

# ***Good Shepherd Lutheran Church***

***118 E. Mason St., Lena, IL 61048***

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**Website: [www.GoodShepherdLena.org](http://www.GoodShepherdLena.org)**

**Facebook: "GSLCLenaIL"**

March 5, 2023 9:30am  
Second Sunday in Lent



John 3:5

<sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.

To listen to the service, please turn your radio to

**FM 88.9**

Thank you for joining our service today.

*Please leave your offering in the plate at the door as you enter or leave the service.*

*This worship we will be using ELW Setting 3.  
You may stand during worship with asterisk (\*) in this bulletin.*

## **Gathering**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Prelude**

**Karen Niemeier**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

**ELW page 94**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have made ourselves captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**C:Amen**

**\* Gathering Hymn**

**“How Firm a Foundation”**

**ELW#796**

**\* Greeting**

**ELW page 138**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

\* **Kyrie**

**ELW page 138**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

\* **Canticle of Praise**

**ELW page 139**

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth

**C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,**

**you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High,**

**Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

\* **Prayer of the Day**

**ELW page 142**

P: Let us pray.

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 121**

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD will not let your foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup>the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

<sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

### **Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. <sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

<sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

**\* Gospel Acclamation**

**ELW page 142**

**Return to the Lord, your God,  
for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
and abounding in steadfast love**

**\* Gospel: John 3:1-17**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John. C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”

<sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony.

<sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Vicar Thomas Mosbo**

\* **Hymn of the Day**

**“My Faith Looks up to Thee”**

**ELW #759**

\* **Nicene Creed**

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith,

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,  
Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

*Congregation responds to each petition with the following:*

**L:** Merciful God, **C:** receive our prayer.

### **Meal**

*We lift our prayers for*

*Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Lois Paulsen, Taylor B.,  
Denny Bergmann, Willie Kayser, Rene', Sue Kraft, Connor Stadermann,  
Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Paul Heller, Janet, Ryse Stone, Ni-  
cole, Meghan, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, Jamie, Crystal, Katie,  
Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Richard Gordon, Kay,  
Shanna, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Jack, Gretchen, Tina, Joe, Dan Kempel, Ron  
Heckman, Justin Yeager, Phil, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Lamar Hail, Connie, Rachel  
Collins, Logan, and Betty Mennega.*

*Pray for love, peace, comfort and hope of resurrection for the families and  
friends of Carol Borchardt.*

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

### **Peace**

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C:** **And also with you.**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

**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 our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **Holy, Holy, Holy**

**ELW page 144**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

P. Holy, mighty and merciful Lord...All glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**ELW page 145**

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**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**Communion**

P: The body of Christ given for you. *(eat the body of Christ)*

The blood of Christ shed for you. *(drink the blood of Christ)*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you  
and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

**Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**Blessing**

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 give you peace,  
In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**\* Sending Hymn**

**“Lift High the Cross”**

**ELW#660**

**\* Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

Karen Niemeier



## Lenten Music Services

*Join us each Wednesday during Lent at 11a.m. at E-Free Church on Lake Road, Lena, in the Fellowship Hall as we celebrate with music. Each of the 7 weeks a different group will perform.*

March 8	Butler's Duo
March 15	Gone Fishin'
March 22	Tyger Johnson
March 29	Steve Sheffey
April 5	Glenda Linneman

Cub Scout Meeting,  
Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at  
6:30pm in  
Fellowship Hall



Piece Corps Quilting Group  
Meets every Wednesday  
from 8am-11:30am in  
Fellowship Hall



*It is time to order Easter Lilies*

*Lilies will be \$16.00 per plant and can be ordered by using the flower envelopes provided in the magazine rack by the entrance.*

*Please place them in the offering plate or you can drop them off at the church office.*

*Orders must be in by March 26<sup>th</sup>.*

*Lilies may be picked up after the Easter Sunday Service.*



**Northwest Conference**  
**2023 Spring Gathering**

Women of the ELCA  
Deer Ridge Retreat Center  
3085 Forest Road  
Freeport, IL 61032

Thursday, April 13, 2023  
Time: 9:30am registration  
Brunch served at 10:00am  
Cost \$20.00

Program Deer Ridge Ministries, 11:00am-12:00pm

Presenter: Pastor David Decker

A freewill offering will be taken

Return lower portion of flier to registrar by April 3, 2023

Open to all women of the ELCA & guest, retreat center is handicapped accessible.

Checks payable to: NW Conference WELCA (\$20.00)

Return to: Nancy Rice 815-275-0303  
11751 E. Greenvale Road  
Stockton, IL 61085

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation Unit: \_\_\_\_\_