

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

Palm Sunday
April 13, 2025

Today, we follow Christ's triumphal entry to Jerusalem on a colt, revealing His humble kingship, foreshadowing our journey with Him to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to Him. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." We enter this Holy Week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

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/giving (look for the sponsorship form at the bottom of that page).

Prelude

“St. Theodulph (All Glory, Laud and Honor)”

Daniel E. Gawthrop

Please stand

Palm Sunday Processional Liturgy

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby You have given us life everlasting; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Processional Gospel Reading

Luke 19:28-40

P: ²⁸ After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here.

³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They said, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying,

“Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!”

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.”

⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

Please raise your palm branches.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: We praise and thank You, O God, for the great acts of love by which You have redeemed us through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path. We ask that You bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and

follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Entrance Hymn “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Hymn No. 442

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 168-69

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

Music in hymnal, page 172

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please sit

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

This text, the third of the four Servant Songs in Isaiah, speaks of the servant's obedience amid persecution. Though the servant has been variously understood as the prophet himself or a remnant of faithful Israel, Christians have often recognized the figure of Christ in these poems.

- L: ⁴The Lord GOD has given me
 the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
 the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he awakens—
 awakens my ear
 to listen as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
 and I was not rebellious,
 I did not turn backward.
⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
 and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
 from insult and spitting.
⁷The Lord GOD helps me;
 therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
 and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
 Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
 Let them confront me.
^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
 who will declare me guilty?
- L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience in his incarnation as a human being, even to death, and his exaltation and glory as Lord of all.

- L: ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
 ⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be exploited,
 ⁷but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Kids' Message

Elizabeth Huang

Hymn of the Day "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"

Hymn No. 441

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 "Status Quo or True Peace"

Pastor Johann

Musical Reflection

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please sit

Announcements

Pastor James

Please fill out a Welcome card and place it in the offering plate near the sanctuary doors after the service, or hand it to an usher as you leave.

Anthem

**"Hosanna in the Highest!"
Sanctuary Choir**

Lloyd Larson

Refrain (sung twice):

*Hosanna hosanna hosanna hosanna
Hosanna to Jesus
Hosanna hosanna hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest*

Hosanna we sing
Give praise to the King
He comes robed in glory and might
This day was foretold
By prophets of old
Come witness this glorious sight

Refrain

Blessed is He
Come praise Him and see
The King of all kings comes today
So sing and rejoice
Come lift up your voice
Give glory and honor and praise

Refrain (sung twice)

Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest

Please stand

Offertory Prayer

C: Jesus, you are the bread of life. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. 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.*

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.**

Blessing

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

Hymn No. 443

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“St. Theodulph”

Carl McKinley

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

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Please join us for coffee and conversation following the service.

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HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Maundy Thursday – 7:30 p.m.

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Good Friday – 7:30 p.m.

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Easter Sunday Festival of the Resurrection of Our Lord

8:15 a.m. Traditional service, with Holy Communion

Preservice music begins at 8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m. Informal, family-focused service, in the Fellowship Hall

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

11:15 a.m. Traditional service, with Holy Communion

Preservice music begins at 11:00 a.m.

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

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

Serving Today

	8:00	11:00
Worship Leader	Pastor James	Pastor James
Preacher	Pastor Johann	Pastor Johann
Crucifer	EJ Hoplin	*
Acolyte	Thatcher Hoplin	*
Scripture Reader	Chris Miller	Jim Micsan
Prayer Leader	Henry Eickelberg	Andrew Otterbacher
Cantor	Stephanie Batchelder	Stephanie Batchelder
Ushers	Gary Budzier (lead) Jim Smith Dean Thorsell Jamie Ellor	Paul Devine (lead) Jim Ellis Marty Gurtz Goodwyn Morgan
Choir Director	Anne Lee	Anne Lee
Organist	Anne Lee	Anne Lee
Altar Guild	Kristi Nickerson Diane Ellor	Sharon Gurtz *
Projectionist	Jeff Donahue	Jeff Donahue
Audio Engineer	Matt Hardy	Adam Sherman
Livestream Manager		Matt Hardy
Greeter	Kristi Nickerson (door) June McGurn (welcome center)	*(door) June McGurn (welcome center)
Guest Welcome	Heidi Cooper	Heidi Cooper
Engagement	Heidi Cooper	Heidi Cooper
Opener	Ric Nickerson	
Closer		Martin Farley
Coffee Setup	Wenda Smith	
Kitchen Cleanup		Drew Lipman

* = unfilled as of April 10

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

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Sarah Brazell, 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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Matt Hardy, Praise Band Director & Video Production Specialist

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Reid Otterbacher, 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