

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Lutheran Community of Christian Believers - ELCA

6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples, FL 34113-2913

Pastor Jeff Unga (641) 529-2479 Office Phone: (239) 775-069

Director for Discipleship, Mary Winsor - marywinsorsotg@gmail.com

**9:30 A.M.
WORSHIP SERVICE**

*"I have come
seeking fruit
on this fig tree ..."*

Luke 13:7, ESV



**MARCH 23, 2025
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

All Are Welcome!

All who have come to worship are heartily welcomed. Let us joyfully open our hearts to God and to one another.

You are encouraged to participate in all that Shepherd of the Glades has to offer and to make Shepherd of the Glades your spiritual home.

All are invited and welcome to partake of the sacrament of Holy Communion by kneeling or standing at the altar rail. For your safety and convenience, you will have a choice of coming to the altar rail or taking communion in your pew in an individually sealed container. If, for any reason, you are not comfortable receiving communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms, indicating you wish to receive a blessing. The Eucharist is celebrated by intinction. Our Altar Guild at all communion services offers grape juice (lighter color), as well as wine (darker color), for intinction, the dipping of wafer into the wine or juice. One chalice will hold both wine and grape juice. Communion is continuous with kneeling or standing. Note: Gluten free wafers are now offered as well.

If you have an offering for the church, the offering plates are located at the entrance of the church.

If Shepherd of the Glades can be of service to you or if you would like Pastor Jeff to contact you, please so indicate on the pew welcome sheet. The office phone number and Pastor Jeff's cell phone number are on the cover of the bulletin.

Ministries for Today

Altar Assistants: Brenda Charleston, Tom Dunlop,
& Mary Winsor

Lector: Joanne Hogan

Altar Guild: Lynn Karle

Ushers: 9:30 a.m. Brenda Charleston, Scott Krenz,
Steve Kautz, & Tom Dunlop

AV Technicians: Kelli Unga
Abraham Unga

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Lutheran Community of Christian Believers

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025, 9:30 A.M. Worship

+ Indicates Please Stand

Bold Indicates Congregation Joins In

PRELUDE

“On Eagle’s Wings”

Sung by: John Sherman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

A Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God’s abiding love.

A Compassionate One,

C **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

P Beloved in Christ, God’s arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God’s house forever.

C **Amen.**

+ OPENING HYMN “Eternal Father, Strong to Save” ELW 756

A 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

A



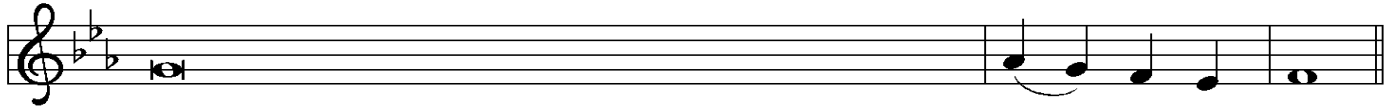
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C



Lord, have mer - cy.

A



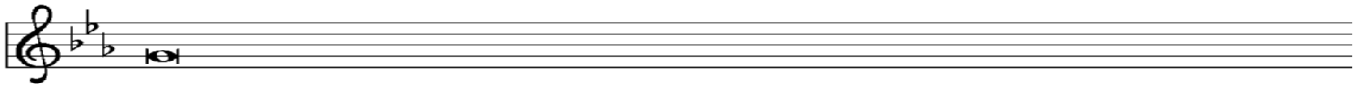
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C



Lord, have mer - cy.

A



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.

C



Lord, have mer - cy.

A



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

C



Lord, have mer - cy.

A



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

C



A - men, a - men.

+ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A Let us pray.

C **Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55: 1-9

¹ Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm: 63: 1-8 (Read responsively)

¹ O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary
land where there is no water.

² **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

³ For your steadfast love is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.

⁴ **So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**

⁵ My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

⁶ **when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

⁷ For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

⁸ **My whole being clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.**

SECOND READING 1Corinthians 10: 1-13

¹ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

+

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

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THE HOLY GOSPEL according to: Luke 13: 1-9

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.² Jesus asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.⁷ So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Unga

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

“As the Deer Runs to the River”

ELW 331

A Let us proclaim our trust in the presence and power of God in our lives with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

+ **APOSTLES' CREED**

ELW 105

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

+ **THE PRAYERS**

P Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

A We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

P We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict. Today we pray for: Anthony Garafalo, Desiree Lintini, Rob L., David Einink, & Pete Peterson, Sue Popivach, Manuela Schultz, Kimberly Lasher, Bob, Mary Gehr, Jan Wolfe, Theresa Chiorazzi, Vicki Dunlop, Kalem, Pastor Bob Hoffman, Gail Fesnak, Alison Heck, Jim Shaw, Barbara Gega, the family of Susie Espersen, Vernon Rasmussen, Ron Blasig, Sandy & Doc Lofthouse, Ryan Smith, Rod Barikmo, Nick & Anita Lehr, Micah Smith, and others we name in our hearts or out loud. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. God, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A God of mercy, you are our resurrection. We give you thanks, oh God, for the celebration of birthdays within our faith community. Today we pray for Colleen Hoffman, Karen Johnson, Nicholas Lehr, Megan Cianflone, and Sue Kautz, as they celebrate their birthdays. God, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C **Amen.**

+ **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

A The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

+ **OFFERTORY**

+ **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

ELW 107

A Let us pray.

C **Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

+ 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 Lord

The musical score is written on four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

Music: LAND OF REST, American folk tune
Text: "Sanctus," tr. English Language Liturgical Consultation

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken)

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.

+ **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

+ **COMMUNION BLESSING**

A Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

+ **THE BLESSING**

P God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit,
+ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ **SENDING HYMN** “O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts” **ELW 658**

+ **DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers on the chancel this morning were given by Heidi Dziubla in celebration of her husband Mike’s birthday.

HOSPITALIZATIONS

Local hospitals are no longer calling church offices to advise of the hospitalizations of parishioners. If you are hospitalized, or know of someone that is hospitalized, please let the church office know so that we may keep you/them in our prayers and provide pastoral support.

BEAUTIFICATION OF THE CHURCH

Easter lily order forms are available in the Narthex. This is a wonderful way to remember a loved one while beautifying the Church on Easter Sunday. The cost is \$20.00 per plant, and the deadline for ordering is Friday, April 4, 2025.

LOCAL MISSION PROJECT

On Palm Sunday, (April 13th) we will be filling the Blessing bags and the Back Packs after worship service. We would appreciate your help with these projects. “Many hands make for light work”.

LENTEN SERVICES

There will be a Lenten service every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. during Lent with a soup supper to follow until Holy Week.

SOUP SUPPERS!

If you would like to make soup for the soup suppers, please sign up on the forms provided in the Narthex. If interested in serving, either sign up or call the office.

FAREWELL BRUNCH

Sunday, March 30th the fellowship committee will be providing a "Farewell Luncheon" in Hanson Hall immediately following our worship service. There will be a sign-up sheet available in the Narthex for all those that wish to attend. Please mark you calendars so that you can come and enjoy the food and wish our northern congregants safe travels.

A RESURRECTION EGG HUNT

This event will be held in the courtyard on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025 following the 8:30 a.m. worship service. Candy donations for this event would be appreciated and may be left in the marked basket in the narthex. Anyone wishing to volunteer, please see/contact Lori Bernabei. Please call the church office for Lori's contact information.

THIS WEEK AT SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES:

The office is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Pastor Jeff is available in the office by appointment.

Monday, March 24th & Wednesday, March 26th, Bone Builders meet from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 25th, Sew-Sew's Quilting 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. All are welcome!

Wednesday, March 26th, Pastor Jeff's Bible study class begins at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 26th, Lenten Service beginning at 5:30 p.m. with soup supper to follow.

Thursday, March 27th, Grief Group meeting from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Friday, March 28th, Women's Bible study beginning at 10:00 a.m. This month they will be discussing "The mothers of Moses".

Saturday, March 29th, Pastor Jeff's adult Bible study on "Revelation" beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 30, 2025, Fourth Sunday in Lent- 9:30 a.m., public worship with Pastor Jeff Unga. Worship will also be live streamed on YouTube, or you can access on our website. See website for details -www.sotgweb.org.

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Email: sotg6020@gmail.com Web Page: <http://www.sotgweb.org>

Our Mission is "Transforming lives through the Living Word of God."

Pastor

Rev. Jeffrey T. Unga

Director for Discipleship

Mary Winsor

Director of Music

Megan Cianflone

Congregational President

Penny Morken

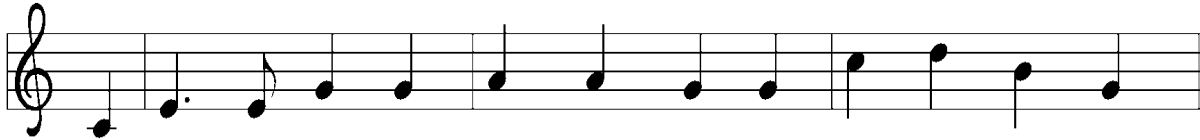
Administrative Assistants to the Pastor

Lynn Dickerman and Linda Tidmore

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. H. Peter Lyberg

Eternal Father, Strong to Save



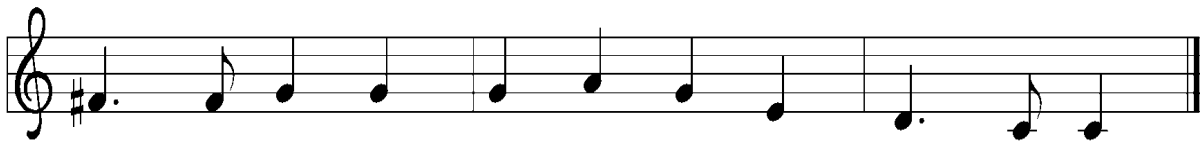
1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the
2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in



rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its
mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and
dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we
calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we
tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

As the Deer Runs to the River



- 1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,
- 2 When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no stream or spring was seen,
- 3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!
- 4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace.
Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.
God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.



Je - sus, source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: JULION, David Hurd, b. 1950

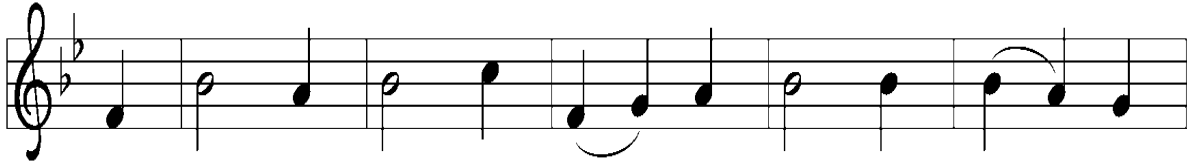
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O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.
Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815