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

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 10, 2024

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

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 Cheryl and Ken Uffelman in memory of their son, Daniel Uffelman.

SUNDAY/PRAISE

GATHERING SONG "The Wonderful Cross"

When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride

See from His head His hands His feet Sorrow and love flow mingled down Did e'er such love and sorrow meet Or thorns compose so rich a crown

Chorus

O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
Bids me come and die and find
That I may truly live
O the wonderful cross

O the wonderful cross All who gather here by grace Draw near and bless Your name

Were the whole realm of nature mine That were an offering far too small Love so amazing so divine Demands my soul my life my all

Chorus

O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
Bids me come and die and find
That I may truly live

"The Wonderful Cross." Chris Tomlin, Isaac Watts, J. D. Walt, Jesse Reeves, Lowell Mason. © 2000 Rising Springs Music, Vamos Publishing, worshiptogether.com songs (Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI #858354.

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE "Build My Life"

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe We live for You

Jesus, the name above ev'ry other name Jesus, the only one who could ever save Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe

We live for You

Chorus: Holy, there is no one like You There is none besides You Open up my eyes in wonder And show me who You are And fill me with Your heart And lead me in Your love To those around me

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever
breathe
We live for You

Jesus, the name above ev'ry other name Jesus, the only one who could ever save Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe We live for You, we live for You

Chorus (2x)

I will build my life upon Your love It is a firm foundation I will put my trust in You alone And I will not be shaken (Repeat)

Chorus (2x)

"Build My Life." Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kaple, Matt Redman, Pat Barrett. © 2016 Kaple Music, Bethel Music Publishing (Bethel Music Publishing); Capitol CMG Genesis, Housefire Sounds, Said And Done Music, sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, Vamos Publishing, worshiptogether.com songs (Capitol CMG Publishing); Martin, Karl Andrew (Sentric Music). CCLI #858354.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

[We confess together] Holy Lord, we confess that we have fallen short. We turn our backs when we could embrace. We remain silent when we could speak. We speak when we could listen. We close the door when we could fling it wide open. We judge when we could seek understanding. We cling when we could give. Forgive us, O God, for being sinful, and help us to continue to grow into the people you created us to be, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING FROM GOD'S WORD

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

¹Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

²Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,

³gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

¹⁷Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.

 $^{18}\mbox{They}$ loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.

¹⁹Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord and you delivered them from their distress.

²⁰You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.

²¹Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.

²²Let them offer sacrifices | of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

READING FROM GOD'S WORD

John 3:14-21

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

KIDS' MESSAGE "Measuring God's Love"

Pastor James

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

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

MESSAGE "God's Love" Pastor James

MUSICAL REFLECTION

OFFERINGS & OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor Johann

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: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, hear our cry and heal our land.

Let kindness lead us to compassion, bring us back again.

People: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy on us now.

"Kyrie Eleison." Words and music by Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Matt Maher, and Matt Redman. © 2016 S.D.G. Publishing, Said and Done Publishing, Sixsteps Music, Sixsteps Songs, Thankyou Music, Worship Together Music, worshiptogethersongs.com (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Be Essential Songs, Fellow Ships Music, I Am A Pilgrim Songs, So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC). CCLI #858354.

[&]quot;All Sufficient Merit." Bethany Barnard, Bryan Fowler, Shane Barnard. © 2023 Be Essential Songs; bryanfowlersongs. CCLI #858354.

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.

SENDING SONG

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found He is my light my strength my song This Cornerstone this solid Ground Firm through the fiercest drought and storm

What heights of love what depths of peace When fears are stilled when strivings cease My Comforter my All in All Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay Light of the world by darkness slain Then bursting forth in glorious Day Up from the grave He rose again And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me For I am His and He is mine Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the pow'r of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No pow'r of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

"In Christ Alone." Keith Getty, Stuart Townend. © 2001 Thankyou Music (Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI #858354.

BLESSING & SENDING

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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	Paul Devine (lead)
	Jim Micsan
Greeter	Sally Cors (door)
Guest Welcome	Brian Cors
	Tara Planeta (violin)
	Maryanne Perkel (cello)
Praise Team	Steve Mutter (bass)
	Julian Berkowitz (drums)
	Kathy Otterbacher (vocals)
	Dan LaMaestra (leader; piano, vocals)
Projectionist	Jeannie Johns
Audio Engineer	Scott Shepherd
Livestream Manager	Matt Hardy
Closer	Martin Farley
Kitchen Cleanup	Drew Lipman

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 Ruppar) 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

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

Gary James, Assisting Pastor

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

Kathy Otterbacher, Interim 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

Dan LaMaestra, Praise Band Director & Audio Production Specialist

dan@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

Matt Hardy, Video Production Specialist

matt@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

Michelle Tenhaeff, Children's Ministry Coordinator

childministry@gslcva.org; 703-437-5020

Abbey Panetti, Communications Assistant

abbey@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

ADDITIONAL READINGS FOR THIS WEEK FROM GOD'S WORD

From the Old Testament

Numbers 21:4-9

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing:

a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

From the New Testament

Ephesians 2:1-10

While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—6and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—9not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹oFor we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.