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



March 10th - 4th Sunday in Lent

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 *

Jesus told Nicodemus, 'Nicodemus, you don't need God to come into your life. That's backwards. <u>You</u> need to come into in *God's life*. God doesn't come into your life. It works the other way. God offers us God's own life as a gift and beckons us to enter it. Nicodemus, You need to be *in* the life of God. In fact, Nicodemus, you need to be born all over again, this time born into God's life." Nicodemus was shocked. We should be shocked as well.

WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS and especially to Luther College 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 is 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 at the annual meeting of the congregation on February It was developed through the work of the Racial Justice which held listening sessions with the congregation. A the Statement is printed here each week. Find the full



approved 6th, 2022. Team portion of statement

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

We lament that the white Church in the United States, through its dominant place in our country's culture and history, has actively constructed, justified, and sustained systems of racial injustice and violence. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has marginalized Lutheran Black, Indigenous, and People of Color leaders and

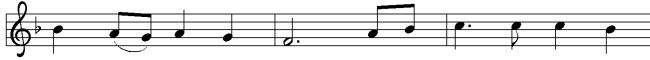
communities and perpetuated a patriarchal, monocultural and racially segregated status quo. (From Declaration of the ELCA to Peoples of African Descent issued by ELCA Church Council, June 27, 2019)

GATHERING

PRAYER BELL - PRELUDE: Canzona, pt. 1 - J. S. Bach

WELCOME – ANNOUNCEMENTS





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*WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + 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.

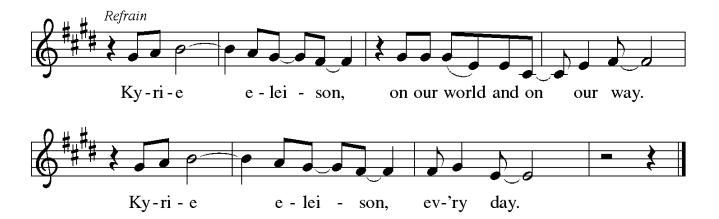
Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

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.**

*APOSTOLIC 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:



*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray together...O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

LESSON: Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁴and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹0For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good, for God's mercy en- | dures forever.

²Let the redeemed of the | LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand | of the foe,

³gathering them in ¹ from the lands;

from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.

¹⁷Some were fools and took re- | bellious paths; through their sins they | were afflicted.

¹⁸They loathed all man- | ner of food and drew near | to death's door.

¹⁹Then in their trouble they cried | to the LORD and you delivered them from | their distress.

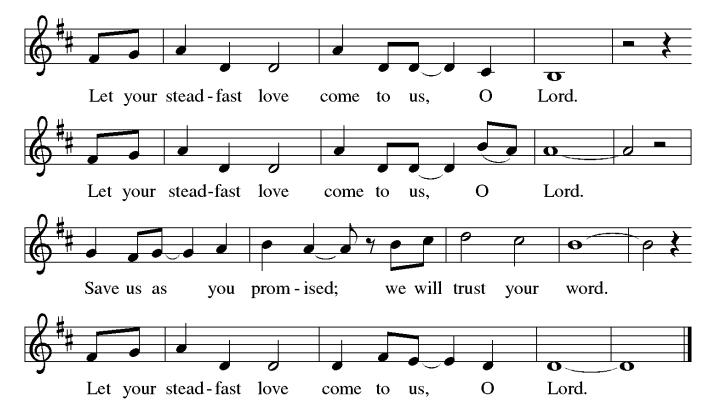
²⁰You sent forth your | word and healed them and rescued them | from the grave.

²¹Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your | steadfast love and your wonderful works | for all people.

²²Let them offer sacrifices | of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with | shouts of joy.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

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

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

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

SERMON "Making it Through the Night" – Pr. David Wrightsman

HYMN OF THE DAY: "What Wondrous Love Is This" ELW 666 (vs. 1, 2, 4)



Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.

Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House. admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: Each petition ends... God of mercy, hear our prayer.

*PEACE OF CHRIST: 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

*OFFERING SONG: ELW 185 Create in Me A Clean Heart



Music: Liturgy of Joy, James M. Capers, b. 1948

Music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

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*OFFERING PRAYER:

Let us pray together... Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING - HOLY HOLY: p. 190

The Lord be with you.

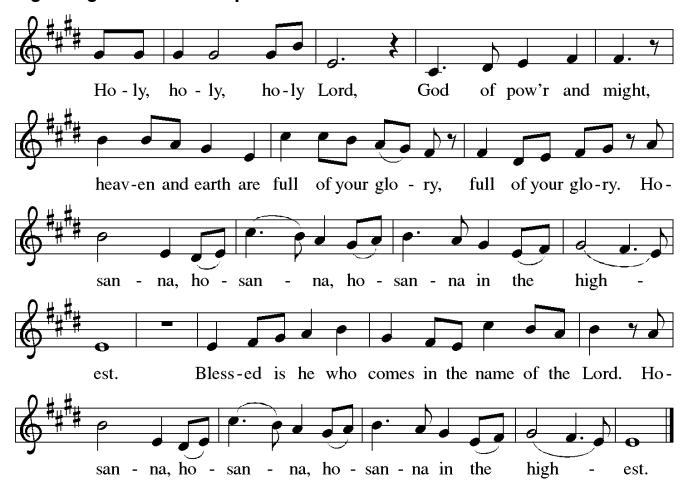
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.



*LORD'S PRAYER:

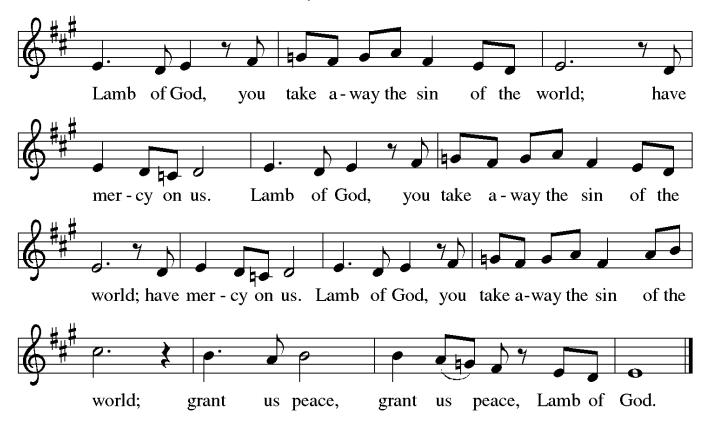
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. As Lutherans we believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, the body and blood of our Lord. All who desire to receive the gifts of grace, forgiveness, and new life are welcome to come to the Lord's Table. You do not need to be Lutheran or a member of Good Shepherd to receive these gifts.

- Ushers will direct you to the altar rail.
- Gluten and dairy free bread and red wine/white grape juice are available to all.
- If you prefer only blessing, indicate by placing your hands in front of your heart.
- Prepackaged servings of bread and wine are also available.

COMMUNION SONG: Lamb of God, p. 191



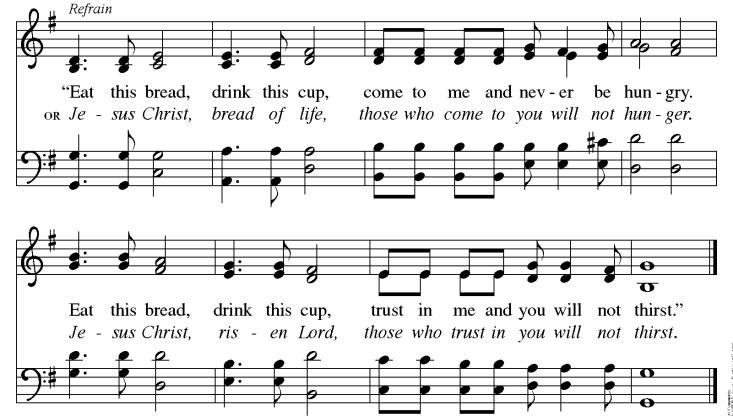
COMMUNION HYMNS: "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether" ELW 470; "Eat This Bread" ELW 472

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether



Eat This Bread

Jesus Christ, Bread of Life



*TABLE BLESSING

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Let us pray together... Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world;

in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

SENDING

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION: ... Amen.

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Towns and angeles (2007), 1994.

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*SENDING SONG: "Lift High the Cross" ELW 660



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PRAYER BELL

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

POSTLUDE: Canzona, pt. 2 – J. S. Bach

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: GREETER: LaVerne Ramsey; USHERS: Kim & Cheuang Kavan; READER: Poppy Bellrichard; CANTOR: Jill Phillips; ASSISTING MINISTER: Cindy Bellrichard; FELLOWSHIP: Dan Bellrichard, Liza Hicken, Lulu, Poppy, and Solveig Bellrichard, Liz Pfile, Sue Blom, Jutta Anderson, Hannah Schroeher; ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce; PREACHER & PRESIDER: Pr. David Wrightsman

YOUTH LENT PROJECT FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH: Funds from this year's project are going to mental health resources and awareness, specifically NAMI in NE lowa (National Alliance on Mental Illness). More information about NAMI and nourishing our mental health will be shared on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Please note "Youth Lent Project" on checks or put offering in the watering can up front for NAMI.

BOOK SALE THROUGH 3/17: Youth attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer are hosting a Books (and More!) Fundraiser at tables at the north end of the Fellowship Hall. Youth are available on Wednesdays and Sundays following worship, but you can also stop by anytime the church is open to purchase items—there is a bag for donations that will be monitored by Good Shepherd staff.

LENTEN RECITAL THIS WEEK: On March 13, students from the organ studio of Alexander Meszler, Luther College organist, will perform. 12:15-12:45 p.m. in the church sanctuary. All recitals are free and open to the public. Come and spend your lunch time here!

GRATITUDE FROM RUSS FREERKING: As my body continues to recover from my therapy, Marie and I want to extend a big "thank you" to the Good Shepherd family for the encouragement and support we received during my CAR-T therapy treatment at the Mayo Clinic. Your prayers, cards, emails, phone calls and texts were greatly appreciated.

EPIC SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION SESSION March 17th, 11:00 in the Gathering Space: Good Shepherd members of the 2024 high school graduating class, their

Space: Good Shepherd members of the 2024 high school graduating class, their parents, and all others who are interested are invited to an information session about Good Shepherd's EPIC Scholarship ministry. Grab a cup of coffee and some treats from the Fellowship Hall and come learn more about the EPIC (Educational Partners in Covenant) scholarships awarded by Good Shepherd each year.

 Members of the Mission Endowment Fund Committee will be available to explain the ministry and provide applications for the 2024-2025 academic year.

SPRING PLANTS OR FLOWERS FOR EASTER SERVICES: Altar Guild welcomes contributions of spring plants or flowers to be placed along the altar rail for the March 30 Easter Vigil and March 31 Easter Sunday service. Flowers can be designated in memory or honor of friends and loved ones. Please provide names to the Church Office no later than Wednesday, March 27, and have the plants or flowers delivered to the Gathering Space by 3:00 p.m., Saturday, March 30. All orders and payments are made individually, not through the Church Office. You are welcome to remove your plant/flowers after the Easter Sunday service, or no later than Saturday, April 6.

- Due to sensitivities to odors and pollen, Easter lilies and other lilies are not placed in the Sanctuary. Altar Guild suggestions include: azaleas, tulips, daffodils, bulb gardens, kalanchoes, mums, hydrangeas, pansies, and flower arrangements.
- Note: The Country Garden is offering special pricing for church members on selected flowering plants for Easter services. Its deadline for these orders is March 28. Identify yourself as a member of Good Shepherd.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW DIRECTORY: SUNDAY, MARCH 17 AND SUNDAY, MARCH 24, following Worship: Currently, the Directory entries for several members and friends lack photographs. Good Shepherd photographers will be available in the building on two Sundays in March to take individual and family photos. If you'd like to update your directory photo, now is your opportunity!

LOOK FOR NEW MEMBER BULLETIN BOARD: Thanks to the efforts of Reg Laursen, Jane Kemp, Elizabeth Kaschins, Pastor David, Jim Buzza, and Good Shepherd staff members Erica and Tristan, there is now a New Member bulletin board at the end of the hallway leading to the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to check it out!

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**

NEW FURNITURE FOR THE SOLAR COURTYARD HAS ARRIVED: Jim Fritz reports that 64 chairs were delivered this week. They are securely wrapped and temporarily placed adjacent to the courtyard. Also to arrive are 8 tables and 4 containers for plants.

• The 'grand opening' for the chairs will be at St. Grubby's Day later this spring, when help unwrapping them will be needed.

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK: Tristan: 9 AM - 12 PM M-F.

Erica: 10 AM - 5 PM M-Tues.

Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

People will be kept on the "medical concerns" prayer list for 4 weeks. After that they will be cycled off and you will need to alert Pr. David or the Office to have them return to the Prayer List for another 4 weeks. Those listed under "hospice" will remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted. Grieving folks are on for 2 weeks.

Those with medical concerns...

- · Noi Tran (Kim Kavan's mother), receiving dialysis treatment
- Stephanie Hoff, awaiting kidney transplant
- June Melby, health concerns
- Ingrid Callaghan, health concerns
- Lyle Otte, recovering from retinal surgery
- Bonnie Flora, Parkinsons and troubling back pain
- Jutta Anderson, Chordoma, rare cancer of the spine
- Steve Zittergruen's mother, Mary, cancer
- Doyle Gorden, broken collar bone

Those who are grieving...

- The family of Kent McElvania, friend of Tom and Connie Buresh, from West Union
- The Hopkins family, as they grieve the death of Steve's cousin, Kenton, 65, who died last week in Waterloo, IA

Those in hospice...

- Harland Nelson, at Eastern Star
- Mirium Plaatz, Melanie Folkerts' aunt; In California
- Dennis Martin, Marv & Mickey Slind's brother-in-law, Buffalo, NY

Those serving on Good Shepherd's Call Committee...

 Megan Buckingham (Convener), Anne Clausen, Steve Holland, Karin Martin-Hiner, Bob Larson, and Leah Holland

Those who serve the wider church...

- · Maryn Olson (daughter of Ginny Olson), Director for Disaster for the ELCA
- Stacey Nalean-Carlson, Wartburg Seminary, Director of Contextual Education
- · Susan Friedrich, Serving as interim pastor in Maynard, IA

<u>Prayers for the Church, the Nation, and the World...</u>

- For the gift of community and neighbors in Decorah and the greater NE lowa area who reach out in small and large ways to help each other.
- For those who live with depression and anxiety... that they have caring friends who reach to them and support and comfort them.
- For those devasted by war in both Ukraine and Gaza, may a better way of peace be found moving forward in these deadly conflicts.
- For our facilities team, WELCA leaders, custodian Mike and several others who help clean and maintain the inside and outside of the building.
- For those who support our church's ministry with their tithes, offerings and gifts.

To have a prayer request added to the Prayer List, please email pastordavid@goodshepherddecorah.org or office@goodshepherddecorah.org

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

563-382-3963 office@goodshepherddecorah.org goodshepherddecorah.org

Pastor David Wrightsman: 612-599-6911 pastordavid@goodshepherddecorah.org

Today, Sunday, March 10: 4th Sunday of Lent

- Worship at 9:30 am; Sanctuary Preaching/Presiding: Pr. David Wrightsman
- Sunday School: 10:20-11:00 am; Sunday School Room
- Coffee/Treats Social Time: 10:30-11:30 am; Fellowship Hall

Lenten Wednesday, March 13:

- Midday Recital Series: 12:15-12:45 pm; Sanctuary
 Students of Alexander Meszler, organist of Luther College
- **Spirituality and Aging:** 4:00-5:30 pm; Gathering Space Pr. Marion Pruit-Jefferson; No registration needed
- Worship at 5:30 6:15 pm; Sanctuary Holden Evening Prayer Preaching: Tom Buresh
- Soup Supper: 6:15-7:15 pm; Fellowship Hall
- Youth Book/Puzzle/Game/DVD Sale; Fellowship Hall; Free-will donation

Sunday, March 17: 5th Sunday of Lent

- Worship at 9:30 am; Sanctuary Preaching/Presiding: Pr. David Wrightsman
- Sunday School: 10:20-11:00 am; Sunday School Room
- Coffee/Treats Social Time: 10:30-11:30 am; Fellowship Hall
- Parent-Student EPIC Scholarship Meeting: 11:00 am; Gathering Space