

## 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:KatieRich.lcgs@gmail.com)

**Announcements: Amie Abenth** [communications@lcgsduluth.org](mailto:communications@lcgsduluth.org)



### LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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

1325 North 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue East · Duluth MN 55804

218.525.1922, [office@lcgsduluth.org](mailto:office@lcgsduluth.org), [www.lcgsduluth.org](http://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

4th Sunday in Lent - March 15, 2026

### INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

*The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.*

PRELUDE

"The Lord's Prayer" by J. S. Bach

*\*asterisk indicates when stand as able*

**+ GATHER +**

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, (+) one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of (+) Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

**C: Amen.**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE**

P: Having been made right with God, we are empowered to create peace with our neighbor. The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

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

**\*HYMN**

“Our Father, We Have Wandered”

ELW 606

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’” <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” <sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” <sup>5</sup>He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the Lord.” <sup>7</sup>But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” <sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” <sup>10</sup>Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” <sup>11</sup>Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.” <sup>12</sup>He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.” <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

L: Here ends the reading.

**SUMMER CAMP!** We also love VLM (Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion) for all their summer camp opportunities. Whether that’s family camp, a full week at camp, shorter camp options for younger kids, canoeing, or hockey camp! They have great options, so if you are interested, please check them out.

**NEXT WEEK PRAYER MILESTONE FOR KINDERGARTEN AND 2ND GRADERS!**

**Lenten Hunger issues in 2026. The Hunger Team will focus on donations TO CHUM this year for Lent. Stop at the Well on Sunday mornings to donate.** The needs locally are growing, the CHUM shelves show repeated requests about needs. Our team is promoting financial contributions ( and our Beautiful Cross also has open spots.) Thanks to all!

**Welcome to Holy week worship**

**Sun., 3/29 - Palm Sunday Service -9:30am**

**Thurs., 4/2 - Maundy Thurs Service -6:00pm**

**Fri., 4/3 - Good Friday Service -6:00pm**

**Sun., 4/5 - Easter worship -6:39am & 9:30am**

**This Week at LCGS!**

**March 15, Sunday**

8:45AM Sunday School

9:30AM Worship

10:30AM Coffee Fellowship

**March 16, 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

**March 17, Tuesday**

9:30AM Growing Little Loves

4:00PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker

6:00PM Brass Rehearsal

**March 1, Wednesday**

7:00AM Men’s Bible Study

9:30AM Growing Little Loves

5:30AM Lent supper

6:15PM Lent worship

**March 19, Thursday**

9:30AM Women’s Faith Study

9:30AM Growing Little Loves

1:00PM Al-Anon

2:30PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker

6:00PM Endowment Meeting

7:00PM AA

**March 20, Friday**

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

11:30AM Music Lessons with Cantor Parker

**March 21, Saturday**

**March 22, Sunday**

8:45AM Sunday School “Easter Garden”

9:30AM Worship “Prayer Milestone” for Kindergarten and 2nd Graders

10:30AM Coffee Fellowship

\*HYMN “What Wonderous Love is This” ELW 666

POSTLUDE “Prelude and Fugue in C minor” by J. S. Bach

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

Projections Preparer	Julie Seidelmann	
Projectionist	Bruce Johnson	
Streaming	Brian Fischer	
Hospitality	Missy Bergman	Next Week: Ellen Ramsey

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**Did you notice the new candle up front?**

This candle will be on display throughout Katie's sabbatical time. When you see it, we hope you will say a prayer for her, her time away, her family, and our church. Katie is taking three months away from Good Shepherd to focus on rest, renewal, and a Spiritual Direction training program she started last fall. We look forward to her return to worship on Sunday, May 31.

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**This year for the Wednesday Lenten services**, the confirmation students will once again be taking charge of the service, while Parker and our gracious vocalists lead the congregation through Holden Evening Prayer. The speakers this year will be from the Call Committee to give us “Visions of What’s Next”.

**Lent worship and Lenten meals!** Sign ups on the wooden altar in the welcome space. The **meal will start our evening out at 5:30** with some warm food and then leads us to a **service at 6:15**, Gluten-free and vegetarian options are appreciated. We also need to help clean up after the meal. If you have any questions, connect with Cyndi Venberg at 218-391-8953 or [cyndivenberg@gmail.com](mailto:cyndivenberg@gmail.com).

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**First Communion Class for 5th Graders!** Join Pastor Lisa (both parents and students) on Thursday, March 19th at 6pm. RSVP at [interim@lcsduluth.org](mailto:interim@lcsduluth.org)  
The First Communion will be held during the Maundy Thursday worship at 6:00p, April 2nd.

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**Day Camp 2026 -June 15-18 here at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd!**

**Registration is on our website! [Lcsduluth.org](http://Lcsduluth.org)**

**Flex Family Camp at Camp Hiawatha !ALL FAMILIES!** - July 6-10 at Camp Hiawatha

**[www.vlmcamps.org](http://www.vlmcamps.org)** Last year, four families from Good Shepherd went to Flex Family Camp. What we loved about it: you pick how long you want to stay! You can come to camp for just a couple of nights, or all week! You must sign up through VLM (Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry) but sliding scholarships are available from Good Shepherd (pay what you feel comfortable with, and we can help cover the rest...) Or, you can check out their website: <https://www.vlmcamps.org/summer-camps/flex-family-camp>

PSALM: Psalm 23 (read responsively by verse)

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup> **The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> You restore my soul, O Lord,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

GOSPEL ACCLAIMATION: “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word ”

ELW 517, v. 2

*Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,  
for you are Lord of lords alone; defend your holy church,  
that we may sing your praise eternally.*

\*GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

P: The holy gospel is from John, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup> When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup> The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup> Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” <sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup> He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup> They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” <sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup> So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>18</sup> The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup> and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup> His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, <sup>21</sup> but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

<sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup> He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” <sup>26</sup> They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” <sup>27</sup> He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” <sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” <sup>30</sup> The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup> They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup> He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” <sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” <sup>38</sup> He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” <sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### SERMON

#### HYMN

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

ELW 612

#### OFFERING & SPECIAL MUSIC

Bach

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure” arr. J. S.

sung by the sanctuary choir

Give now  
online



SCAN ME

#### \*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Reconciled by God’s mercy and sustained by God’s presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*A brief silence.*

L: God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name’s sake. We pray for the work of the Call Committee and the next pastor of this congregation. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant, and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**C: 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: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, (+) bless you now and always. **C: Amen.**

#### \*SENDING

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**