



323 E. 1st St.

Fairmont, MN 56031

Sunday Worship: 9:30am

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:45am

www.shepherdofthelakes.net

Pastor Jason Zuehlke

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Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes

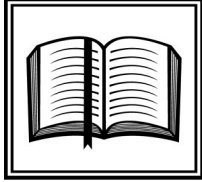
We're here to shepherd Christ's flock and seek the lost sheep by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with all. Come, let us worship!

For Your Convenience...

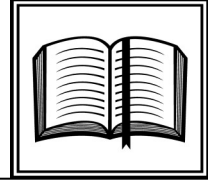
A room for any parents with children in need of a quiet place is located in the back corner of the sanctuary. Restrooms are located on the lower level. Please ask if you have any further questions or concerns.

Prayer before worship

Heavenly Father, as I worship you today, curb my wandering thoughts. Speak to my heart. Encourage me with your Word, that my faith is strengthened, my confidence and hope renewed, and I am recommitted to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' name, amen.



DIVINE SERVICE I



OPENING HYMN: CW 226.....*To Your Temple I Draw Near*

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY—*Kyrie*



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

FIRST LESSON: 2 Kings 4:17-37

¹⁷ *But the woman became pregnant, and the next year about that same time she gave birth to a son, just as Elisha had told her.*

¹⁸ *The child grew, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. ¹⁹ He said to his father, "My head! My head!"*

His father told a servant, "Carry him to his mother." ²⁰ After the servant had lifted him up and carried him to his mother, the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died. ²¹ She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, then shut the door and went out.

²² *She called her husband and said, "Please send me one of the servants and a donkey so I can go to the man of God quickly and return."*

²³ *"Why go to him today?" he asked. "It's not the New Moon or the Sabbath."*

"That's all right," she said.

²⁴ *She saddled the donkey and said to her servant, "Lead on; don't slow down for me unless I tell you." ²⁵ So she set out and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.*

When he saw her in the distance, the man of God said to his servant Gehazi, "Look! There's the Shunammite! ²⁶ Run to meet her and ask her, 'Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your child all right?'"

"Everything is all right," she said.

²⁷ When she reached the man of God at the mountain, she took hold of his feet. Gehazi came over to push her away, but the man of God said, "Leave her alone! She is in bitter distress, but the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me why."

²⁸ "Did I ask you for a son, my lord?" she said. "Didn't I tell you, 'Don't raise my hopes'?"

²⁹ Elisha said to Gehazi, "Tuck your cloak into your belt, take my staff in your hand and run. Don't greet anyone you meet, and if anyone greets you, do not answer. Lay my staff on the boy's face."

³⁰ But the child's mother said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So he got up and followed her.

³¹ Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the boy's face, but there was no sound or response. So Gehazi went back to meet Elisha and told him, "The boy has not awakened."

³² When Elisha reached the house, there was the boy lying dead on his couch. ³³ He went in, shut the door on the two of them and prayed to the LORD. ³⁴ Then he got on the bed and lay on the boy, mouth to mouth, eyes to eyes, hands to hands. As he stretched himself out on him, the boy's body grew warm. ³⁵ Elisha turned away and walked back and forth in the room and then got on the bed and stretched out on him once more. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.

³⁶ Elisha summoned Gehazi and said, "Call the Shunammite." And he did. When she came, he said, "Take your son." ³⁷ She came in, fell at his feet and bowed to the ground. Then she took her son and went out.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 116 (printed on p. 107 In the front part of your hymnal)

SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:11-19

¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

¹² Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought

about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

VERSE OF THE DAY:

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:45 cf. NIV)

THE GOSPEL: John 11:17-27,38-45

PLEASE STAND

M: The Gospel according to Luke chapter 16.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem,¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother.²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died.²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 398.....Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults

SERMON—John 11:17-27,38-45

PLEASE STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

Offerings can be mailed to our church office at 517 Tilden Street, Fairmont, MN 56031

***To our visitors:** Our offering is not a debt we owe God, but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation, but love for God. Please do not feel obligated to contribute. We're happy that you're with us to hear about God's love for you.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN: CW 608.....I Fall Asleep in Jesus' Wounds

PLEASE STAND

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: CW 116 vv 1,4.....In the Hour of Trial

Notes and News for March 29, 2020

~Special thanks to all our new online worshipping visitors! We're glad you joined us!

~Just a Reminder:

All in-person worship services and other in-person activities are cancelled at this time until further notice. This is not the first decision we wished to make. We rejoice with those who say "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" (Psalm 122:1) However, we also want to take into consideration both the fourth and fifth commandment. Therefore, taking into consideration our government's proposals with legitimate care for her citizens and the care of our own people and the people around us, we thought it wise to follow this line of action. This does not mean that we need to neglect our souls and the Word of God. At times like this, spiritual health is key for strength and comfort from God and his power and his gospel! But remember also that worship is not limited to a building, but takes place in spirit and truth (John 4:24). With this in mind, we want to continue to offer you care for your soul with suggestions of things you can do at home on your own along with actions we will be implementing.

We shall continue to strive to put our worship services online Sunday morning in a similar format as what you have used in this worship packet (remember your offerings can be mailed to the office as we continue to give to the Lord and keep our church operating). He is also experimenting with online options for continuing Bible Classes. Pastor will work to increase online presence on Facebook, YouTube, our website and podcast stations (iTunes and Stitcher) to offer extra spiritual encouragement. Our weekly email will continue to have a devotional thought along with any notes or updates for our congregation. Also, as Pastor also socially distances himself for both his health and the health of others, he will work on calling in on members from time to time to try and meet any needs they may have.

The synod also has many opportunities for you to take for your spiritual wellbeing. Should you wish for extra encouragement in the way of worship services, the synod has offered a list of churches which offer livestreaming (<https://yearbook.wels.net/streaming>). You can and would certainly benefit from continuing to read your Meditations at home. The WELS has daily devotions you can subscribe to online (and we shall also share them everyday on Facebook). And Time of Grace is always a wonderful option as well, offering their TV program, devotions, videos and the like (you can find their website by clicking this link: <https://timeofgrace.org/>). Also, don't forget the Lutheran Chapel Service on KNUJ (860am, knuj.net, 97.3FM) at 7:45am-8:30am on Sunday mornings. These are just a few of the opportunities our synod offers to you in such a time as this.

We pray these can help your spiritual health in this time when we are unable to gather, should it be just a week and half or should it go even longer. If you would find another way to grow helpful for you, don't hesitate to ask Pastor to try and take it into consideration and add it to this regiment. And should you need a pastoral visit, Pastor will still be available by phone and email to set up a private consultation on an individual basis. (Don't hesitate! Pastor wants to serve as you need!).

~Bible Class

A shortened Bible Class will begin live on Facebook around 11:00am

~Holy Week and Easter:

It is unsure how long our isolation will last. It is seeming more and more that this isolation will last well past Easter. This will definitely make our Holy Week and Easter celebrations different than in the past.

Pastor is working on planning Easter in this next week to see how best to celebrate online. Some churches have suggested having a regular online service for Easter and then having a big celebration upon returning to regular worship (Pastor is definitely taking this into consideration). If you have any suggestions, please let Pastor know how you think you would like to celebrate Easter online so he can best serve you and celebrate the most important day of our eternal lives!

~Suggestinons?

If you have any comments on the online worship, constructive criticism is always welcome!

Remember in your Prayers this Week

- + Birthdays:
- + Anniversaries:
- + Prayer Requests: Roger and Charlene Miedtke as Roger now recovers at his Texas home!