

## 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

5th Sunday in Lent & Prayer Milestone, March 22, 2026

### INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

*In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life.*

*\*asterisk indicates when stand as able*

+ GATHER +

PRELUDE

*"Prelude and Fugue in C# minor, WTC" 1 by J. S. Bach*

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 “If You But Trust in God to Guide You” ELW 769

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

PRAYER MILESTONE (for Kindergarteners, 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and adults)

+ WORD +

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my

**This year for the Wednesday Lenten services,** 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.

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**Day Camp 2026 -June 15-18 here at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd!  
Registration is on our website! Lcgsduluth.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. 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... ) <https://www.vlmcamps.org>



**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

<b>This Week at LCGS!</b>	
<p><b>March 22, Sunday</b> 8:45AM Sunday School “Easter Garden” 9:30AM Worship “Prayer Milestone” for Kindergarten and 2nd Graders 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship</p> <p><b>March 23, Monday</b> 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 6:00PM Church Council</p> <p><b>March 24, Tuesday</b> 9:30AM Growing Little Loves 4:00PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker 6:00PM Brass Rehearsal</p> <p><b>March 25, Wednesday</b> 7:00AM Men’s Bible Study 9:30AM Growing Little Loves</p>	<p>5:30AM Lent supper 6:15PM Lent worship</p> <p><b>March 26, Thursday</b> 9:30AM Women’s Faith Study 9:30AM Growing Little Loves 1:00PM AI-Anon 2:30PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker 6:00PM Endowment Meeting 7:00PM AA</p> <p><b>March 27, Friday</b> 8:00AM Women’s “Son”rise Bible Conversation (ZOOM) 11:30AM Music Lessons with Cantor Parker</p> <p><b>March 28, Saturday</b></p> <p><b>March 29, Sunday PALM SUNDAY</b> 8:45AM Sunday School 9:30AM Worship 10:30AM Easter Egg hunt for kids! Coffee Fellowship</p>

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Feast on God’s goodness and mercy. All are welcome.

**DISTRIBUTION**

*All are welcome! Please come forward and receive communion or a blessing. Please put a hand over your heart if you would prefer a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available for those with allergies – simply indicate your need when you come forward. Dip the wafer in the wine (red) or juice (yellow).*

**+ 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.**

**\*HYMN**

“Goodness is Stronger than Evil” (x2) ELW 721  
*(a Desmond Tutu text)*

**POSTLUDE**

“Spring” from *The Four Seasons* by A. Vivaldi  
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**Thank you all our volunteers who signed up this morning and the following who prepare ahead!**

Altar Guild	Julie & Tom Seidelmann
Projections Preparer	Julie Seidelmann
Projectionist	Julie Seidelmann
Streaming	Brian Fischer
Hospitality	Ellen Ramsey    Next Week: Michelle Stebbins

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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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**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.**

spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

L: Here ends the reading.

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** “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 11:1-45**

P: The holy gospel is from John, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter

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

<sup>1</sup> Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” <sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” <sup>5</sup> Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup> after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” <sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” <sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them.” <sup>11</sup> After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” <sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” <sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, “The

Teacher is here and is calling for you.”<sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him.<sup>31</sup> The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.<sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.<sup>34</sup> He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”<sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep.<sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”<sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

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

SERMON

HYMN

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” (x3) ELW 752

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: We pray for the church. Grant life and peace to all who gather in your name. Breathe into us so that we may share your message of forgiveness, hope, and love. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: We pray for creation. Renew landscapes that have dried up, prosper the work of those who restore homes and habitats after natural disasters, and sustain places where biodiversity thrives. We give you thanks for the Boundary Waters, state parks and the secret places we call “ours”. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: We pray for the nations now engaged in war. Hasten the day of peace. Look in mercy on those exposed to peril, conflict, sickness and death; and show compassion to the dying. In your good providence, remove all causes and occasions of war. Incline the hearts of all people to follow the path to peace and concord, that war may cease and the day of reconciliation may come quickly. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: We pray for all people in need. Take away the stone of poverty that weighs down so many. Console any who weep and heal all who are sick. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: We pray for this assembly. Ready the hearts and spirits of any who are looking for a church home. May they find belonging and meaning in this community. We also pray for the work of the Call Committee and the next settled pastor. Deepen our wonder at the mystery of your resurrection and life. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith. Give us faith to trust in your power to redeem and save and bring us up from our graves to life in you. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

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

**C: Amen.**

OFFERING

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

+ MEAL +

\*OFFERING PRAYER

P: O God, maker of heaven and earth,

**C: your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

\*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.**

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