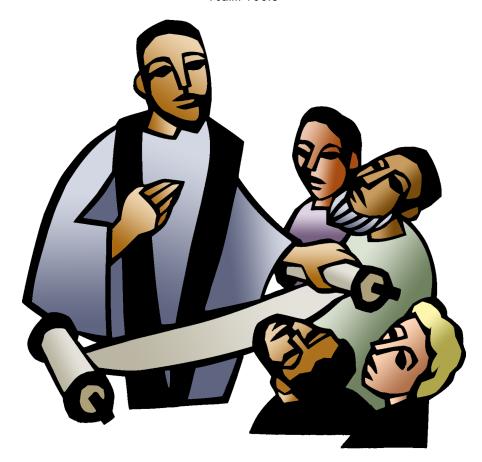
# GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Psalm 100:3



# February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Presentation of Our Lord 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. 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.

## A note from Pastor April on today's worship:

Today, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the fourth Sunday after Epiphany, our Gospel lesson is a continuation of last week's Gospel lesson. Jesus is still in the synagogue with his hometown folk. Their pride in the "hometown boy made good" suddenly turns to hostility and rage.

February 2<sup>nd</sup> is also the Festival of the Presentation of Our Lord where we hear Luke 2:22-40. The parents of Jesus present their son at the Temple. Simeon sings (the Nunc dimittis) and the prophet Anna praises God.

In many traditions of the Christian church this is also Candlemas Sunday, the 40<sup>th</sup> day after Christmas, where the people bring the candles to be used for the whole church year and they are blessed. This is also the final day when Christmas decorations are removed.

On a humorous note, in US culture some also celebrate Groundhog Day on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### 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: Sarabande – Carl Bohm (played by Keegan Joyce)
WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN: ELW #844 "Praise to the Lord" (Cantor sings verse 1 in French, then congregation sings verses 1 and 2 in English)





#### \*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**.

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

#### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1:4-10

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

- <sup>4</sup> Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, <sup>5</sup> "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."
- <sup>6</sup> Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." <sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. <sup>8</sup> Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord."
- <sup>9</sup> Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup> See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

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

#### **PSALM: Psalm 71:1-6**

- <sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, have I <sup>1</sup> taken refuge; let me never be <sup>1</sup> put to shame.
- <sup>2</sup> In your righteousness, deliver me and | set me free; incline your ear to | me and save me.
- <sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to | keep me safe; you are my crag | and my stronghold.
- <sup>4</sup> Deliver me, my God, from the hand | of the wicked, from the clutches of the evildoer and | the oppressor.
- <sup>5</sup> For you are my hope, <sup>1</sup> O Lord GOD, my confidence since <sup>1</sup> I was young.
- <sup>6</sup> I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you have | been my strength;

my praise shall be al- | ways of you.

#### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

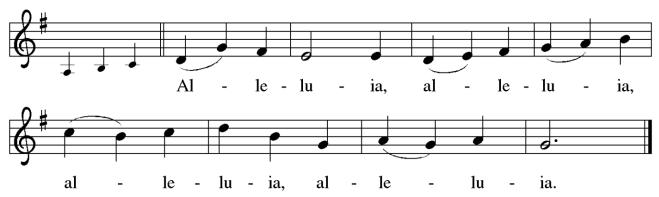
<sup>1</sup> If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup> It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup> Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. <sup>9</sup> For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; <sup>10</sup> but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. <sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup> And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



#### **GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:22-38**

This story is a study in contrasts: the infant Jesus with the aged prophets; the joy of birth with the ominous words of Simeon to Mary; the faithful fulfilling of the law with the presentation of the one who will release its hold over us. Through it all, we see the light of God's salvation revealed to the world.

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

- $^{22}$  When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord  $^{23}$  (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"),  $^{24}$  and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."
- <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup> Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,
  - <sup>29</sup> "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;
  - 30 for my eyes have seen your salvation,
    - 31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
  - <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."
- <sup>33</sup> And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed <sup>35</sup> so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."
- <sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

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

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: BLESSING OF THE CANDLES

The blessing of Good Shepherd's candles for this coming year.

Loving God, your son Jesus was revealed to Simeon as the light and salvation to all nations and the glory of your people Israel. May these candles be to us a sign of Christ's light and presence. Guided by the Holy Spirit may we live by the light of faith until we come to the light of glory. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.** 

#### **SERMON**

#### SERMON GOSPEL FOR THE 4th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY: Luke 4:21-30

People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

<sup>21</sup> Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup> All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup> He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' <sup>24</sup> And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. <sup>25</sup> But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; <sup>26</sup> yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. <sup>27</sup> There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup> When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. <sup>29</sup> They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #644 "Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue"



\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: When indicated, respond: hear our prayer.

\*PEACE OF CHRIST: The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

see

faith.

love

one

face

love

to

in

face.

Christ.

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:** "Hear Us" – Brooke Joyce

then

one

we

hope,

will

one

see:

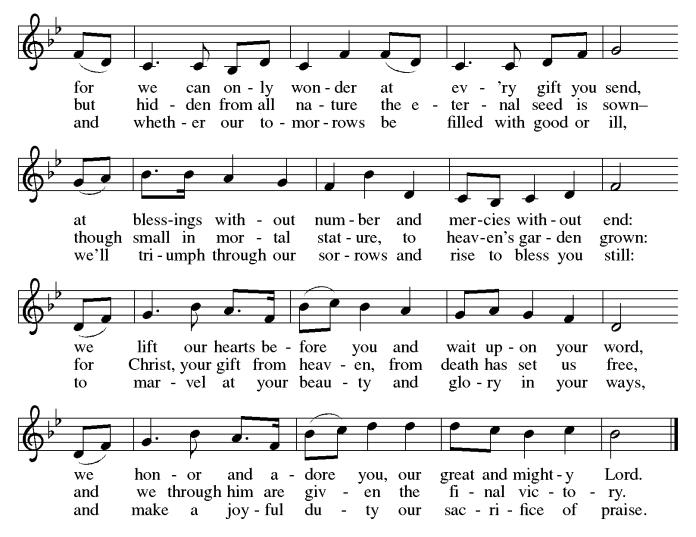
mind.

\*OFFERTORY SONG: ELW #880 "O God Beyond All Praising" (verse 1 only)



Text: Andrew Donaldson, b. 1951
Music: OWALY WALYE English traditional
Text of 995 Andrew Donaldson.
Dunk-solice in som from nordalished usinhest normission or solid tissues from

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996 Musex: THAXTHD Gustar Wheel, 1874–1934 Rex [982, 1987 Inskitat Hyms, admin. Hope Pholishing Company, Carol Stream, II. 60188. All rights resern Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from coppright administrator.

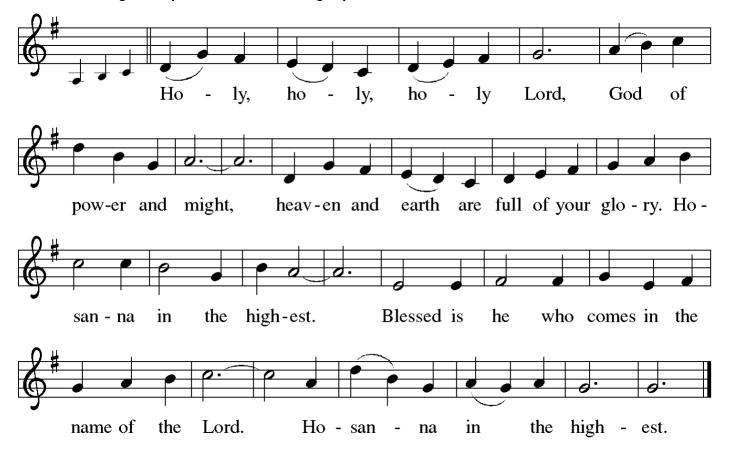


## \*OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray... Amen.

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING - HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:



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

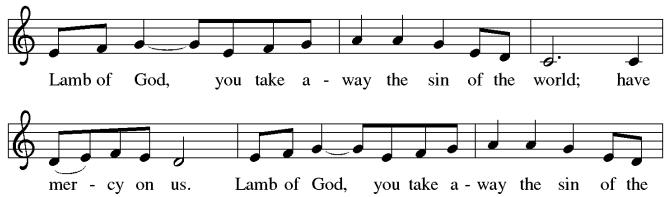


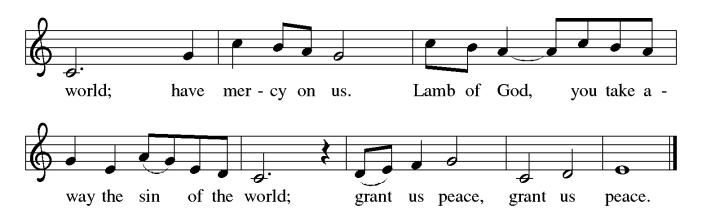
#### \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION - THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE: Our Father...

**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 #528 "Come and Fill Our Hearts"



Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community
Music: CONFITEMINI DOMINO, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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#### ELW #770 "Give Me Jesus"



Vext: African American spiritual
Music GUVE MIE BEUGS, African American spiritual; arr. hynnal version
Arr. © 2000 Augsburg Fortnes.

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## ELW #715 "Christ, Be Our Light"



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# TABLE BLESSING – PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION SENDING

#### **SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*BLESSING - SENDING SONG: ELW #535 "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"



Text: South African; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984
Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. Freedom Is Coming
English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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

### **PRAYER BELL - POSTLUDE:** "O Morning Star" - Dirck Sweelinck

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: Jonathon Struve; USHERS: Heather and Dustin Cote; READER: Connie Buresh; ASSISTING MINISTER: Tom Buresh; AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN: Alex Bodnar; FELLOWSHIP: Connie and Tom Buresh, Kim and Mike Huinker, Lyle and Sue Luzum, Diane Kruse.

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.

#### ANNUAL MEETING TODAY, FELLOWSHIP HALL, 11:00 AM!

MISSION ASSISTANCE FUND DEPLETED: Please consider donating to the fund, as the Mission Assistance Fund is completely depleted. The fund responds to requests from congregation members and the wider community and is administered by our pastor and two members of the congregation. Donations can be made several ways: by check, made out to Good Shepherd with Mission Assistance in the memo line, placed in the offering plate or dropped off in the church office; by cash or check, placed in the Mission Assistance Fund basket on the Fellowship serving table following worship; or online at the Good Shepherd website's Giving Tab.

EPIC/MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND ADULT FORUM: Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM, Gathering Space: Jeff Olinger, Thrivent Financial, will be at Good Shepherd to hold a discussion relating to future planning. The Forum is open to members and non-members and will be non-structured. The EPIC Scholarship/Mission Endowment Fund Committee is sponsoring the Forum as a part of the Stewardship for All Seasons concept that is used by the committee.

# **NOTE OF GRATITUDE AND THANKS:** Sarah Wicks, Nancy

Roatch and families would like to extend our deep gratitude for all of the prayers, cards and kindness that have been shared with us during the health challenges and passing of Sarah's grandparents and Nancy's parents, Bob and Eileen Fahrenkrug.

**NOTE FROM FACILITIES AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE:** Please be sure that all Sanctuary doors are closed when the space is not in use. The humidification for the organ is affected when the doors are left open.

#### **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**.

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.

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!

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:**

- Bob Naslund
- Elizabeth Kaschins
- 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

# Those who grieve:

 Sarah Wicks and family, upon the death of her grandfather Bob Fahrenkrug on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</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 Tristan at office@goodshepherddecorah.org or call (563) 382-3963.

# **Good Shepherd Worship Schedule**

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

Presentation of Our Lord Sunday

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, February 9th: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship at 9:30 AM; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion Preaching and Presiding: Pastor April Ulring Larson

Fellowship Time: 10:45 AM; Fellowship Hall; treats provided by the Purple Flock

# Sunday, February 16th: Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship at 9:30 AM; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion Preaching and Presiding: Pastor April Ulring Larson

Fellowship Time: 10:45 AM; Fellowship Hall; treats provided by the Purple Flock

**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 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 <a href="mailto:goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement">goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement</a> 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

701 Iowa Ave Decorah, IA 52101

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