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



February 11th – Transfiguration 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. 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.

Welcome to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

As you enter the Sanctuary, you are invited to make the transition from "getting here" to "being here". Take a moment to silence phones. You may use these moments of quiet time to listen to the Prelude as you prepare to come fully into the presence of God and our community of faith.

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 *

Today is Transfiguration Sunday. Jesus and a few of the disciples climb a mountain together and when they get to the top, their perceptions of Jesus change. Up until this point, the disciples thought they knew who Jesus was. But when they get to the top they were given a new vision of this man they were following. This man Jesus, dressed modestly and in dusty clothes was all of a sudden transformed before their eyes. His dirty clothes became dazzling white, his sweaty face shone like the sun!

GATHERING

PRAYER BELL

PRELUDE: "Meditation" – Ulysses Kay

WELCOME – ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation. **Amen.**

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God,

you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.

We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness

that make us reluctant to work against oppression.

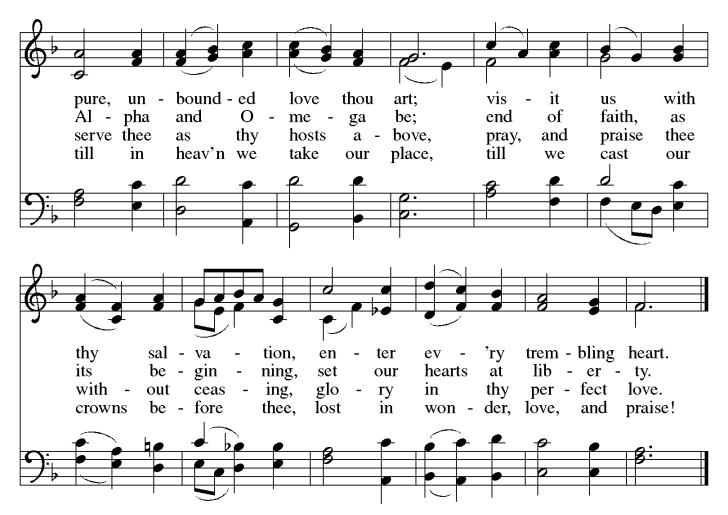
We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty.

Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all. **Amen.**

***GATHERING SONG:** ELW 631 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (vs. 1 all, vs. 2 treble voices, vs. 3 lower voices, vs. 4 all)





***GREETING:**

From the one who is, who was and who is to come, grace and peace be with you all. And also with you.

*KYRIE & GLORY: P. 98 In the front of the red hymnal

*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray together... Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1-12

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."4Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." ⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. ⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he arasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

PSALM 50:1-6

¹The mighty one, God the [|] LORD, has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun [|] to its setting.

²Out of Zion, perfect | in its beauty,

God shines | forth in glory.

³Our God will come and will ¹ not keep silence;

with a consuming flame before, and round about a $^{\mid}$ raging storm.

⁴God calls the heavens and the earth | from above

to witness the judgment [|] of the people.

⁵"Gather before me my | loyal followers,

those who have made a covenant with me and sealed | it with sacrifice."

⁶The heavens declare the rightness | of God's cause,

for it is God | who is judge.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



*GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9

- The Holy Gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

SERMON "Imagining a Mountain" – Rev. David Wrightsman



The Congregational Council is invited forward in the final refrain.

INSTALLATION OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

INSTALLATION OF THE CALL COMMITTEE

*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 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... God of grace, hear our prayer.

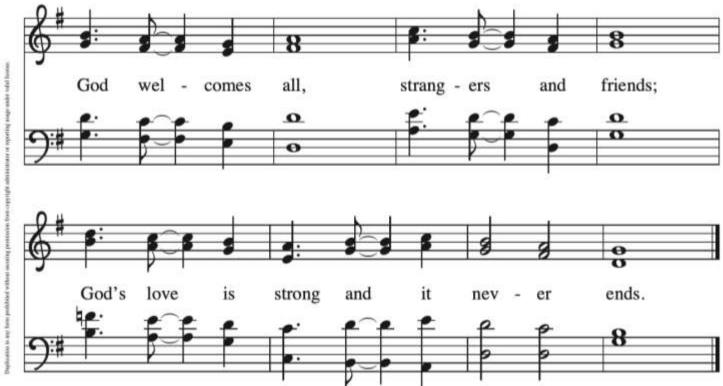
*PEACE: The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

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

MEAL

OFFERING MUSIC: Kyrie – Agneta Sköld

*OFFERING SONG: ACS 978 God Welcomes All



***OFFERING PRAYER:**

Let us pray together... Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING - HOLY: p. 107-108, 110

*LORD'S PRAYER: p. 112 – 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. Kids, teachers, and Fellowship Servers are invited to come to communion first.



TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Let us pray together... Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING ... Amen.

*SENDING SONG: ELW 866 We Are Marching in the Light of God





*PRAYER BELL

*DISMISSAL: Go in peace, you are God's beloved. Thanks be to God.

Text: South African traditional: tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984 Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional; arr. *Freedom Is Coming* Tr. and arr. © 1984 Utryck. admin. Walton Music Corp.

POSTLUDE: Gloria – Agneta Sköld

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: USHERS & GREETERS: Dave

Peterson, Ed Epperly, Sarah Wicks; READER: Karl Wicks; CANTOR: Megan Buckingham; ASSISTING MINISTER: Kris Peterson; FELLOWSHIP: Catherine and Gary Hildebrandt, Shelley Hurst, Dave Peterson, Wanda Rueber, Joyce Epperly; ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce; PREACHER & PRESIDER: Pr. Dave Wrightsman

Special thanks to Collegiate Chorale, Adrianna Tam, conductor, for their music this morning!

THE SEASON OF LENT BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14: For a complete overview of information and activities see the brochure *The 2024 Lent Season at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church* found on the Gathering Space table or on pages 5 and 6 of the February newsletter (available under the NEWS Tab on our website), as well as information linked from the Lenten Season slider on our website's homepage.

ASH WEDNESDAY – February 14th:

- 7-9:00 AM Ashes will be shared in downtown Decorah near the Food Co-op by the Lutheran pastors of Good Shepherd, Decorah Lutheran and First Lutheran.
- 10:00 AM, 1:00 PM, 2:30 PM (respectively) Services at Eastern Star, Wellington and Aase Haugen led by Pr. Dave.
- 7:00 PM Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes will be shared at the service. All are encouraged to invite family and friends to join us for worship on this holy day.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH CLASS: SPIRITUALITY AND AGING. Using the background of Lent with the ever-stark reminder of our deaths, Good Shepherd member Marion Pruitt-Jefferson will use Joan Chittister's book "The Gift of Years" and Richard Rohr's book "Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life" as a segue into the topic of spirituality and aging. Starting on February 21, this class will meet on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00-5:30, prior to Lenten Evening Worship. It is recommended that participants begin reading the books prior to the start of discussions. "LIVING THE MESSAGE" BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR DAVE: Join Pastor Dave for an academic-oriented, comprehensive overview of the Old Testament, **beginning this Tuesday**, **February 13** and extending through May, approximately 3 Tuesdays per month for a total of 12 classes. All are welcome! You don't have to be a member of Good Shepherd to join the class! The cost is \$25 to register, which covers the cost of materials for each class. More information and registration forms are in the Gathering Space and online.

ADULT FORUM – CHARITABLE GIVING THROUGH ESTATE MANAGEMENT:

Decorah Bank and Trust Vice President and Trust Officer Erick Kephart will lead a discussion on charitable giving through estate management on **Sunday, February 18th at 11 AM in the Gathering Space,** sponsored by the Mission Endowment Fund Committee. The session is designed to teach various aspects of charitable giving and makes no assumptions about any favorite charities of the attendees.

"THE F WORD: STORIES OF FORGIVENESS" ART EXHIBIT AT GOOD SHEPHERD:

The Forgiveness Project is a thought-provoking collection of images and personal narratives exploring forgiveness in the face of atrocity. Drawing together voices from South Africa, America, Israel, Palestine, Northern Ireland and England, the exhibition examines forgiveness as a healing process, a path out of victimhood and, ultimately, a journey of hope. The exhibit was displayed for the past three weeks in the CFL at Luther College and is finding a new home starting next week at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church through the end of February.

GOOD SHEPHERD BOOK SALE COMING! FUNDRAISER FOR YOUTH ATTENDING THE ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING: The Good Shepherd community is invited to collect fiction, non-fiction and children's books, board games, DVDs, and puzzles to contribute to the upcoming sale that will raise funds for this summer's trip to New Orleans and the National Youth Gathering. Items can be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall at Good Shepherd starting on Sunday, February 25 (but not before!). The sale runs from 2/28-3/17.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS REMINDER: Thrivent Choice Dollars designated for the past calendar year can be directed until March 31,2024. Consider directing these to Good Shepherd - or to support the Good Shepherd youth attending the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering. If you want your designated Thrivent Choice Dollars to be given to the Good Shepherd youth trip, please contact the church office so we can allocate those funds correctly when they arrive from Thrivent. You will use Good Shepherd as your designated church and then we will assign it to the youth group trip. Thank you. **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 <u>goodshepherddecorah.org/mystory</u>

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK: Tristan: 9 AM - 12 PM M-F. Erica: 10 AM - 5 PM M-T

PRAYER LIST

Good Shepherd Family: Luther Snow and Lise Kildegaard upon the death of Luther's father Richard Snow, Doris Barnaal, Russ Freerking, Marv & Mickey Slind, 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: Ev Ford (Denise Tapscott's Mother), Jami Siefken (daughterin-law to Jan & Dave Siefken), 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), Mary Beth & Bayo Oyebade and the Mashiah Foundation in Jos, Nigeria, and our Companion Synod in Hungary

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

563-382-3963office@goodshepherddecorah.orggoodshepherddecorah.orgPastor Dave:612-599-6911pastordavid@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. Find the full statement at **goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement** or by scanning the code.

