**Shape

Description automatically generated with low confidenceGood Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**April 6, 2025, 9:00 am**

***Introduction to the day…***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus’ feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God’s new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

**GATHERING HYMN Making Their Way ACS 979**

**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**

**Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

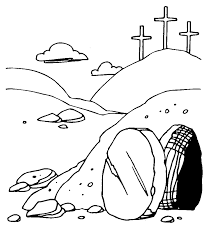
**Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MUSIC Jesus, Remember Me ELW 616**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21**

16 Thus says the Lord,  
  who makes a way in the sea,  
  a path in the mighty waters,  
 17 who brings out chariot and horse,  
  army and warrior;  
 they lie down; they cannot rise;  
  they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
 18 Do not remember the former things  
  or consider the things of old.  
 19 I am about to do a new thing;  
  now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?  
 I will make a way in the wilderness  
  and rivers in the desert.  
 20 The wild animals will honor me,  
  the jackals and the ostriches,  
 for I give water in the wilderness,  
  rivers in the desert,  
 to give drink to my chosen people,  
  21 the people whom I formed for myself  
 so that they might declare my praise.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 126**

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
 then were we like those who dream.  
2 **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**  
 **Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.”**  
3 The Lord has done great things for us,  
 and we are glad indeed.  
4 **Restore our fortunes, O Lord,**  
 **like the watercourses of the Negeb.**  
5 Those who sowed with tears  
 will reap with songs of joy.  
6 **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,**  
 **will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

**SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14**

[Paul writes:] 4b If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.  
  7 Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. 8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. 10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, 11 if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

12 Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. 13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ACS pg. 34**

**GOSPEL: John 12:1-8**

1 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. 2 There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. 3 Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’s feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 5 “Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” 6 (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) 7 Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. 8 You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY Take My Life, That I May Be ELW 685**

**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 April*** *(collected in a special*

*envelope) will be going to* ***Feed My Starving Children.***

**OFFERING SONG** **God’s Work, Our Hands ACS 1000**

**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.

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 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross ELW 335**

**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, April 6 | 9:00 am | Worship Service – Sunday School   * Fifth Sunday in Lent * John 12:1-8; Mary anoints Jesus for his burial |
|  | 10:00 am | Book Study (*Unclobber* Ch. 9-10) |
| Tuesday, April 8 | 6:30 pm | Council Meeting |
|  | 7:00 pm | AA Meeting |
| Wednesday, April 9 | 12:00 pm | Bible Study (Exodus 16:2-30) |
|  | 6:00 pm | Bread & Broth |
|  | 7:00 pm | Midweek Worship  Confirmation Class |
| Sunday, April 13 | 9:00 am | Worship Service   * Palm Sunday * Luke 19:28-40; Entrance into Jesus’ final days |
|  | 10:00 am | Book Study (*Unclobber* Afterword) |

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| ***Upcoming Worship Assistants*** | | | | | | |
|  | **Usher** | **Lector** | **Communion** | **Offering Counters** | | **Deep Clean** |
| April 6 | Susan Schoolman | Jon Hill | Sarah Kopitzke  Tammy Neuman | Pam Mundt | Margo Berrier | April:  John & Jane Wagner  Laurel Peterson  Leslie Mader |
| April 13 | Julie Will | Tammy Neumann | Matt & Margo Berrier | Dan Mundt | Bob Peterson |
| April 20 | Rob & Leslie Mader | Nancy Tibbett | Ron Rothfusz  Andrea Hovick | Nancy Leonard | Rob Mader |
| April 27 | John & Jane Wagner | Shelly Schneider | Nancy Leonard  Rob Pankratz | Robin Beeman | David Schneider |

The Reconciling in Christ team will be hosting a 6-week book study after worship 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.

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.

**Easter Garden Donations**

Good Shepherd altar care will soon be purchasing a variety of plants and

decorations for the Easter Garden and Outdoor Summer Services.

If you would like to make a donation, fill out the form on the table in the

narthex and place it with your check with Easter Garden in the memo line in

the offering plate or on the desk in the office.



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SOS is particularly low on **tea and coffee** but donations of any **non-perishable food or hygiene products** are always needed. 

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

**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.

**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 mobile pack event in Marshfield takes place April 24-26, 2025. The goal is to pack over 145,000 meals which costs $41,000.   
  
We have signed up to help pack on Saturday, April 26 @12-1:30pm. Contact Pastor Katie or the office to help.  
**Please follow this student-to-adult ratio when registering to volunteer:  
-For safety reasons, children under the age of 5 are not allowed in our packing area**

**(sorry, no exceptions)  
-Grades K-2: 1 student to 1 adult  
-Grades 3-6: 3 students to 1 adult  
-Grades 7-12: 4 students to 1 adult**  
**Everyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.**



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| **Good Shepherd Directory Update**  The Church Directory Team is seeking your photos and contact information. A list of families who submitted photos and information a few years ago is available in the narthex. Please approve that these details are correct.  You haven’t submitted your information, pick up the form on the table and return it to church with your photo before the deadline of May 1st. You may also click on the link in the upcoming newsletter to complete the form online. Please sign up in the narthex to have your photo taken after church on April 6th or 20th. For questions, contact Jon Hill, Pam Mundt, Jane Wagner or Margo Berrier. |

A poster for a church

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**Massage from the Green Team**

Little Free Library is celebrating its 200,000th book box! This landmark library has been donated to Benjamin E. Mays IB World School, an elementary school in St. Paul’s historic Rondo neighborhood. It marks the first of 200 Little Free Libraries being granted to Title I schools across the country, in an effort to expand children’s access to books.  This 200k milestone library joins our worldwide network, which spans all 50 states, 128 countries, and all seven continents.

The Green Team will be sponsoring a book drive for a few weeks in celebration of this new milestone.  The box is located on the counter in the narthex.  Please feel free to bring in books you no longer need or want, especially children's books.  Thank you!