

# **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



**December 31 – Lessons of Hymns & Carols**

**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 ELW and hymn numbers (#) in back of ELW and ACS

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

### GATHERING

**PRAYER BELL - PRELUDE** "Good King Wenceslas" arr. Stan Zielinski

### WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God's forgiveness, grace, and love. *Silence is kept for reflection*

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

**Forgive our lack of faith and trust.**

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

**Forgive our neglect of those who are poor.**

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

**Forgive our selfishness and complacency.**

With great joy the angels proclaimed, "Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy.

Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." In  $\dagger$  Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God's forgiveness is good news of great joy! **Amen.**

\***GATHERING CAROL:** ELW 298 The Bells of Christmas vs. 1,3,4



Det ki - mer nu til ju - le - fest, det ki - mer  
1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly  
2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly  
3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, the swad - dled  
4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, to keep our



for den høj - e gæst, som steg til la - ve  
guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly  
find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a  
babe with shep - herds find, to gaze on him who  
Christ - mas with our king, un - til our song, from



hyt - ter ned med nyt - års - ga - ver: fryd og fred.  
dwell - ings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.  
man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.  
glad - dens them, the love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.  
lov - ing souls, like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823-1883, alt.  
Music: DET KIMER NU TIL JULFEST!, Carl C. N. Balke, 1806-1855  
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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.**

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

### LESSONS AND CAROLS

**FIRST READING:** Luke 2:1-7...Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

- *Luther's reflections on the Birth of Jesus*

**CAROL:** Holy Child Within the Manger

1 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, long a -  
2 Once a - gain we tell the sto - ry— how your  
3 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us  
go yet ev - er near; come as friend to ev - 'ry  
love for us was shown, when the im - age of your  
ev - er in your way, so we see in ev - 'ry  
stran - ger, come as hope for ev - 'ry fear.  
glo - ry wore an im - age like our own.  
stran - ger how you come to us to - day.  
As you lived to heal the bro - ken, greet the  
Come, en - light - en with your wis - dom, come and  
In our lives and in our liv - ing give us  
out - cast, free the bound, as you taught us love un -  
fill us with your grace. May the fire of your com -  
strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for -  
spo - ken, teach us now where you are found.  
pas - sion kin - dle ev - 'ry land and race.  
giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

**SECOND READING:** Luke 2: 8-16...Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

- *Luther's reflections on the Shepherds and Angels*

**CAROL:** ELW 282 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

**THIRD READING:** Matthew 2:1-12...Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

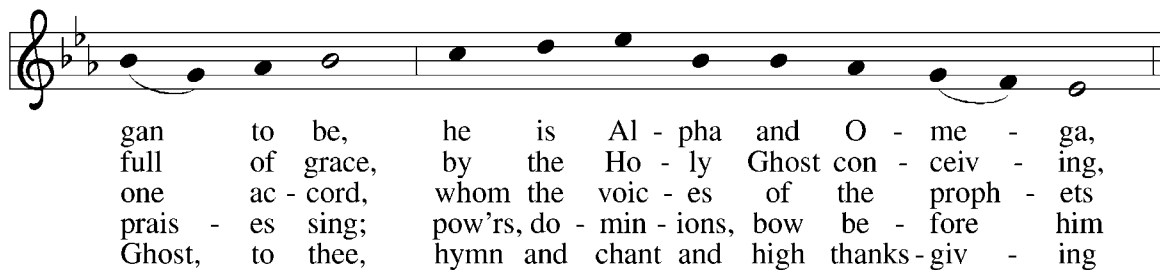
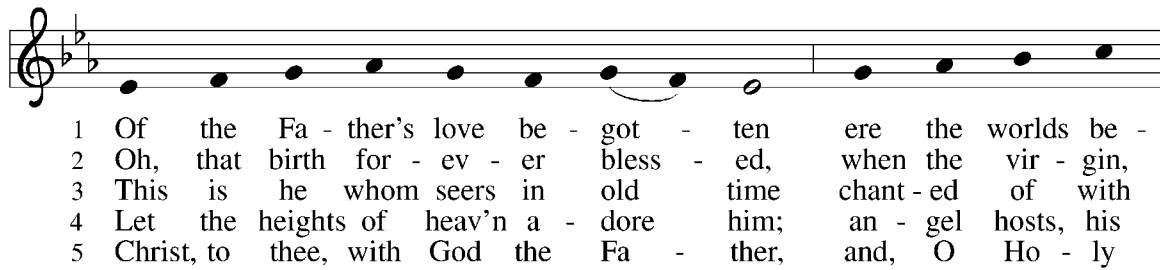
- *Luther's reflections on Herod and the Wise Men*

**CAROL:** ELW 300 The First Noel vs. 1, 2, 4

**\*FOURTH READING:** John 1:1-5;14-18...Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

- *Luther's reflections on the Word made flesh*

**CAROL:** ELW 295 Of the Father's Love Begotten vs. 1-3



**\*NICENE CREED :** We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:** Each petition ends: God of grace, **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:** ELW 296 What Child is This



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898  
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**MEAL**

**\*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.**

It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*CAROL:** ELW 295 Of the Father's Love Begotten vs. 4-5 (*see hymn printed previously in the bulletin after the fourth reading.*)

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE:**

...Together let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

With this bread and cup... We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.... Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

**\*LORD'S PRAYER:** 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. 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.*

COMMUNION HYMNS: ELW 286, ELW 292 Love Has Come

Your Little Ones, Dear Lord



1 Your lit - tle ones, dear Lord, are we, and  
2 With songs we has - ten you to greet, and  
3 Oh, draw us whol - ly to you, Lord, and  
4 Un - til at last we too pro - claim, with



come your low - ly bed to see; en - light - en ev - 'ry  
kiss the ground be - fore your feet. Oh, bless - ed hour, oh,  
to us all your grace ac - cord; true faith and love to  
all your saints, your glo - rious name; in par - a - dise our



soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.  
sweet-est night that gave you birth, our soul's de - light.  
us im - part, that we may hold you in our heart.  
songs re - new, and praise you as the an - gels do.

Text: Hans A. Brorson, 1694–1764; tr. Harriet Krauth Spaeth, 1845–1925, alt.  
Music: HER KOMMER DINE ARME SMÅ, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

# Love Has Come



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856

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**TABLE BLESSING**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**SENDING**

**SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CHRISTMAS BLESSING**



**\*SENDING SONG:** ELW 299 Cold December Flies Away



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.  
2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.  
3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders  
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.  
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the  
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en  
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the  
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est  
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.  
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.  
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

Text: Catalanian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953  
Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalanian carol  
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**\*PRAYER BELL**

**\*DISMISSAL:** Glory to God in the Highest! **And peace to God's people on earth!**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **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!*

This service was created by Pr. Marion Pruitt-Jefferson. Thank you to her for this wonderful offering!

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**TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP AND HOSPITALITY** – USHER: Brian Solberg, Ed & Joyce Epperly; READER: Connie Buresh; ASSISTING MINISTER: Tom Buresh; ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce; PREACHER & PRESIDER: Rev. Rolf Svanoe

Thanks to the Martin-Hiner family for their music this morning!

### **TRANSITION UPDATE:**

- The Council is working to establish the Good Shepherd Church Call Committee. Members of Good Shepherd are invited to prayerfully consider the talents and gifts of fellow church members, and to participate in the process of the Council's discernment of members for nomination to the Call Committee. **Please use the index cards provided in each pew, and also on the Gathering Space table to write the name(s) of the individuals you would raise for consideration. Please write the reason you would choose to nominate this person. You may nominate yourself. There will be a youth representative on the call committee. Please consider youth to nominate as well.** Place the cards in the offering plate, office desk, or email the office with your nominations. The office may receive nominations **until January 9th, 2024.**
- The Good Shepherd Church Council reports with thanks, joy, and affirmation that the Executive Committee has proposed and the Council has approved Megan Buckingham to serve as one of the co-chairs of the Call Committee. We are thankful for Megan's acceptance. As one of her nominators wrote: "Megan would be an exceptional co-chair of the call committee! She has such gifts for envisioning and implementing helpful processes that move things forward in thoughtful and timely ways." As co-chair, Megan can soon begin her work in this role, which includes working along with Pastor Amy, Pastor David, the Executive Committee, and Council, to move forward on the steps of discerning the Call Committee, nominations for which are still so thoughtfully and prayerfully arriving from church members. Thank you, Megan, Pastor Amy, Executive Committee, Council, and Congregation!
- **Pr. David Wrightsman** will begin as **our Intentional Interim Pastor** January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**HELP TAKE DOWN THE CHRISTMAS TREE TODAY AFTER WORSHIP!** Then grab a cookie and some coffee and head to the Gathering Space for a film screening.

**VIDEO ADULT FORUM: "Little Town of Bethlehem"** - Starting at 11:00 am TODAY in the Gathering Space, George Lowe will be sharing the film "Little Town of Bethlehem" a 2010 documentary film that shares the modern day story of three men in Palestine/Israel.

**FAREWELL BRUNCH FOR PASTOR AMY:** All are invited to join in a farewell gathering for Pastor Amy on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> following worship in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a catered brunch in honor and celebration of her time at Good Shepherd.

**GIFTS FOR PASTOR AMY:** The Outreach & Hospitality Committee is collecting donations for some farewell gifts for Pr. Amy from the Good Shepherd Congregation. Donations can be given to the Church Office via mail, envelope, or in the offering plate. These gifts will be given to her during the farewell brunch.

**GOOD SHEPHERD SERVING & PROVIDING FOOD FOR JANUARY 4<sup>th</sup> DECORAH**

**COMMUNITY MEAL:** A free Community Meal is held the first Thursday of each month in the Gathering Space of Decorah Lutheran Church. This meal serves 100-200 people from 5:00-6:15 p.m. The main course is provided by Sodexo of Luther College and different organizations provide volunteers, salads, and desserts. **Good Shepherd is scheduled to provide volunteers, salads, and desserts for the January Community Meal.** Sign-up in the Gathering Space, online, or contact the office.

**END OF YEAR GIVING:** The Church Office and Treasurer request that end of year giving be given to the Church Office as soon as able. Please note any giving for 2023 on checks if needed, thank you.

**RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE AND WINTER GREENS AT GOOD SHEPHERD:** Old Christmas trees and winter greens are being collected for use for the Easter Vigil bonfire (this year March 30<sup>th</sup>!). Please leave them in the space between the Annex and Mower shed. Removal of metal and roping from wreaths and greens is appreciated.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAMMING:** There will be no Sunday School Programming today or January 7<sup>th</sup>. Programming resumes on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

**BIBLE STUDY RESUMES:** All are welcome for an hour-long Bible Study with Pastor Amy Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PROVIDED POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY!** Please stop by and pick up your poinsettia by Saturday, January 6. Plan to bring a protective covering. Thank you! Contact Elizabeth Kaschins with questions and concerns.

**VOLUNTEERS & TREATS FOR BINGO AT WELLINGTON PLACE:** on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-1:30 Good Shepherd is in charge of providing 3-4 Volunteers, and cookies and/or bars for 30. Prizes are already available in the Church Office for this Bingo. Please contact Erica if you are able to help. [erica@goodshepherddecorah.org](mailto:erica@goodshepherddecorah.org).

**AASE HAUGEN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN & WELCA BRUNCH ANNOUNCEMENT:** WELCA annual meeting and mid-winter brunch will be held Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 9 am in the fellowship hall. Patty Casterton and Sam Boeke from Aase Haugen Senior Services will be telling us about the Capital campaign to fund a chapel for their new facility. We will also be dispersing funds from 2023, contact Bev Sheridan if you have any funding requests. Volunteers are needed to provide refreshments. Everyone is welcome to come and hear about these exciting plans for Aase Haugen.

**MISSION ASSISTANCE FUND DONATIONS STILL NEEDED:** Good Shepherd's Mission Assistance Fund, set up to help people who need short-term emergency assistance, is almost depleted. Funds are distributed at the discretion of the Pastor and two congregation members on the Mission Assistance Committee. To donate to the fund, drop your donation in the basket on the Fellowship Hour serving table, in the offering plate, or Church Office, designating "Mission Assistance Fund" on your check or envelope.

**DONATE TO GUATEMALAN BASICS PROGRAM:** In this season of giving, the Northeast Iowa Peace and Justice Center's Immigration Working Group is asking people to help our newly-arrived neighbors with a donation to the Guatemalan Basics program. This program provides 50 pound bags of rice and Masa (cornflour) and 25 pound bags of beans to newly arrived immigrants. One delivery, which costs about \$100, feeds a family of four for up to six weeks. This gives new families in the area time to get on their feet and ensures that no one in the family is hungry. To be part of this humanitarian program, you can send a check to Decorah UCC, PO Box 470, and put Guatemalan Basics on the memo line; or go to the website [decorahucc.org/neighbors/](http://decorahucc.org/neighbors/) and click on the link to Guatemalan Basics.

**HOLDEN VILLAGE TRIP:** Join Pastor Mike Wilker and Judy Kittleson on a trip to Holden Village in early August! Holden is a remote wilderness community, rooted in the Lutheran tradition, located in the Cascade Mountains of Washington. The Village offers educational sessions, arts and crafts, hiking and recreation, and children's programming. Because Holden fills quickly in the summer, registration will need to be done in early January. The plan is to arrive in the village on August 4 and depart on August 9. Contact Jon or Mary Hart at 563-419-2207 or [mjhart@hotmail.com](mailto:mjhart@hotmail.com) if you are interested in joining this trip.

**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](http://goodshepherddecorah.org/mystory)

**OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK:** The office will be closed Monday, January 1. Tristan: Tuesday-Friday 9:00-12:00; Erica: Tuesday 10-5

#### **POINSETTIA CONTRIBUTIONS**

- Joyce and Ed Epperly
- **In Memory of Don Kemp** – Jane Kemp
- **In Gratitude for the People of Good Shepherd** – Pastor Amy Zalk Larson & family
- **In Memory of our parents: Floyd & Alberta Friedrich; Victor & Doris Buresh**– Connie & Tom Buresh
- **In gratitude for Bev Sheridan: Given by the Wednesday morning group in appreciation for your weekly Good Shepherd hospitality** - Bobbers Coffee
- **In Gratitude for Carrie Solberg: given with gratitude for the Good Shepherd hospitality shown weekly to your Wednesday morning friends** - Bobbers Coffee
- **In Loving Memory of Our Parents: Marty & Vera Silseth and Eldon & Doris Peterson** – Dave & Kris Peterson
- **In Honor of Carol Mae and Marianne Craft Worton**– Naomi Craft
- **In Honor of Pastor Amy** – Marv & Mickey Slind
- **In Memory of our parents: Vernon, Edith, and Lola Naslund, and Maynard and Mimi Aaker**– Ann & Bob Naslund
- **In Memory of Sarah K. Caton and Suzette Caton** - Brian & Sandhya Caton
- **In Honor of Bob Fahrenkrug** – Fahrenkrug Family

## PRAYER LIST

**Good Shepherd Family:** Diane Kruse, Tim Lecander & June Melby, Bonnie Flora, LaVerne Ramsey, Ingrid Callaghan, Ginny Olson, the family of Glenn Nelson, 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:** Ann Alton (Amelia & William Kurth's mother), Sid Sampson (brother-in-law of Marty Steele), Miriam Plautz (aunt of Melanie Folkerts), 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), Nathaniel Judisch (son of Dave and Gail), 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), 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

[pastoramy@goodshepherddecorah.org](mailto:pastoramy@goodshepherddecorah.org)

**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 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. A portion of the Statement is printed here each week. Find the full statement at [goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement](http://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)