

**SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION**  
**FEBRUARY 18, 2024**

**WELCOME & GREETING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

God's laws revive the soul.  
**God's decrees make fools wise.**  
God's precepts make our hearts rejoice.  
**God's word is more desirable than gold.**



**PRAYER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

**God of love, when we look inward and are honest with ourselves, we see where we have lived as though you are not our God. We have sought after our own gain rather than the good of all. We have not loved you or our neighbors as ourselves. We have betrayed and denied you in what we have done and not done. Create in us clean hearts, O God, that we might become what you have called us to be.**

God whose unfathomable love went to the cross for our sake now forgives us all our sins and welcomes us all over again into the promise of eternal life in Christ's name. As a called and ordained minister in Christ's Church, and by his power, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven. Live into God's grace in peace and love. **Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Holy God, you speak to us and guide our ways through your word. Inspire us by the Holy Spirit to dig deep and be transformed by the love, grace, power, and wisdom we find in your scriptures, that we might, as changed people, carry forth your vision of peace and justice into our community and the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS: PSALM 19: 7-10**

<sup>7</sup>The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;  
the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;  
<sup>8</sup>the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;  
<sup>9</sup>the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;  
the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.  
<sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 10:17-31**

**Lector:** As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

**Pastor Janet:** Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’”

**Lector:** He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

**Pastor Janet:** Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

**Lector:** They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.” Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.”

**Pastor Janet:** Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age – houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions – and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise be to Christ.**

## **SERMON**

PASTOR JANET KETTERING

**HYMN OF THE DAY** | LORD JESUS, YOU SHALL BE MY SONG

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/G4sTNMERr0Q?si=ZjKvXEDP8iPP3QBU](https://youtu.be/G4sTNMERr0Q?si=ZjKvXEDP8iPP3QBU)

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us. Amen.

## **CONGREGATIONAL SHARING**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we walk together through this season of contemplation and preparation, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Merciful God, we cannot by our own power choose to follow you as you would like. Keep us from becoming discouraged, and remind us that with you all things are possible. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Fill us with awe at the astonishing beauty of your creation, entrusted to us from the beginning, and give us a passion for its stewardship according to your will. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire all who lead at every level to work tirelessly for the health and flourishing of all of your beloved children, near and far. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Guide doctors and caregivers in their service to those who struggle physically, emotionally, and spiritually, and send your healing power to all in need, especially Dave, Terry and all those we lift up through our Prayer Chain. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Help us to recognize our wealth and the ways it gets in the way of our following you, and give us greater trust in you to provide for our true needs. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Strengthen us to care for those in need through the outreach ministries of our community. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Bring aid and support to those who are poor, beaten down, abused, forgotten, silenced, or avoided, especially those seeking help through the Community Infant Program, the Little Free Pantry, Rise Against Suicide, and the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Provide for the work of the Joshua School and organizations like them. Empower the staff and parents of children living on the Autism Spectrum. Nurture the minds, bodies and spirits of these children and adults, that they might reach their highest quality of life. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Encourage and empower those impacted by war, tyranny, and gun violence. Still the sounds of weapons. Teach us to seek security that comes from respect rather than violence. Strengthen and comfort the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, Gaza, and all those throughout the world whose lives are impacted by violence. Remind us of what You require of us: That we do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, our help in every trouble, we pray for peace in the Holy Land. Protect those traumatized by ongoing violence, especially those with no access to safe spaces. Release people held hostage; provide food, water, fuel, and supplies for all in need; sustain medical personnel as they work in horrendous conditions; tend to those who are wounded; comfort all who grieve. Direct your people into the way of peace. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give thanks for all the saints in our lives and throughout history who followed your commandments and gave sacrificially for the good of the church, the community, and the world. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Confident that you walk alongside us in our need, we lift to you all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

#### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

*(Please share a sign of God's love and peace with each other.)*

#### **OFFERING/OFFERING PRAYER**

God, you call us to sacrifice for the sake of the gospel, and we are well aware that all we have is actually from you. Accept these gifts as a sign of our faithfulness to your call, and use them for the good of all that you have made. **Amen.**

#### **CELEBRATING COMMUNITY: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

##### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The LORD be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the LORD.**

Let us give thanks to the LORD our GOD. **It is right to give GOD thanks and praise.**

It is right and good to give you thanks and praise, O God, because from the beginning, you invited us on a journey with you, a journey of wonders and miracles, a journey of healing and joy, a journey of mystery, a journey full of life and love.

Blessed is your son, O God, our savior Jesus Christ, who joined us on our journey, who was so full of grace and truth that we cannot help but follow him. When his path went back to you, you sent us your Spirit to continue alongside us, to empower and inspire us to continue to be your people. Now we pray that that same Spirit will be among us, and among these elements of bread and cup, that our ordinary meal will become our sacred feast, to nourish us for the next part of the journey.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We come to this table, remembering that on the night in which he gave himself up for us, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in 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 in remembrance of me.

As we break bread together, as we drink from the same cup, unite us as people who are grateful for the journey, for each other's company, and for your guiding presence. Hear us as we are bold to say together the prayer that Jesus taught....

**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.**

You are invited now to the feast in which Jesus meets us and strengthens us for the work of the gospel. Come and be fed, for all is prepared.

## SHARING THE MEAL

This is the body of Christ, broken in love for you.

This is the blood of Christ, poured out in forgiveness of you.

## COMMUNION HYMN | TABLE OF GRACE

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/GFJKJAVUZ-s?si=QLP2N6SJWLM9Fr2G](https://youtu.be/GFJKJAVUZ-s?si=QLP2N6SJWLM9Fr2G)

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O Jesus, our beloved, **we give you thanks for inviting us to your table and sharing your feast. May we know that we have been fed with love and grace, and may we follow you out in the world, ambassadors of your hope and peace. Amen.**

## CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LENTEN BENEDICTION

Whatever wilderness the Spirit has brought you to:

Walk in boldness, as a beloved child of God.

Walk in peace, under the shelter of the Most High.

Walk in faith, knowing Christ walks with you. **Amen.**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
**This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.**  
 We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.  
 Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—  
 questions, complexities and all.  
 Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

**WORSHIP RESOURCES:**

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- SCRIPTURE READINGS — NEW REVISED STANDARD BIBLE, UPDATED EDITION
- RESPONSE TO THE WORD — ERIC MILNER WHITE
- AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — RE-WORSHIP, UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
- GREAT THANKSGIVING — BETH MERRILL NEEL, 'HOLD FAST TO WHAT IS GOOD'. USED WITH PERMISSION, AS ADAPTED
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- LENTEN BENEDICTION — JOANNA HARADER, SPACIOUS FAITH

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:**

- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: CAROLINE MICHALAK
- ALTAR GUILD: GERRY & KEN MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERP
- ASSISTING MINISTER: TIM KIRCHOFF
- COFFEE AND CONVERSATION: WAYNE OTTO
- PASTOR: REV. JANET KETTERING
- LECTOR: KELLY MAURER
- ZOOM TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

# **SHEPHERD CALENDAR OF EVENTS: FEBRUARY 18 – FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

## **Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> – First Last and Last First**

9:30 a.m. - Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship w/Holy Communion

Hybrid In-Person/Zoom “Why Church?” Lenten Study immediately following worship

## **Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>**

11:00 a.m. - Amazing Grace Bible Study

6:30 p.m. - Zoom Only “Why Church?” Lenten Study

## **Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

7:00 a.m. - Men’s Zoom Breakfast Bible Study

5:00 p.m. - Friday Night Perspectives Gathering

## **Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> - Bartimaeus Healed**

9:30 a.m. - Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship w/Holy Communion

Hybrid In-Person/Zoom “Why Church?” Lenten Study immediately following worship

### **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

**JANICE I. 2/6**  
**ELIZABETH H.**

**2/15**

**KATHY W. 2/15**

**BECCA B. 2/21**

**CAROL C. 2/22**

**CAROLINE M.**

**2/24**

## **DAILY NARRATIVE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18, 2024**

### **Monday, February 19, 2024**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/psalm-197-10-psalm2024>

Psalm 19:7-10      Psalm

### **Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/exodus-201-21-the-ten-commandments2024>

Exodus 20:1-21      The Ten Commandments

### **Wednesday, February 21, 2024**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/deuteronomy-51-21-the-ten-commandments2024>

Deuteronomy 5:1-21      The Ten Commandments

### **Thursday, February 22, 2024**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/psalm-52-psalm2024>

Psalm 52      Psalm

### **Friday, February 23, 2024**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/psalm-62-psalm2024>

Psalm 62      Psalm

### **Saturday, February 24, 2024**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/jeremiah-321-25-jeremiah-buys-a-field2024>

Jeremiah 3:21-25      Jeremiah Buys a Field

### **Sunday, February 25, 2024**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/mark-1032-52-bartimaeus-healed2024>

Mark 10:32:52      Bartimaeus Healed