

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

Midweek Service: Return from Denial
March 13, 2024 | 12:00 p.m.

In one of the classic hymns associated with the season of Lent, Scottish-born writer James Montgomery, author of more than four hundred hymns, penned this thoughtful prayer: "In the hour of trial, Jesus, plead for me Lest by base denial I depart from Thee" (LW 511:1). Although the language of the hymn reflects the era in which it was written almost two hundred years ago, the central concern is as valid today as it was when the stanza was written. The phrase "base denial" calls to mind the disciple Peter, who disowns his Lord while in the courtyard of the house of the high priest. At times, we may be tempted to deny our Lord and to act as though our faith is not central to who we are. But we can draw strength from remembering the forgiveness won for us by our suffering Lord, who calls us even from "base denial" to return to Him.

Prelude "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee" setting by Emma Lou Diemer

Please stand

P: O Lord, open my lips,
C: **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C: **make haste to help me, O Lord.**
All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

Psalm **Psalm 118:19-29**

P: ¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.
C: ²⁰**This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.**
P: ²¹I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation.
C: ²²**The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.**
P: ²³This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
C: ²⁴**This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
P: ²⁵Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us success!
C: ²⁶**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless You from the house of the Lord.**
P: ²⁷The Lord is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!
C: ²⁸**You are my God, and I will give thanks to You; You are my God; I will extol You.**
P: ²⁹Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!
All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn

"Break Your Hearts"

see insert

*Please sit***First Reading****Isaiah 59:1-3, 12-13**

- L: ¹See, the LORD's hand is not too short to save,
 nor his ear too dull to hear.
²Rather, your iniquities have been barriers
 between you and your God,
and your sins have hidden his face from you
 so that he does not hear.
³For your hands are defiled with blood,
 and your fingers with iniquity;
your lips have spoken lies,
 your tongue mutters wickedness.
¹²For our transgressions before you are many,
 and our sins testify against us.
Our transgressions indeed are with us,
 and we know our iniquities:
¹³transgressing, and denying the LORD,
 and turning away from following our God,
talking oppression and revolt,
 conceiving lying words and uttering them from the heart.
- L: O Lord, have mercy on us.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading**1 Peter 5:6-10**

- L: ⁶Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in
due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves,
keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for
someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers
and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you
have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory
in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.
- L: O Lord, have mercy on us.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

"On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

Hymn No. 422*Please stand*

Holy Gospel

Luke 22:54-62

P: ⁵⁴Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. ⁵⁵When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. ⁵⁶Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." ⁵⁷But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." ⁵⁸A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" ⁵⁹Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. ⁶¹The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." ⁶²And he went out and wept bitterly.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Lent Responsory

Music in hymnal, page 231

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

P: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust; leave me not, O Lord, my God.

C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

Please sit

Message

"Return from Denial"

Pastor Johann

Musical Reflection

Please stand

Antiphon

P: Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

C: **and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Magnificat

P: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;

C: **for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.**

P: For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.

C: **For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.**

P: He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

C: **He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.**

P: He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.

C: He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.
All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Offering Moment

Kyrie

Music in hymnal, page 233

All: Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Collects

P: O Lord, hear my prayer,
C: and let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

P: Lord God, Your Gospel Word supports us through both good times and bad. Forgive us for the times when our words deny You. Restore us, so that the words we speak bless both You and the people entrusted to our care; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Collect for Lent

P: Faithful God, through the ancient prophets You call us to return to You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Let these Lenten days be a time when, remembering how You relentlessly return to us in mercy, we return also to You, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Collect for Peace

P: O God, You delight in showing mercy to sinners. Amidst the turmoil we create when we wander from You, restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish us in Your peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

Benedicamus**Music in hymnal, page 234**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.****Benediction****Music in hymnal, page 234**

P: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **Amen.****Postlude****"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"**

W. Cassler

As your schedule permits, please be seated during the postlude for a time of prayer and reflection.

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| Serving Today | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Worship Leader | Pastor Johann |
| Preacher | Pastor Johann |
| Ushers | David Ellison (lead) Ron Voigt |
| Organist | Anne Lee |
| Projectionist | Jeff Donahue |
| Audio Engineer | Dan LaMaestra |
| Greeter | Kelly Nield (door) Nancy McGarry (welcome center) |
| Scripture Reader | Henry Eickelberg |

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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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