

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

**Transfiguration of Our Lord**  
**February 15, 2026**

*Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle, which comes to a close today, and the Lent-Easter cycle, which begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.*

**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](http://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](http://gslcva.org/giving) (look for the sponsorship form at the bottom of that page). Today's flowers are sponsored by the Conschafter family in celebration of Amanda and Mike's wedding anniversary.

**Prelude**

Prelude and Fugue in C Major (BWV 846)  
from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*

J. S. Bach

**Welcome**

*Please stand*

**Opening Hymn**      "All Glory Be to God on High"

Pastor James

**Hymn No. 947**

**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, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C:      **Amen.**

P:      Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence for reflection on God's word and for self-examination. You may kneel or remain standing.*

P:      Mighty God, lover of justice,

C:      **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

P:      The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in + Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

C:      **Amen.**

*Please stand*

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**Kyrie ~ Lord, have mercy**

**Music in hymnal, pages 152-53**

**Hymn of Praise**      "This Is the Feast"

**Music in hymnal, page 155**

**Salutation and Prayer of the Day**

**Music in hymnal, page 156**

P:      The Lord be with you.

C:      **And also with you.**

P:      Let us pray.

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C:      **Amen.**

*Please sit*

## **First Reading**

### **Exodus 24:12-18**

*At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The "glory of the LORD" settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.*

R: <sup>12</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites.

<sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading**

### **2 Peter 1:16-21**

*At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.*

R: <sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

<sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**Alleluia**

**Music in hymnal, page 156**

**Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 17:1-9**

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Music in hymnal, page 157**

*Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.*

P: <sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Music in hymnal, page 157**

*Please sit*

**Hymn of the Day**      "O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair"

**Hymn No. 413**

*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**      "The Glory & the Cross"

Pastor Johann

**Musical Reflection**

*Please stand*

**Nicene Creed**

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through Him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

*Please sit*

### **Announcements**

**Pastor James**

*Please fill out a Welcome card and place it in the offering plate.*

### **Anthem**

**"Like as the Hart"  
Sanctuary Choir**

**Herbert Howells**

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks

So longeth my soul after thee, O God

My soul is athirst for God

Yea, even for the living God

When shall I come to appear before the  
presence of God?

My tears have been my meat day and night

While they daily say unto me,

Where, where is now thy God?

My tears have been my meat day and night

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks

So longeth my soul after thee, O God

My soul is athirst for God

Yea, even for the living God

When shall I come to appear before the  
presence of God?

*Please stand*

### **Offertory Prayer**

**C: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those  
who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we  
have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior  
and Lord. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

*At the end of each petition, the prayer leader will say, "Merciful God, ..."*

*The congregation responds, "receive our prayer."*

*Please see the News and Announcements sheet for a listing of intercessions.*

### **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

**Preface and Proper Preface**

**Music in hymnal, page 160**

**Sanctus ~ Holy, Holy, Holy**

**Music in hymnal, page 161**

**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.**

**The Words of Our Lord**

**Pax Domini ~ The peace of the Lord**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

**Agnus Dei ~ Lamb of God**

**Music in hymnal, page 163**

*Please sit*

**Distribution**

**We believe** that 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 made their First Communion, examined themselves, discern the body and blood of Christ in the sacrament for the forgiveness of their sins, and sincerely seek to amend their lives to join us at His Table.

**Distribution procedure:** Please come forward by the center aisle or as instructed by the usher. Fill the rail, beginning at the end near the wall. Kneel. Cup your hands to receive the bread. Then, take an individual cup from the tray as it is passed. **Cups in the innermost circle of the communion tray contain juice** for those who do not wish to drink wine. **For those who need gluten-free wafers:** Bring with you one of the brightly colored pieces of paper from the pews and hand it to the communion assistant who is distributing the wafers. That person will bring a gluten-free wafer to you.

**Return to your seat via the aisle next to the windows.** Place your empty communion cup in the bowl near the end of the rail. If you are unable to walk to the communion rail, please speak to an usher, and we will bring the sacrament to you.

**Distribution Hymns**    "Lamb of God"  
                                  "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

**Hymn No. 550**  
**Hymn No. 549**

*Please stand*

**Prayer after Communion**

P:      Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C:      **Amen.**

**Blessing**

P:      May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise + bless you now and forever.

C:      **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**            "Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"                            **Hymn No. 848**

**Dismissal**

P:      Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C:      **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**                    Sinfonia No. 8 in F Major (BWV 794)                                    J. S. Bach

*During the postlude, please take a moment to get up and greet guests and worshippers at this service who are new to you. You are also welcome to stay seated 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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"Like as the Hart." Herbert Howells (1892-1983). Public Domain.

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](mailto:jeff@gslcva.org)

<b>Serving Today</b>	
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Pastor James
<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Johann
<b>Crucifer</b>	Cadence Raye
<b>Acolyte</b>	Xavier Raye
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Geoff Lunt
<b>Prayer Leader</b>	Henry Eickelberg
<b>Cantor</b>	Evelyn Tsen
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Pastor Johann (host) Chris Miller (host) Walt Peter (tray) Jeff Peterson (tray)
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim Micsan (lead) John Purtilo David Johns Dan Pelletier
<b>Choir Director</b>	Anne Lee
<b>Organist</b>	Anne Lee
<b>Altar Care</b>	Vicki Peter
<b>Projectionist</b>	Jeff Donahue
<b>Audio Engineer</b>	Adam Sherman
<b>Livestream Manager</b>	Matt Hardy
<b>Greeter</b>	Jeannie Johns (door) Nancy McGarry (welcome center)
<b>Guest Welcome</b>	Donna Harper
<b>Engagement</b>	Heidi Cooper
<b>Opener</b>	Jim Smith
<b>Closer</b>	Martin Farley
<b>Coffee Setup</b>	Wenda Smith
<b>Kitchen Cleanup</b>	Mia Millman

## **Board of Servant Leaders**

Rob Fekete, chair  
Tony Esse, vice-chair  
John Purtilo, secretary

Larry Austin  
Drew Lipman  
Jennifer Pelletier  
Bernie Schoch

## **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 (Randy and Melanie Stockman); 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 Franker), communications (Jeff Donahue), and technology (Gary Budzier).

## Good Shepherd's Staff

### **Jotham Johann, Senior Pastor**

Room 201; [pastorjo@gslcva.org](mailto:pastorjo@gslcva.org); 703-439-2754

### **Gary James, Assisting Pastor**

Room 209; [pastorgary@gslcva.org](mailto:pastorgary@gslcva.org); 703-437-5020

### **Sarah Brazell, Preschool Director**

Room 101; [preschool@gslcva.org](mailto:preschool@gslcva.org); 703-437-4511

### **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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### **Michelle Tenhaeff, Children's Ministry Coordinator**

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### **Julie Schorfheide, Communications Assistant**

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### **Reid Otterbacher, Communications Assistant**

[comassist@gslcva.org](mailto:comassist@gslcva.org)

### **Chloe Vanderhoof, Social Media Assistant**

[chloe@gslcva.org](mailto: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