**Shape

Description automatically generated with low confidenceGood Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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**Third Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 26, 2025, 9:00 am**

***Introduction to the day…***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

God’s glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God’s glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

**GATHERING**

**GATHERING HYMN Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing ELW 886**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

our creator,

our protector,

our wellspring of life.

**Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,

**you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**

**Forgive us for the ways we act**

**with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

A vase of flowers on a table

Description automatically generated**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;**

**we resist your call to oppose injustice;**

**we give in to scarcity and fear;**

**we assume the worst about one another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults**

**and release us from their grasp.**

**Show us your lovingkindness.**

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,**

**that we may live in Christ’s ways.**

**Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MUSIC This Little Light of Mine ELW 677**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

1 All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. 2 Accordingly, Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. 3 He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand, and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. 5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people, and when he opened it, all the people stood up. 6 Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. 8 So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.  
  9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. 10 Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord, and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 19**

1 The heavens declare the glory of God,  
 and the sky proclaims its maker’s handiwork.  
2 **One day tells its tale to another,**  
 **and one night imparts knowledge to another.**  
3 Although they have no words or language,  
 and their voices are not heard,  
4 **their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,**  
 **where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**  
5 It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
 it rejoices like a champion to run its course.  
6 **It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;**  
 **nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**  
7 The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;  
 the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.  
8 **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;**  
 **the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**  
9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;  
 the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.  
10 **More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,**  
 **sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**  
11 By them also is your servant enlightened,  
 and in keeping them there is great reward.  
12 **Who can detect one’s own offenses?**  
 **Cleanse me from my secret faults.**  
13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;  
 then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.  
14 **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,**  
 **O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many members yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect, 24 whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, 25 that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.  
  27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work powerful deeds? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? 31a But strive for the greater gifts.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ACS pg. 33**

**GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21**

14 Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.  
16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:  
18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
  because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.  
  He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,  
  to set free those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”  
20 And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness ELW 843**

**A wooden cross on a book

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**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 power of 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**

…God of grace,

**hear our prayer**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

**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 January*** *(collected in a special*

*envelope) will be the* ***ELCA Disaster/Hurricane relief. (Details on the last page of this bulletin)***

**OFFERING SONG**  **One Bread, One Body ELW 496**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,

and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:

A candle flame in the dark

Description automatically generatedour gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,

now and always.

**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, Holy ACS pg. 36**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

O God most mighty,

O God most merciful,

O God our rock and our salvation,

hear us as we praise,

call us to your table,

grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void,

you formed order and beauty.

When Abraham and Sarah were barren,

you sent them a child;

When the Israelites were enslaved,

you led them to freedom.

Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,

and the psalmists cried out for healing,

and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.

He was born among the poor,

he lived under oppression,

he wept over the city.

With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,

O God our strength and our song,

you show us a vision of a tree of life

with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life,

the life of the Father to the Son,

the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,

life in you, 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.*

The joy of the Lord is our strength.

Come, eat this meal of gladness.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Nourishing God,

at this table you have refreshed us

with holy gifts of food and drink.

Strengthen us for service,

and send us out to embody your good news

of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.

In the name of Christ we pray,

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The Spirit of the triune God

☩ bless you with joy,

anoint you with compassion,

and send you in love.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN We Are Marching in the Light ELW 866**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**

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| **Coming up at GSLC** | | |
| Sunday, January 26 | 9:00 am | Worship Service   * Third Sunday after Epiphany * Luke 4:14-21; Jesus reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah |
|  | 10:00 am | Annual Meeting |
| Tuesday, January 28 | 7:00 pm | AA Meeting |
| Wednesday, January 29 | 7:00 pm | Midweek Worship  Confirmation Class |
| Sunday, February 2 | 9:00 am | Worship Service – Sunday School   * Fourth Sunday after Epiphany * Luke 4:21-30; Jesus says a prophet is not accepted in his hometown |

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| ***Upcoming Worship Assistants*** | | | | | | |
|  | **Usher** | **Lector** | **Communion** | **Offering Counters** | | **Deep Clean** |
| January 26 | Heidi Binder | Andrea Hovick | Bob & Laurel Peterson | Pam Mundt | Margo Barrier | January:  John & Jane Wagner  Laurel Peterson |
| February 2 | Tammy Neumann | Shelly Schneider | Dave & Shelly Schneider | Dan  Mundt | Bob  Peterson | February:  Dave & Shelly Schneider  Bruce & Nancy Tibbett |
| February 9 | Stuart & Christine Tipping | Richard Kopitzke | Nancy Leonard  Ron Rothfusz | Nancy Leonard | Rob Mader |
| February 16 | John & Jennifer Rickinger | Shelly Schneider | Dan & Pam Mundt | Robin Beeman | David Schneider |

**Pastor Katie’s Office Hours**: Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm. Tuesday mornings at Uptown Coffee. Afternoons available by appointment. You are welcome to stop in any time for conversation or concerns.

**There will be fellowship time after worship one Sunday a month. Please sign up on the table in the narthex.**

Names on the prayer list will now default to 6 weeks. If you would like a name to remain on the list longer, please let Pastor Katie know.

**Notification from Outreach Ministry**

Outreach Ministry Pass Around envelope offering for January will go to ELCA  Hurricane Disaster Relief. In late September, Hurricane Helene hit the coast of Florida as a Category 4 hurricane and moved inland as a deadly storm, leaving devastation throughout the southeastern United States. Two weeks later Hurricane Milton hit Florida as a powerful Category 3 hurricane, bringing storm surge, heavy rains, winds and tornadoes. Though it has been months, many people in the area are still dealing with the aftermath. Lutheran Disaster Response provides support on the long road to recovery with disaster case management, construction management, attention to unmet needs, and emotional and spiritual care.

**A black background with orange letters

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SOS is experiencing record high numbers. The shelves are the lowest they've been in a long time.

The food list: Mac’n Cheese, Boxed Rice Meals, Canned Pasta Meals, Tuna, Canned Chicken. **Supplies of nearly everything are low but especially needed are canned chili, canned stew, canned soups, and pasta sauce.**

**The Annual Meeting will be held after worship today. Please plan to attend!**