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 ...

LARGE PRINT EDITION



March 30th – Fourth Sunday in Lent – Rejoice Sunday

Our theme for the Lenten season is, "Lord Jesus, You Are Our Song As We Journey." Martin Luther said, "The only true theology is a theology of the cross, not the false theology of glory." We need to be constantly reminded by Luther and Apostle Paul, the Gospel writers and the entire Scriptures, of our God who is revealed most clearly, not in glory but in the cross, in weakness, in suffering, in loss, in loneliness, pain, and sorrow.

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.

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 *

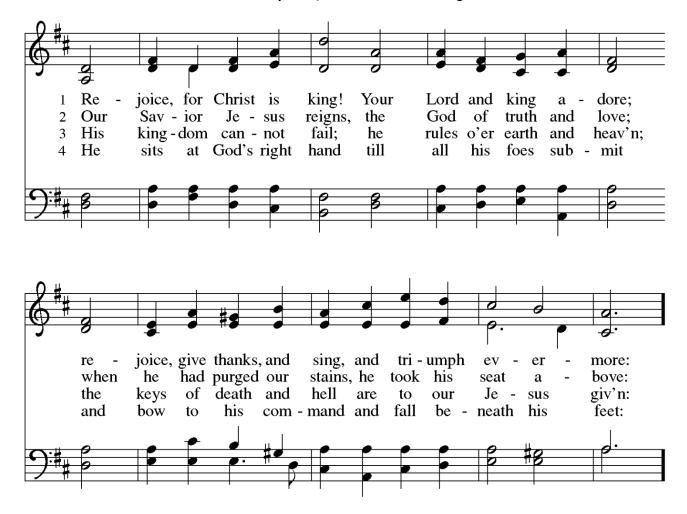
GATHERING

PRAYER BELL - PRELUDE: "Ah, Holy Jesus" - Johannes Brahms

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

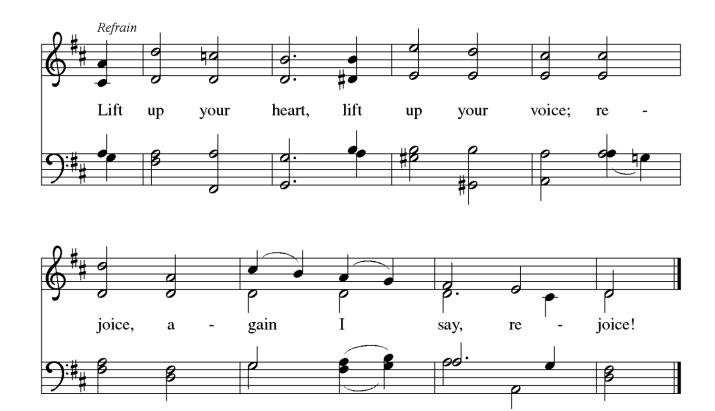
WELCOME – ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 430 Rejoice, for Christ is King!



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849-1936



*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: Joshua 5:9-12

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

⁹ The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

PSALM: Psalm 32

- ¹ Happy are they whose transgressions [|] are forgiven, and whose sin is [|] put away!
- ² Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt, and in whose spirit there | is no guile!
- ³ While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away, because of my groaning | all day long.
- ⁴ For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.
- ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.
 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.
 - ⁶ Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.
 - ⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble; you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.
 - ⁸ "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go; I will guide you | with my eye.
 - ⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you."
 - ¹⁰ Great are the tribulations | of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.
 - ¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he

made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:





*GOSPEL READING: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

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

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son

said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY: ACS 1047 What is the World Like



*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: Response is: God, in your mercy, 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

INVITATION TO OFFERING OFFERTORY MUSIC

*OFFERTORY SONG: ELW #811 "On My Heart Imprint Your Image"



Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt. Music: DER AM KREUZ, Johann B. König, 1691–1758 *OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray... Amen.

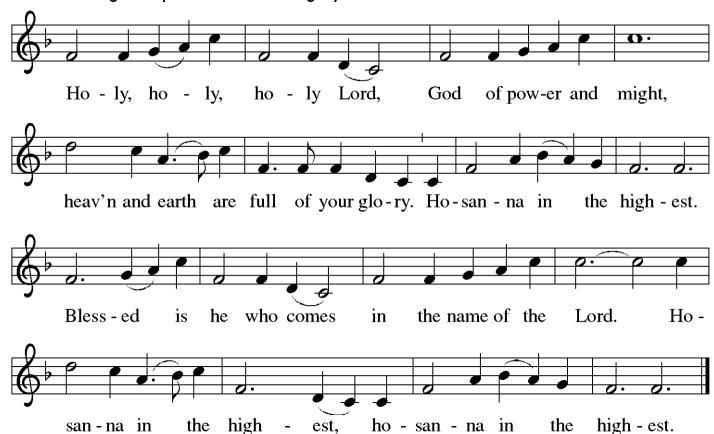
*GREAT THANKSGIVING - HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:

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:



*WORDS OF INSTITUTION – THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE:

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours now and forever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION: All are welcome at Christ's table, no exceptions.

- 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:



- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray. you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray. e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS: ELW 495 We Who Once Were Dead



- We who once were dead live, ful - ly know - ing now Je -1 sus 2 We were lost in night, but you sought and found us. Give us
- 3 He be-came our bread; Je-sus died to save us. On him
- 4 Let us share the pain you en-dured in dy-ing; we shall



our head. Life is o - ver-flow-ing when he breaks the bread. as fight; death is all a - round us. Je - sus, be our light. strength to eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead. we fed. liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we then re - main shall rise a - gain.

5 Jesus, you were dead, but you rose and, living, made yourself our bread, in your goodness giving life though we were dead. 6 This is your design; in this meal we meet you. Be our bread and wine, Jesus, we entreat you. This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite Music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936 Text and music © 1967 Gool en Sticht, BV, Baarn. The Netherlands. All rights reserved, Exclusive agent for English-language countries: OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

ELW 666 What Wondrous Love Is This



TABLE BLESSING – PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION SENDING

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS
*BLESSING

SENDING SONG: ELW 763 My Life Flows On in Endless Song (verses 1 and 2)



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt. **DISMISSAL:** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. Thanks be to God!

PRAYER BELL - POSTLUDE: "Ah, Holy Jesus" - Helmut Walcha

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: PREACHING AND

PRESIDING: Pastor April Ulring Larson; ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce; VIOLINIST: Anishka Vogl; CANTOR: Melanie Folkerts; ASSISTING MINISTER: Wanda Deifelt; LECTOR/READER: Bethany Volz; ALTAR GUILD SERVERS: Marie Freerking, Jeri Laursen; USHERS: Karla and Lindsay Erdman; GREETER: Germano Streese; AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN: Carter Thompson; FELLOWSHIP: Hayley Jackson, Wanda Deifelt, Germano Streese, Dianne Burke, Karla Erdman.

STARTING MAY 1st - NEW GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF MEMBER GABBY BIZAL:

New Luther graduate Gabby Bizal has accepted the twofold, now combined position of Youth Director and Communications Coordinator at Good Shepherd. We are so excited! We will have a special "Gabby day" to welcome and begin to get to know Gabby Bizal on April 23rd. More information about this faithful and gifted sister in Christ, who joins our staff at Good Shepherd on May 1st, will be coming in our April newsletter.

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES: All are welcome at Lenten Evening Prayer services at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary on each of the five Wednesdays in Lent: **March 12, 19, 26,** and **April 2 and 9.** Simple Soup Suppers follow each Wednesday Worship.

Preaching at each coming Wednesday Worship:

April 2: Dr. Martin Klammer, Luther College Professor of English

April 9: Rev. Dr. Rolf Svanoe, retired ELCA pastor

YOUTH LENTEN PROJECT SUPPORTS LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA: This year's Lenten Project, sponsored by Good Shepherd youth, will raise funds for Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI). A Lutheran Services of Iowa fact and offering prayer, written by students during Sunday School time throughout Lent, will be presented by youth each Wednesday and Sunday during Lent. Donations for LSI can be placed in a special art piece, created by our younger Sunday School students, at the altar during the Offertory Wednesdays and Sundays through Palm Sunday. If you'd like to write a check, make it to Good Shepherd with Youth Lenten Project on the memo line.

DECORAH COMMUNITY MEAL: THURSDAY, APRIL 3rd, 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, members of the Rotary Club of 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.

PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF OUR NEIGHBORS! We have learned that it has repeatedly happened that worshippers at Good Shepherd parking on lowa Ave. have blocked the driveway of one of the church's neighbors. Please help our church be a respectful part of our community and be mindful that your parking doesn't prevent our neighbors from accessing their property!

HELP MIKE SAMMONS AND RACHAEL MUNN REBUILD: There are three ways you can help Mike and Rachael after their house fire on March 8. First, you can help with their meals at mealtrain.com/trains/zze5vo. Second, you may drop off gifts for Mike and Rachael at the church office. Third, Mike's father has set up a GoFundMe site to aid with recovery from the fire at Mike and Rachael's house on March 8. For information about the recovery process and to donate, go to gofundme.com/f/help-mikes-family-rebuild-after-house-fire.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF BABY AND PERSONAL CARE KITS: Donate items for LWR Personal Care kits and Baby Care kits, to be assembled in April. Donations can be dropped off in containers in the Gathering Space and Fellowship Hall. Items needed include: new, dark-colored bath towels (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"); 4-5 ounce wrapped bars of soap, any brand; new metal nail clippers; sleepers without feet; cloth diapers, flat fold; dark-colored hand towels. Thank you for your donations!

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2nd THROUGH MONDAY, APRIL 7th.

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
- Amanda Schwoegler
- Anne Clausen
- Bob Wilson
- Mickey Slind
- Scott Barnes
- Jon Wendling
- Elizabeth Hermeier
- James Barth
- Ginny Olson
- Stephanie Hoff

- Wanda Rueber
- LaVerne Ramsey
- Scott Ulring
- Phillip Swanson
- Harland Nelson
- Dennis Martin, Marv & Mickey Slind's brother-in-law
- Ingrid Callaghan
- Carrie Solberg
- Jutta Anderson

Those in a time of crisis:

 Mike Sammons, our staff custodian, and his family (Rachael Munn and daughters Althea and Eleanor), in the wake of a house fire

Those who grieve:

- Pete and Kari Espinosa and their families, upon the deaths of Pete's sister on Sunday, March 23rd and Kari's nephew on Tuesday, March 18th.
- Glendalu Wuest and family, upon the death of her husband Dick Wuest on Monday, March 3rd.

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, March 30th: Fourth Sunday in Lent

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 Pink Flock

Wednesday, April 2nd: Lenten Wednesday Worship

Worship at 5:30 PM; Sanctuary

Presiding: Pastor April Ulring Larson

Preaching: Dr. Martin Klammer

Simple Soup Supper: 6:15 PM; Fellowship Hall; soups provided by the Blue

Flock

Sunday, April 6th: Fifth Sunday in Lent

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 Red Flock

Wednesday, April 9th: Lenten Wednesday Worship

Worship at 5:30 PM; Sanctuary

Presiding: Pastor April Ulring Larson

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Rolf Svanoe

Simple Soup Supper: 6:15 PM; Fellowship Hall; soups provided by the Purple

Flock

Sunday, April 13th: Passion Sunday

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 Red Flock

Thursday-Saturday, April 17th-19th: Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil

Worship at 7:00 PM each day; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion on Thursday

Preaching and Presiding: Pastor April Ulring Larson

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. NO EXCEPTIONS. 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 **goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement** or by scanning the code.



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.

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF:

Pastor April Ulring Larson
(563) 217-0741
pastorapril@goodshepherddecorah.org
Brooke Joyce; Music Director
Tristan Occhipinti; Office & Building Manager
Rylie Bucklin; Director of Children, Youth, and
Family Ministry
Mike Sammons; Custodian

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