**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 29 – 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.

*Good Shepherd was certified as a Reconciling in Christ partner*

*congregation by congregational vote on January 31, 2007. This Reconciling in Christ Welcome Statement was updated by the Congregation Council, June 21, 2022.*

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

***The building is in the process of becoming carbon neutral. Please excuse the mess!***

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship**-ELW (red book),** All Creation Sings**-ACS (purple book)**

Page numbers (P.) in front of ELW and hymn numbers (#) in back of ELW and ACS

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

**GATHERING**

**GATHERING MUSIC: “**There Is A Spirit That Delights To Do No Evil” - Ned Rorem

**PRAYER BELL - WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, fountain of living water,

who is the source of breath and nourishment. **Amen.**

Holy God, through the waters of baptism you announce that we are your beloved children…Through the waters of the flood and the parting of the seas, you showed your promises to be true.

**In the waters of baptism you claimed us and called each of us by our true name. Through baptism into the body of Christ, you transformed our lives and made us whole. Send now your Spirit to move in our midst and soak us with your gifts of mercy, love, and grace. Amen.**

Called by our true names in baptism, we are also called to see all people as beloved children of God. Together let us affirm our commitment to welcome, celebrate and honor siblings in Christ who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, those of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

Let us together affirm our Reconciling in Christ Welcome Statement.

**All are welcome at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.**

God makes no exceptions.

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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.**

**\*GATHERING SONG**: ACS 1038 God, We Gather as Your People vs. 1-2

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

**WORD**

**FIRST READING:** Micah 6:1-8 **-** Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 15 -** *Psalm 15 gives us a picture of the relationship between worship and daily life. As God’s beloved ones, we are held in the covenant of Baptism and called to faithful living in the world. We are also called to return regularly to worship, where we encounter the living God and are strengthened, renewed and sent out to share God’s life in the world.*

1Lord, who may dwell in your **|** tabernacle?  
  Who may abide upon your **|** holy hill?  
 2**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,**  
**who speak the truth | from their heart;**   
3they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil **|** to their friends;  
  they do not cast discredit up- **|** on a neighbor.  
 4**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the Lord.**  
**They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**  
**5They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.**

**SECOND READING:**1 Corinthians 1:18-31-Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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**\* GOSPEL:** Matthew 5:1-12

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

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

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY:** ACS 977 Look Who Gathers at Christ’s Table

A sheet of music

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**\*APOSTLE’s CREED:** p.105

**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 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:** *Each petition ends:* Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

**\*PEACE:** 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.*

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

**\*OFFERING SONG:** ACS 978 God Welcomes All – 2 or 3 times

Table

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**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER:** Let us pray**…Amen.**

**MEAL**

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING-HOLY - LORDS PRAYER:** P. 199-201

**HOLY COMMUNION:** *All are welcome at Christ’s table. Ushers will direct you out of your pew, up the aisle near parking lot and to the altar rail where you can hold out your hands to receive gluten and dairy free bread. The plate of cups will then be offered for you to select wine or grape juice. If you prefer a blessing, indicate by placing your hands in front of your heart. If you need an individual, pre-packaged serving of bread and wine, please request that of your server. Place wine/juice cups in the basket by the altar as you return to your pew.*

***Sunday School youth, families, leaders, and Fellowship Servers are invited to come through communion first to allow time to get to Sunday School programming.***

**COMMUNION HYMNS**: ACS God, We Gather as Your People vs. 3-4 (see earlier in the bulletin for hymn), ELW 725 When the Poor Ones

Diagram, schematic

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**\* TABLE BLESSING - PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**SENDING**

**SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*BLESSING**

**\*SENDING SONG:** ELW 709 When Our Song Says Peace

Diagram

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**\*DISMISSAL:** Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

**PRAYER BELL - POSTLUDE: “**No One Is Alone - Stephen Sondheim, Arr. Fred Hersch”

*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!* Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. License # SB118886 - Hymns: Copyright © OneLicense A-731311

**TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP AND HOSPITALITY** – USHERS: Tom & Connie Buresh; CANTOR: Megan Buckingham; READER: Cindy Bellrichard; ASSISTING MINISTER: Jane Jakoubek; FELLOWSHIP: Sandhya Purohit Caton; ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce;PREACHER & PRESIDER: Rev. Amy Zalk Larson

**MUSIC NOTES FOR RIC SUNDAY:** Ned Rorem (who passed away at the age of 99 last year) was described as the “elder statesman of American art song, prolific prose writer, [and] pioneer of gay liberation.” Fred Hersch is the first openly gay, HIV-positive jazz musician, who both composes original composition and also “covers” great American songs, including those by Stephen Sondheim (who died in 2021).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY** following worship!

**BUDGET FORUM, TODAY 11:00am. In the Fellowship Hall** Come learn about the proposed 2023 Budget in Advance of the Annual Meeting, which will be Feb. 5.

**LIBRARY OPEN – GATHERING SPACE CLOSED:** The Gathering Space is back to being the storage/work zone during construction to allow the Library to be a usable space as being able to close the door to the construction noise became necessary. Please contact the Church Office if you have any concerns about if the library or Fellowship Hall would be the best space for your group.

**GOOD SHEPHERD WILL WELCOME NEW MEMBERS SUNDAY, FEB. 26.** If you are interested in membership in the congregation, please contact Pr. Amy or the church office. All guests and those considering membership are invited to a **GOOD SHEPHERD INFORMATION SESSION** Sunday, Feb. 12 following worship.

**FOOD DRIVE! Luther College Ministries has been challenged by Wartburg College Ministries to a food drive competition.** The official challenge is between Luther/Good Shepherd and Wartburg/Redeemer, but donations are welcome from all! The Luther College campus food shelves will be filled first, and all remaining food will go to the Decorah Food Pantry. Collection bins can be found at Good Shepherd and at Luther College Campus Ministries Office. Collecting is from January 29-February 12.

* The competition is friendly, and the stakes are low - the losing college pastor has to lead one chapel service wearing the opposing school's gear. **Donations of the following are welcomed**: food (non-perishable, unopened), hygiene products (no razors), period care products, and financial donations as well.

**DECORAH COMMUNITY MEAL!** Please join us for a free meal on Thursday, February 2nd, at 5:00 PM, at Decorah Lutheran Church, 309 Winnebago Street. All are welcome -- this is a free meal -- serving until 6:15 PM. This month we are hosted by members of Prairie Lakes Church who will provide volunteers, salads, and desserts. The main course is provided by Sodexo of Luther College.

**REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE:** Stephanie Hoff, a member of Good Shepherd who has been worshiping online through Covid until just recently, has polycystic kidney disease (PKD). This has caused her kidney function to diminish over time. She is now in Stage 5, the last stage of chronic kidney disease, and needs a kidney transplant.She is seeking a living donor and is reaching out for your help. That help can take many forms: your prayers and positive support; your willingness to share her story with family and friends who might know someone who is willing to become a living donor; and your serious consideration of becoming a living donor. For the complete story and more information about living kidney donation: [www.goodshepherddecorah.org/mystory/](http://www.goodshepherddecorah.org/mystory/)

**MUSIC FOR HOPE AND RECONCILIATION WITH 29:11 INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE**  
All are invited to a community sing-and-share event Saturday, February 4 at 7:00 p.m. and a Gospel Worship service Sunday, February 5 at 11:00 a.m. Both events take place in the Noble Recital Hall (Jenson-Noble Hall of Music). We are still looking for host homes for group of 2 or 4 ensemble members for the evening of Feb. 4. If you are able to serve as an overnight host, please contact [ministry@luther.edu](mailto:ministry@luther.edu).

**SAVE THE DATE:** Annual Meeting is Sunday Feb. 5th at 11:00 following worship in the Fellowship Hall! The congregation council decided we will not attempt a virtual option for the annual meeting. After a number of attempts at this, we’ve discerned we can’t provide a way for people at home to hear what’s happening and be able to participate in real time especially in the Fellowship Hall which is the best space for the annual meeting. There will be a movie in the Gathering Space for any kids/youth during the meeting.

**VALENTINES MARKET TODAY**: 9:00-2:00PM at Winneshiek County Fair Community Building. This is a fundraiser for the Decorah/St. Bens 8th grade DC Trip. Breakfast served 9-11:00, Lunch served 11-2:00.

**VERSTERHEIM VOLUTEER:** Enjoy community and lifelong learning by becoming a Vesterheim volunteer! Give as much or as little time as you'd like in tasks that fit your skills. Examples include guiding, administrative duties, or helping with events like school groups, Nordic Fest, and Free Second Saturdays. We have lots of options and will work with your abilities. Everyone welcome. Please contact Chivonne Marlow, Volunteer Coordinator, at 563-382-9681 or cmarlow@vesterheim.org.

**ERICA OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK:** Monday & Tuesday: 10:00-5:00 pm, Friday 8:00-10:00 am and available via voicemail and email on other days. Thank you.

**PRAYER LIST**:

**Good Shepherd Family:** The Tapscotts (on the death of Denise’s Father), Marion Hanson, Barbara Berg and Family, Family of Verne Koenig, Stephanie Hoff, Clara and Karl Knudson, Wood Family, Jonathon Struve, Donna Bahr, Ed Hover, Harland Nelson, Jerrine Jacobsen, Glenn Nelson, Janet Gall, Lowell Erdman, Jutta Anderson, all residents and staff at Aase Haugen, Eastern Star, Wellington Place, Mosaic Homes, and Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community, and those preparing for public ministry: Joseph Doegen and Kathryn Thompson

**Relatives and Friends**: Sylvia Clisham (member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry), Parents of Dan Raney, Suzette and Richard Caton (Brian’s parents), Diane Borness (Sister of Marilyn Anderson), The family of Luke Hackman (Friends of the Bureshs), Carol Moe (Naomi Craft’s sister), Ann Hovde Nelson (Daughter-in-law of Glenn Nelson and Jane Borelli), Sarah Jane, Tim and Sue Broderick (friends of Jerry and Ruth Bruce), Nathaniel Judisch (son of Dave and Gail), Robin Darland (Friend of Erik Berg), Dennis Martin (brother-in-law of the Slinds) Karen & Randy Erion (friends of Charilyn & Ed Hover)**,** Nathan Scheuerelein (grandson of Bonnie Flora), Lynzee Makowski (friend of Laurie Biedermann), John Monson (Martha Monson Lowe’s father), Barb Reckling (Martha Monson Lowe’s cousin), Erik Wangsness (nephew of Sharon Drew), Todd Hove (son of Gloria Hove), Aaron Buzza (son of Jim and Kathy), Marilyn Walli (Cousin of Marv Slind), Marian Brynsaas (sister of LaVerne Ramsey), Mary Beth & Bayo Oyebade and the Mashiah Foundation in Jos, Nigeria, and our Companion Synod in Hungary

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Pastor Amy: Cell 563-419-0140, pastor[amy](mailto:amyzlarson@gmail.com)@goodshepherddecorah.org

**WELCOME GUESTS. THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU HERE.** All are invited to share in coffee, juice, and treats in the Fellowship Hall on the far side of the building

**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 are available. Mothers are welcome to nurse anywhere that works for you and your child. An Infant Feeding Chair is available in the music office (hallway outside of sanctuary) for more privacy if desired.

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**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 Antiracism Team which held listening sessions with the congregation. A portion of the Statement is printed here each week: find the full statement at goodshepherddecorah.org/racial-Justice-Statement or by scanning the code:

***We proclaim*** *that God has created the diversity of humankind in God’s image and we are all equal and beloved children of God. Racism and white supremacy are evils that estrange us from one another, from God, and from the fullness of our humanity. (Genesis 1:27a)*

***We are in need*** *of liberation from the sins of racism and white supremacy. (Romans 3:23)*