



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Proclaiming Christ's Word through Truth, Innovation & Fellowship.

Celebrating the Second Sunday of Easter

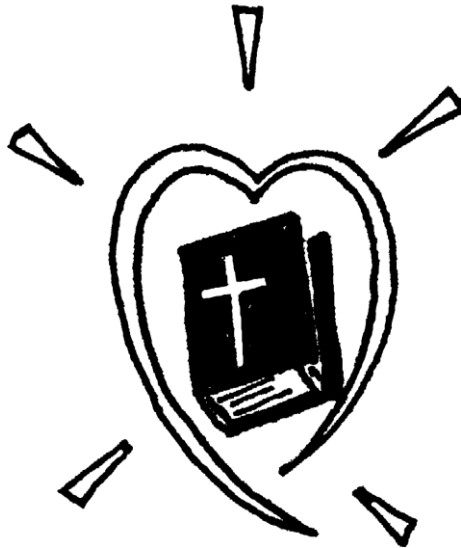
&

The Holy Baptism(s) of...

Decorah Kay Vienola (8:00 am)

Piper Lynn Nighbor (10:30 am)

April 27th, 2025



"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." -John 20:31



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

2450 West 9th Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54904

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Pastor Greg Koepsell: Office 920-231-0530 or Cell 763-913-8445

or pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Web Site: www.goodshepherdinoshkosh.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/oshkoshgoodshepherd

E-Mail Address: church@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Worship Services: Thursdays at 6:30 & Sundays at 8 & 10:30 am.

Sunday Bible study/Sunday School for all ages 9:15-10:15

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 8:00-1:00 pm

(Pastor always available via cell! Call or text!...763-913-8445)

As We Gather...

*A warm & hearty welcome to you! It's a privilege and honor to worship our Crucified & Risen, Good Shepherd, Jesus, with you this second Sunday of Easter! We're all glad to have **you** here! As always, make yourself at home, you are among family!*

Jesus said to Thomas, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Though we don't have the privilege of seeing Jesus in person as Thomas, the disciples, and many others did, we do have the privilege of seeing Jesus in the Word. We have the privilege of being touched by Jesus in Holy Baptism (Just like Decorah & Piper do today!). And we have the privilege of being in communion with Jesus in the Lord's Supper. Jesus still comes through the "locked doors" we may have and brings a blessed peace to us as He did in the flesh long ago!

Service Notes...

In preparation for worship: Please take some time to greet the people you are worshipping with! The order of worship for today is printed for you below, you may want to take a few minutes to look it over and mark the songs; **487, 470, 602, 480, 646 & 920** in the Lutheran Service Book (*LSB*) as you prepare to receive the gifts of God and sing His praises. **Reminder:** If you have a smart phone, and you're on Facebook, please "check in" at *Good Shepherd* Lutheran Church...then turn the sound off! May our Good and Gracious Shepherd bless your worship this day...this NEW day of salvation!

To Stand or Sit: There are certain parts of the service where you will be invited to stand. Sometimes, "wrestling" with kids, or a personal health condition makes standing uncomfortable... please know: **It is okay to either stand or sit. Both are appropriate!** So please, make yourself comfortable, receive the gifts God loves to give and **BOLDLY** sing His praises!

Children: We are blessed to have a lot of young families and young children here at *Good Shepherd*. We take Jesus' words very seriously when He says, "Let the little children come to me..." We also know how difficult it can be to keep children sitting quietly for any period of time, much less an hour long church service! For your convenience, "Quiet Bags" have been provided for young worshippers. They are located in the narthex to your right (on the "Noah's Ark" wall mounting, next to the big bulletin board) when exiting the sanctuary. Also, for your convenience, a "Quiet Room" is located at the back of the sanctuary for use during those "difficult" times. Also, please keep in mind that everyone here loves to have the children here and will help you in any way they can! ***Please note:*** *We may have a children's message which could be recorded via Facebook live. If you have any issues with your child being seen at church on the World Wide Web just listen from the pew!*

Guests, Visitors & The Offering: If you are our guest today, you are **not** expected to contribute monetarily to God's work at *Good Shepherd* ... you are our guest! Please take this service as our gift to you! But please do take a minute to check in at one of our kiosks in the atrium and sign the guestbook so we can thank you for your visit...and come soon to see us again! If you choose to give an offering, know this: **The gifts we give back to God are used by His church to transform lives.** *(The offering plate is located at the sanctuary entrance).*

The Lord's Supper: (10:30 am) *Good Shepherd* joyfully celebrates the Lord's Supper, and we do that in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another *Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*. **Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes** *Matthew 5:23; 18:15-35*. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm *1 Corinthians 11:27-29* and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession *Matthew 10:32* differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. Because Scripture says we ought to "examine ourselves" before receiving the Holy Meal *1 Corinthians 11:28*, it is recommended that we review the "*Christian Questions with Their Answers*" section of the *LSB* before communion (*page 329 of the LSB*), please take a few moments before the service or during the offering to do so. Thank you! ***Please note:*** *There are two or three cups at the center of each tray that are non-alcoholic wine for those who prefer such for personal or medical reasons (The wine containing alcohol is white, the non-alcohol is red/pink).*

Pre-Service Meditation...

*Please check out some of the pre-service prayers in the front of the LSB and/or meditate on one or more of the Psalms printed in the LSB (specifically **Psalm 148** today) ...or just spend some time quietly in prayer before we begin...AND/OR, read this...*

"Cutting Edge Ministry"

And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. Acts 5: 14-15

Cutting-edge ministry is an often-used phrase today. It becomes a goal to which people aspire. We want our Sunday school to be on the cutting edge; our evangelism program to be on the cutting edge; and our worship program to be on the cutting edge. Hundreds of people have written hundreds of

(Continued...)

books and articles how to modernize and perfect their ministries, and our churches have listened to these suggestions. Some we find helpful and some are confusing and frightening. It is difficult to believe that the success or failure of a ministry could depend on a list of dos and don'ts or on a certain style of worship or youth ministry. Peter didn't have a worship facility in which to preach; he escaped the controversy over contemporary or traditional music; he didn't have a problem with child care or "Baby Boomers" or "Gen X-Y-Z-ers"...not to mention LGBTQ, or whatever. He did deal with Romans, Greeks, and Jews who practiced everything from hedonism to nationalism. He had none of the benefits of today's sociological studies, but his ministry was so successful that people tried to sit in his shadow, hoping for a blessing. With all due respect to those who try to improve ministry through various strategies, what really makes ministries cutting edge is God's Word at work through His servants. People will see Jesus when we love them, offer ministries and programs that meet their needs, and give up non-scriptural practices that people do not understand. Therefore, as we plan and pray, ask the Spirit of God to help churches grow in faith and show Jesus' love. When that happens, people will see God's Word in action and come to salvation.

Dear God, thank You for saving us through faith in Jesus Christ. We long to serve You as we bring Your saving Word to the world. Let Your Spirit so rule in our hearts that we might show Jesus in all that we say and do. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Adapted from *Because God Called Me---Devotions for Church Workers* by Tom Rogers. Copyright (C) 1999 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Prelude...

Words of Welcome...

The Opening Song: "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"
(LSB pg. 487...please stand for verse five!)

+ The Rite Holy Baptism +

The rite of Holy Baptism takes the place of confession & absolution this morning, as we all remember our own baptism where our sins were drowned and washed away. (The following Rite for Holy Baptism is a condensed version of the one found on page 268 in the LSB, feel free to turn there and follow along).

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 29:10*

All: Amen.

The Address from the Word of God regarding Holy Baptism...
(*Matthew 28:186-19; Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; etc.*)

The sign of the cross...

We Pray...

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 10:13-16...

The Lord's Prayer

(All) 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. -Matthew 6:9-13

The Questions & the Creed

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

All: Yes, I renounce him.

The Apostles' Creed

(All) I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

Christian: the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian teaching.

The Baptism...

- "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb." -Psalm 139:13

- "Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again'" -John 3:5-7

The Blessing of the Newly Baptized...

Presentation of Gifts...

We Pray...

Easter Acclamations

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

(Continued...)

Pastor: Let everyone praise the name of the LORD,

All: for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above earth and heaven. *Psalm 148:13*

Pastor: The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging Him on a tree.

All: God exalted Him at His right hand as Leader and Savior. *Acts 5:31-32*

Pastor: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before His throne,

All: and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. *Revelation 1:4-5*

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

We Sing: "O Sons & Daughters of the King" (LSB pg. 470)

We Pray...

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

All: And also with you.

(A prayer is said...)

+ We Hear God's Word +

Acts 5:12-20 (Peter and John proclaim the risen Christ in spite of opposition.)

The apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade. ¹³ No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number. ¹⁵ As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. ¹⁶ Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by evil^a spirits, and all of them were healed. ¹⁷ Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. ¹⁸ They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. ¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. ²⁰ "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people the full message of this new life." This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Revelation 1:4-18 (John's vision of Jesus is revealed.)

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits^a before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his

(Continued...)

^a Greek *unclean*
^a Or the sevenfold Spirit

blood, ⁶ and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

All: ⁷ **Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen.**

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.” ...This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

John 20:19-31 (Thomas confronts Jesus with his doubts and Jesus confronts him with His wounds to show that the news of the resurrection is true.)

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” ²⁴ Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.” ²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” ²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” ³⁰ Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may^a believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ.

The Message: “Real & True & All For You!”

(Sermon Application...)

What did God teach you in His Law today (*What you should do, or have failed to do for God*)?

What did God teach you in His Gospel today (*What God has done for you through Christ*)?

(Continued...)

^a Some manuscripts may continue to

What is the main thing you're taking home from this message today?

Have a comment or question about today's message? Have any questions about any of this Jesus/Christian stuff? Text the pastor at 763-913-8445 or email him at pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org. If you'd like to hear Sunday's message, or share it with a friend, it posts on our Facebook page and/or Website by 10 am on Monday...



We Sing: "The Gifts Christ Freely Gives"
(LSB pg. 602...please stand for verse six!)

The Prayer of the Church [1 Timothy 2:1-4]...
(The Pastor will conclude each short petition with the words, "Lord, in Your mercy."
Please respond with, "**Hear our prayer.**")

(The 8:00 am service concludes with the benediction and closing hymn...10:30 continues as follows...)

Words of our Lord...
Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

The Peace of the Lord

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God. The peace of the + Lord be with you always. John 20:19
All: Amen.

The Distribution...
We come forward to receive the Body & Blood of Christ in, with and under the bread and wine for remembrance; for forgiveness, for strengthening of faith. The ushers will assist you. You may sit and sing while you wait for the Holy Meal.

Sung During the Distribution... "He's Risen, He's Risen" (LSB pg. 480)

&

"Church of God, Elect and Glorious" (LSB pg. 646)

(After communion...)

We Pray...
(A Prayer is spoken)

The Blessing

Pastor: May God go before you to lead you; behind you to protect you, beneath you to uphold you. May God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, go with you to bless you now and forever.

All: Amen!

The Closing Song: "Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go"

(LSB pg. 920...vs. 1, 4 & 5)

Please stick around for fellowship as long as you desire! (Sunday School and Adult Bible Studies start at 9:15 on Sundays...check 'em out!)

If you are leaving an offering today, please do so in the collection plate at the entrance to the sanctuary...And please know that the gifts we give back to God are used to transform lives!

God Bless you, Decorah!

God Bless you, Piper!

God Bless all of you, baptized believers!

To God Alone all Glory Goes!

Questions about the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod? Check out, www.lcms.org

Postlude...

Next Week's Texts: Acts 9:1-22; Rev. 5: (1-7) 8-14; John 21:1-14 (15-19)

Search the Scriptures! (John 5:39)

**Today's Altar Flowers are sponsored by Jacob & Nicole Schroeder
In memory of Amelia Schroeder (5-7-2021)**

Serving Us Today

Pastor & Celebrant.....Pastor Koepsell
Organist.....(Thu) Stuart Giese (Sun) Ken Hill
Elder.....(Thu) Tim Steinke (Sun) Gary Bedroske & Jon Mielke
Ushers.....Steve Bridwell, Becky Siegrist & Howard Hoppe

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 27	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service
	9:15 A.M.	Education Hour
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service with Communion
Monday, April 28	5:30 P.M.	Bell Choir
	6:30 P.M.	Adult Choir
	10:30 A.M.	Adult Bible Study
Wednesday, April 30	5:15 P.M.	Confirmation Class
	6:45 P.M.	Youth Group
	6:30 P.M.	Worship Service with Communion
Thursday, May 1	7:00-8:00 A.M.	Men's Group
Saturday, May 3	8:30 A.M.	Women's Group
Sunday, May 4	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service with Communion
	9:15 A.M.	Education Hour
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service

SCRIP OFFER: Find the perfect little gift to show someone you care this spring with new limited-time gift cards. There are more than 50 cards you can purchase in the \$10 or less category online or check out the list behind the Scrip table in the atrium. These cards are just right for grads, teachers, bus drivers, mail carriers... or even just yourself! Available while supplies last. Please talk to Linda Everson if you have any questions, 920-252-2942.

RUN (OR WALK) FOR YOUR LIFE, OR SOMEONE ELSE'S! The NAMI Oshkosh 5K for Mental Health & Suicide Awareness is scheduled for Saturday, May 3, 2025, at Oshkosh North High School. The NAMI Oshkosh 5K for Mental Health & Suicide Awareness raises funds for NAMI Oshkosh and its programs. All of their services are free. NAMI's mission is to support, educate, and advocate for all affected by mental illness. This event provides a place to celebrate and honor those who are living with a mental health concern and remember those who have died from this illness. Participants may sign up individually or as part of a team. Friday, May 2, is an optional day to pick up your race packets at Oshkosh North High School. Saturday, May 3: 7:30-9: a.m.: Registration. 9:00 a.m.: Program. 9:30 a.m.: 5K begins. After 5K, free music, sandwiches, popcorn, cookies, drinks. Cost: \$35. Thank you for supporting life!

MISSION OF THE MONTH: April's Mission of the Month is showing support for our 16 youth and 6 adults at the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer. Some reasons given by our youth and adults for wanting to attend include: a deepening of their faith, being a part of something bigger than themselves, worshiping with thousands of other young Christians and strengthening their relationship with Jesus. To find out more, please look at the Mission bulletin board next to the restrooms.

MEXICAN MONDAY: The Youth group will be holding a fundraiser on Monday, April 28th from 4:00-8:00 pm at Qdoba in Oshkosh. 25% of the sales purchased in restaurant & showing the flyer or ordered online using coupon code: qdobagives will go to the Youth group. Flyers are in the atrium. Make Monday's supper easy ... make it Mexican.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP? If you are interested in becoming a member of Good Shepherd or simply finding out more about membership, please list your contact information on the form located in the atrium on the table under New Member pictures.

THIS WEEK ON KFUE: We wrap up our study of 2 Samuel on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT) and continue straight on into a study of 1 Kings! On Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT), we continue our study of Genesis, discussing chapters 10-13. Don't forget to tune in on Friday (5/2 at 11 a.m. CT) for Free-Text Friday, Thy Strong Word's "wild card" episode, which airs on the first Friday of every month! Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or in the KFUE Radio app!

Last Week at Good Shepherd...

<u>Attendance:</u>	Maundy Thu.: 70/97	Good Friday: 160/91	Total: 418
Easter: 6:30 am - 63	8:00 am - 212	10:30 am - 209	Total: 484

Offerings For Week of 4/13:

- General Fund: \$17,170.00
- Missions: \$61.00
- Strategic: \$40.00
- Youth: \$2,282.00
- Fellowship: \$16.00

Total Offerings: \$20,568.00

Weekly Budget Needs at Good Shepherd: \$8,400.00

Offerings For Week of 4/20:

- General Fund: \$9,224.00
- Missions: \$42.00
- Strategic: \$50.00
- Youth: \$1,620.00
- Easter Flowers: \$707.00
- Camp: \$50.00
- Memorial: \$20.00

Total Offerings: \$10,952.00

Weekly Budget Needs at Good Shepherd: \$8,400.00

("...So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.") -1 Corinthians 14:1

Please remember in your prayers:

Church Members:

Kelly Crowe; Craig Skadahl; Donna Gohlke; Shirley Radloff; Joanne Brinkman; Wayne Guy; Howard Hoppe; Dian Sheldon; Gary Schmude; Milt & JoAnn Haskins; Jim & Sharron Ziemer; Ed Huebner; and Louise Gabert

Friends & Relatives of Church Members:

Kathy Reehl's sister, Nancy Moore; Barry & Linda's niece, Jenni Fuhrman; Gary Bunke's daughter, Brielle; Sara Suwalski's mom, Kathy; Don Borgen's brother, Wayne; Barry & Linda Brehmer's friend, Jeff Freund; Bill Zorr's daughter, Cathy Spiegel; Linda Brehmer's friend, Deanne Schubring; Lee Paris' son, Andy; Pastor Koepsell's mother, Lorraine; Jan Peterson's sisters & niece & son, Scot and daughter, Paula; Ron & Chris Feutz's grandson, Logan Feutz; Janet Weier's son, Adam & family; Gene & Donna Gohlke's nephews, Kirk and Michael, granddaughter, Karley & friend, Paul; and Doug Flouro's brother, Allan.

Those Who Want to Worship with Us But Aren't Currently Able:

Wayne Guy, Shirley & Wes Radloff, Jane Nowicki, Manette Flouro, Pastor & JoAnn Meier, Bill & Louise Gabert, Jim & Sharron Ziemer, Lee Paris, Emily Brunner, Edward Huebner, Jean Stauber, Vicki Beck, Bill Zorr, Marge Bolding & Milt & JoAnn Haskins.

Military/Overseas Members & Their Families:

*Malayna Brehmer (granddaughter of Barry & Linda Brehmer),
Ryan Weber (son of Tim & Liz Hoversten), and Chris Hibben*

**Please let Lynn Paulus, our Prayer Chain Coordinator, know when we can take you or your loved one off the prayer list lynn@travelleaders.com*