## **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



## January 26<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday after Epiphany Reconciling in Christ Sunday

## 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.

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

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship – ELW (red book)

All Creation Sings – ACS (purple book)

Page numbers (P.) in front of the red hymnal, (#) in back of ELW/ACS

congregational responses in **bold**; rise in body or spirit when indicated by \*

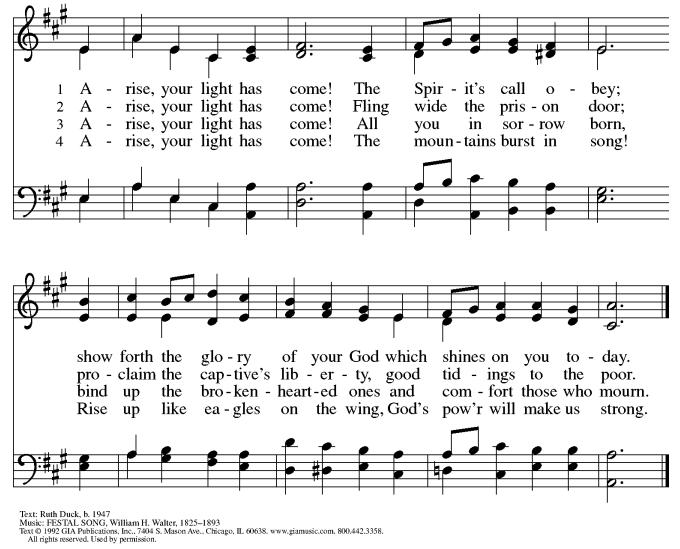
## GATHERING

#### PRAYER BELL – PRELUDE: Sonata no. 19, part 1 – Gottfried Reiche

The prelude is a time when we allow the musical offering to quiet our hearts and minds as we prepare for worship.

#### WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN: ELW #314 "Arise! Your Light Has Come"

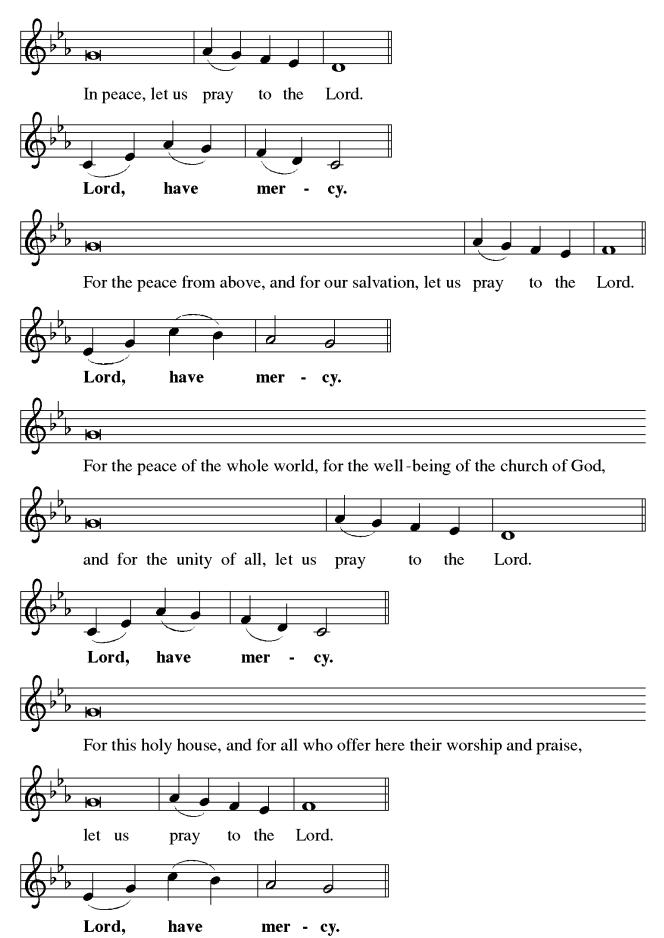


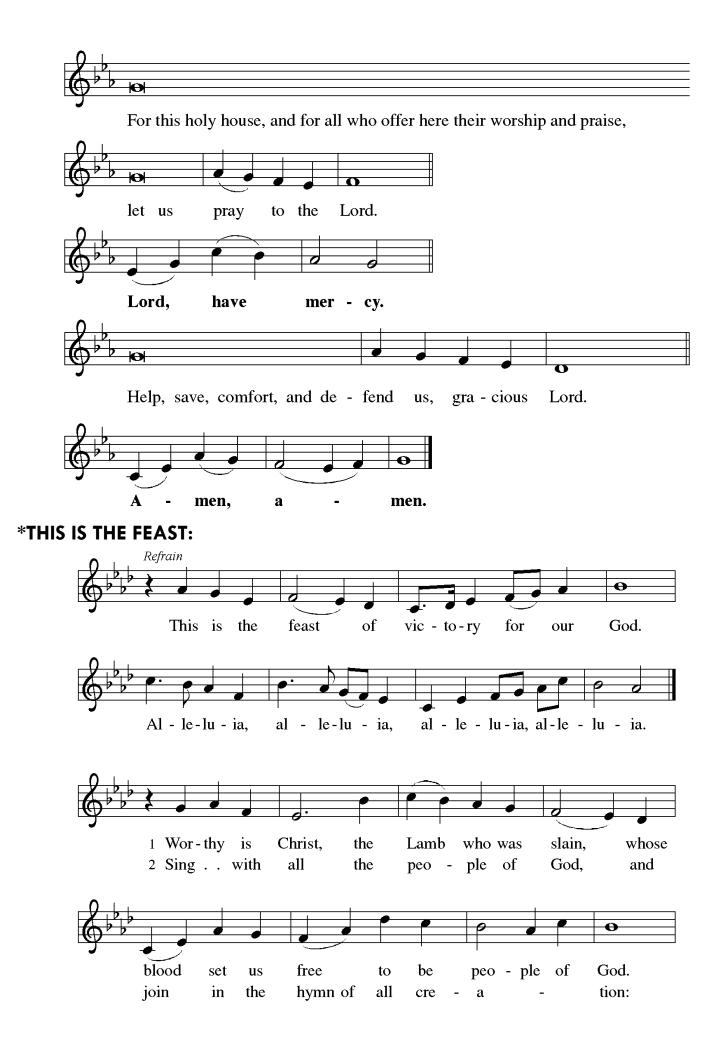
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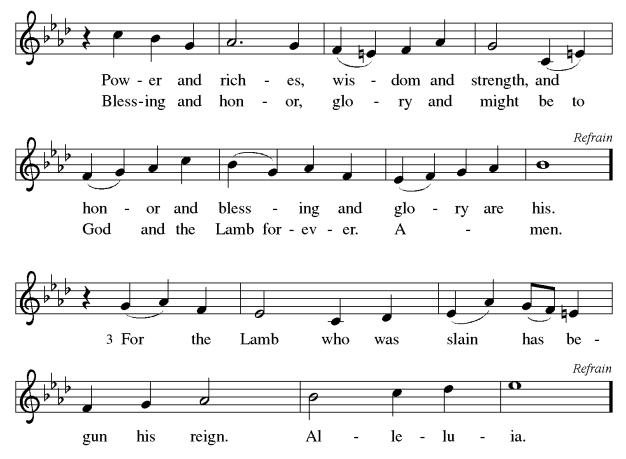
#### \*GREETING:

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**.

#### \*KYRIE:







\*PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray... Amen.

FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that "the joy of the Lord is your strength."

<sup>1</sup> All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup> Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. <sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup> Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup> So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people

understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup> And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Word of God. Word of life. Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM: Psalm 19

- <sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glo- <sup>|</sup> ry of God, and the sky proclaims its <sup>|</sup> maker's handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup> One day tells its tale | to another, and one night imparts knowledge | to another.
- <sup>3</sup> Although they have no <sup>|</sup> words or language, and their voices <sup>|</sup> are not heard,

 $^4\,\text{their}$  sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends  $^+$  of the world,

#### where God has pitched a tent $^{|}$ for the sun.

<sup>5</sup> It comes forth like a bridegroom out <sup>|</sup> of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to <sup>|</sup> run its course.

 $^{6}$  It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of  $^{+}$  it again;

nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.

- <sup>7</sup> The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom | to the simple.
- <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the LORD are just and re- <sup>|</sup> joice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light <sup>|</sup> to the eyes.

<sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is clean and en- <sup>|</sup> dures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous <sup>|</sup> altogether.

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.

<sup>11</sup> By them also is your ser- <sup>|</sup> vant enlightened, and in keeping them there is <sup>|</sup> great reward.

<sup>12</sup> Who can detect one's | own offenses?
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.

 $^{13}$  Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion  $^{\rm |}$  over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a  $\,^{|}$  great offense.

# <sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,

**O** LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.

#### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

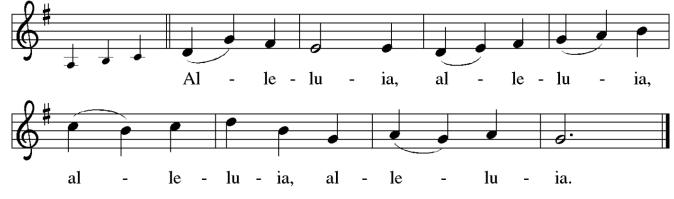
<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with areater respect; <sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31a</sup> But strive for the greater gifts.

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

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** 



#### \*GOSPEL READING: Luke 4:14-21

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup> He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. <sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: <sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

<sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

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

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #843 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955 Music: NETTLETON.1. *Nucl. Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813 Ext. O. 1971 Hope Dublishing Company. Carol Stream, IL. 00188. All ngins reserved. Used by permission. Dupfication in any form prohibited without permission or valid lisense from copyright administrator. \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: When indicated, respond: hear our prayer.

\***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.

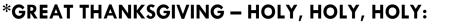
MEAL

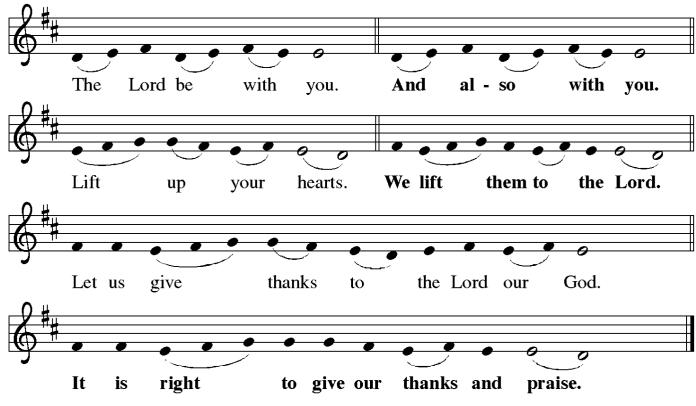
OFFERTORY MUSIC: Sonata no. 19, part 2 - Gottfried Reiche

\*OFFERTORY SONG: ELW #239 "Hark, the Glad Sound!" (verses 1-3)

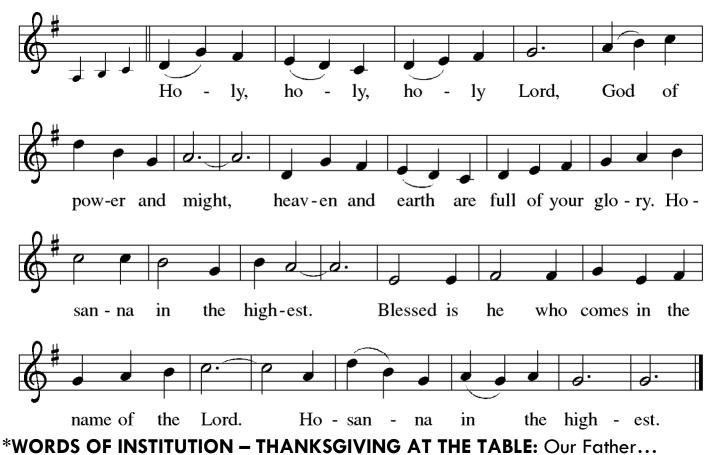


\*OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray... Amen.





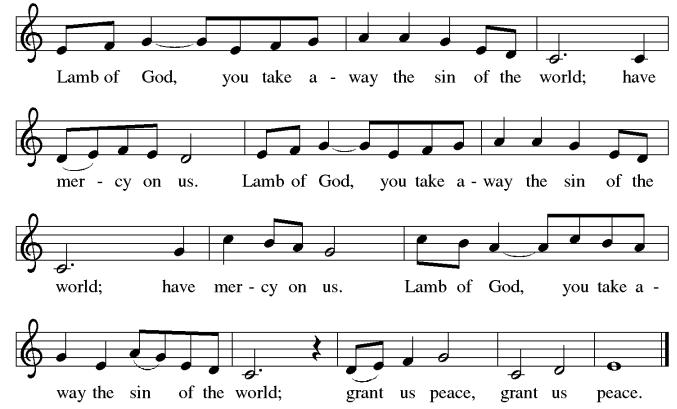
It is indeed right... join their unending hymn:



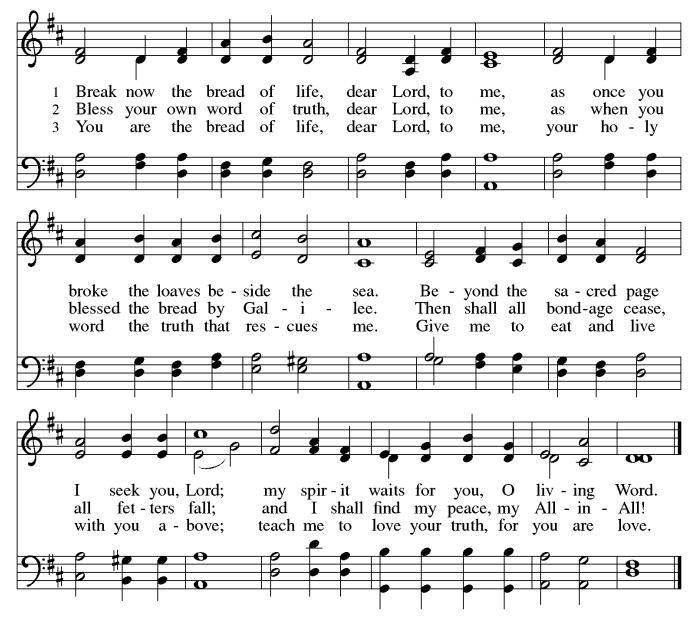
HOLY COMMUNION: All are welcome at Christ's table.

- Worshippers are welcome to stand or kneel at the altar rail.
- Communion is served in the pews for those who wish to remain seated.
- If you prefer only a blessing, indicate by placing your hands over your heart.
- Gluten and dairy free bread and red wine/white grape juice are available to all.
- Egg-free wheat wafers are also available.
- Please place your wine and juice cups in the tray as you return to your pew.

#### **COMMUNION SONG:**



**COMMUNION HYMNS:** ELW #515 "Break Now the Bread of Life"



Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt. Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888



Text: John Foley, s1, b. 1939 Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, s1 Text and music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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#### ELW #710 "Let Streams of Living Justice"



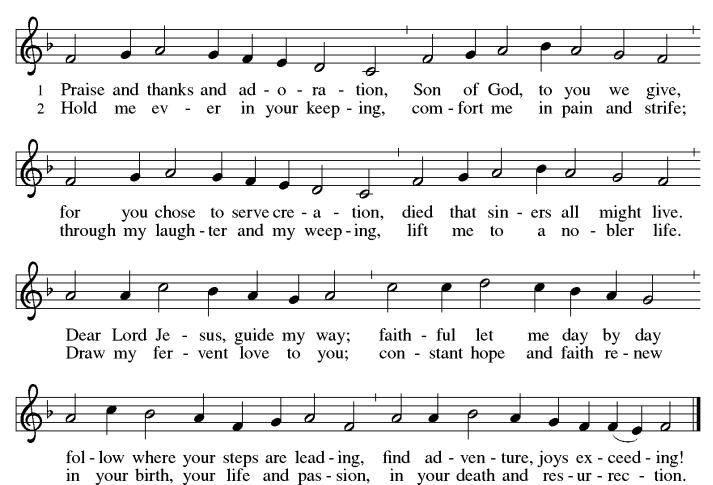
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#### TABLE BLESSING – PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## SENDING

#### SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*BLESSING – SENDING SONG: ELW #783 "Praise and Thanks and Adoration"



#### \*DISMISSAL: Go in peace. Live in hope. Thanks be to God.

#### PRAYER BELL – POSTLUDE: Sonata – Johann Pezel

The postlude sends us out for service in the world. Feel free to use this time in any way that helps to send you out!

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**TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP AND HOSPITALITY:** PRESIDING & PREACHING: Pastor April Ulring Larson; ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce; CANTOR: Karin Martin-Hiner; USHERS: Bob Larson, Bev Sheridan; GREETER: Harriet Hayes; READER: Jane Borelli; ASSISTING MINISTER: Bob Naslund; AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN: Alex Bodnar; FELLOWSHIP: Donna Bahr, Carol Hasvold, Harriet Hayes, Elizabeth Kaschins, Ann Naslund, Lyle Otte, Bev Sheridan.

**PLEASE HOLD OUR GOOD SHEPHERD CALL COMMITTEE IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Megan Buckingham (Convener), Anne Clausen, Steve Holland, Karin Martin-Hiner, Bob Larson, and Leah Holland.

#### HAITI BOOK AND PHOTO DISPLAY IN FELLOWSHIP HALL TODAY: Renee Splichal Larson's book, A Witness: The Haiti Earthquake, a Song, Death, and Resurrection, will be available to view. Pastors April and Judd have provided three signed copies to be placed in Good Shepherd's Library. Pastors April and Judd have provided two posters for the display. One shows photos of Ben, Renee, and Jon (Ben's cousin), who were in Haiti together, in the area that became the epicenter of the earthquake later that day in 2010. The other poster is a photo of the plaque installed by St. Joseph's Home for Boys on the same floor/location where Ben died.

**RECONCILING IN CHRIST SUNDAY TODAY – RESILIENT COMMUNITY:** With this annual worship celebration, partner congregations share in the commitment to ongoing work of welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for LGBTQIA+ people in the life of the church. Good Shepherd was certified as a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation by congregation vote on January 31, 2007. Following the Luther College Congregation, Good Shepherd was the second congregation in our area to become a partner congregation with Reconciling Works: Lutherans for Full Participation.

**GOOD SHEPHERD'S MISSION ASSISTANCE FUND IS DEPLETED:** Please consider donating to the Fund at this time! Donations can be made several ways: by **check**, made out to Good Shepherd with *Mission Assistance* in the memo line, placed in the <u>offering plate or dropped off in the church office</u>; by **cash** or **check**, placed in the Mission Assistance Fund <u>basket on the Fellowship serving table</u> following worship; or **online** at our **website's GIVING Tab**. The Mission Assistance Fund responds to requests from congregation members and the wider community, and is administered by our pastor and two members of the congregation.

**DECORAH COMMUNITY MEAL:** THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 5:00 - 6:15 p.m., Please join your friends and neighbors for this free meal in Decorah Lutheran's Fellowship Hall, 309 Winnebago Street. All are welcome! This month, several retailers from Decorah are providing volunteers, salads, and desserts. The main course is provided by Sodexo of Luther College. Gluten free options and carry outs are always available.

**RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE AND WINTER GREENS AT GOOD SHEPHERD:** Old Christmas trees and winter greens are being collected for use for the Easter Vigil bonfire (this year April 19th!). **Please leave them in the space between the Annex and Mower shed.** Removal of metal and roping from wreaths and greens is appreciated!

#### DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY POSITION OPEN: Good

Shepherd seeks a leader for the part-time position of Director of Children and Youth Ministry, working with ages Pre-K through High School. The Director serves the wider mission of the congregation, creating, coordinating, and directly participating with children and youth in programs of learning, service, and faith formation along with the Pastor and the Education and Youth Committee. Applicants should have knowledge of the Lutheran faith; experience with children and youth activities and programs is desired. Contact the church office at (563) 382-3963.

**OPENING FOR PART-TIME MINISTRY AND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR:** A part-time Ministry & Communications Coordinator position is currently open, due to the resignation of **Erica Yaneff**. The Ministry & Communications Coordinator assists the Pastor and works collaboratively with the Good Shepherd staff, church committees, and congregation members to fulfill the everyday function of the Church, as well as needs that arise throughout the calendar year. The Coordinator serves as the go-to person for managing communications between committees and the congregation. The creation of publications (bulletins, monthly newsletters, social media posts, special event posters, etc.) also falls under this position. For a complete job description and application form, go to **goodshepherddecorah.org/ministry***communications-coordinator*.

**OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK:** 9 AM – 12 PM Monday-Friday

## Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

Praying for others is a cherished ministry that everyone can participate in at any time. There are no time constraints to our care for others as we offer their needs up to God. People on the prayer list are welcome to remain there for as long as is needed.

#### Those with health concerns:

- Mickey Slind
- Scott Barnes, friend of Erik Berg
- Marilyn Anderson
- Jon Wendling
- Helen Hermeier
- James Barth
- Ginny Olson
- Stephanie Hoff
- Wanda Rueber
- Stacey Nalean-Carlson
- LaVerne Ramsey
- Scott Ulring
- Phillip Swanson, son of Ted & Joann Swanson and brother of Kristin Swanson

- Harland Nelson
- Dennis Martin, Marv & Mickey Slind's brother-in-law
- Ingrid Callaghan
- Carrie Solberg
- Jutta Anderson

#### <u>Those who grieve:</u>

- Sarah Wicks and family, upon the death of her grandfather Bob Fahrenkrug on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Norma Refsal and family, upon the death of her husband Harley Refsal on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Laurie Biedermann, Linda Martin, and all the family of Millard Nelson upon his death on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### Those serving the needs of others:

- Martha Monson Lowe
- Maryn Olson, Director of Lutheran Disaster Response
- Pastor Kathryn Thompson as she serves higher education students through LuMin in La Crosse

To have a prayer request added to or removed from the Prayer List, please email Pastor April at pastorapril@goodshepherddecorah.org or call (563) 382-3963.

## **Good Shepherd Worship Schedule**

## Today, Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>: Reconciling in Christ Sundays

Worship at 9:30 am; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion; Preaching/Presiding: Pastor April Ulring Larson Coffee/Treats/Social Time: 10:30-11:30 am; Fellowship Hall; Blue Flock Sunday School Programming Pre-K - 2nd Grade, 3rd - 6th Grade, 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

## Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship at 9:30 AM; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion Preaching and Presiding: Pastor April Ulring Larson Congregation Annual Meeting: 11:00 AM; Fellowship Hall Sunday School Programming Pre-K – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

## Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship at 9:30 am; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion; Preaching/Presiding: Pastor April Ulring Larson Coffee/Treats/Social Time: 10:30-11:30 am; Fellowship Hall; Blue Flock Sunday School Programming Pre-K - 2nd Grade, 3rd - 6th Grade, 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

## 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.

**RACIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT:** This Statement was approved at meeting of the congregation on February 6th, 2022. It was developed through the work of the Racial Justice Team which listening sessions with the congregation. Find the full statement at

■ the annual

goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement or by scanning the code.

**We trust** in the new life made possible through Christ's resurrection and we are hopeful that the Church is an ideal place to engage in the lifelong and transformative work of racial justice. Fostering antiracist ideas and actions is one way that we can follow Jesus' example of love for our neighbor. When we fail, we will rely on God's grace, that God might work in and through our broken humanity and that we might be sustained to learn from our mistakes and continue to show up for the work of antiracism. (2 Corinthians 5:17-18)

### **GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF:**

Pastor April Ulring Larson (563) 217-0741 pastorapril@goodshepherddecorah.org Brooke Joyce; Music Director Tristan Occhipinti; Office & Building Manager Mike Sammons; Custodian



## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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