**Shape

Description automatically generated with low confidenceGood Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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**Second Sunday in Lent**

**March 16, 2025, 9:00 am**

***Introduction to the day…***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God’s desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God’s people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God’s face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who “comes in the name of the Lord.”

**GATHERING HYMN Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise ELW 834**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who forgives all our sin,

whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God’s abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,**

**but our lives do not always reflect you** **and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion** **you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality** **you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,**

**even though you have set us free again and again.**

**We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.**

**Transform our lives**

**and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,

God’s arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home.

In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God’s house forever.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MUSIC Goodness is Stronger than Evil ELW 721**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**

1 After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” 2 But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” 3 And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” 4 But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” 5 He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” 6 And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.  
  7 Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” 8 But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” 9 He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” 10 He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in two. 11 And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.  
  12 As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.  
  17 When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. 18 On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 27**

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?  
 The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?  
2 **When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,**  
 **they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**  
3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.  
 Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.  
4 **One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek;**  
 **that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the temple.**  
5 For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,  
 hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.  
6 **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**  
 **Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the Lord.**  
7 Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call;  
 have mercy on me and answer me.  
8 **My heart speaks your message “Seek my face.”**  
 **Your face, O Lord, I will seek.**  
9 Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.  
 Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.  
10 **Though my father and my mother forsake me,**  
 **the Lord will take me in.**  
11 Teach me your way, O Lord;  
 lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.  
12 **Subject me not to the will of my foes,**  
 **for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

13 This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the Lord  
 in the land of the living!  
14 **Wait for the Lord and be strong.**  
 **Take heart and wait for the Lord!**

**SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17-4:1**

17 Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. 18 For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. 19 Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 21 He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. 4:1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ACS pg. 34**

**GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35**

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” 32 He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33 Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ 34 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35 See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY Thy Holy Wings ELW 613**

**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 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, in your mercy,

**Receive our prayer**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**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 March*** *(collected in a special*

*envelope) will be going to* ***SOS.***

**OFFERING SONG** **Now Behold the Lamb ELW 341**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Gracious Provider,

you set your immense treasures among us,

opening your heart to the world.

As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,

deepen our commitment to sharing those

treasures with others,

through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**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**

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.*

All who are hungry, come!

The feast of grace is spread.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,

that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,

in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

God our tender parent,

God the crucified one,

God the reconciling Spirit,

☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN Lead Me, Guide Me ELW 768**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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| **Coming up at GSLC** | | |
| Sunday, March 16 | 9:00 am | Worship Service – Sunday School   * Second Sunday in Lent * Luke 13:31-35 |
|  | 10:00 am | Book Study (*Unclobber* Ch. 3-4) |
| Tuesday, March 18 | 2:00 pm | Chapel at Three Oaks |
|  | 7:00 pm | AA Meeting |
| Wednesday, March 19 | 12:00 pm | Bible Study (Exodus 2:11-25) |
|  | 6:00 pm | Bread & Broth |
|  | 7:00 pm | * Midweek Worship |
| Sunday, March 23 | 9:00 am | Worship Service   * Third Sunday in Lent   Luke 13:1-9; Unless you repent, you will perish: parable of the fig tree |
|  | 10:00 am | Book Study (*Unclobber* Ch. 5-6) |

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| ***Upcoming Worship Assistants*** | | | | | | |
|  | **Usher** | **Lector** | **Communion** | **Offering Counters** | | **Deep Clean** |
| March 16 | Dan & Pam Mundt | Laurel Peterson | Dave & Shelly Schneider | Nancy Leonard | David Schneider | March:  Chris Tipping  Julie Will  Andrea Hovick  Deb Janz |
| March 23 | Dave & Shelly Schneider | Shelly Schneider | Dan & Pam Mundt | Robin Beeman | David Schneider |
| March 30 | Chris & Sara Bauer | Rob Pankratz | Dave & Sue Schraeder | Heidi Binder | Kami Weis |
| April 6 | Susan Schoolman | Jon Hill | Sarah Kopitzke  Tammy Neuman | Pam Mundt | Margo Barrier | April:  John & Jane Wagner  Laurel Peterson |

We are seeking one person to be on the nominating committee. If you are willing to serve, please speak with Pastor Katie or a council member.

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.

**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.

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SOS has provided their list of needs for this month, which includes: **Pasta Sauce, Mayo/Miracle Whip and Broth**. Your continued generosity greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all the Good Shepherd members for their support.

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| A yellow key with a ring  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | Starting Monday March 24th, accessing Good Shepherd main entrance doors will change from a “keyed” entry to a “key fob” entry system.  Prior to that all users must fill out and return the attached “GSLC Key Fob Request Form” to the church office.  Once that is returned a key fob(s) will be assigned and activated. |

The Reconciling in Christ team will be hosting a 6-week book study on *Unclobber: Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality* to discuss how the Bible has been used as a tool to discriminate against the LGBTQ+ community. The book study will begin after worship today. Books are available for pickup from church.

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| **Good Shepherd Directory Update**  Watch for upcoming dates to share your photos and personal information for the revised Good  Shepherd Directory. The team comprised of Jon Hill, Margo Berrier, Pam Mundt, and Jane  Wagner are seeking input whether you prefer an online or printed directory or both. They  would also like to know what members’ details to include such as phone numbers and  addresses, email, etc… Please provide feedback to our team as they begin their work. |

**Bible Study is returning for Lent!**

We’ll follow a series on Exodus beginning Wednesday, March 12 at noon. All are welcome to join!

Session 1: Exodus 1:8-2:10

Session 2: Exodus 2:11-25

Session 3: Exodus 3 & 4

Session 4: Exodus 14

Session 5: Exodus 16:2-30

Session 6: Exodus 17:1-7