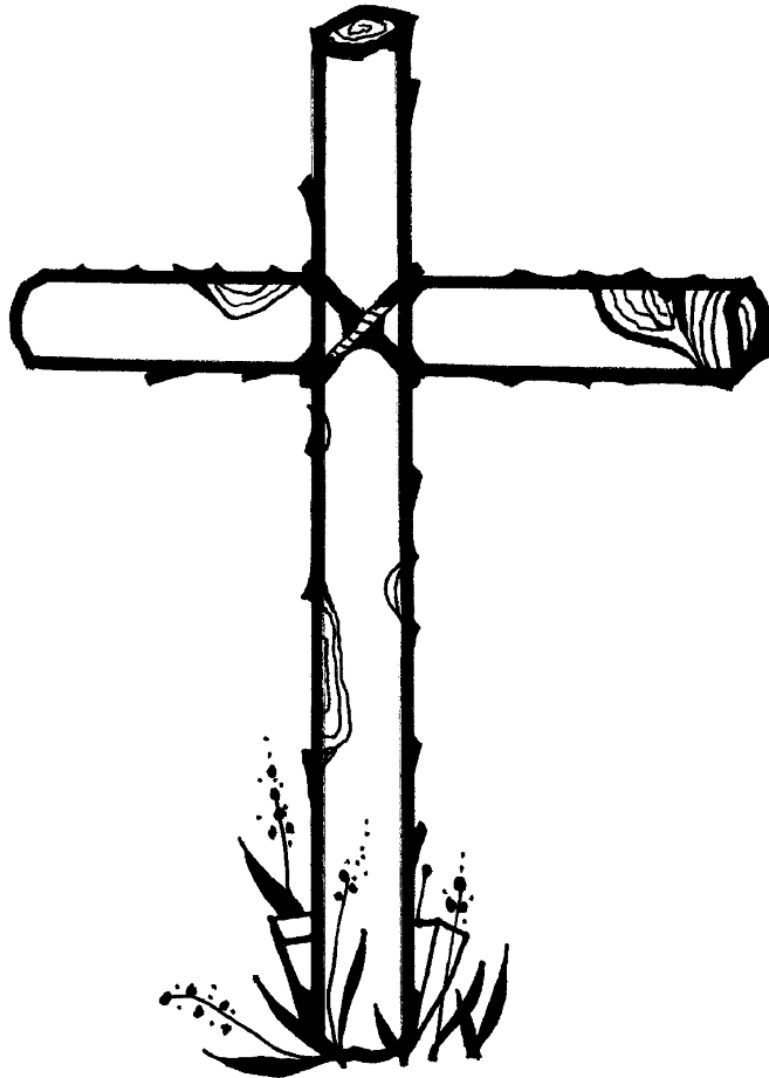




**GOOD  
SHEPHERD**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



February 24, 2021  
Midweek Lenten Devotion

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

**Midweek Lenten Devotion**  
**February 24, 2021**

*"But [Moses] said, 'Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.'" Exodus 4:13*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

Pastor Johann

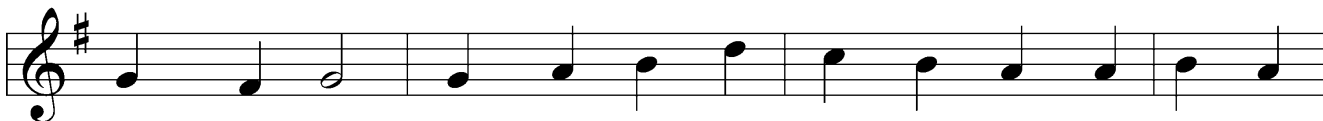
**OPENING HYMN**

*"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"*

**Hymn No. 423**



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,  
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -  
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



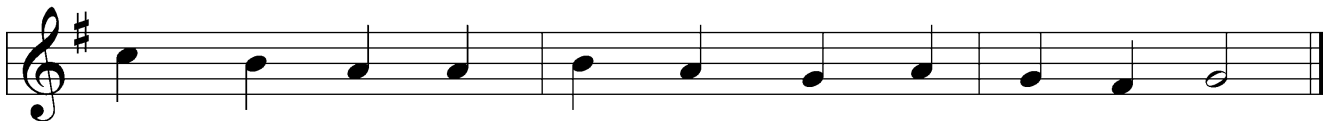
whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior  
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your  
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,  
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us  
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the  
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your  
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.  
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.  
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

**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.

**G** Amen.

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

**P** Wherever two or more are gathered together in Jesus' name, he promises to be there in the midst of them. In the sure and confident hope that our Lord is present in this place we begin in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Let us glorify him who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light!

**C** **Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed his blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high, lives that I might never die,  
As the branch is to the vine, I am his, and he is mine.  
Oh, the height of Jesus' love, higher than the heav'ns above.  
Deeper than the depths of sea, lasting as eternity!  
Love that found me, wondrous thought, found me when I sought him not. Amen.**

### Service of the Word

#### FIRST READING

#### Exodus 3 and 4

Select verses

**L** God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. "Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain." But Moses said to the Lord, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue." Then the Lord said to him, "Who has made man's mouth?... Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak." But he said, "Oh, my Lord, please send someone else."

#### SECOND READING

#### Numbers 20:2–13

**L** Now there was no water for the congregation. And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron. And the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Would that we had perished when our brothers perished before the Lord! Why have you brought the assembly of the Lord into this wilderness, that we should die here, both we and our cattle? And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us to this evil place? It is no place for grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, and there is no water to drink." Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And the glory of the Lord appeared to them, and the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle." And Moses took the staff from before the Lord, as he commanded him.

Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?" And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock. And the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them." These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarreled with the Lord, and through them he showed himself holy.

**L** From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

## HOLY GOSPEL

John 3:14-18

**P** (Jesus said:) “And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*“God Loved the World So That He Gave”*

Hymn No. 571

Verses 1, 2, &amp; 5



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

If you are sick, if death is near,  
 This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
 That is the firmest ground of faith.

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

## REFLECTIVE RESPONSE

## 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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**G** 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.

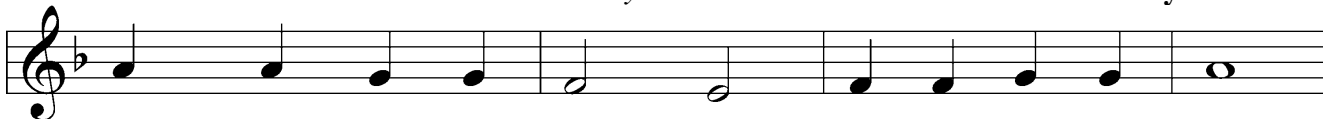
## BLESSING

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them: "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.'" Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

"Glory Be to Jesus"

Hymn No. 433



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains  
 2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;  
 3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream  
 4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!  
 Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!  
 Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!  
 But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

Oft as earth exulting  
 Wafts its praise on high,  
 Angel hosts rejoicing  
 Make their glad reply.

Lift we, then, our voices,  
 Swell the mighty flood;  
 Louder still and louder  
 Praise the precious blood!

## 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](mailto:grace@gslcva.org).

Worship Leader & Preacher  
Director of Music  
Organist  
Singers

Reader  
Video & Audio Production

Worship Materials Support

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

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**Matt Hardy, Video Productions Specialist**

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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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