

# **Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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

**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 12, 2026**

*In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.*

**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 basket on the Welcome/resource table or hand it to an usher.

**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).

# SUNDAY/PRAISE

## GATHERING SONG "Praise"

I'll praise in the valley  
Praise on the mountain  
I'll praise when I'm sure  
Praise when I'm doubting  
I'll praise when outnumbered  
Praise when surrounded  
'Cause praise is the water  
My enemies drown in

*Pre-Chorus:*  
*As long as I'm breathing*  
*I've got a reason to*

*Chorus 1:*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*

I'll praise when I feel it  
And I'll praise when I don't  
I'll praise 'cause I know  
You're still in control  
'Cause my praise is a weapon  
It's more than a sound  
My praise is the shout  
That brings Jericho down

*Pre-Chorus:*  
*As long as I'm breathing*  
*I've got a reason to*

*Chorus 2:*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*

*I won't be quiet*  
*My God is alive*  
*How could I keep it inside*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*

I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign  
Praise 'cause You reign  
Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the  
grave  
I'll praise 'cause You're faithful  
Praise 'cause You're true  
Praise 'cause there's nobody greater  
than You

(Repeat)

*Chorus 3:*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*  
*Praise the Lord oh my soul*

I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
Praise the Lord oh my soul

"Praise." Brandon Lake, Chandler Moore, Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Pat Barrett, Steven Furtick. © Brandon Lake Music; For Humans Publishing; Maverick City Publishing; Capitol CMG Genesis; Capitol CMG Paragon; Housefires Sounds; Writer's Roof Publishing; Music by Elevation Worship Publishing. CCLI #858354.

## WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

## SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

## SONG OF PRAISE      “Living Hope”

How great the chasm that lay between us  
How high the mountain I could not climb  
In desperation I turned to heaven  
And spoke Your name into the night  
Then through the darkness Your loving-  
    kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul  
The work is finished, the end is written  
Jesus Christ my living hope  
  
Who could imagine so great a mercy  
What heart could fathom such boundless  
    grace  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Savior, I’m Yours forever  
Jesus Christ my living hope

*Chorus:*  
*Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free*  
*Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me*  
*You have broken every chain*  
*There’s salvation in Your name*  
*Jesus Christ my living hope*

Then came the morning that sealed the  
    promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me  
Then came the morning that sealed the  
    promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me  
Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

*Chorus*  
Jesus Christ my living hope  
You are my living hope

“Living Hope.” Brian Johnson, Phil Wickham. © 2018 Phil Wickham Music, Simply Global Songs, Sing My Songs (Fair Trade Music Publishing), Bethel Music Publishing.  
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## 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 16

- P: Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”
- C: All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**
- P: But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.
- C: I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.**
- P: O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.
- C: My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**
- P: I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

**C: I have set the Lord always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

P: My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

**C: For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

P: You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

## READING FROM GOD'S WORD

John 20:19-31

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

## KIDS' MESSAGE

"The Things We Can't See"

Pastor James

## RESPONSE SONG:

"Come Out of That Grave (Resurrection Power)"

There's a sling in my voice  
And a stone in my praise  
Pushing back when the darkest weapons  
form

There's a power on my lips  
Even death can't defy  
When the name of our God is lifted high

*Chorus:*

*'Cause there is resurrection power  
When we sing the name of Jesus*

*Resurrection power  
When we raise a mighty sound  
So come on let the praise get loud  
Make that empty grave resound  
'Cause there is resurrection power  
In His name*

There are days I have seen  
Filled with heartache and loss  
That have buried my heart beneath their  
weight

But every time His praise breaks out  
Dead things rise up from the ground  
I won't leave my song inside that empty  
grave

*Chorus*

Dead man come out of that grave  
Come out of that grave when we sing  
Captives let go of those chains

Let go of those chains when we praise  
(Repeat)

*Chorus*

Dead man come out of that grave  
Come out of that grave when we sing  
Captives let go of those chains  
Let go of those chains when we praise  
(Repeat)

"Come Out of That Grave (Resurrection Power)," Brian Johnson, Chris Davenport. © 2019 SHOUT MP Brio; Bethel Music Publishing. CCLI #858354.

## MESSAGE

"Confidence without Faculties"

Pastor Johann

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

## OFFERINGS & OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor James

*Please take this opportunity to fill out the Welcome Card and hand it to one of the ushers or place it in the basket on the Welcome/resource table 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.

## 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

"Forever"

Give thanks to the Lord  
Our God and King  
His love endures forever  
For He is good, He is above all things  
His love endures forever  
Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand  
And outstretched arm  
His love endures forever  
For the life that's been reborn  
His love endures forever

*Pre-chorus:*

*Sing praise, sing praise  
Sing praise, sing praise*

*Chorus:*  
*Forever God is faithful*  
*Forever God is strong*  
*Forever God is with us*  
*Forever*

From the rising to the setting sun  
His love endures forever  
By the grace of God  
We will carry on  
His love endures forever

*Pre-chorus*

*Chorus (2x)*

Sing praise, sing praise  
Sing praise, sing praise  
Oh, sing praise, sing praise  
Sing praise, sing praise

*Chorus*

*Chorus 2:*  
*Forever You are faithful*  
*Forever You are strong*  
*Forever You are with us*  
*Forever*  
*Forever*

"Forever." CCLI Song # 3148428 Chris Tomlin © 2001 Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs CCLI License # 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](mailto:jeff@gslcva.org)

Serving Today	
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Pastor James
<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Johann
<b>Ushers</b>	Goodwyn Morgan (lead) Martin Farley
<b>Greeter</b>	*(door)
<b>Guest Welcome</b>	*
<b>Engagement</b>	Heidi Cooper
<b>Praise Team</b>	Tara Planeta (violin) MaryAnn Perkel (cello) Scott Clement (bass) Paul Jung (drums) Jackie Huffman (vocals) Matt Hardy (leader; piano)
<b>Projectionist</b>	Jeannie Johns
<b>Audio Engineer</b>	Scott Shepherd
<b>Livestream Manager</b>	Adam Sherman
<b>Closer</b>	Martin Farley
<b>Kitchen Cleanup</b>	Jan Morgan

\* = unfilled as of April 9

**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](mailto:gslc@gslcva.org) or calling 703-437-5020.

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

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**Julie Schorfheide, Communications Assistant**

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**Reid Otterbacher, Communications Assistant**

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**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 New Testament  
22-32

Acts 2:14a,

*After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>22</sup> "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know <sup>23</sup> this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; <sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. <sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption. <sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup> "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

<sup>32</sup> "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

From the New Testament

1 Peter 1:3-9

*This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.*

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.