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 23rd — Seventh Sunday after Epiphany 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.

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: Rondeau – Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de St. Georges The prelude is a time when we allow the musical offering to quiet our hearts and minds as we prepare for worship.

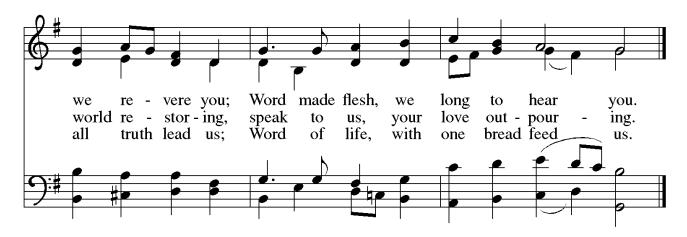
WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN: ELW #510 "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"



Text: James Quinn, St. b. 1919 Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673 Text © James Quinn, St. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., North American agent. www.selahpub.com.

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*GREETING:

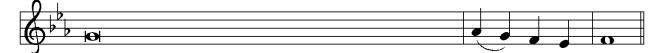
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you**.

*KYRIE: P. 98



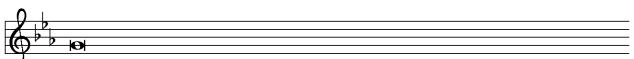
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

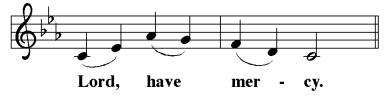


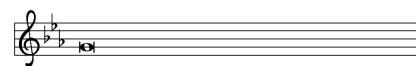


For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

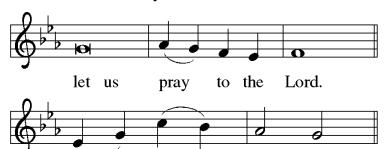


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



Lord, have mer - cy.



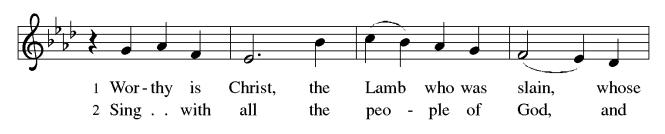
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

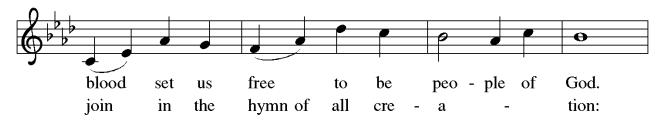


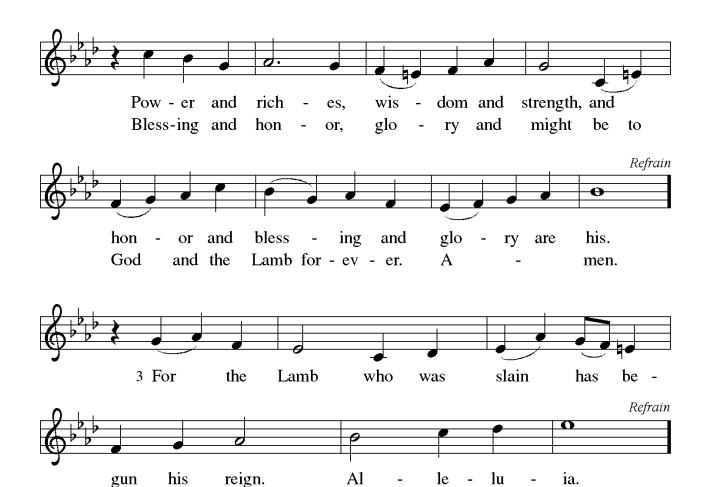
*THIS IS THE FEAST: P. 101











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

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' " 15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

- ¹ Do not be provoked by | evildoers; do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.
- ² For they shall soon wither | like the grass, and like the green grass | fade away.
- ³ Put your trust in the LORD | and do good; dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.
- ⁴ Take delight | in the LORD, who shall give you your | heart's desire.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust | in the LORD, and see what | God will do.
- ⁶ The LORD will make your vindication as clear | as the light and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.

 Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.
 - 8 Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.
 - ⁹ For evildoers shall | be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- | sess the land.
 - ¹⁰ In a little while the wicked shall | be no more; even if you search out their place, they will | not be there.
 - 11 But the lowly shall pos- | sess the land; they will delight in abun- | dance of peace.
 - ³⁹ But the deliverance of the righteous comes from | you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in | time of trouble.
- ⁴⁰ You, O LORD, will help them and ¹ rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you ¹ they seek refuge.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

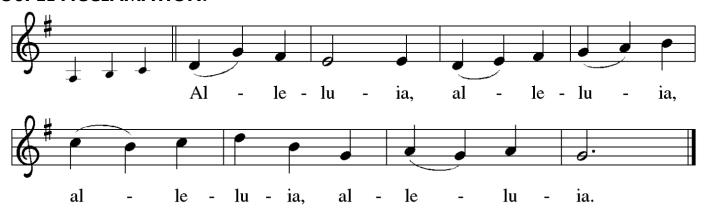
³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



*GOSPEL READING: Luke 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

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

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY: Bring to Birth, O Holy Midwife



Text: Stacey Nalean-Carlson, 2019

Music: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, Harrisburg, 1813

*APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*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.

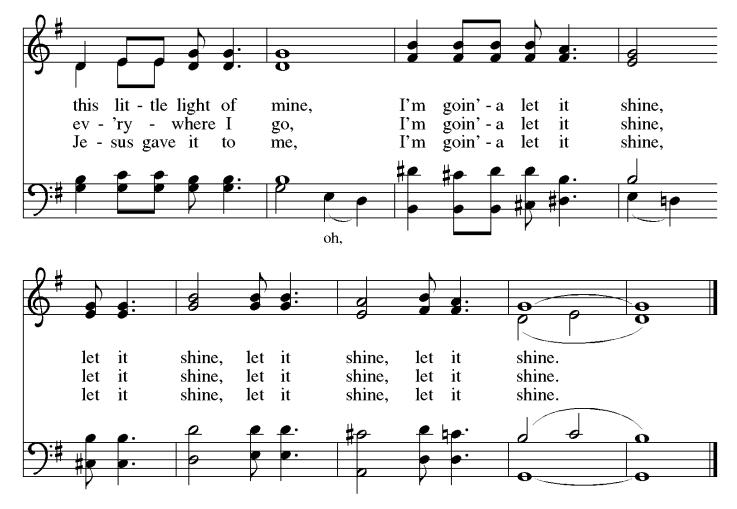
MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC: "The Deserted Garden" - Florence Price

*OFFERTORY SONG: ELW #677 "This Little Light of Mine" (verses 1 & 2)

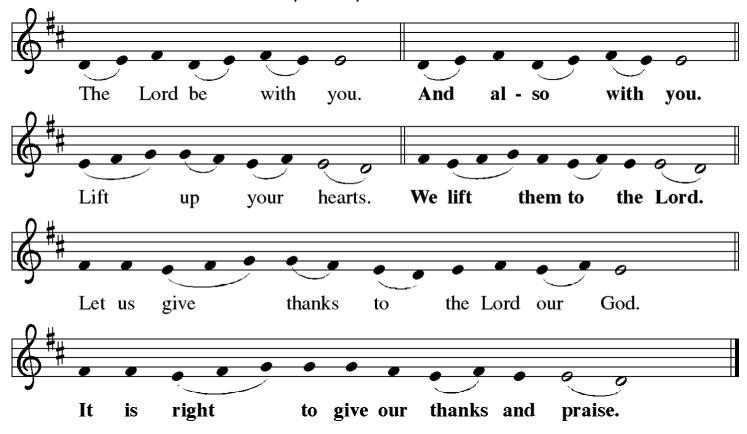


Text: African American spiritual Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935 Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

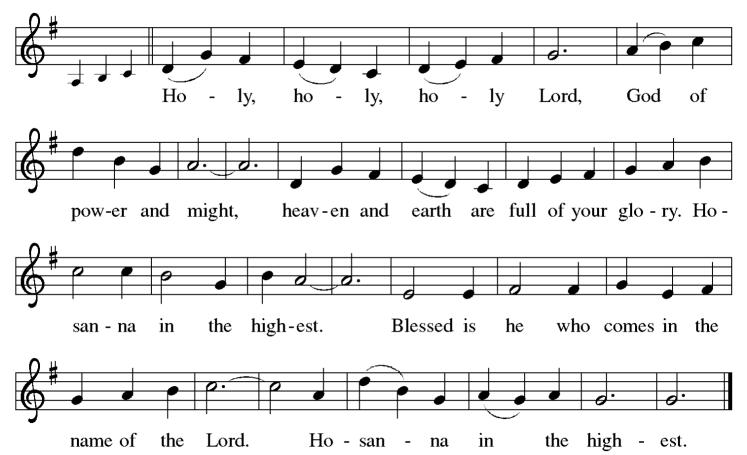


*OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray... Amen.

*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:



ELW #608 "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling" **COMMUNION HYMNS:** Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus call - ing, call - ing for Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead-ing, plead - ing for 2 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom-ised for you and for por - tals he's wait-ing and watch-ing, the me. on Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer-cies, you and for me? Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don, you and for me! Refrain watch-ing for you and for me. mer - cies for you and for "Come home, come home! me? par - don for you and for come home! Come home, me. You who are wea-ry, home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly, come

call - ing,

"O

sin - ner,

call-ing,

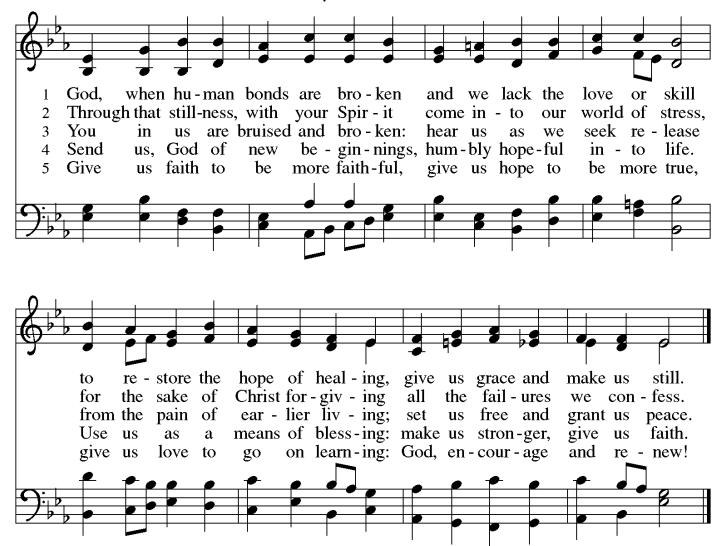
is

Je - sus

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909 Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

come home!"

ELW #603 "God, When Human Bonds Are Broken"



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889
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TABLE BLESSING – PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



- 1 Praise and thanks and ad o ra tion, Son of God, to you we give,
- 2 Hold me ev er in your keep ing, com fort me in pain and strife;



for you chose to serve cre - a - tion, died that sin - ers all might live. through my laugh - ter and my weep - ing, lift me to a no - bler life.



Dear Lord Je - sus, guide my way; faith - ful let me day by day Draw my fer - vent love to you; con - stant hope and faith re - new



fol-low where your steps are lead-ing, find ad-ven-ture, joys ex-ceed-ing! in your birth, your life and pas-sion, in your death and res-ur-rec-tion.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: FREU DICH SEHR, Trente quatre pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551 Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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

PRAYER BELL – POSTLUDE: "March Song" – Ulysses Kay

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 Stacey Nalean-Carlson; ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce; ASSISTING MINISTER: Rolf Svanoe; LECTOR/READER: Melissa Bills; CANTOR: Nicholas Shaneyfelt; ALTAR GUILD SERVERS: Marie Freerking, Bev Sheridan; USHERS: Matt Bills, Dave Siefken; GREETER: Bills Family; AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN: Alex Bodnar; FELLOWSHIP: Lyle and Sue Luzum, Ruth Bruce, Dave & Jan Siefken, Diane Kruse, Matt and Melissa Bills.

PLEASE HOLD OUR GOOD SHEPHERD CALL COMMITTEE AND PROCESS IN YOUR PRAYERS.

ADULT FORUM TODAY: 11:00 AM, Gathering Space – When we hear things that we don't expect or want—either in person or on the news—our bodies go into alarm mode. Our heart races, our palms sweat, and a host of other physical responses get triggered. And our mind goes into high gear, bringing many unwelcome (and unhelpful) thoughts. Grounding practices help us calm our bodies, which is good. But they also help us stay connected to God, the One who is with us always. This is the most important way we can prepare ourselves to take action. The Adult Forum today is a chance to learn how to do this. "Prayer Practices to Ground Us in Stressful Times" is the topic and the presenter is Jane Jakoubek.

SERVICE OF BELONGING AT LUTHER: Monday, February 24th, 8:00 PM, Center for Faith and Life Main Hall, Luther College — The Luther Office for College

Ministries invites the Decorah community to this special evening communion worship service that will focus on the wide embrace of God's love for all people. Special prayers will be offered to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Luther College Ministries as a Reconciling in Christ partner, affirming and celebrating the gifts and whole persons of our LGBTQIA+ siblings in Christ.

NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR CONCERT IN DECORAH: Friday, February 28th, 7:30 PM, Center for Faith and Life, Luther College — The National Lutheran Choir, under the direction of Dr. Jennaya Robison, will present a FREE concert open to all. The concert's theme is "Healing Body, Mind, Spirit." Director Robison is a Luther College alumna, former choir director at Luther College, former director of "Northern Lights", and a friend of many people in our area. Along with the National Lutheran Choir, the Decorah Chorale, under the direction of member Jason Rausch, will also perform, and there will be a pop-up ecumenical choir, with singers from area congregations invited to join.

LUTHERAN DAY ON THE HILL – GET ON THE BUS TO SUPPORT LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA: Join LSI and ELCA Lutherans from across the state for Lutheran Day on the Hill at the State Capitol in Des Moines on TUESDAY, MARCH 11, departing at 5:30 a.m. and returning at 6:00 p.m. The hope is to have 500 Lutherans come together! Our presence matters – every voice adds strength to our witness. After gathering at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church, we will meet directly with state legislators at the Capitol. Sign up for the bus ride to Des Moines and find more information at

goodshepherddecorah.org/lutheran-day-bus. About half of the cost of the bus will be paid for by donations, but riders are each asked to contribute \$30. If you are interested in financial support for the trip, contact Pastor April.

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK: 9 AM - 12 PM Tuesday-Friday (closed Monday)

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:

- Lise Kildegaard
- Anne Clausen
- Bob Wilson
- Mickey Slind
- Bob Naslund
- · 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:

- Megan Buckingham and family, upon the death of her grandmother Babara Movall on Thursday, February 20th.
- Sarah Wicks and family, upon the death of her grandfather Bob Fahrenkrug on Saturday, December 21st.

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

Sunday, February 23rd: Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Worship at 9:30 AM; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Stacey Nalean-Carlson

Fellowship Time: 10:45 AM; Fellowship Hall; treats provided by the Purple Flock Adult Forum: Prayer Practices to Ground us in Stressful Times; 11 AM; Gathering

Space

Sunday, March 2nd: Transfiguration Sunday

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

Preaching: Pastor Susan Friedrich Presiding: Pastor April Ulring Larson

Fellowship Time: 10:45 AM; Fellowship Hall; treats provided by the Pink 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.

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



<u>goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement</u> 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



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