



## The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

FEBRUARY 1, 2026 | 10:30 AM

## **Holy Communion will be at the rail today.**

Gluten-free Communion wafers are available upon request.

### **Holy Communion is...**

- † The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ received “in, with, and under” the bread and wine for God’s People. *Matthew 26:26, 28*
- † Coming to the table believing the words “given and shed FOR YOU.” Preparation might involve three questions:
  - Do I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ? Am I sorry for my sins?
  - Am I ready to lead a new life?
- † God’s grace in “forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.”  
*Matthew 26:28; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Romans 6:8-9; Romans 8:31-32*



Welcome to worship at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. Please scan the QR Code to register as our guest. You can also sign the Guest Registry located at the entrance to our Sanctuary.

**Please** turn off all electronic devices during our worship together, so that we can give glory to God without distraction.

**Nursery:** The room located at the back of the sanctuary (with windows into the sanctuary), has been set aside for children to be able to play comfortably during Worship. At this time, we ask a parent to remain with their child while using this space. There is a sound system located on the wall to the right after entering the room which allows you to listen to the service.

Please feel free to ask an Elder to assist you as needed.

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

Exhortation

*LSB 151*

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

Confession of Sins

*LSB 151*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

*LSB 151*

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered  
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est  
 3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from  
 △ 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Lord, Praise to You and

all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
 dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night  
 God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;  
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we may trust Your Word,

Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach-ings,  
 With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to  
 Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your  
 Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -

sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.  
 God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.  
 Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.  
 low must wan - der, Till we sing Your prais - es yon - der.

Text (sts. 1–3): Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84; (sts. 1–3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 4): Geistreiches Gesang-Büchlein, 1707, Berlin; (st. 4): tr. unknown, alt.

Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625–73, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Service of the Word

### Introit

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
 but the way of the wicked will perish.

**Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
 nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;**  
 but his delight is in the law of the LORD,  
 and on his law he meditates day and night.

**He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its  
 season, and its leaf does not wither.**

**In all that he does, he prospers.**

The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Kyrie

**P** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** Christ, have mercy upon us.  
**L** Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 170

The musical setting consists of eight staves of music in G major, common time. The lyrics are as follows:

[A] Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.

[C] Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we

praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You

take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the  
 Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-  
 lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,  
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

Old Testament Reading

*Micah 6:1-8*

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,  
 and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,  
 and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
 for the LORD has an indictment against his people,  
 and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you?

How have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt

and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,  
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

*Psalm 15*

<sup>1</sup>O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent?  
Who shall dwell on your holy hill?

**2He who walks blamelessly and does what is right  
and speaks truth in his heart;**

<sup>3</sup>who does not slander with his tongue  
and does no evil to his neighbor,  
nor takes up a reproach against his friend;

**4in whose eyes a vile person is despised,  
but who honors those who fear the Lord;  
who swears to his own hurt and does not change;**

<sup>5</sup>who does not put out his money at interest  
and does not take a bribe against the innocent.  
He who does these things shall never be moved.

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**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

<sup>18</sup>The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. <sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

<sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sit*

Children's Message

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and  
 2 As You, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and  
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and

truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us  
 oth - ers live. Free - ly have Your gifts been grant - ed;  
 Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion,  
 truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us

Hal - lows all our hu - man race, You our Head, who, throned in  
 Free - ly may Your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and Yours the  
 Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease. By Your pa - tient years of  
 Hal - lows all our hu - man race: By Your pray - ing, by Your

glo - ry, For Your own will ev - er plead: Fill us with Your  
 sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stew - ards  
 toil - ing, By Your si - lent hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered  
 will - ing That Your peo - ple should be one, Grant, O grant our

love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.  
 of Your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.  
 thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
 hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth Your will be done.

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855-1932, alt.  
 Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse . . . Contredansen, c. 1710, Amsterdam  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

**C I believe in one God,  
 the Father Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and  
the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

*Anthem: Offertory*

*Chancel Choir*

With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings,  
Shall I come before Him with yearling calves?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,

with ten thousand rivers of oil?  
Shall I give Him my firstborn for my transgressions,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has shown you, O man;  
He has shown you what is good.  
And what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justly and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly, walk humbly with your God?

*Music: John Ness Beck, Text: Micah 6:6-8; One License #21782*

Offering (*See page 19 for mobile giving.*)

*Stand*

786 Lord of All Good

LSB 786

1 Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now;  
2 We give our minds to un - der - stand Your ways;  
△ 3 Fa - ther, whose boun - ty all cre - a - tion shows;  
Use them Your ho - ly pur - pose to ful - fill.  
Hands, eyes, and voice to serve Your great de - sign;  
Christ, by whose will - ing sac - ri - fice we live;  
To - kens of love and pledg - es they shall be  
Hearts with the flame of Your own love a - blaze—  
Spir - it, from whom all life in full - ness flows:  
That our whole life is of - fered to Your will.  
Thus for Your glo - ry all our pow'rs com - bine.  
To You with grate - ful hearts our - selves we give.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-84, alt.  
Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595-1662

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Prayer of the Church

## Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

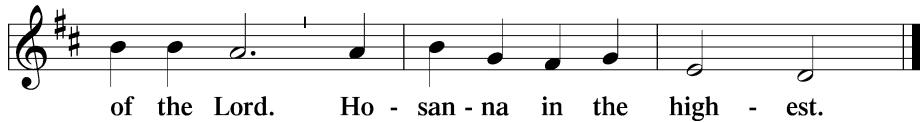
Proper Preface (Full)

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\ddagger$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\ddagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 163

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** **Amen.**

**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
 have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
 sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of  
 God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Sit*

Distribution

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**Amen.**

Distribution Hymn (following page)

## Let Streams of Living Justice



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;  
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,  
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.  
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.  
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,  
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;  
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.  
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.  
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home-land bright-ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;  
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;  
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.  
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.  
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934  
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934  
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*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

The Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{†}$  in peace.

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 182

**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -  
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -  
veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.  
Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.  
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You

would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

Benediction

LSB 166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\dagger$  give you peace.

**C Amen.**

683 Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

LSB 683

1 Je - sus, Thy bound - less love to me No thought can reach, no  
2 O grant that noth - ing in my soul May dwell, but Thy pure  
3 This love un - wea - ried I pur - sue And daunt - less - ly to  
4 In suf-f'ring be Thy love my peace, In weak - ness be Thy

tongue de - clare; U - nite my thank - ful heart to Thee,  
love a - lone; Oh, may Thy love pos - sess me whole,  
Thee as - pire. Oh, may Thy love my hope re - new,  
love my pow'r; And when the storms of life shall cease,

And reign with-out a ri - val there! Thine whol - ly, Thine a -  
My joy, my trea - sure, and my crown! All cold-ness from my  
Burn in my soul like heav'n-ly fire! And day and night, be  
O Je - sus, in that fi - nal hour, Be Thou my rod and

lone I am; Be Thou a - lone my con - stant flame.  
heart re - move; My ev - 'ry act, word, thought be love.  
all my care To guard this sa - cred trea - sure there.  
staff and guide, And draw me safe - ly to Thy side!

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703-91, alt.

Tune: Norman Cocker, 1889-1953

Text: Public domain

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**Today's readings** reflect God's care for the weak and the powerless. The prophet declares to the people of Judah that what God desires of them is not sacrifice, but "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." In our Epistle, Paul reminds the Corinthians, who are puffed by spiritual pride, that God has chosen the foolish and weak things of the world to shame the wise and the strong. Finally, in the famous opening to the Sermon on the Mount—a passage known as the Beatitudes—Jesus pronounces the blessing upon the poor and lowly.

### **Weekly Memory Verse**

"You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord."

Leviticus 19:18

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### **Acknowledgments**

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## **Upcoming Events:**

- Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. **Concert: Fran Vielma Quartet.** Award-winning Venezuelan percussionist fuses modern jazz and Latin American rhythm. Perfect Valentine's Day date! Tickets \$10.
- *New Date:* Sunday, March 1, after church. **Prayer Group:** Explore the character of God and practical ways to grow in your prayer life. To sign up for the lunch, please email: [bstephensonflute@gmail.com](mailto:bstephensonflute@gmail.com)

## **Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd**

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