



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

LARGE PRINT EDITION



November 23rd, 2025 – Christ the King Sunday And Good Shepherd's 67th Birthday!

Introduction: *Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" through a future finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal.*

Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT GOOD SHEPHERD.

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.

There is more information about our ministry on the back of the bulletin.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*rise in body or spirit when indicated by **

PRAYER BELL

WELCOME

PRELUDE: *Pastourelle* – Pierre-Max Dubois

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Good Shepherd,

you have shown us the ways of your heart,

**and called us by name to follow you in the way
of faithful, loving service to our neighbors,
and care for the earth that supports all life.**

**You call us to the path of peace through the cross,
the way of compassion and forgiveness for all, even enemies.**

But we have strayed from your path and turned from your voice.

We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression.

We hold grudges and call names.

We guard our comfort over care of neighbor and land.

**We cling to the things of this life when we are called to
live in the freedom of your eternal kingdom breaking in.**

**Oh Christ, come and find us. Call us again to follow your love. Repair our
relationships, restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts, and bring us to your new life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you,

† in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,

and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free to follow.

Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN: *How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place* – Brooke Joyce**

verse 1: cantor, verse 2: choir, v. 3-6: all

Descant:

1. How love-ly is your dwell-ing place, where wor-ship lifts its song, A
2. How love-ly is your dwell-ing place, for mu-sic's swel-ling phrase, For
3. And love-ly is your dwell-ing place, Where fel-low-ship joins hearts, To
4. Dear God, a-bid-ing still with us, Di-rect our hearts and hands, To

sa-cred and a gath-ering place, A house where all be-long.
cho-ir, brass, and ev-ery voice To blend in joy-ful praise.
ease the bur-dens that we bring, Till an-xious care de-parts.
serve our neigh-bor and ob-serve Your good and just com-mands.

5. Teach us to welcome strangers in,
To stand beside the poor,
Till justice like a river flows,
And love, forevermore.

6. Thus, in this lovely dwelling place
We open wide the door.
Abide with us, go forth with us,
And bless us evermore.

***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:

O God,

our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

KIDS' TIME

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Luke 1:68-79: Zechariah's Song over Baby John

⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.

⁶⁹ **You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.**

⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised
of old to save us from our enemies,

⁷¹ from the hands of all who hate us,

⁷² **to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember your holy covenant.**

⁷³ This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

⁷⁴ **to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship you without fear,**



75 holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

**76 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,**

**77 to give God's people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

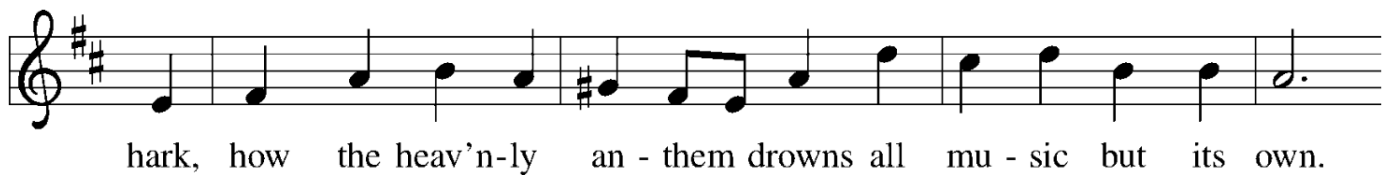
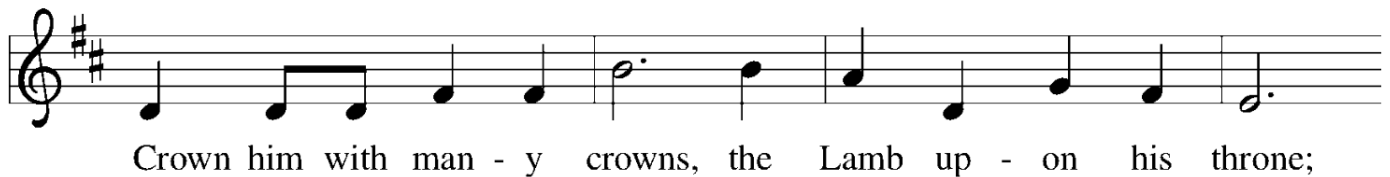
**78 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

**79 to shine on those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

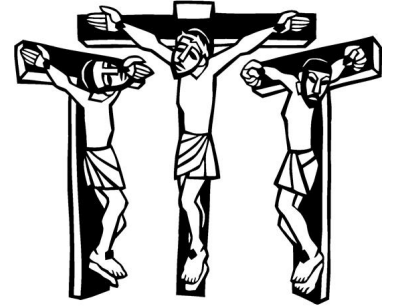
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

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

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen



one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

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

SERMON: No King but Jesus, No Throne but the Cross Pastor Kristen Larsen-Schmidt

***HYMN OF THE DAY: You, Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd 954 Purple Hymnal**



1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



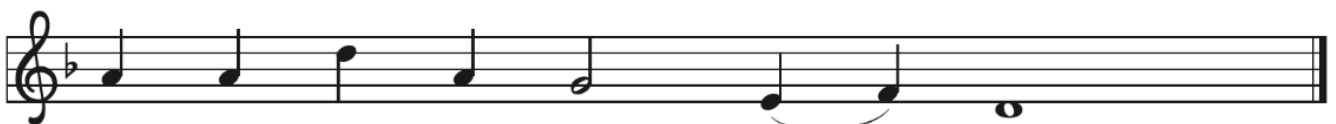
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 you, who are both gift and cost.
 you, who are our pil - grim and guide.
 you, who are our death and life.

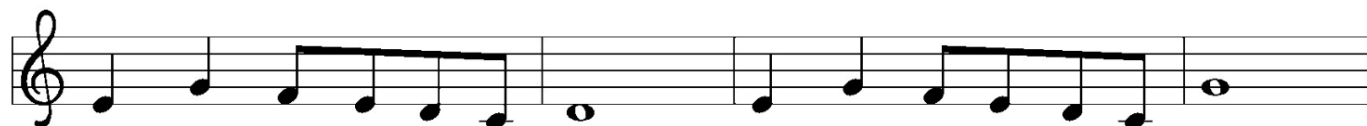
***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:** *Response: God in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

OFFERING AND CHILDREN'S OFFERING

Children are invited to come forward to get a pail to collect change and bills for our mission of the month, which is the Decorah Community Food Pantry

OFFERTORY MUSIC: *Take Me Back – Andrae Crouch*

OFFERTORY SONG: *Take, Oh Take Me As I Am*



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

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

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***LORD'S PRAYER:**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Cantabile – Johann Galliard*

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 7/8 time signature. It features a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords and eighth notes.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats and a 7/8 time signature, continuing the melody from the first system. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, continuing the harmonic accompaniment.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community
Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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What Wondrous Love is This

666 Red Hymnal



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.



The King of Love My Shepherd Is

502 Red Hymnal

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Let us pray... **Amen.**

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BLESSING: From 1 Colossians 1:11-13**

L: May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

C: **God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *Soon and Very Soon

Children are invited to come forward to play percussion instruments during the Sending Song.

1. *Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King (3x)*

Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!

2. *No more cryin' there...*

3. *No more dyin' there...*

4. *Soon and very soon...*

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

***DISMISSAL:** Go in peace. Follow the Shepherd King.

We will! Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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! All are invited to a time of enjoying treats and Fellowship.

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Special thanks to guest musicians Andi Beckendorf, Erik Berg, and Dan England for playing this morning!

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP AND HOSPITALITY:

PREACHING AND PRESIDING: Pastor Kristen Larsen-Schmidt

ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce

CANTOR: Melissa Bills

ASSISTING MINISTER: Jeff Krambeer

LECTOR/READER: Kris Peterson

USHERS: Jim & Liz Fritz

GREETER: Holly Hurst

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN: Carter Thompson

FELLOWSHIP: Jenny Kunka, Dave Peterson, Jim & Liz Fritz, Shelley Hurst, Ed & Joyce Epperly

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GOOD SHEPHERD!

Charter members in attendance:

Erik Berg
Lindsay Erdman
Steve Hopkins
Midge Kjome
Karl Knudson
Bev (Ramsey)
Nelson
David Ramsey

Other charter members:

Jon Torger Berg
Mark Finanger
LaVerne Ramsey

Advent at Good Shepherd

Join us each Wednesday in Advent as we celebrate the coming of Jesus!
We will begin with a simple, shared meal at 5:30, and will begin worship around 6:15pm.

12/3: Evening Compline Worship

12/10: Blue Christmas Service

This will be a service with soft, lovely music and dim lighting. It will give space for contemplation, grief, and the mixed emotions that sometimes come up in the Christmas season.

All are welcome.

12/17: Children's Christmas Program

12/24: Christmas Eve Worship at 4pm and 6pm

Good Shepherd Christmas Program!

December 17th, 5:30pm

Rehearsals will be held after worship on November 23rd, December 7th, and December 14th.

Scan the QR code to fill out the form to
sign up to participate!



This Week at Good Shepherd

Today, Sunday, November 16th: 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

10:45 AM: Fellowship Time: Fellowship Hall; treats: Red Flock

Monday, November 17th: Church Office Hours: 9 AM-2 PM

3:30 PM-8 PM: Violin Lessons

4 PM: Outreach & Hospitality Meeting

5 PM: Flock Refreshment Subcommittee Meeting

6:30 PM: AL/ANON; Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, November 18th: Church Office Hours: 9 AM-2 PM

9:30 AM: Bible Study with Pastor Kristen; Library — all are welcome

6 PM: Sons of Norway Meeting; Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM: Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 19th: Church Office Hours: 9 AM-2 PM

1 PM: Prayer Shawl Meeting; Gathering Space

3:30 PM: Men's Ministry Coffee; Lefse Lodge Kafe

5:30 PM: Supper for all; Fellowship Hall – Indigenous Food

6:00 PM: LIFT: Learning In Faith Together

-Pre-k through 5th Grade: Wednesday School

-6th-8th Grade: Confirmation; Library

-Adult Learning: Fellowship Hall: Linda Donoghue – Good Shepherd's Land
Acknowledgement Statement

7:00: Closing Prayer and song together, All and Choir

7:05 Choir Practice

7:45: Band Practice

Thursday, November 20th: Church Office Hours: 9 AM-2 PM

12:45 PM: EPIC Scholarship Committee Meeting

3:30 PM-8 PM: Violin Lessons

4 PM-9 PM: Oneota Co-op Potluck; Fellowship Hall

Friday, November 21st: Church Office Hours: 9 AM-12 PM

Sunday, November 23rd: Christ the King Sunday

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

Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Kristen Larsen-Schmidt

10:45 AM Fellowship Time: Fellowship Hall; treats: Red Flock

Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

Praying for others is a cherished ministry that everyone can participate in at any time. People on the prayer list are welcome to remain there for as long as is needed.

Those with health concerns:

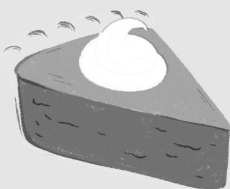
- Evah Raney, *aunt of Dan Raney*
- Barbara Nasby, *best friend of Stephanie Hoff*
- Ann Fredrickson, *friend of Gabby Bizal*
- Bob Wilson
- Linda and Jim Morgan, *Jane Borelli's sister and brother-in-law*
- Talynn Lowe
- Linda Schmidt, *Brian Larsen-Schmidt's mom*
- Joan Searles
- Glenda Wuest
- Naomi Craft
- Barbara, *mother of Christy Vrtis*
- Anthony McCabe
- Lise Kildegaard
- Mickey Slind
- Scott Barnes
- Jon Wendling
- Elizabeth Hermeier
- James Barth
- Ginny Olson
- Haisleigh – *children's hospital, Iowa City*
- LaVerne Ramsey
- Phillip Swanson
- Harland Nelson
- Carrie Solberg
- Jutta Anderson

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.

Pie & Evening Prayer

November 25th, 6pm
Good Shepherd Gathering Space

Join Gabby for an evening of pie, prayer, and fellowship! We will gather at 6pm for a simple prayer service, and have time for fellowship over pie! If you would like to bring your favorite pie, feel free, but you are also welcome to simply show up! Good Shepherd will provide the whipped cream. Use the QR code to let us know if you are bringing pie!




REMINDER!

THERE IS NO LIFT
PROGRAMMING THIS
WEDNESDAY, 11/26. WE WILL
BEGIN OUR ADVENT WORSHIP
SCHEDULE ON 12/3



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
701 Iowa Ave. Decorah, IA 52101
(563) 382-3963 office@goodshepherddecorah.org

WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS! 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 – just follow the crowd. Sit anywhere!

- 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. Good Shepherd buildings are Carbon Neutral/Net Zero Energy use.
- **Our RACIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT** was approved by the congregation on February 6th, 2022. Find the full statement at goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement or by scanning the  code.
- **ALL ARE WELCOME TO SHARE IN HOLY COMMUNION**, the bread is all non-gluten. Wine is dark, grape juice light.

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF:

Pastor Kristen Larsen-Schmidt

(563) 202-0780 pastorkristen@goodshepherddecorah.org

Brooke Joyce; Music Director music@goodshepherddecorah.org

Tristan Occhipinti; Office and Building Manager

tristan@goodshepherddecorah.org

Gabby Bizal; Community Engagement Coordinator

gabby@goodshepherddecorah.org

Mike Sammons; Custodian