

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

Second Sunday in Lent
February 25, 2024

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

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. Information about being a flower sponsor is on the bulletin board near the Fellowship Hall and at gslcva.org, under "Flower Sponsorships" on the Worship page. During Lent, flowers are placed on the welcome center in the church entry area. Today's flowers are sponsored by June McGurn, in memory of Eileen Allessandrini.

SUNDAY/PRAISE

GATHERING SONG "Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest)"

Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain
Leave to thy God to order and provide
In ev'ry change He faithful will remain
Be still my soul thy best thy heav'nly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end

Be still my soul thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past
Thy hope thy confidence let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright at last
Be still my soul the waves and winds still
know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt
below

Chorus:

In You I rest in You I found my hope

In You I trust You never let me go

*I place my life within Your hands alone
Be still my soul*

Be still my soul the hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord
When disappointment grief and fear are
gone
Sorrow forgot Love's purest joys restored
Be still my soul when change and tears are
past
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last

Chorus

In You I rest in You I found my hope

In You I trust You never let me go

I place my life within Your hands alone

Be still my soul (3x)

"Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest)." Jane Laurie Borthwick, Jason Ingram, Jean Sibelius, Kari Jobe, Kathrina Amalia von Schlegel. Words and Music: © 2013 Worship Together Music (Capitol CMG Publishing, Open Hands Music, So Essential Tunes (Essential Music Publishing LLC). CCLI #858354.

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus:

My chains are gone I've been set free

My God my Savior has ransomed me

And like a flood His mercy rains

Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

Chorus

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)." Chris Tomlin, John Newton, Louie Giglio. © 2006 sixsteps Music, Vamos Publishing, worshipaltogether.com songs (Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI #858354.

RESPONSIVE READING FROM GOD'S WORD

Psalms 22:23-31

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied. Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

READING FROM GOD'S WORD

Mark 8:31-38

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

KIDS' MESSAGE

Elizabeth Huang

RESPONSE SONG: "It Is Well with My Soul (You Are the Rock)"

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrow like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot You have taught me to say
It is well it is well with my soul

But Lord it's for Thee for Thy coming we
wait
The sky not the grave is our goal
Oh song of the angel oh voice of the Lord
Blessed hope blessed rest of my soul

*Chorus:
It is well
With my soul
It is well it is well with my soul
(Repeat)*

You are the Rock on which I stand
By Your grace it is well
My hope is sure in Christ my Savior
It is well with my soul

Chorus
You are the Rock on which I stand
By Your grace it is well
My hope is sure in Christ my Savior
It is well with my soul
It is well with my soul
It is well with my soul

"It Is Well with My Soul (You Are the Rock)." Horatio Gates Spafford, Philip Paul. Words and Music: Public Domain. CCLI #858354.

MESSAGE

"The Cross – An Expectation"

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 “Cornerstone”

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name
But wholly trust in Jesus' name

Chorus:

Christ alone, Cornerstone

Weak made strong in the Savior's love

Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

Chorus

He is Lord Lord of all

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone

Faultless stand before the throne
Chorus

"Cornerstone." Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, William Batchelder Bradbury. © 2011 Hillsong MR Songs, Hillsong Music Publishing Australia, Hillsong Music Publishing UK (Capitol CMG Publishing. CCLI #858354.

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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	Jim Ellis (lead) Paul Devine
Greeter	Kelly Nield (door)
Guest Welcome	*
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)
Projectionist	Jeff Donahue
Audio Engineer	Scott Shepherd
Livestream Manager	Matt Hardy
Closer	Martin Farley
Kitchen Cleanup	Drew Lipman

* = unfilled as of February 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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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

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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

ADDITIONAL READINGS FOR THIS WEEK FROM GOD'S WORD

From the Old Testament

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

From the New Testament

Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.