

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Building up God's people through His word for His world

Second Sunday in Lent
March 16, 2025

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."

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 participate in the life and ministry of Good Shepherd. For information about our congregation, visit gslcva.org. Also, please fill out a Welcome card, which you'll find near the hymnals, and place it in the offering plate.

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 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 sanctuary, 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 (enter "flowers" in the search area on the homepage).

Prelude (8:00) "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" Don Hustad
Prelude (11:00) "Lenten Prayer" Susan T. Nelson
Handbell Choir

Welcome Pastor James

Please stand

Opening Hymn "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now" **Hymn No. 902**

Invocation, Confession, and Forgiveness

The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

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

Silence for reflection on God's word and for self-examination. You may kneel or remain standing.

P: Compassionate One,

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Please stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Kyrie [Lord, have mercy] **Music in hymnal, pages 152-53**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day **Music in hymnal, page 156**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

Please sit

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

L: 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, and 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."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

L: 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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Lenten Verse

Music in hymnal, page 157

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:31-35

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Music in hymnal, page 157

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

P: 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.'"

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Music in hymnal, page 157

Please sit

Hymn of the Day

"Christ, the Life of All the Living"

Hymn No. 420

Verses 1-4

If you think your child might be unable to sit through the entire service, this would be an appropriate time to take him/her to the nursery.

Message

"Protective Wings"

Pastor Johann

Musical Reflection

Please stand

Nicene Creed

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Please sit

Announcements

Pastor James

Please fill out a Welcome card and place it in the offering plate.

Anthem (8:00)

“Lenten Prayer”

Susan T. Nelson

Handbell Choir

Anthem (11:00)

“Canticle of Hope”

Gary Hallquist

Sanctuary Choir

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits
And in His Word, yes in His Word I put
my hope

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits
And in His Word, yes in His Word I put
my hope

My soul waits for the Lord
My soul waits for the Lord
More than watchmen wait for the morning
More than watchmen wait for the morning
My soul waits for the Lord

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits
And in His Word, yes in His Word I put
my hope

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits

And in His Word, yes in His Word I put
my hope.

Out of the depths I cry to You
O Lord, hear my plea for mercy
For with the Lord is forgiveness for all who
fear His name

I wait for the Lord
I wait for the Lord
I wait for the Lord, my soul waits
And in His Word, yes in His Word I put
my hope

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits
For with the Lord is unfailing love

I wait for the Lord

Please stand

Offertory Prayer

C: 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.

Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition, the prayer leader will say, "God, in your mercy ..."

The congregation responds, "receive our prayer."

Please see the News and Announcements sheet for a listing of intercessions.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface and Proper Preface

Music in hymnal, page 160

Sanctus [Holy, Holy, Holy]

Music in hymnal, page 161

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini [The peace of the Lord]

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Agnus Dei [Lamb of God]

Music in hymnal, page 163

Please sit

Distribution

We believe that 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 made their First Communion, examined themselves, discern the body and blood of Christ in the sacrament for the forgiveness of their sins, and sincerely seek to amend their lives to join us at His Table.

Serving Today

	8:00	11:00
Worship Leader	Pastor James	Pastor James
Preacher	Pastor Johann	Pastor Johann
Crucifer	Hugh Conschafter	Ryder Morgan
Acolyte	Cadence Raye	Tim Austin
Scripture Reader	Andrew Otterbacher	Joshua Stone
Prayer Leader	Reginia Benjamin	Georgia Thorstenson
Cantor	Sarah Damers	Sarah Damers
Communion Assistants	Pastor Johann (host) Pastor James (host) Jamie Ellor (tray) Elizabeth Huang (tray)	Pastor Johann (host) Pastor James (host) Jeff Peterson (tray) Nancy McGarry (tray)
Ushers	Ric Nickerson (lead) Jim Christian Gary Budzier Dean Thorsell	Rob Fekete (lead) John Purtillo Allen Millman Marty Gurtz
Choir Director		Anne Lee
Handbell Choir Director	Anne Lee	Anne Lee
Organist	Anne Lee	Anne Lee
Altar Guild	Diane Ellor	Linda Fekete
Projectionist	James Conschafter	Jeff Donahue
Audio Engineer	Matt Hardy	
Livestream Manager	Adam Sherman	Matt Hardy
Greeter	Georgia Thorstenson (door) Deanine Thrash (welcome center)	Kelly Nield (door) Jeannie Johns (welcome center)
Guest Welcome	Donna Harper	Heidi Cooper
Engagement	Heidi Cooper	Heidi Cooper
Opener	Ric Nickerson	
Closer		Martin Farley
Coffee Setup	Drew Lipman	
Kitchen Cleanup		Goodwyn Morgan

We hope you will continue to 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' messages, and more. Questions? Contact Communications Director Jeff Donahue, jeff@gslcva.org

Board of Servant Leaders

Laura Blackburn, chair
Rob Fekete, vice-chair
Drew Lipman, secretary

Larry Austin
Paul Kasulis
Jennifer Pelletier
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 (Matt Hardy), 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 this core ministry area, Good Shepherd supports a variety of mission efforts: financial and prayerful partnering with missionaries, worldwide and local (Bill and Lisa Schuler); synod/district, social ministry and community service (Holly Vanderhoof); evangelism, publicity, media, and social media (Jeff Donahue).

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) 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 and contracts (Roger Thorstenson), financing the mission (Mike DeWan), stewardship (Don Kidwell), human resources/personnel (Matt Frankner), communications (Jeff Donahue), and technology (Gary Budzier).

Good Shepherd's Staff

Jotham Johann, Senior Pastor

Room 201; pastorjo@gslcva.org; 703-439-2754

Gary James, Assisting Pastor

Room 209; pastorgary@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

Sarah Brazell, Preschool Director

Room 101; preschool@gslcva.org; 703-437-4511

Georgia Thorstenson, Business Manager

Room 212; georgia@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x803

Jeff Donahue, Communications Director

Room 209; jeff@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x811

Heidi Cooper, Director of Engagement

heidi@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

Anne Lee, Organist & Director of Choirs

Room 215; anne@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x807

Michele Clair, Administrative Assistant

Room 210; michele@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x806

Holly Vanderhoof, Community Service Coordinator & Youth Ministry Director

Room 208; holly@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020 x213

Matt Hardy, Praise Band Director & Video Production Specialist

matt@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

Michelle Tenhaeff, Children's Ministry Coordinator

childministry@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

Julie Schorfheide, Communications Assistant

julie@gslcva.org

Reid Otterbacher, Communications Assistant

commassist@gslcva.org

Chloe Vanderhoof, Social Media Assistant

chloe@gslcva.org

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