

March 3, 2021 Midweek Lenten Devotion

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

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"For the sake of your word and according to your will, you have done this great thing and made it known to your servant." 2 Samuel 7:21.

PRELUDE

WELCOME Pastor Johann **OPENING HYMN** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Hymn No. 425 which the When I the drous On sur - vey won cross Save 2 For bid Lord, should boast it. that Ι in the from 3 See. His head. His hands. His feet Sor - row and whole realm 4 Were the of na ture mine, That were a Prince of Glo died. ry My rich - est gain of Αİ death Christ. my God: the vain things that e'er love flow min gled down! Did such love and trib far small: Love ute too SO a - maz - ing. pride. count but loss And pour con - tempt all my on charm me I His blood. most, sac - ri - fice them to thorns com - pose rich crown? row meet Or sor SO a SO di vine, De - mands my soul, my life. my all!

INVOCATION, CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

- In the name of the Father, who made a covenant with his people, and of the Son, the royal son of David, who shed his blood that we might partake of a new covenant, and of the Holy Spirit, who worked through prophets like Nathan, and has written the covenant on our hearts, and through faith adopted us into the line and lineage of the eternal family.
- C Amen.

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

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." God's will is done when he breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let his kingdom come; and when he strengthens and keeps us firm in his Word and faith until we die. Like King David, the shepherd king, and the prophet Nathan, our sinful natures prohibit us from knowing perfectly the will of God. Yet God provides for us a cure and direction.

O Lord Jesus, We seek your compassion and forgiveness because we too are harassed by sin and helpless to free ourselves from its bondage. We have sinned in thought, word and deed. Though you have called us to be your people, we have lived as if we only needed to answer to ourselves. Even our best intentions to follow your will have met with failure. In your mercy, forgive us our sins. Send us your Spirit to help us live as your holy people. Amen.

Service of the Word

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 7:4–29

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever." In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David. Then King David went in and sat before the Lord and said, "Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far? And yet this was a small thing in your eyes, O Lord God. You have spoken also of your servant's house for a great while to come, and this is instruction for mankind, O Lord God! And what more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O Lord God! Because of your promise, and according to your own heart, you have brought about all this greatness, to make your servant know it. Therefore you are great, O Lord God. For there is none like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears. And who is like your people Israel, the one nation on earth whom God went to redeem to be his people, making himself a name and doing for them great and awesome things by driving out before your people, whom you redeemed for yourself from Egypt, a nation and its gods? And you established for yourself your people Israel to be your people forever. And you, O Lord, became their God. And now, O Lord God, confirm forever the word that you have spoken concerning your servant and concerning his house, and do as you have spoken. And your name will be magnified forever, saying, 'The Lord of hosts is God over Israel,' and the house of your servant David will be established before you. For you, O Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house.'

Therefore your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you. And now, O Lord God, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant. Now therefore may it please you to bless the house of your servant, so that it may continue forever before you. For you, O Lord God, have spoken, and with your blessing shall the house of your servant be blessed forever."

SECOND READING Hebrews 10:1-5

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me."

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 22:41–46

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet"?

If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions."





MESSAGE

"Nathan's Monologue: God's Will & My Dreams"

Pastor Johann

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

REFLECTIVE RESPONSE

OFFERING

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 journey, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

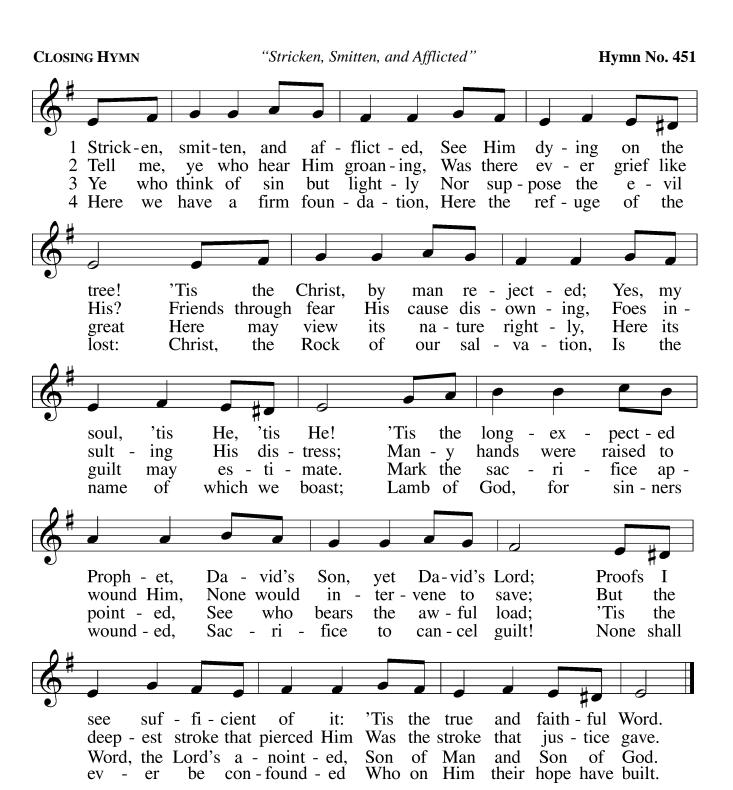
LORD'S PRAYER

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

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! (Ephesians 3:20–21). **Amen**.



DISMISSAL

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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.

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BOARD OF SERVANT LEADERS

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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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