

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Building up God's people through His word for His world

Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024

This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

We especially welcome our guests who are worshipping here today. What a privilege to greet you! If you have no church home in the area, we invite you to be a part of the life and ministry of Good Shepherd. For information about our congregation, visit gslcva.org. Also, please fill out a Welcome card (inside this bulletin) and place it in the offering plate near the doors.

Our worship reflects the liturgical tradition of the Christian church. Holy Communion is celebrated on the first, third, and fifth Sundays at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Our informal worship service, Sunday/PRAISE, features contemporary music and is held in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, with communion celebrated on fourth Sundays.

To all worshippers: The presence of children in worship is a gift to the Body of Christ and a reminder that our congregation is growing. Remember that Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Please welcome our young ones and give their parents a smile of encouragement or a helping hand, if needed.

To the parents of young ones, here are a few suggestions for worshipping with your children: Relax! God put the wiggles and giggles in kids; don't feel that you have to suppress them in His house. All are welcome! Sit toward the front, where it is easier to see and hear what's going on. Quietly explain the parts of the worship service and actions of the pastor, ushers, communion assistants, etc. Sing the hymns and songs, pray, and voice the responses aloud. Children learn worshipful behavior by copying you. If you have to leave the worship service with your child or stand up and walk around the back of the room, feel free to do so, but please come back! And finally, if you so choose, . . .

You are welcome to use our nursery, as well as our parents' room next to the nursery, if your young ones need a break from the service. The Parents' Room is also a comfortable place where mothers may nurse their babies. The worship service is livestreamed to a monitor in the Parents' Room.

We offer Sunday School and a variety of Bible studies and spiritual growth opportunities for children, youth, and adults on Sunday mornings. All Sunday School classes meet at 9:30 a.m. See News and Announcements for class information.

Flowers and plants in our worship areas are supported by financial donations to the Flower Fund. These floral offerings beautify the church, uplift service participants, and remind us of God's good creation. You can find information about being a flower sponsor on the bulletin board near the Fellowship Hall and at gslcva.org, under "Flower Sponsorships" on the Worship page. Today's flowers are sponsored by Georgia Thorstenson in memory of her father, George Skouras.

SUNDAY/PRAISE

GATHERING SONG "Beautiful Savior"

Beautiful Savior, King of creation
Son of God and Son of Man
Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown
Fair are the meadows, fair are the
woodlands
Robed in flowers of blooming spring
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer
He makes our sorrow'ng spirit sing

Chorus:
Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations
Son of God and Son of Man
Glory and honor, praise, adoration
Now and forever more be Thine

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight
Bright the sparkling stars on high
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky

Chorus
Now and forevermore be Thine

"Beautiful Savior." CCLI #858354.

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE "Gratitude"

All my words fall short
I got nothing new
How could I express
All my gratitude
I could sing these songs
As I often do
But every song must end
And You never do

Chorus:
So I throw up my hands
And praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah
hallelujah
And I know it's not much
But I've nothing else fit for a king

Except for a heart singing hallelujah
hallelujah

I've got one response
I've got just one move
With my arms stretched wide
I will worship You

Chorus
Come on my soul
Oh don't you get shy on me
Lift up your song
'Cause you've got a lion inside of those
lungs
Get up and praise the Lord
(Repeat)

Chorus

"Gratitude." Benjamin Hastings, Brandon Lake, Dante Bowe. © 2109 Bethel Worship Publishing, Brandon Lake Music, Maverick City Publishing, Maverick City Publishing Worldwide (Bethel Music Publishing); SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia (Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI #858354.

RESPONSIVE READING FROM GOD'S WORD

Psalm 31:9-16

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, "You are my God.**

¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶**Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."**

READING FROM GOD'S WORD

Mark 11:1-11

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

KIDS' MESSAGE

Elizabeth Huang

RESPONSE SONG: "We Will Not Be Shaken"

*Chorus: For we trust in our God
And through His unfailing love
We will not be shaken
We will not be shaken
We will not be shaken
(Repeat)*

Though the battle rages
We will stand in the fight
Though the armies rise up against us on all
sides
We will not be shaken
We will not be shaken

We will not be shaken
For in the hour of our darkest day
We will not tremble we won't be afraid
Hope is rising like the light of dawn
Our God Is for us He has overcome

Chorus (Repeat)

All those against Him will fall
For our God is stronger
He can do all things
No higher name we can call
For Jesus is greater
We can do all things
(Repeat)

Chorus (Repeat)

"We Will Not Be Shaken." Ben Fielding, Bob Hartley, Bobby Strand, Brian Johnson, Chris Greely. © 2014 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Capitol CMG Publishing); Bethel Music Publishing. CCLI #858354.

MESSAGE

"Palms or Passion"

Pastor James

MUSICAL REFLECTION

OFFERINGS & OPPORTUNITIES

Communications Director Jeff Donahue

Please take this opportunity to fill out the Welcome Card and hand it to one of the ushers as you leave.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

After the pastor says "Lord, hear our prayer," we respond by singing:

Band: You hear us calling, You hear us calling, Abba Father
You hear us calling, You hear us calling, Abba Father

People: *Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy*
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy

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.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

[We confess together] God of grace and mercy, we confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions; time and time again we have failed to love You with all that we have; we have failed to love our neighbors and those in need. Forgive the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. For our sins we deserve separation from you. But Lord, You are overflowing with mercy. Bring back to life within us the joy of Your saving grace; heal our brokenness, give light to our path, and rest to our souls. Give us the desire and the power to grow in Your image, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

COMMUNION

Some notes about Holy Communion

We believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, according to His Word: "This is My body ... this is My blood" (Matthew 26:26–27), and that in this sacrament our Lord gives us forgiveness of our sins, unity with God, and strength for a life of service.

We invite all baptized Christians who have received their First Communion, examined themselves, acknowledge the true body and blood of Jesus Christ in the sacrament for the forgiveness of their sins, and sincerely seek to amend their lives to join us in this holy meal.

The cups in the innermost circle of the communion tray contain juice for those who do not wish to drink wine.

COMMUNION SONG "New Wine"

In the crushing, in the pressing
You are making new wine
In the soil, I now surrender
You are breaking new ground
So I yield to You and to Your careful hand
When I trust You I don't need to
understand

Chorus:

Make me Your vessel

Make me an offering

Make me whatever You want me to be

I came here with nothing

But all You have given me

Jesus bring new wine out of me

In the crushing, in the pressing
You are making new wine
In the soil, I now surrender

You are breaking new ground
You are breaking new ground

Chorus

Jesus bring new wine out of me
Jesus bring new wine out of me

'Cause where there is new wine

There is new power

There is new freedom

And the kingdom is here

I lay down my old flames

To carry Your new fire today

(Repeat)

Chorus

Jesus bring new wine out of me
Jesus bring new wine out of me

"New Wine." Brooke Ligertwood. © 2017 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI #858354.

BLESSING & SENDING

SENDING SONG "From Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)"

What gift of love could I offer to a King
What weight or worth could be held
Within my offering
When He alone is worthy

A glory song is inscribed upon my heart
This treasure held in an alabaster jar
I break
To bring Him all the glory

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below*

What sacrifice could be equal to His own
The cross of Christ has declared
That there is naught I owe
Yet I know I owe Him all

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

Our Father God the infinite
 The matchless King magnificent
 The living Christ the servant Son
 The prophesied the saving One
 The Holy Ghost gift from above
 The faithful Friend the seal of love

This life this heart this song to Him
 My all in all my everything

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise Him above ye heavenly host
 Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost
 (Repeat)
 Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost*

"From Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)." Brooke Ligertwood, Chris Davenport, Scott Ligertwood. © 2019 Hillsong MP Songs, Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI #858354.

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Serving Today	
Worship Leader	Pastor Johann
Preacher	Pastor James
Ushers	Paul Devine (lead) Rob Fekete
Greeter	Jeannie Johns (door) Kelly Nield
Guest Welcome	Paul Kasulis
Engagement	Heidi Cooper
Praise Team	Tara Planeta (violin) Maryanne Perkel (cello) Steve Mutter (bass) Julian Berkowitz (drums) Kathy Otterbacher (vocals) Dan LaMaestra (leader; piano, vocals)
Altar Guild	Linda Fekete
Projectionist	Jeff Donahue
Audio Engineer	Scott Shepherd
Livestream Manager	Matt Hardy
Closer	Martin Farley
Kitchen Cleanup	Mia Millman

* = unfilled as of March 21

Be a part of the SUNDAY/PRAISE community by serving in our worship gatherings as greeters, ushers, singers, instrumentalists, AV support, and others. Interested? Contact us by emailing gslc@gslcva.org or calling 703-437-5020.

Board of Servant Leaders

Linda Terlecki, chair
Rob Fekete, vice-chair
Drew Lipman, secretary

Laura Blackburn
Paul Kasulis
Goodwyn Morgan
Deanine Thrash

Core Ministry Areas

Worship

Team Leaders: Georgia Thorstenson and Julie Schorfheide; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

The Worship Team encompasses music, seasonal celebrations, arts, worship schedule, Sanctuary Choir (Anne Lee), Handbell Choir (Anne Lee), traditional worship, and contemporary worship (Dan LaMaestra), the worship spaces, and support personnel (e.g., ushers, greeters, acolytes).

Discipleship

Team Leader: Pastor James

The Discipleship Team oversees adult education, Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, children's ministry (Michelle Tenhaeff), and youth ministry (Holly Vanderhoof).

Parish Life

Team Leader: Brian Cors; Staff Liaison: Heidi Cooper

The Parish Life Team helps foster our community through Life Groups, member engagement, fellowship events, new member inclusion, concerts, public events, picnics, and intergenerational events, and reaches out to guests who worship at Good Shepherd.

Mission

Team Leader: Pastor Johann

Through the Mission Team, Good Shepherd supports a variety of mission efforts: world and local (Bill and Lisa Schuler), synod/district, social ministry and community service (Holly Vanderhoof). Evangelism, publicity, media, and social media (Jeff Donahue) support these efforts.

Congregational Care and Nurture

Team Leader: June McGurn; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

The Congregational Care and Nurture Team helps support the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health of the congregation through literature, programs, and opportunities to serve others at Good Shepherd. This ministry's volunteers help in many ways: at memorial services and receptions; through member care visits and transportation; by sending cards for life events; and by arranging meals ("Take Them a Meal" team, Caroline Ruppert) for the sick and infirm, for their families, and for families with newborns.

Administration

Team Leader: Pastor Johann

This team is in charge of property (Roger Thorstenson), financing the mission (Mike DeWan), stewardship (Don Kidwell), human resources/personnel (Matt Franker), communications (Jeff Donahue), contracts, church office, calendar/program management, and technology (Gary Budzier).

Good Shepherd's Staff

Jotham Johann, Senior Pastor

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Holly Vanderhoof, Community Service Coordinator & Youth Ministry Director

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Reid Otterbacher, Communications Assistant

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Chloe Vanderhoof, Social Media Assistant

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Please note that the church office is closed on Mondays.

Good Shepherd is a member congregation of the Southeastern District
of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

fb.com/goodshepherdva

Instagram.com/gslcva

Connect with us by liking our Facebook page and following us on Instagram. Find them by searching @gslcva on those platforms. We also encourage you to subscribe to our YouTube channel and follow us on Vimeo so that you don't miss any of our virtual services, kids' message, and more. Questions? Contact Communications Director Jeff Donahue, jeff@gslcva.org

ADDITIONAL READINGS FOR THIS WEEK FROM GOD'S WORD

From the Old Testament

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. The servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

From the New Testament

Philippians 2:5-11

Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ's example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ's death.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.