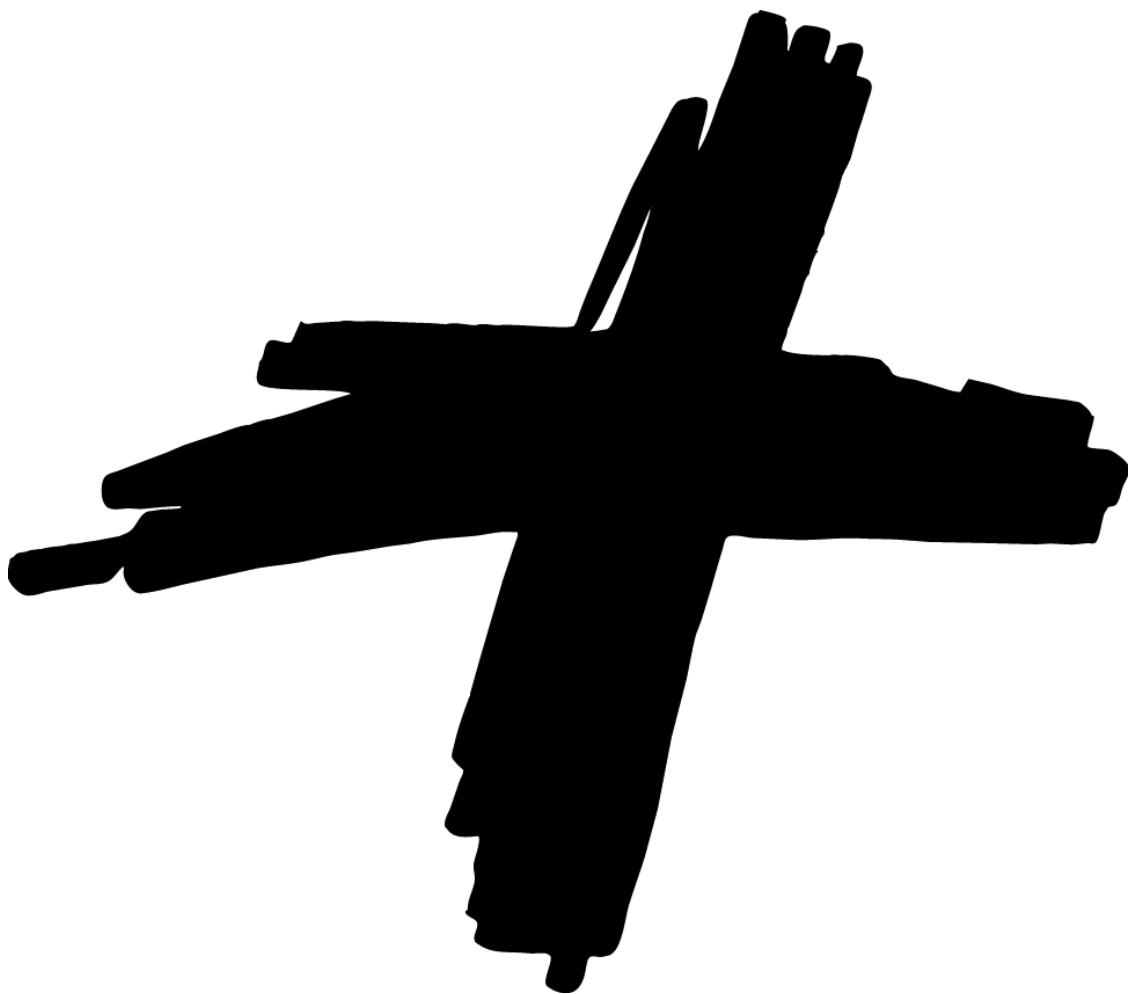




**GOOD
SHEPHERD**
LUTHERAN CHURCH



February 17, 2021
Ash Wednesday

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

Ash Wednesday
February 17, 2021

"By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son." Hebrews 11:17

ORGAN PRELUDE

"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

James Biery

WELCOME

Pastor Johann

OPENING HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

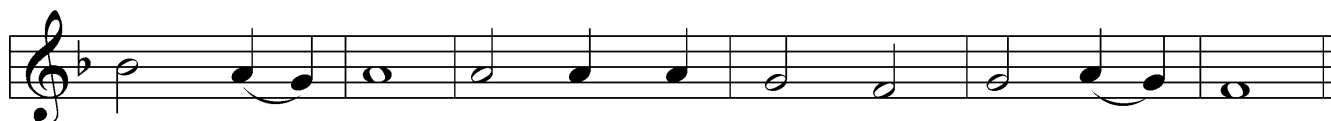
Hymn No. 425



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

INVOCATION, CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

C Amen.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

P Abraham has a pretty comfortable life with God. Sure, he had his challenges, his skeletons in his closet, but life seems good, his faith walk is stable. The Promise of God feels secure and he can see it in action. But then, all of a sudden, the rug is pulled out from under him. Everything he thought he knew changed. The God of clear promise has become, to Abraham, the God who is hard to understand. Together, let us make public confession of our sins.

C Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess that I have sinned against you. I have done that which you forbid, and I have failed to do that which you command. In the weariness of a busy life, I have yielded to temptation. I have trusted myself more than I have trusted you. I have not always followed where you lead. Forgive me, I pray. By your Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me so that I may truly be used by you in your great redemptive work on earth; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Service of the Word

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:6–9

P ⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.
⁸Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:8–19

P ⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”
¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.
¹⁷By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, ¹⁸of whom he had been told, “It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you.” ¹⁹He considered the fact that God is able even to raise someone from the dead—and figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

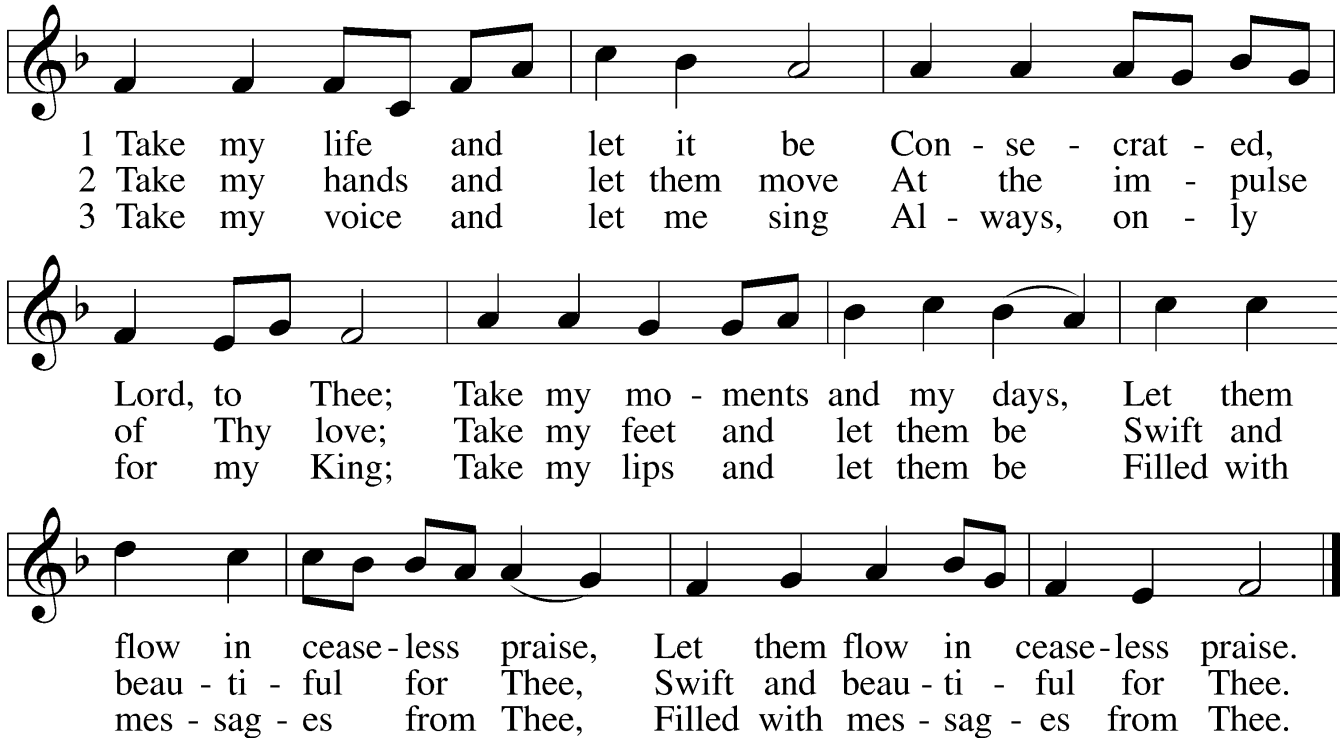
P ²⁹Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. ³⁰For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. ³¹And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, ³²‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is God not of the dead, but of the living.” ³³And when the crowd heard it, they were astounded at his teaching.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

Hymn No. 784

Verses 1–3



1 Take my life and let it be Con - se - crat - ed,
 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse
 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al - ways, on - ly

Lord, to Thee; Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them
 of Thy love; Take my feet and let them be Swift and
 for my King; Take my lips and let them be Filled with

flow in cease-less praise, Let them flow in cease-less praise.
 beau - ti - ful for Thee, Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
 mes - sag - es from Thee, Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.

MESSAGE

“Isaac’s Monologue: God’s Promise”

Pastor Johann

(Based on Genesis 22)

(The message is delivered as a dramatic monologue, with the pastor in the role of Isaac)

REFLECTIVE RESPONSE

APOSTLES’ CREED

**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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

Pastor Johann

CHORAL ANTHEM

"A Clean Heart"

Benjamin Harlan

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart.
Renew my spirit, renew my spirit.
Create in me a clean heart.

A heart that's free to give as you have giv'n to me,
a heart that's free to love as you have loved me,
a heart that really cares,
a heart that always shares.
Create in me a clean heart.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart.
Renew my spirit, renew my spirit.
Create in me a clean heart.

OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God of ancient days, thank you for showing us your plan of salvation through Abraham and Isaac, and for giving us examples through them of people who trusted in your promises and your will for their lives. Help us to see your plan to save us through the sacrifice of your Son and help us to find comfort and confidence in your will for us. Son of God, by sinners slain,
let your sacrifice for us free us to live for you.

In this Lenten season, Lord, keep us focused on the cross of Christ and remember the magnitude of your love that allowed him to leave the throne of heaven to face suffering and death for us, your people of the promise and blessing. Son of God, by sinners slain,
let your sacrifice for us free us to live for you.

Heavenly Father, when doubts and fears arise in our hearts as we ponder what the future holds, help us to remember that you hold the future in your hands, and we are safe in your care in this life and in the life to come. Son of God, by sinners slain,
let your sacrifice for us free us to live for you.

Let us come to your altar often this Lent, dear God, ready to confess our sins to you and receive your renewal through your forgiveness. Let our worship honor and praise you throughout the season, as we humbly acknowledge that we are solely dependent on you for all things. Son of God, by sinners slain,
let your sacrifice for us free us to live for you.

We know that Isaac's name means laughter, O Lord. And Sarah did laugh at the thought of bearing a child in her old age. Help us enjoy the surprises of life you allow to happen to accomplish your grand design for the family of God. Fill us with a holy joy that embraces the fact that nothing is impossible for you. Son of God, by sinners slain,

let your sacrifice for us free us to live for you.

In every season and phase of life, we experience new challenges to our faith. Help us never to abandon you when the going gets tough, and help us to gain strength through your Word, May our faith grow deeper as we ponder your promises in Scripture, and may we never forget that you are always with us and always guiding us, and will provide us with ways out when we are not following your will. Son of God, by sinners slain,

let your sacrifice for us free us to live for you.

Grant to all those who are dealing with sickness and injury of body, mind and spirit to look to you for help, as Abraham did, especially ... Give them a sense of hope and peace that you will bring blessings to them even now through these trying experiences and that your name be glorified and your will be done in every circumstance. Son of God, by sinners slain,

let your sacrifice for us free us to live for you.

All these petitions we offer in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, who did the will of God and lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

BLESSING

Abraham and Isaac came down from that mountain with a story to tell. It is still said to this day, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided." As you move through moments of confusion, as you walk through the experience of brokenness, may you learn to trust God's promises, and come out on the other side with a story to tell. And as you go, may the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; may the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN*"Take My Life and Let It Be"***Hymn No. 784**

Verses 4-6



4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would
I with - hold; Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry
pow'r as Thou shalt choose, Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

DISMISSAL**POSTLUDE***"Be Thou My Vision"*

Tim Conyers

+ + +

We hope you will continue to connect with us by liking our Facebook page and following our Instagram account. Find them by searching @gslcva within these social media 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! If you have any questions, please reach out to grace@gslcva.org.

Worship Leader & Preacher
Director of Music
Organist
Singers

Readers

Video & Audio Production

Worship Materials Support

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Todd Grivetti
Nemeh Azzam
Erin Bullock
Adam Cioffari
Emma Gorrin
Jessica Hodges
Eric Hoplin
Mauricio Miranda
Alex Razskazoff
Chrissy Tangredi
Nigel Tangredi
Kirsten Bates
Georgia Thorstenson
Matt Hardy
Dan Lamaestra
Jeannie Johns
Donna Neil
David Nestleroth
Julie Schorfheide

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BOARD OF SERVANT LEADERS

Jim Micsan, Chair

Leta Kent

Anne Morgan

Ted Lillestolen, Vice-Chair

Will Metts

Vicki Peter

Josh Linder, Secretary

CORE MINISTRY AREAS

Worship

Team Leaders: Georgia Thorstenson and Julie Schorfheide;

Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

music, seasonal celebrations, arts, worship schedule, Sanctuary Choir, Children's Choir (Laura Owens), traditional, contemporary, physical space, support personnel (e.g., ushers, greeters, acolytes)

Discipleship

Team Leader: Andy Muich

adult education, Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, family ministry, children's ministry, youth ministry

Parish Life

Team Leader: Brian Cors; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

Life Groups (Brian Cors), member engagement, fellowship events, new member inclusion (Melinda DeWan), concerts, public events, picnics, intergenerational events

Administration

Team Leader: Pastor Johann

property (Roger Thorstenson), financing the mission (Mike DeWan), stewardship (Don Kidwell), human resources/personnel (Matt Franker), communications, contracts, church office, calendar/program management, technology

Mission

Team Leader: Matt Dickert; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

world missions, synod, outreach, social ministry, community service, evangelism, publicity, media, social media

Congregational Care

Team Leader: Marilyn Voigt; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

member care visits, emergency transportation, maintain roster of the willing, guest follow-up

Good Shepherd is a member congregation of the Southeastern District
of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

About Good Shepherd...

Our vision

We will be a congregation known for building up God's people through His Word for His world.

Worship

During worship, God comes to us through his gifts of Word and Sacrament. What a joy to respond with prayer and songs of praise. Our worship services give us opportunity to listen to God's word and meditate upon it, thus feeding our faith; and express our concerns for our friends, families, community, and the world through prayer.

Serve

We are called to actively share the Good News of Jesus Christ through word and deed. One way we share is by serving one another and our neighbors in our community and throughout the world. Look at our Community Service Opportunities listing to find a way to serve.

Grow

We are committed to spiritual growth through the weekly gathering for prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, and through lifelong learning. In addition to growing in knowledge, we want to grow in love and service to others within and beyond our church community.

Connect

As we grow in our love for Jesus and our neighbors, as we serve our neighbors near and far, we help and encourage one another, challenge one another, and share one another's joys and sorrows. We build strong ties when we gather for worship as well as for events throughout the week. Look inside for many opportunities for connection.



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