converted to prairie and will be managed by Facilities & Grounds. Our sign-up is accessible on the website under "Sign-Ups" and on the table in the Gathering Space.

LIVING WATERS SUMMER SERIES: Sundays this June – August at 9:30 am worshipers will encounter Jesus engaging with people near or with water. Water not only sustains our bodies and communities, but also is an integral part of our spiritual lives. The Bible is rich with images of water that symbolize new life, cleansing, and the fulfillment of God's promises.

- We are looking for tree decorations (fake Christmas trees with no lights) to put up in the Sanctuary. We are also assembling a crew to help "transform" the Sanctuary into a woodsy wonderland. Please get in touch with the Office or Pr. Dave if you have any trees available or if you would like to be part of the assembly crew.

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK: Tristan: 9 AM - 12 PM M-F.

Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

People will be kept on the "medical concerns" prayer list for 4 weeks. After that they will be cycled off and you will need to alert Pr. Dave or the Office to have them return to the Prayer List for another 4 weeks. Those listed under "hospice" will remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted. Grieving folks are listed for 2 weeks.

Those with medical concerns...

- Stephanie Hoff awaiting kidney transplant
- Bonnie Flora Parkinsons and troubling back pain
- Jutta Anderson Chordoma, rare cancer of the spine
- Rolf Svanoe recovering from surgery on his parotid gland
- Haakon and Carol Andreasen (parents of Sara Hopkins) chronic health problems
- Christy Vrtis recovering from surgery
- Carrie Solberg cancer treatment
- Sid Simpson (brother-in-law to Marty Steele) struggling with lung and heart issues

Those in hospice...

- Ed Hover, Eastern Star
- Mirium Plaatz, Melanie Folkerts' aunt; in California
- Dennis Martin, Marv & Mickey Slind's brother-in-law, Buffalo, NY
- Bob and Eileen Fahrenkrug, grandparents of Sarah Wicks
- Janet Gall, Eastern Star

Those celebrating joy...

• Aaron and Rachael Palmer on the birth of their daughter Iris June on April 20th, 2024. Iris is in the NICU at Gundersen, as she was born at 30 weeks.

Those who serve as missionaries and our international partners...

- Good Shepherd's Companion Synod in Hungry
- · Mary Beth & Oyebade, serving in Jos, Nigeria

Those who are attending seminary and preparing for ministry...

- Kathryn Thompson, seminarian at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, IA. Graduating in May
- Amy Olson, daughter of Ginny Olson, seminarian at Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque IA
- Kristin Kopperud-Stinn, seminarian at Luther Seminary, St. Paul

Those serving on Good Shepherd's Call Committee...

 Megan Buckingham (Convener), Anne Clausen, Steve Holland, Karin Martin-Hiner, Bob Larson, and Leah Holland

<u>Prayers for the Church, the Nation, and the World...</u>

- For those victimized by the war in Ukraine, Haiti and in Gaza (and famine in South Sudan). Be with those who have lost their livelihoods and family members to destruction. Be with those serving on the ground and in harm's way: diplomats, soldiers, aid workers, missionaries, and medical personnel.
- For all of the church camps & directors who are recruiting summer staff among college-age students. May the Holy Spirit move in their hearts towards this vocation.
- For local, state, and national government leaders... that they may hear your voice clearly and distinctly. Speak to them of truth, integrity, justice, and fairness for our *neighbors*.
- For those who support our church's ministry with their tithes, offering and gifts.

To have a prayer request added to the Prayer List, please email Pr. David Wrightsman at: pastordavid@goodshepherddecorah.org or Tristan/Erica at: office@goodshepherddecorah.org

^{*}Seminarians supported relationally and in prayer; may or may not be supported financially by GSLC.

Sunday Worship Schedule

Sunday, May 5: 6th Sunday of Easter

Worship at 9:30 am; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. David Wrightsman; "As Plain as the Nose on Your

Face"

Sunday School: 10:20-11:00 am

Coffee/Treats/Social Time: 10:30-11:30 am; Fellowship Hall

Adult Forum: learn about Lectio Divina (using scripture to listen to God) and how to practice the presence of God in all the ordinary parts of

your life with Jane Jakoubek and Kris Peterson

Sunday, May 12: 7th Sunday of Easter

Worship at 9:30 am; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion

Celebrating our High School Graduates

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. David Wrightsman; "Jesus, Teach Us to Pray"

Special Music: Good Shepherd Band

Final week of Sunday School: 10:20-11:00 am

Coffee/Treats/Social Time: 10:30-11:30 am; Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 19: Pentecost Sunday

Worship at 9:30 am; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion

Preaching: Pr. David Wrightsman Special Music: Good Shepherd Choir Sunday School: 10:20-11:00 am

Coffee/Treats/Social Time: 10:30-11:30 am; Fellowship Hall

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF:

Rev. David Wrightsman; Pastor pastordavid@goodshepherddecorah.org 612-599-6911

Brooke Joyce; Music Director

Kelli Gapinski; Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministry

Tristan Occhipinti; Office & Building Manager Erica Yaneff; Ministry & Communications

Coordinator

Mike Sammons; Custodian

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

701 Iowa Ave Decorah, IA 52101

(563) 382-3963 goodshepherddecorah.org