

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS AT HOME WORSHIP
MARCH 8, 2026
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT – PETER’S DENIAL

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you are faithful to us even when we act faithlessly. You call us and claim us even when we live as though we do not know you. Restore us to wholeness, and renew in us a commitment to follow in the way of Jesus each day of our lives. In his name we pray. Amen.



SCRIPTURE READINGS: FIRST READING: PSALM 17:1-7

¹Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

²**From you let my vindication come; let your eyes see the right.**

³If you try my heart, if you visit me by night, if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me; my mouth does not transgress.

⁴**As for what others do, by the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.**

⁵My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped. ⁶I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me, hear my words.

⁷**Wondrously show your steadfast love, O savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand.**

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 18:12-27

¹²So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

¹³First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. ¹⁵Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." ¹⁸Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

¹⁹Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." ²²When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" ²³Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" ²⁴Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. ²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" ²⁷Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY | O LORD, THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS

ELW #319

<https://youtu.be/9J9EQWH9VA0?si=RRBSZM5JQNMHZBNU>

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With hope in your promised redemption, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. (*A brief silence*).

Holy God, your mercy is infinite and your forgiveness sure. Be patient with us when we fail you, and renew your promises within our sorrowful hearts, to the glory of your name. God of mercy and grace, **we lift our prayers to you.**

You have called us to be stewards of creation, yet time and again we deny this responsibility and exploit the world's resources for our own ends. Forgive us our denial, and make us to cherish the natural world as you do. God of mercy and grace, **we lift our prayers to you.**

Forgive us for engaging in the atrocities of war which always results in the suffering of the innocents. We pray for guidance to nations in conflict, especially the U.S., Israel, and Iran, Ukraine and Russia, Gaza, and all others known to you. God of mercy and grace, **we lift our prayers to you.**

Sometimes we get it wrong, O Lord. Forgive our shortsightedness, pardon our weakness, and heal every infirmity which plagues us. Bestow your tender spirit upon all those in need of your healing. We pray especially Pastor Phil, Matt, Brett, Rick and Kelly, Terry, Jim and Sally, Dave, Dorothy, Clover, and all those named on our Prayer Chain. God of mercy and grace, **we lift our prayers to you.**

We pray for strength for all those who provide care for their loved ones, especially James and Chris Elkins, and Kirk, Clare, and Gwen Fallon. God of mercy and grace, **we lift our prayers to you.**

God of wholeness, we pray for the work of the Joshua School. May our relationship with them reflect your love and care for those with special needs. We pray that all those on the Autism Spectrum, especially those in our faith family, might find fulfillment, joy, and love. God of mercy and grace, **we lift our prayers to you.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

What joy to know that one need not be perfect to be counted among your saints. Consider us mercifully when you gather your children around your heavenly throne, clothed in light and crowned with salvation. God of mercy and grace, **we lift our prayers to you.**

Into your hands we place our prayers, spoken and unspoken, and entrust all things to your eternal care. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

LENTEN BLESSING & BENEDICTION

May the Spirit who traveled with Christ in the wilderness fill us with the hope of God. May the Spirit speak to us in this season of wilderness, become our strength on this journey and fill our lives with love. **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.

CLICK LINK TO ACCESS READINGS, SERMONS & SPECIAL EVENTS FROM PAST SUNDAYS:

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@SHEPHERDOFTHEHILLSLUTHERAN6221/VIDEOS](https://www.youtube.com/@shepherdofthehillslutheran6221/videos)

SHEPHERD HAPPENINGS: MARCH 8 – MARCH 15, 2026

Sunday, March 8th– Third Sunday in Lent: Peter’s Denial

9:30 a.m. – Hybrid In Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion
Coffee and Conversation immediately following Worship

Wednesday, March 11th

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

5:00 p.m. – Pardes/Shepherd Zoom Study of “The Ten Utterances”

Friday, March 13th

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

5:00 p.m. – Friday Night Perspectives Zoom Gathering

Sunday, March 15th – Fourth Sunday in Lent: Jesus and Pilate

9:30 a.m. – Hybrid In Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion
Coffee and Conversation immediately following Worship

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

MICHELLE K. 3/5

TERRY SCH. 3/6

PASTOR JANET K. 3/21

LYNN T. 3/25

DICK W. 3/27

NINA S. 3/30

DAILY NARRATIVE LECTIONARY READINGS: WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2025

Monday, March 9, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-1145-57-the-plot-to-kill-jesus2026>

John 11:45-57 The Plot to Kill Jesus

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-121-8-mary-anoints-jesus2026>

John 12:1-8 Mary Anoints Jesus

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-129-11-the-plot-to-kill-lazarus2026>

John 12:9-11 The Plot to Kill Lazarus

Thursday, March 12, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-1212-19-jesus-triumphal-entry-into-jerusalem2026>

John 12:12-19 Jesus' Triumphal Entry Into Jerusalem

Friday, March 13, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-1220-26-some-greeks-wish-to-see-jesus2026>

John 12:20-26 Some Greeks Wish to See Jesus

Saturday, March 14, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-1227-35-jesus-speaks-about-his-death2026>

John 12:27-35 Jesus Speaks About His Death

Sunday, March 15, 2026

John 13:1-17 Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

WELCOME! *Thank you for worshiping with us today!*

GUESTS

Please sign our Guestbook and/or fill out the brightly-colored Info Slip and place it in the offering plate. This helps us get to know you better so that we can serve you more effectively.

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED PRAYERS?

Prayer Changes Things. The Shepherd Prayer Chain members stand by ready to help. You'll find our Prayer Box on the table to your left as you enter the building, as well as paper and pencils. Please write your prayer request and place it in the box. *You are not required to sign your request or give the name of the person for whom we will pray, unless you wish.* If you desire a private conversation with Pastor Janet, please contact the Church Office or call her on her cell phone at 507-360-1625. **All prayer requests will remain confidential.**

CHILDREN ARE CHERISHED AT SHEPHERD!

In our Sanctuary, you'll see a coloring table and soft toys. Children's bulletins are available on the table just outside the Sanctuary. If at any time you wish to take your child out for some quiet time, our Nursery/Library is stocked with supplies for playing, coloring, studying the Children's Bulletin, or reading.

REMEMBRANCE

On the north wall of the Sanctuary a table is set with candles. You are invited to light a candle in memory of a loved one at any time before, during, or after our worship service.

COMMUNION

At Shepherd of the Hills, we recognize that the Table of Communion is not our table. It is not a Lutheran table. It is our Lord's Table – a meal prepared for all – prepared in love. *Please come.* All who long for the Good News in Jesus Christ are truly welcome at this table. As Jesus called children to be close to him, we, likewise, extend this invitation to all children. Should you not feel comfortable receiving the Sacrament, please come forward indicating that you wish to receive a blessing by folding your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION OUTSIDE OF WORSHIP

Arrangements can be made to bring communion to you at a time convenient for you. If, for any reason, you are unable to attend normal services, such as a hospital stay or for personal reasons, and wish to have communion brought to you, please contact the Church Office, Pastor Janet at 507-360-1625, or Dick Werpy at 720-771-6767.

MEMBERSHIP

At Shepherd, we worship as one Faith Family. If you wish to extend your worship to include membership, please see Pastor Janet.

Shepherd of the Hills

LUTHERAN CHURCH

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

THE MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE

PASTOR: REV. JANET COLBY KETTERING

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: CAROLINE MICHALAK

ALTAR GUILD: KEN & GERRY MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY

ASSISTING MINISTERS: TIM KIRCHOFF & DICK WERPY

PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF

PRAYER CHAIN ADMINISTRATOR: KATHY WOOTTON

SHEPHERD COUNCIL:

MICHELLE KIRCHOFF, PRESIDENT

JANICE IRISH, VICE-PRESIDENT

KELLY MAUER, SECRETARY

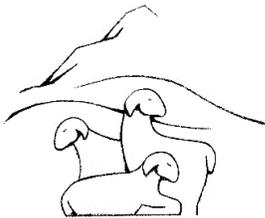
REV. PHIL KETTERING, TREASURER

JIM TIMMERMANN, BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

ERIC MICHALAK, CINDIE SCOBY & PASTOR JANET KETTERING

ZOOM TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

OUR MISSION STATEMENT



Marked by the Cross of Christ Forever, we

† *Gather in Love*

† *Grow in Faith*

† *Share God's Love & Grace*

† *We are Empowered to BOLDLY*

Proclaim & Witness God's Word



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Check out our Facebook page at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran