**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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| Pastor: Rev. Katie Anderson | Music Director: Rev. Lois Swanson |
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**First Sunday in Lent**

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

***Introduction to the day…***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God’s grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God’s love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

**GATHERING HYMN What a Fellowship ELW 774**

**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**

**O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through 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: Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

1 “When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, 2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3 You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.’ 4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, 5 you shall make this response before the Lord your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7 we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9 and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10 So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16**

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
 who abide in the shadow of the Almighty
2 **you will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my stronghold,**
 **my God in whom I put my trust.”**
9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
 and the Most High your habitation,
10 **no evil will befall you,**
 **nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**
11 For God will give the angels charge over you,
 to guard you in all your ways.
12 **Upon their hands they will bear you up,**
 **lest you strike your foot against a stone.**
13 You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
 you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
14 **I will deliver those who cling to me;**
 **I will uphold them, because they know my name.**
15 They will call me, and I will answer them;
 I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
16 **With long life will I satisfy them,**
 **and show them my salvation.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b-13**

8b “The word is near you,
   in your mouth and in your heart”
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim),9because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.10For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. 11 The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” 12For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.13 For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ACS pg. 34**

**GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13**

1Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness,2 where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished.3The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” 4Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’ ” 5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.6And the devil said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” 8Jesus answered him, “It is written,
 ‘Worship the Lord your God,
  and serve only him.’ ”
9Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here,10 for it is written,
 ‘He will command his angels concerning you,
  to protect you,’
11 and
 ‘On their hands they will bear you up,
  so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” 12 Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”13When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** **Bishop Martin Halom**

**HYMN OF THE DAY When We Are Tested ACS 922**

**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**  **On Eagles Wings ELW 787**

**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 WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

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

**DISMISSAL**

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

**Thanks be to God.**

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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| **Coming up at GSLC** |
| Sunday, March 9 | 9:00 am | Worship Service* First Sunday in Lent
* Luke 4:1-13; The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days
 |
|  | 10:00 am | Book Study (U*nclobber* Introduction-Ch. 2) |
| Tuesday, March 11 | 6:30 pm | Council Meeting |
|  | 7:00 pm | AA Meeting |
| Wednesday, March 12 | 12:00 pm | Bible Study (Exodus 1:8-2:10) |
|  | 6:00 pm | Bread & Broth |
|  | 7:00 pm | Midweek WorshipConfirmation Class |
| 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) |

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| ***Upcoming Worship Assistants*** |
|  | **Usher** | **Lector** | **Communion** | **Offering Counters** | **Deep Clean** |
| March 9 | Richard & Sarah Kopitzke | Kris Tarter | Matt & Margo Berrier | Dan Mundt | Bob Peterson | March:Chris TippingJulie WillAndrea Hovick |
| March 16 | Dan & Pam Mundt | Laurel Peterson | Dave & Shelly Schneider | Nancy Leonard | DavidSchneider |
| 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 |

**We thank Bishop Martin Halom for being our guest preacher and providing music today!**

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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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| **Good Shepherd Directory Update**Watch for upcoming dates to share your photos and personal information for the revised GoodShepherd Directory. The team comprised of Jon Hill, Margo Berrier, Pam Mundt, and JaneWagner are seeking input whether you prefer an online or printed directory or both. Theywould also like to know what members’ details to include such as phone numbers andaddresses, 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

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 begins after worship today. Books are available for pickup from church.

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.

Notification from Property Ministry

Access to the church will be changing as of Monday March 24th.  Keys will be replaced with “key fobs.”  Please contact the church office or Dave Schneider (414-439-1489) or (gslcwi.property@gmail.com) with any questions or concerns.

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| A cartoon of a person holding a bowl of water  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | We need your help!We are looking for individuals to fill out additional monthly cleaning crews!Cleaning duties would be twice a year.Let’s keep our church looking clean and shiny!Please contact the office 715-387-2731 or gslcwi.office@gmail.com. |