

WELCOME!

We are happy you have chosen to worship at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd!
Please use this bulletin as a guide for today's liturgy. Join us for treats after worship!

PARENTS & KIDS: We have a few special things to help children enjoy worship:

- Children's Chapel is at the back of the sanctuary with a bookshelf filled with books and other activities. You are welcome to bring a Bible into worship with you today!
- In the back of the sanctuary are Joy Bags filled with fun activities for younger kids.
- Come sit in the front of the sanctuary so your child can see everything that's happening!
- Please come up front for the Children's Sermon! (Parents, you are welcome to come up with your child to help them feel more comfortable.)

We love to have children in worship, but we also understand that sometimes kids need a break.

For more information about LCGS go to www.lcgsduluth.org

You will find a sign up for a weekly e-mail of events and updates!

People can give online by going to www.onrealm.org/LCGSDuluth/Give. You can text LCGSDULUTH to 73256 followed by the gift amount, to give online through text.

Or people can mail their gift to Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 1325 N 45th Ave E, Duluth, MN 55804.

LCGS Office is open: office@lcgsduluth.org

Monday – Thursday 9am-4pm

Friday 9am – noon

Pastor Lisa Buchanan is in the office Monday – Wednesday and working from home on Thursdays. Please call/email to make an appointment if you would like to meet with her and have her full attention! interim@lcgsduluth.org or 218-525-1922

Katie Rich, Director of Faith Formation

has varied hours to meet the schedules of families and programs, especially in the summer!

Contact: KatieRich.lcgs@gmail.com

Announcements: **Amie Abenth** communications@lcgsduluth.org



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

A Community of Christ Experiencing God, Reaching Out, Nurturing Faith

1325 North 45th Avenue East · Duluth MN 55804

218.525.1922, office@lcgsduluth.org, www.lcgsduluth.org

Pastor Lisa Flinn Buchanan

Katie Kaiser Rich- Director of Faith Formation ; Parker Hinnenkamp –Cantor;

Christine Whitcomb- Office Manager;

Amie Abenth- Communications Coordinator- Greg Susens, Rick Guernndt -Custodians

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Baptism of our Lord - January 11, 2026

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

**asterisk indicates when stand as able*

+ GATHER +

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, (+) one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Reconciling God,

C: we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair.

**We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love;
we have not always recognized your presence among us;
we have not always embraced your message of peace.**

We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear.

**We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge;
our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones;
our reluctance to embody your good news.**

Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

P: Hear the good news:

God's grace upon grace flows over you. (+) Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.
Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

C: Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

+ WORD +

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.
² He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street;
³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵ Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶ I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,
⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸ I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is

have from God by exploring a few of the following scriptures: Acts 2:39, Ephesians 4:4-6, Colossians 3:15, 1 Timothy 6:12, 1 Peter 39, and 1 John 3:1
What a calling – to hope, peace, eternal life! In these verses, all of us are called children of God. Clearly, this is on account of God's power and wisdom, not our own.
This powerful call is the one that comes to all believers through God's Word in Holy Baptism. That is why Martin Luther was bold to insist that "the ministry of the Word belongs to all." And again, "There is no other Word of God than that which is given all Christians to proclaim." (from Luther's Concerning the Ministry, 1523) Just as all Christians share the promise, so too do we share the task of proclamation. Most of us take up the task in the ministry of daily life. Others we ask to do so publicly for the community so faith can be created and sustained in us. So we see that in the economy of God's grace the ministry of those called and ordained follows from the call which has come to all who believe.

How do we sense God's call most clearly? In which aspect of life do we find God's Word (the promise, the hope, the peace) being “proclaimed” in the strongest way? The Bible even speaks of us as "holy partners in a heavenly calling." (Hebrews 3;1) What do you think that might mean for daily living?

This Week at LCGS!

January 11, Sunday
Baptism of our Lord
9:30AM Worship
10:30AM Coffee Fellowship

January 12, Monday
9:00AM –4:00PM Quilters
9:00AM Growing Little Loves
10:30AM Growing Little Loves
4:00PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker
6:00pm Bluestone Dance group

January 13, Tuesday
9:30AM Growing Little Loves
10:00AM Ruth Circle
1:30PM Alzheimer’s Caregivers support group
4:00PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker
6:00PM ENNEAGRAM workshop

January 14, Wednesday
7:00AM Men’s Bible Study
9:30AM Growing Little Loves
6:00PM Confirmation
6:00PM New Members Class (Upper Lakeside)

January 15, Thursday
9:30AM Women’s Faith Study
9:30AM Growing Little Loves
9:30AM Roger Munson Visitation
11:00AM Roger Munson Funeral
1:00PM Al-Anon
2:30PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker
7:00PM AA

January 16, Friday
8:00AM Women’s “Son”rise Bible Conversation (ZOOM)

January 17, Saturday
12-3:00PM Honduras Fiesta @ Our Savior’s Lutheran

January 18, Sunday
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (see you 1/26)
9:30AM Worship
10:30AM Coffee Fellowship
10:30AM Growing Little Loves Open House
Join us downstairs to see what happens at GLL!

CHUM is super low on food right now! Thank you all who brought food for CHUM at the cross in the entry of the main doors!! It is a spot to leave food anytime you have a chance! In addition to any food donations, we would like to gather gently used warm jackets, boots, hats, gloves, socks, etc that can be used at Chum and Damiano, the past few weeks of cold has impacted their supply of these items.

AND empty egg cartons that are needed to repack donated eggs as they often come in very large flats and need to be repacked.

Any of the items above could be placed in the cross at entry. THANK YOU!!

We also have 2 containers of **Snacks for Schools** that are in need of refills! if you have a chance to pick up healthy individual packed snack boxes, bring them to the office

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!

Spirited Faith – Jan. 21 -Those in their 30s-50s are invited to a casual faith conversation at Bulldog Pizza and Grill on Wednesday, January 21 at 6pm. If you have any questions or would like to attend, please give Pastor Lisa a heads-up text at 218-390-5489 or email at interim@lcsduluth.org.

Are you a musician or singer? Parker is hosting a JAM SESSION! Wednesday, January 28th at 5:30PM. Bring your banjo, or saxophone, or triangle, or spoons! We love all instruments

Mark your calendar: Annual Congregational Meeting and 2026 Budget– Sunday, February 1st

Call committee update.

The congregation’s ministry site profile is being activated this week. This means that potential pastoral candidates will have access as well. We have blocked off several days in the coming month as potential interview dates. We are excited and grateful during this time and asked for continued prayers for the Spirit to move through the congregation, the synod, and the candidates, and their families. We will be updating you often in the coming month as best we can. I have shared part one of a five-part devotional resource for our congregation as we move through these coming weeks. We are blessed to have a great team that represents us as a church. I thank them and I thank you for all you do to support this team and the process.

Joel Abenth, Call Committee Chair

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Five Brief Devotions for Congregations in Call Process

By the Rev. Ronald Olson, Director of Admissions, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN

In Calling a Pastor, We Consider Our Own Calling

Writing to the church in Corinth, the Apostle Paul encouraged believers there to consider their own call. As we begin our work as a congregation in the call process, we may consider the call we all

the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

*GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

P: The holy gospel is from Matthew, the third chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN

OFFERING

“Spirit of Gentleness”

ELW 396

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: As God’s beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

L: Steadfast God, give courage to your servant church. Heal our divisions and unite us in mission. Uphold our lay leaders, pastors, and bishops, and all who proclaim hope in a broken world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs (especially Lake Superior, Amity Creek and Tischer Creek). Create in us an urgent desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good creation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

L: Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile warring enemies and end cycles of violent retribution. Defend the rights of prisoners, detainees, and all who flee from persecution. Sustain international aid workers and peacemakers. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Be near to the dying, and comfort all who are grieving or ill. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Give now
online



L: Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we may serve Christ by loving one another, our neighbors, and our enemies. We pray for travelers and those who are home-bound. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

L: Gracious calling God, renew us daily in the peace, hope, and eternal life we have been promised and which we have been called to proclaim. As we work to call a pastor to our congregation, may we count on the prayers of all members of this community of faith to uphold us, just as we trust your Spirit to guide us. We remember, God, you are the One who called us first. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God’s loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.
Amen.

*LORD’S PRAYER
**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

+ SEND +

*BLESSING
P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise (+) bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**


*SENDING
P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
C: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” (v. 1, 2 & 4) ELW 310

POSTLUDE

Thank you all our volunteers who signed up this morning and the following who prepare ahead!

Projections Preparer	Julie Seidelmann	
Projectionist	Julie Seidelmann	
Streaming	Brian Fischer	
Hospitality	Amy Kaiser	Next Week: TBA



Epiphany Stars

Did you know... we are in the Church Season called Epiphany!
Epiphany is the special time in between Christmas and Ash Wednesday.
One of the main symbols of Epiphany is a star.
(From the star shining over Bethlehem to Jesus' shining transfiguration:
Jesus is the light of the world!)

To celebrate Epiphany, there are stars hidden around our church.
How many can you find?
Have Fun and Happy Epiphany!

THIS WEEK! New Member Class! January 14th at 6:00PM in the Upper Lakeside Room –We would love for you to join our church in membership! No Lutheran experience necessary! This class gives Pastor Lisa a chance to meet you and she will give you a little background of what membership means here. If you are interested, please email: interim@lcsduluth.org or call the office 218-525-1922

THIS WEEK!! Nine Paths, One Spirit: How Our Enneagram Types Mirror Nine World Religions & Map a New Spiritual Age, presented by Scott McRae, Enneagram Type 9
Tuesday, January 13th, Time: 6:30-8:30 pm (arrive by 6:15pm)
Gathering Space (over Zoom)
The growing interest in the Enneagram parallels what many see to be a new, emerging form of spirituality. Through a mix of presentation, reflection, and both large and small group discussions, this interactive Zoom class invites us to explore how ancient wisdom and emerging spirituality can guide us to meet today’s personal and collective challenges with minds, hearts, and bodies rooted in love.
Join Enneagram Enthusiasts Eric Kaiser and Pastor Lisa Buchanan as we watch this presentation over Zoom with snacks and a short discussion to follow. Please let Eric or Lisa know if you can make it at eakaiser@msn.com or interm@lcsduluth.org

Sunday School! We will be *back* to Sunday School on Sunday, January 25!
January 25 will be an extra special Sunday: our Story Milestone! During Worship, we will be giving books to all 1st Graders and 4th Graders. We'll even have a book recommendation for Adults! Stories can teach us so much about God and faith.
And, during Sunday School we'll be learning one of Jesus' most famous stories: the Story of the Good Samaritan!

