

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 28, 2024

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word – the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

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.

SUNDAY/PRAISE

GATHERING SONG “Be Thou My Vision (Lord You Are)”

Be Thou my Vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

Be Thou my Wisdom and Thou my true
Word

I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance now and always

Thou and Thou only first in my heart
High King of heaven my treasure Thou art

Lord You are more precious than silver
Lord You are more costly than gold
Lord You are more beautiful than diamonds
Nothing I desire compares with You

High King of heaven my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys O bright heaven's
sun

Heart of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my vision O Ruler of all

"Be Thou My Vision (Lord You Are)." Lynn DeShazo, Shane Barnard. © 2019 Songs From Wellhouse (Right Angle Music); Remaining portion unaffiliated. CCLI #858354

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE “How Great Is Our God (How Great Thou Art)”

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
and trembles at His voice

Chorus:

How great is our God

Sing with me, How great is our God

And all will see how great

How great is our God

And age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the End
Beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one, Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb

The Lion and the Lamb

Chorus

Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God
(Repeat)

How great, how great is our God

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

"How Great Is Our God (How Great Thou Art)." Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves. © 2004 Rising Springs Music, worshiptogether.com songs (Capitol CMG Publishing); Wondrously Made Songs (Music Services, Inc.). CCLI #858354.

RESPONSIVE READING FROM GOD'S WORD

Psalm 111

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²**Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.**

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴**You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

⁶**You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.**

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

⁸**They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.**

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.**

READING FROM GOD'S WORD

Mark 1:21-28

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

KIDS' MESSAGE

Colleen Judson

RESPONSE SONG: "All Sufficient Merit"

All sufficient merit shining like the sun
A fortune I inherit by no work I have done
My righteousness I forfeit at my Savior's
cross

Where all sufficient merit did what I could
not

In love He condescended eternal now in
time

A life without a blemish the Maker made to
die

The law could never save us our
lawlessness had won
Until the pure and spotless Lamb had
finally come

Chorus

It is done it is finished

No more debt I owe

Paid in full all sufficient

Merit now my own

I lay down my garments any empty boast
Good works now all corrupted by the sinful
host
I'm dressed in my Lord Jesus
A crimson robe made white
No more fear of judgment His
righteousness is mine

Chorus (2x)

All sufficient merit firm in life and death
The joy of my salvation shall be my final
breath
When I stand accepted before the throne of
God
I'll gaze upon my Jesus and thank Him for
the cross
Yes I'll thank Him for the cross

Chorus (2x)

Oh Your merit now my own
Oh Your merit now my own

"All Sufficient Merit." Bethany Barnard, Bryan Fowler, Shane Barnard. © 2023 Be Essential Songs; bryanfowersongs; More Songs From Wellhouse; Songs From Wellhouse. CCLI #858354.

MESSAGE

"Because He Said So"

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 “O Come to the Altar”

Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

Chorus:

O come to the altar

The Father's arms are open wide

Forgiveness was bought with

The precious blood of Jesus Christ

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy

From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling
Chorus (2x)

Oh what a Savior
Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
(Repeat)

Chorus (2x)

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

“O Come to the Altar.” Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Steven Furtick, Wade Joye. © 2015 Music by Elevation Worship Publishing (Essential Music Publishing LLC). CCLI #858354.

BLESSING & SENDING

SENDING SONG “Our God Saves”

In the name of the Father, in the name of
the Son
In the name of the Spirit, Lord we come
We're gathered together to lift up Your
name
To call on our Savior, to fall on Your grace
(Repeat)

Chorus 1:

Hear the joyful sound of our offering

*As Your saints bow down, as Your people
sing*

*We will rise with You lifted on Your wings
And the world will see that*

Chorus 2:
Our God saves, our God saves
There is hope in Your name

In the name of the Father, in the name of
the Son

In the name of the Spirit, Lord we come
We're gathered together to lift up Your
name

To call on our Savior, to fall on Your grace

Chorus 1

Chorus 2

Mourning turns to songs of praise
Our God saves, our God saves

Chorus 1

Yes, the world will see that

Chorus 2

Mourning turns to songs of praise
Our God saves, our God saves
Our God saves, our God saves
Our God saves

"Our God Saves." Brenton Brown, Paul Baloche. © 2007 Thankyou Music (Capitol CMG Publishing); Integrity's Hosanna! Music, Leadworship Songs (Integrity Music).
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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

Serving Today	
Worship Leader	Pastor Johann
Preacher	Pastor James
Ushers	Goodwyn Morgan (lead) Jim Micsan
Greeters	Bill Ciesar (door) Deb Ciesar (door)
Guest Welcome	David Johns Jeannie Johns
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	*
Projectionist	Jeff Donahue
Audio Engineer	Scott Shepherd
Livestream Manager	Matt Hardy
Closer	Martin Farley
Kitchen Cleanup	Jan Morgan

* = unfilled as of January 25

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 Frankner), 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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Gary James, Assisting Pastor

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Kathy Otterbacher, Interim Preschool Director

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Georgia Thorstenson, Business Manager

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Jeff Donahue, Communications Director

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Heidi Cooper, Director of Engagement

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Anne Lee, Organist & Director of Choirs

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Michele Clair, Administrative Assistant

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Holly Vanderhoof, Community Service Coordinator & Youth Ministry Director

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Dan LaMaestra, Praise Band Director & Audio Production Specialist

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Matt Hardy, Video Production Specialist

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Michelle Tenhaeff, Children's Ministry Coordinator

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Abbey Panetti, Communications Assistant

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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

ADDITIONAL READINGS FOR THIS WEEK FROM GOD'S WORD

From the Old Testament

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

This reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy that updates the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

From the New Testament

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸"Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.