

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

3rd Sunday in Lent - March 8, 2026

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

**asterisk indicates when stand as able*

PRELUDE

“O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde gross” by J. S. Bach

+ GATHER +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: Holy God, fountain of living water, source of mercy, tender and mighty, you are clothed with majesty and splendor. Your steadfast love fills the earth.

C: Your steadfast love fills the earth.

P: Your love flows through water, satisfying the thirst of all living things, sustaining life in this community, nourishing and delighting us. We bless you for these gifts of water: for Lake Superior, Amity Creek, Tischer Creek and Lester River. Your steadfast love fills the earth.

C: Your steadfast love fills the earth.

P: Your love flows through water, a sign of your saving power: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again. Your steadfast love fills the earth.

C: Your steadfast love fills the earth.

P: Your love flows through the water of baptism joined to your life-giving Word: your well of mercy and cleansing flood, your sea of deliverance from death into life, your healing river washing sin away, your living water springing up to eternal life. Your steadfast love fills the earth.

C: Your steadfast love fills the earth.

P: Shower us with your Holy Spirit. Fill us with your love. Clothe us and all your people with grace. Embolden us to do justice. Bless us to love mercy. Guide us to walk humbly with you, whom we thank and praise, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Merciful God, the fountain of living water,

C: you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+ WORD +

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵ The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

L: Here ends the reading.

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42 (you may remain seated for the gospel... it’s lengthy)

P: The holy gospel is from John, the 4th chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” ¹¹ The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” ¹³ Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who

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 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>

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.

This Week at LCGS!

March 8, Sunday

8:45AM Sunday School
9:30AM Worship
10:30AM Coffee Fellowship

March 9, 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 10, Tuesday

9:30AM Growing Little Loves
4:00PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker
6:00PM Brass Rehearsal

March 11, Wednesday

7:00AM Men’s Bible Study
9:30AM Growing Little Loves
5:30AM Lent supper
6:15PM Lent worship

March 12, Thursday

9:30AM Women’s Faith Study
9:30AM Growing Little Loves
1:00PM Al-Anon
2:30PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker
7:00PM AA

March 13, Friday

8:00AM Women’s “Son”rise Bible Conversation (ZOOM)
11:30AM Music Lessons with Cantor Parker

March 14, Saturday

March 15, Sunday

8:45AM Sunday School
9:30AM Worship
10:30AM Coffee Fellowship

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

Altar Guild	Sue Boutin, Kaylynn Zwak	
Projections Preparer	Bruce Johnson	
Projectionist	Jody Keppers	
Streaming	Brian Fischer	
Hospitality	Dona Schafer	Next Week: Missy Bergman

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.

HOLY ART IS DUE NEXT WEEK!! Intergenerational, church-wide expression of Holy Art

Get your canvas by the wooden altar in the Gathering Space just outside the sanctuary

We are putting together a church-wide Art Show! Pick up a canvas here at church, and return it by/ before Sunday, March 15. There are boxes for both pick up and drop off in the Gathering Space.

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! We hope you will plan to join us each Wednesday of Lent as we celebrate the coming of Easter. The **meal will start our evening out at 5:30** with some warm food and then lead us to a **service at 6:15**, presented by the confirmation youth of the church. This gives us a chance to gather together multi generations of worshipers to spend the evening in fellowship and faith.

Please consider joining us as a guest or jumping in and volunteering to help on February 25 (Sunday school families), March 4 (women’s circle), March 11 (Vision Council) , March 18 (men’s Bible Study), March 25 (choir). There will be sign up sheets for each night in the gathering space and online. Can you help serve? Get together with a sponsor group and bring pizza, potato bar, taco bar, sub sandwiches, appetizers or other convenient meals that feed 50-75 people or bring a crockpot of something warm like soup or hotdish or a donation of buttered bread? 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.

NEXT SUNDAY! Damiano Center serving is Sunday, March 15th. For many years, the LCGS congregation has supported the Community Kitchen at the Damiano Center through the Hunger Team mission focus. Our serving efforts are broken up into two sessions, a meal preparation session at 1:30pm and a serving session starting at 4:30pm. Sign-up is online on our website “news and activities” page or in our weekly e-newsletter.

drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.”¹⁷ The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!”¹⁹ The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.”²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.”²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.”²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.”²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.”³⁵ Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.”³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.”³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.”⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word.”⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

***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: When the waters run dry, sustain this earth. Send water to places languishing with drought, and bring relief to places damaged by floods. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of peace, quell hostilities between nations and peoples, and reconcile all humans across the lines of race, class, nationality, moral conviction, religion, and all else that divides or oppresses. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joy of singing and bless the work of our church musicians and all those who share their musical gifts. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Gracious accompanying God, the One in whom we live and move and have our being, may we ask anew what it means to be the Church in our time, our place. And as we work to call a new pastor to our congregation, may we welcome according to your Spirit the one you are sending to us to lead us into the new days ahead. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

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

C: Amen.

***SHARING THE PEACE**

P: 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.

OFFERING

"Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier" by J. S. Bach

**+ 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.

***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**

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" (v. 1 & 2) ELW 802

POSTLUDE

Postlude on LLANGLOFFAN