**Good Shephe****rd Lutheran Church**

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| Pastor: Katie Anderson | Music Director: Lois Swanson |
| Pastor’s Cell: (715) 245-1943 | Office Phone: (715) 387-2731 |
| Pastor Email: gslcwi.pastor@gmail.com | Office Email: gslcwi.office@gmail.com |
| Website: GoodShepherdMarshfield.org | www.facebook.com/gslcwi |

**First Sunday in Lent**

**February 18, 2024, 9:00 am**

***Introduction to the day…***

Jesus doesn’t seek out trained rabbis and priests to be his disciples; instead, he calls a few Galilean fishermen to follow him and join his ministry. In this story, Jesus tells Simon Peter to drop his nets one more time, even though they’ve been fishing all night long and have caught nothing. To their surprise, they haul in nets bursting with fish. In response to this abundant miracle, Peter says, “Go away from me, Lord!” And yet, Peter and his partners drop their nets and follow Jesus. What is the beginning of your faith story? When has God sought you out? Have you ever felt like your calling was pursuing—or chasing—you? Did you resist? Did you follow?

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

**GATHERING HYMN Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing ELW 807**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Loving God,

**You call us by name.**

**You join us in the deep waters of life.**

**You invite us to drop our nets and follow you,**

**and yet, more often than we’d like to admit, we are like Peter.**

**Over and over again, we stand slack jawed and surprised**

**to find you in our midst.**

**Forgive us for drowning out your voice with our own.**

**Forgive us for assuming that we can tackle deep waters by ourselves.**

**Forgive us for forgetting that you will never stop climbing into our boat.**

**Turn our hearts, our minds, and our spirits toward you,**

**for you are the Lord our God, and it is in your name that we pray.**

**Amen.**

Friends, Peter didn’t make the best first impression when Jesus got into his boat. He questioned dropping his nets after a fruitless night. He was oblivious to who Christ was for quite some time, and once he realized the Divinity standing in his boat, he quickly deemed himself unworthy.

And even still, Jesus called Peter a disciple and a friend.

Beloved, hear and believe this good news:

You can make a thousand bad impressions.

You can make every mistake in the book, roll your eyes, and assume you know better.

And even still, Christ will forgive you, claim you, and continue to seek your heart.

That is the good news of the gospel. Rest, celebrate, and trust in that.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Creator God, You hear everything. You hear the rush of the wind through the trees. You hear a baby’s first cry. You hear the crickets chirping, our silent prayers, and laughter around tables. We don’t need that same capacity, but we do need to hear your Word, O God, for we cannot live on bread alone. Today we pray, give us the ability to truly listen with our hearts, and may the truths revealed in your scripture change us. With hearts full of gratitude we pray. Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MUSIC This Little Light of Mine ELW 677(v. 1)**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**PSALM: 25:1-10**

 1To you, O Lord,
  I lift up my soul.
 2**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,**
  **nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
 3Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
 4**Show me your ways, O Lord,** **and teach me your paths.**
 5Lead me in your truth and teach me,

 for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
 6**Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,** **for they are from everlasting.**
 7Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
  remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
 8**You are gracious and upright, O Lord;** **therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
 9You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.
 10**All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness**
  **to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ACS pg. 15**

**GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11**

1Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, 2he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. 3He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. 4When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." 5Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." 6When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. 7So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. 8But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" 9For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; 10and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." 11When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Jesus Sought Me**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** **You have Come Down to the Lakeshore ELW 817**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**I believe in a God of abundance—**

 **a God who sees possibilities where I cannot,**

 **and who holds onto hope when I am at the end of my rope.**

**I believe in a God who comforts—**

 **a God who says, “Do not be afraid;”**

 **a God who joins me in life’s deep waters.**

**I believe in a God who invites—**

**a God who says, “Follow me,”**

**and, “You will be fishers of people.”**

**I believe in a God who seeks after me relentlessly and persistently—**

 **a God of second chances and boundless mercy;**

 **a God who calls us by name.**

**We believe.**

**Help our unbelief.**

**In Christ’s name we pray.**

**Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

…Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

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

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**OFFERING***In addition to our normal offering, a* ***Special Benevolence in February*** *(collected in a special envelope) will go to* ***the Ronald McDonald House.***

**OFFERING HYMN Bless Now, O God, the Journey ELW 326**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

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**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Holy, Holy ACS pg. 20**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness

to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup

we remember our Lord’s passover from death to life

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,

with the earth and all its creatures,

with sun and moon and stars,

we praise you, O God,

blessed and holy Trinity,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

**THE 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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION** *- Certified gluten-free crackers are in the bowl on the communion plate.*

Bread for the journey.

A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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**

**BENEDICTION**

Beloved wanderer,

as you leave this place,

may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve.

May you look for God in every face.

May you find the courage to get out of the boat,

to run to the tomb,

and to speak of your faith.

And when the world falls apart,

may you hear God’s voice deep within,

saying, “Take heart, it is I, be not afraid.”

You are called.

You are blessed.

In both your ups and your downs,

you always belong to God.

Go now in peace.

Go trusting that good news.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN A Mighty Fortress is Our God ELW 504**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Thanks be to God.**

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| ***Upcoming Worship Assistants*** |
|  | **Usher** | **Lector** | **Communion** | **Offering Counters** | **Deep Clean** |
| February, 18 | Brett & Breanna Butler | Julie Will | Matt & Margo Berrier | Dan Mundt | Jon Hill | February:Dave & Sue SchraederAndrea Hovik |
| February, 25 | Dan & Pam Mundt | Christine Tipping | Bob & Laurel Peterson | Nancy Leonard | Breanna Butler |
| March 3, | Charles & Mary Schlafke | Richard Kopitzke | Tammy NeumannSarah Kopitzke | Robin Beeman | David Schneider | March:Nancy LeonardJannalee Kolbeck-LindquistHeidi Binder |
| March 10, | Susan Schoolman | Andrea Hovik | Bruce & Nancy Tibbett | Heidi Binder | Kami Weis |

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| Sunday, February 18 | 9:00 am | Worship Service – Sunday School* First Sunday in Lent
* Luke 5:1-11; Jesus calls Peter to follow him
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| Tuesday, February 20 | 2:00 pm | Chapel at Three Oaks |
|  | 7:00 pm | AA Meeting |
| Wednesday, February 21 | 12:00 pm | Bible Study (discuss Season 2 Episode 5 of “The Chosen”) |
|  | 6:00 pm | Bread & Broth |
|  | 7:00 pm | Midweek WorshipConfirmation Class |
| Sunday, February 25 | 9:00 am | Worship Service* Second Sunday in Lent
* Matthew 14:22-33; Jesus walking on the sea
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SOS has provided their list of needs for this month, which includes:

Kidney Beans, Baked Beans, Sandwich Bags, Chicken Noodle Soup, Dish Soap, Oatmeal, Jelly, Gravy, Pudding, Broth, All Purpose Cleaner, Shampoo, Conditioner, Pancake Mix, Baking Items, Paper Towels, Dried Soup. **Urgently need: Baby wipes and diapers, Toothpaste and Mayo.**

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**People of God, for what else do we pray?**

Lent is a season to focus on prayer. No prayer is too big or too small. You are welcome to use the post-its and pens on the back table to share your prayer concerns, gratitude, celebration, and anything else on your heart.

During the season of Lent as we explore Peter’s faith journey, we consider our own faith journey as well. Today, you are invited to consider your life timeline. Along the line below reflect on your birth, where you are now, significant dates and events along your journey, and where you hope to be heading in the future.

Date of birth Date of death

In addition, consider the people and places that have had the greatest impact on your life. How have those people shaped who you have become? How are important events tied to those important locations? What communities have had lasting impacts on you?