



Welcome to Good Shepherd
Called by God to: Grow; Serve; Love; Care and Worship

Today's Worship

March 13, 2016

The End of the Age

In today's reading, Jesus responded to yet another question from his disciples. They asked, "When will we see the end of all things?" Jesus said that no one knows and many will make the mistake of trying to estimate a time. Jesus reminds us that a disciple's priority is not to predict but to stay alert. Be prepared and be watchful, says Jesus, so that we can fully engage in what good work we are called to do.

Welcome & Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** "The Church's One Foundation" ELW 654

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Jesus told those around him, "Time is passing quickly so stay alert!" It is good that we pay attention to what is around us as well as what is going on within us. Let us pause and confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection

P: Let us pray ... Great Teacher,

C: We are too easily deceived by those around us who are well-meaning, by those who are manipulators and by ourselves. We often are filled with fear and then our faithful following of you wavers and weakens. Forgive us, God. Grant us the grace to watch for what you are doing in the world and what you would have us do. Amen.

P: There is so much to be uncertain of in life and to be afraid of, but this is one thing of which we can be sure: We follow a loving and forgiving God. In the name of Jesus Christ, hear these words: you are forgiven. Go forward in life and sin no more.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

C: Son of God, you encouraged your followers to obey only your voice and promised them that they would see your glorious presence. Show us your glory and teach us to obey. Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Children's Message

Choir Anthem "Wayfaring Stranger". Adult Choir

Psalm: 102:12-17 (read responsively)

¹²But you, O Lord, are enthroned forever; your name endures to all generations.

¹³**You will rise up and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to favor it; the appointed time has come.**

¹⁴For your servants hold its stones dear, and have pity on its dust.

¹⁵**The nations will fear the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth your glory.**

¹⁶For the Lord will build up Zion; he will appear in his glory.

¹⁷**He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and will not despise their prayer.**

Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of Mark, Chapter 13.

C: Praise to you, O Lord.

Bible Story Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!"² Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished? ⁵Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs. ²⁴But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake--for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Song "God, You Alone Know What You've Planned" Printed

***Apostles' Creed.** page 105

***Sharing the Peace**

Offering

Offertory/Song of the Season . . "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" v1. ELW 843

***Prayers of the Church**

Words of Institution/The Lord's Prayer

Distribution

Communion Blessing

***Sending Hymn** "Soon and Very Soon". ELW 439

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Presiding: Rev. Mary Iverson **Preaching:** Rev. Roger Haug **Scripture Reader:** Gary Hagen
Communion Helpers: Linda & Gary Hagen, Ron Hartman **SS Teacher:** Rachael Korman

Birthdays-Mar 13-19 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)
13-Tessa Cummings Wilma Thisius Halle Schrader Jackson Huper
15-Daniel Tatge 16-Ann Erickson 18-Gale Gottberg Ashton Vedders

Senior Saints - Pastor Mary Iverson and Jean Carlson will share interesting information about the season of Lent, the weeks before Holy Week and Easter at Broadway Apts. Pastor Mary will share several "hymn stories" about familiar Lenten hymns that we will sing together. Our special guest will be USC student, Brett Pederson, who will sing several Lenten songs for us, as well. Join us on Wed, March 16th at 11:00 a.m. for fellowship with food provided by the March service group. Everyone 55 and older is welcome to attend.

Sunday Forum – Wells Area Food Shelf, Sunday, March 13 following worship in the Parlor. Carol Aske, one of the directors of the Wells Area Food Shelf will share some interesting information about the food shelf and also lead a tour of the Food Shelf. Can you guess how many pounds of food was distributed by the Wells Area Food Shelf in 2015? It is a great chance to learn more about it during "Minnesota Food Share Month."

March Food Collection - During the month of March we will collect food donations of vegetable oil, cooking oil, canola oil or olive oil. Smaller containers tend to be better for the food shelf. A grocery cart will be parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will all go to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Thank you for your generous February donations of meal "helpers."

Holy Week and Easter

March 20, Palm Sunday - Worship at 9:00 am followed by a Palm Sunday Brunch
March 23 - **NO:** Wed Meal, Worship, Wed School, PB&J Class, Confirmation or Contemporary Team
March 24, Maundy Thursday - Worship/Holy Communion
7:00 pm with 5th grade Holy Communion
March 25, Good Friday - No Community Service
Worship at Good Shepherd at 7:00 pm
March 27, Easter Sunday - Worship at 9:00 am

Daily Scripture Readings

Mar 14 - Psalm 53
Leviticus 23:26-41
Revelation 19:1-8
Mar 15 - Psalm 53
Leviticus 25:1-19
Revelation 19:9-10
Mar 16 - Psalm 53
2 Kings 4:1-7
Luke 9:10-17
Mar 17 - Psalm 126

Isaiah 43:1-7
Philippians 2:19-24
Mar 18 - Psalm 126
Isaiah 43:8-15
Philippians 2:25—3:1
Mar 19- Psalm 126
Exodus 12:21-27
John 11:45-57



Brunch

March 20, 2016

10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Serving: Amish Breakfast Casserole
(Made with hash browns)

Crock Pot Oatmeal
Cinnamon Rolls
Fruit
Breakfast Punch
Coffee

Free Will Offering

Sponsored by the Women of the ELCA

Easter Garden for March 27th - We will again have an Easter Garden on Easter Sunday, March 27th. We would like a variety of spring flowers and Easter lilies to adorn the altar. If you would like to donate an Easter plant, please feel free to purchase and bring it to the church or have them delivered by Friday, March 25th. Let Andy know you are donating a plant by Tues., March 21st so she can publish it in the bulletin. Use the following form and place it in the offering basket or return to the church office. Flowers and plants may be picked up after the 9:00 a.m. Easter Festival Worship.

EASTER GARDEN FLOWERS

I plan to purchase an Easter plant and bring it to the church to add to the Springtime decorations:

Name _____ Phone _____

This plant is in memory of _____

This plant is in honor of _____

God, You Alone Know What You've Planned

("It Came Upon the Midnight Clear")

God, you alone know what you've planned
For earth and sky and sea.
Creation waits your loving hand
To bring in what will be.
When things we trust in shift and shake
And sorrows multiply,
We hear you calling, "Keep awake!
Redemption is close by!"

O Christ, you taught us, "Watch the trees
As seasons change each year,
For when they bud and grow new leaves
You know that summer's near."
May we look round this changing earth
And see with faith-filled eyes
Your signs of newness, life and birth
That witness to the wise.

Though heav'n and earth will pass away,
Your word will still be true.
O Son of Man, on that great day,
We'll be secure in you.
For at the close of history
When all that's past shall end,
The one who judges us will be
No stranger, but a friend.

So by your Spirit may we share
The life you're bringing forth:
May we seek justice, end despair,
And work to heal the earth.
For there's a new day coming near
With no more death or pain;
Till then, we'll seek to serve you here
And welcome in your reign.