## 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



November 12<sup>th</sup> – Stewardship Sunday Living Stones

## 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

From Evangelical Lutheran Worship- ELW (red book in pew) and All Creation Sings – ACS (purple book in pew)

Page numbers (P.) in front of red book and hymn numbers (#) in back of books; congregational responses are in **bold**; rise in body or spirit when indicated by \*

#### **GATHERING**

GATHERING MUSIC "The Sunken Cathedral" - Claude Debussy PRAYER BELL - WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CONFESSION-FORGIVENESS** Blessed be God, the one who forms us,  $\oplus$  Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.** 

Let us bow before God in humility,

confessing our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven. Amen.

\*GATHERING SONG: ELW 678 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

## God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915-2006
Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918
Text O: 1961. ren. 1989 The Hynn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

\*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

#### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

# OLD TESTAMENT READING: Joshua 24:1-3a, 13-25 congregation reads text noted in bold

<sup>1</sup>Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. <sup>3a</sup>Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. 13 gave you a land on which you had not labored, and towns that you had not built, and you live in them; you eat the fruit of vineyards and oliveyards that you did not plant. 14"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."16Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup> for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup> and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."<sup>19</sup>But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. <sup>20</sup>If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." <sup>21</sup> And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" 22 ... "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him."... "We are witnesses." 23... "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." 24... "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." 25So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.- Word of God. Word of life. Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM 78:1-7**

- <sup>1</sup>Hear my teaching, <sup>1</sup> O my people; incline your ears to the words <sup>1</sup> of my mouth.
- <sup>2</sup>I will open my mouth | in a parable; I will declare the mysteries of | ancient times—
- <sup>3</sup>that which we have heard and known, and what our fore- | bears have told us, we will not hide | from their children.
- <sup>4</sup>We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power | of the LORD,

and the wonderful works | God has done.

- <sup>5</sup>The LORD gave a decree in Jacob and established a | law in Israel, commanding our ancestors to teach it | to their children;
- <sup>6</sup>that the generations to come might know, and the children | yet unborn; that they in their turn might tell it | to their children;
- <sup>7</sup>so that they might put their | trust in God, and not forget the deeds of God, but keep | God's commandments

#### **NEW TESTAMENT READING:** 1st PETER 2:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. <sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." -Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.** 

### **SERMON**

\*HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 652 Built on a Rock

## Built on a Rock



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundrvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt. Music: KRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELTHUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887 Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator

5 Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing, many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. Amen."

#### BLESSING FOR THOSE WHO PROVIDE FOOD:

We praise you, O God,

for you have created a world in which all can be nourished by your abundance.

We praise you for all who labor so that others may eat:

all who tend seeds and till the earth, all who transport and serve food,

all who accompany those who are poor and hungry,

all who work for an equitable distribution of resources.

Proposer the work of their hands, O God.

Encourage, uphold, and sustain them with your presence and love. Amen.

\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: Each petition ends... Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great

#### **OUR PRAYERS AND INTENTIONS FOR FINANCIAL GIVING IN 2024**

Take time to write your intention or pray and reflect, then bring your statement of intent up to the altar. You may also place it in the offering basket later.

#### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

\*LITANY: Creator of all,

we give you thanks for your abundant blessings.

You are a strong rock, our sure foundation.

You are generous beyond measure.

You have entrusted us with gifts—time, talent, energy, money—and asked us to use them to care for your world.

With thanks and praise we respond to your call.

We bring these gifts you have given, returning your generosity.

We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears, our dollars and our hours.

We commit ourselves to work for your world, to love and serve wherever you call.

We ask your blessing on this, your church, as we seek to gather and share your abundance.

Bless these gifts, our investment in your future, that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love. Amen.

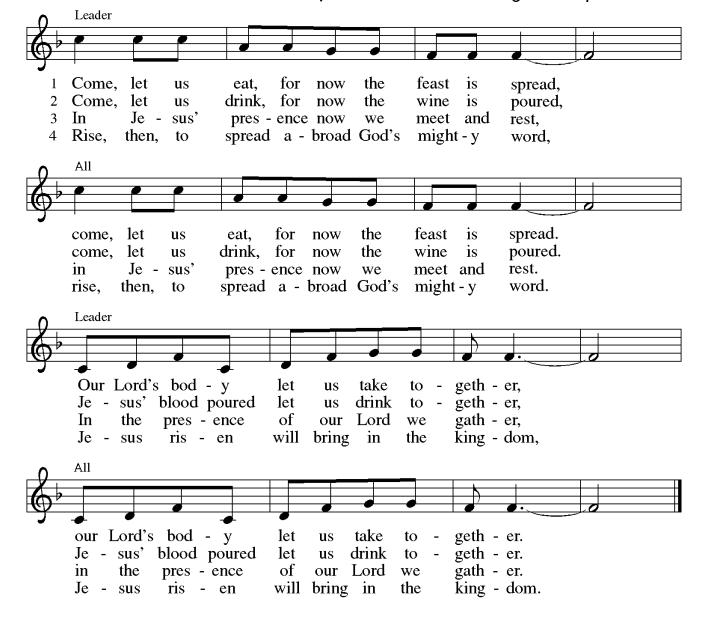
\*PEACE: The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

We share peace by waving to those worshipping online or through the public access channel and then with those in the sanctuary. Bows, signs, fist bumps, handshakes, are all honored!

#### **MEAL**

OFFERTORY MUSIC: "I'd Rather Have Jesus" - Miller/Shea, arr. Gard

## \*OFFERTORY SONG: ELW 491 Come, Let Us Eat - cantor sing leader parts



Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1–3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1–3, alt. Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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

#### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING-HOLY P. 172-173

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

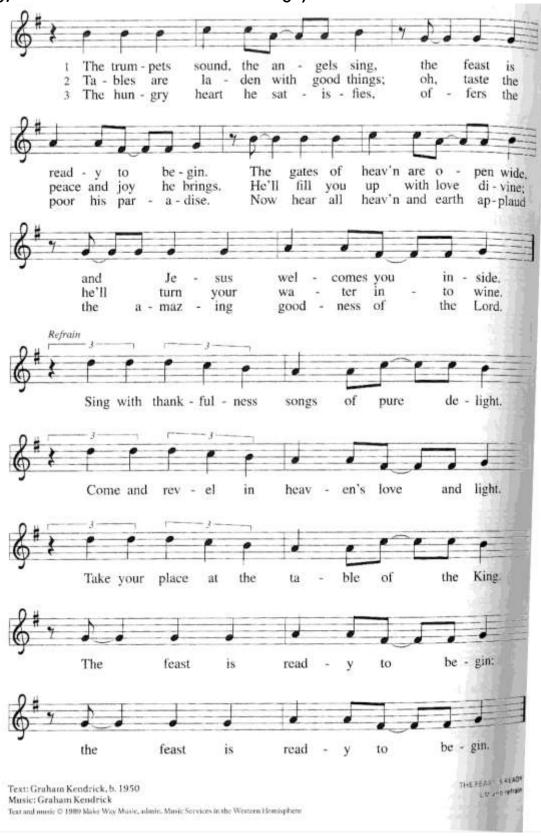
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again...

\*LORD'S PRAYER: P. 173 Our Father who art in Heaven...

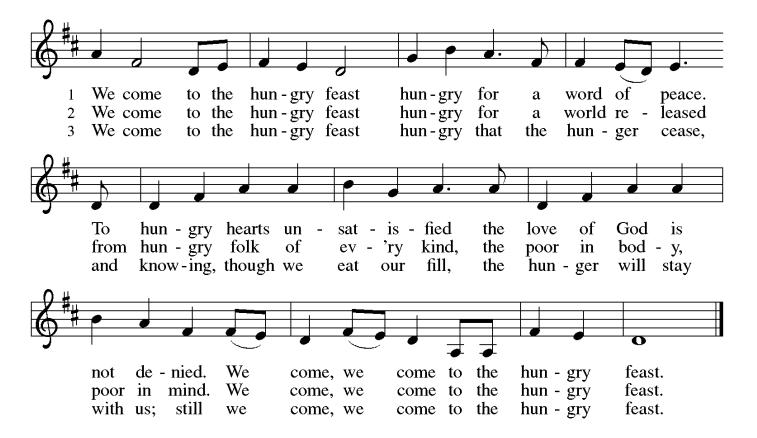
**HOLY COMMUNION:** All are welcome at Christ's table. Ushers will direct you out of your pew, up the aisle near parking lot and to the altar rail where you can hold out your hands to receive gluten and dairy free bread. The plate of cups will then be offered for you to select wine or grape juice. If 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 kids, teachers, and Fellowship servers, please commune first and then go to Fellowship Hall.

**COMMUNION HYMNS**: p. 174 Lamb of God; ELW 531The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing; ELW 479 We Come to the Hungry Feast



# We Come to the Hungry Feast

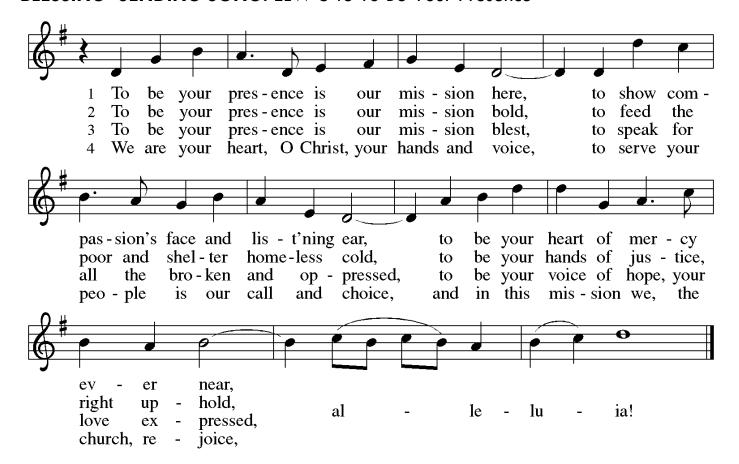


Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943 Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

#### TABLE BLESSING - PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*BLESSING- SENDING SONG: ELW 546 To Be Your Presence



Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## \*DISMISSAL: Go in peace. Serve in love. Thanks be to God.

#### PRAYER BELL - POSTLUDE "Soldier's March" - Robert Schumann

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 New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP AND HOSPITALITY — USHERS: Jim Biedermann, Bev Sheridan; GREETER: Lyle Otte, Laurie Biedermann; CANTOR: Melissa Bills; READER: Keaton Nalean-Carlson; ASSISTING MINISTER: Bob Larson; FELLOWSHIP: Rachael & Aaron Palmer, Ann & Bob Naslund, Jon Lund, Bob Larson, Claude Hayes, Clara Knudson, Donna Bahr, Jane Borelli; ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce, Keegan Joyce; PREACHER & PRESIDER: Pr. Amy Zalk Larson

A MESSAGE FROM PR. AMY: The people of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Red Wing, MN voted to call me as their pastor on Sunday, Nov. 5. I have accepted the call and will begin serving them in January 2024. My last Sunday with Good Shepherd will be Sunday, January 7, 2024, the last official day of call will be January 15, 2024. Two things are true: I feel deep joy about this new call, and I feel deep grief about leaving Good Shepherd. Yet I have such peace that Good Shepherd will continue to thrive and that this is the next right step for me and my family.

PRAYER FOR GOOD SHEPHERD: Jane Jakoubek offers this prayer for Good Shepherd: Merciful God, thank you for calling Pastor Amy to serve Good Shepherd these past eight years. Thank you for the ways she has helped us all grow in our love for you, for each other, and for our neighbors beyond the congregation. Be with the congregation now as we face this time of transition. Be with us in our grief, our fears, our hopes, our questions, our search. Help us find the work you are calling each of us to in this time: to love and care for each other; to hold each other in prayer; to carry out the work of the congregation; to know that you are at work in and through this transition as we move forward together as part of your beloved community. Be with Pastor Amy and her family as they move into this new call and time in their lives. We ask all these things for your Love's sake. Amen.

**BLESSED BE THE MEMORY OF BETH JONES:** Former Good Shepherd member Beth Jones passed away suddenly November 7th. Her memorial service will be here at Good Shepherd on Saturday, November 18th at 11 AM, with a catered luncheon to follow. **Two ushers and a kitchen crew** are needed. There is a sign-up in the Gathering Space and online for ushers and to help with Fellowship Hall set-up and serving/cleaning. Contact Bev Sheridan with any questions.

"EXPLORING GOD'S WORD TOGETHER" CLASS FOR 3rd-6th GRADERS AND THEIR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS – TODAY 10:45 - 11:45 A.M. in the Sanctuary. All 3rd-6th graders and their parents/caregivers are invited to a special class "Exploring God's Word Together" with Pastor Amy. The class will allow kids and parents/caregivers to explore the Bible together. On Sunday, November 19, All parents or caregivers of children in 3rd-6th grade will present a Bible to their child during worship. If you can't be there on November 19, you will still receive a Bible.

**Space -** Congregation members Martha Monson Lowe and George Lowe will lead the Forum. They recently returned from what was to be a three-month stay in Bethlehem.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY: We will welcome new members during worship next Sunday, the 19th.

**THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE** has begun the happy task of inviting members of the congregation to participate in the work of the church. Please pray for us, as we imagine the future leadership of our congregation. And if you have a suggestion for us, or if you seek to engage your own time and talent, please reach out to us: Tim Lecander, Marty Steele, Matt Tapscott, Lise Kildegaard, Kris Peterson, and Pastor Amy.

**NEW MEF DISPLAY CASE:** The Mission Endowment Fund Committee has designed a display case to highlight Good Shepherd E.P.I.C. scholarship recipients. The display case is located between the Gathering Space and the church office and is named in memory of Glenn Nelson. The congregation is invited to take time to view the display.

WINTER CLOTHES DONATIONS NEEDED: A message from the school counselor of Postville Elementary School: This year we've had an influx of families, mostly from Central America, who are looking for warm clothes for winter. Together with the Postville Public Library, we have set up clothing closets at the school and the library. We are accepting donations of warm winter clothes and outdoor gear (coats, gloves, hats, snow pants and boots) to give to families as needed. We need all sizes but our youth outdoor gear seems to be in the highest demand. We'll have a container outside of the church sanctuary where you can drop off donations.

**NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPER SIGN-UP SYSTEM:** Each Sunday we are in need of 2 additional adults present to be a helpful presence to the Sunday School Teachers (Kelli & Laurie). To help fill this need, we are requesting all parents of youth and interested congregation members to be helpers 1-2 times during a 3 month chunk. Erica will send an email requesting dates you are available. She will then make a schedule of helpers based on availability and send that out for you to save the dates you're listed to help. **If you are interested in being a helper 1-2 times during a 3 month chunk, please let Erica know and she will send you more information.** 

• Helpers are **not** leading or in charge of Sunday School - they are just a helpful, positive adult presence in the group of youth. 

This is a wonderful way to engage with and witness the joy of children and faith formation!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY MEETING: Wednesday, November 15, 1:00-3:00 P.M., Gathering Space - All are welcome at the November Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month, September-May, from 1:00-3:00 p.m., in the Gathering Space. Yarn and patterns are available.

**NORTHERN LIGHTS WOMEN'S CHORUS:** The Northern Lights Women's Chorus will present its fall **concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, November 19 at Decorah Lutheran Church.** Many Good Shepherd members are in the choir – see the ensembles photo & poster on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall.

**STEPHANIE HOFF'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE:** Our member Stephanie has Stage 5 chronic kidney disease, is now on dialysis, and is still hoping for a kidney transplant. Information about Stephanie and living kidney donation is available at **goodshepherddecorah.org/mystory/** 

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK: Tristan: 9:00-12:00 PM M-F. Erica: 10-5:00 PM Wednesday-Thurs.

#### **PRAYER LIST:**

Good Shepherd Family: Bonnie Flora, Sue and Mike Blair (as they grieve Sue's mother Joanne Dornbush), LaVerne Ramsey, Lisa Zittergruen, Natalie Buddenberg, Dan Raney and family, Ingrid Callaghan, Ginny Olson, Kerry Johnson, the family of Glenn Nelson (as they grieve Glenn and Ann Hovde Nelson), the Yaneff family, Donna Bahr, Helen Hermeier, James Barth, Marion Hanson, Stephanie Hoff, Ed Hover, Harland Nelson, Janet Gall, 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: Kathryn Thompson and Kristin Kopperud-Stinn

Relatives and Friends: Sid Sampson (brother-in-law of Marty Steele), Miriam Plautz (aunt of Melanie Folkerts), Steve Schwab (brother-in-law of Lyle Otte), Michael Naslund (son of Ann and Bob Naslund), Arlene Lecander (mother of Tim Lecander), Lily Laursen (granddaughter of Reg & Jeri Laursen), Bob Fahrenkrug (grandfather of Sarah Wicks), the family of Amber Einck (friend of Jane Borelli), Maryn Olson (daughter of Ginny Olson), Noi Tran (Kim Kavan's mother), Karen & John Silseth (brother and sister in law of Kris Peterson), Frank Barth (James Barth's Brother), Sylvia Clisham (member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry), Richard Caton (Brian's father), Sarah Jane, Nathaniel Judisch (son of Dave and Gail), Robin Darland (Friend of Erik Berg), Dennis Martin (brother-in-law of the Slinds), Nathan Scheuerelein (grandson of Bonnie Flora), Lynzee Makowski (friend of Laurie Biedermann), 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**

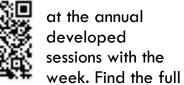
563-382-3963 <u>office@goodshepherddecorah.org</u> goodshepherddecorah.org Pastor Amy: Cell 563-419-0140 <u>pastoramy@goodshepherddecorah.org</u>

**WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS and especially to Luther 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 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.

**RACIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT:** This Statement was approved meeting of the congregation on February 6th, 2022. It was through the work of the Racial Justice Team which held listening congregation. A portion of the Statement is printed here each



statement at goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement or by scanning the code.

**We publicly declare** that we will actively pursue racial justice in all aspects of our congregational life and make changes to adopt antiracist policies and practices around worship, education, advocacy, stewardship, governance, and through our community partnerships and relationships. (Ephesians 2: 14-15, Isaiah 56: 6)