



Welcome to Good Shepherd

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

February 4, 2018

Today's Worship

Invitation to Abundant Life - Abundant Life, Living Water One thirsty Jewish teacher on a long journey. One Samaritan woman by a well. A perfect moment for the God of new life to break down age-old divisions and reveal more about the gracious love of God.

Prelude

Welcome

*Gathering "I Love to Tell the Story" ELW 661

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: We gather for worship in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God comes to the help of the people, turning us from sin to live for God. God gifts us with power through the Holy Spirit to confess our sins, to receive forgiveness and to grow into faithful servants. Let us confess our sins ...

Pause for silence and reflection

P: Merciful Lord,

C: **We come before you with heavy hearts. We do not always follow our Savior's lead. We insist on our own way, putting worldly things before you. We doubt, we discriminate, we prefer the darkness to the brilliance of your path, God. For all this we ask your mercy and forgiveness, that our hearts may be made clean again.**

P: As a loving shepherd gathers his sheep, so our Lord protects and cares for us. As patient as a parent for a wayward child, so is God's mercy for us. Let us rejoice that we have received forgiveness, and that every day our Lord seeks to renew us in the image of our Creator.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

C: **Lord of all nations, you are the life-giving water we seek. Give us this water always, that we may no longer thirst after that which does not satisfy. We ask this in the name of the One who revives us daily, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Children's Message

Choir Anthem "Amazing Grace" Adult Choir

Psalm 95:1-7 (read responsively)

¹O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

²**Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

³For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

⁴**In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.**

⁵The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

⁶**O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

⁷For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of John chapter 4.

C: Praise to you, O Lord.

Bible Story . . . John 4:5-29, 39-42

⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." ²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he? ³⁰Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Hymn "Once A Woman Seeking Water" Printed

The Apostles' Creed page 105

*Sharing the Peace

Offering

Offertory Response . . . "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" ELW 674

Prayers of the Church

Words of Institution/The Lord's Prayer

Communion
Communion Blessing
Benediction

***Sending Song** . . . "This Little Light of Mine " ELW 677

***Dismissal**
P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Church Phone: 507-553-3513

Web site: <http://www.goodshepherdwells.org> E-mail: shepherd@bevcomm.net

Broadcast Cable Bevcomm TV Channel 7 Tuesday at 10:15 am & Wednesday at 7:30 pm

Presiding & Preaching: Rev. Mary Iverson

Scripture Reader: Julie Forderer

Pianist: Jean Carlson

SS Teacher - Sara Theede

Communion Helpers: Jane Ewert, Linda & Bob Buendorf

Birthdays - Feb 4-10 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

4-Linda Hagen	Brian Ehlert	9-Collin Foley	10-Ron Hartman
7-Michelle Becher	8-Barb Stensrud	Lynda Korman	Marcus Weyhrauch

February Food Collection - During the month of February we will collect food donations of paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, kleenex). A grocery cart is parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf.

Youth Gathering Meeting - Those attending the ELCA Youth Gathering will meet on Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 10:15 a.m. in the basement Parlor, behind the kitchen. We will discuss details for the Youth Gathering and continue preparations.

Blue Earth River Conference Annual Assembly - The area congregations of the SE Minnesota Synod of the ELCA will gather together on Sunday, February 11 at 2:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran, Albert Lea. Pastor Mary is attending and Good Shepherd is encouraged to bring delegates from the congregation as well.

8th Grade Confirmation Mentors - 8th graders will meet the church member that they have chosen to be their mentor starting on Wednesday, Feb. 14. 8th graders and their mentors will worship together for Ash Wednesday worship on Feb. 14 at 6:15 p.m. Immediately following the Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday worship there will be a short gathering with mentors and students in the Good Shepherd chapel. Thank you to the following mentors: Emily Allard, Adam Ratjar, Ryan Crabtree, Kathy Ehlert, Russ Elmer, Nancy Elmer, Brad Heggen, Darin Magnuson, Dynette Niebuhr, Ruth Schaper, Brian Schrader, Amy Stenzel and Alisha Trytten.

The Eternal Candle is burning this week in loving memory of the birthday anniversary of Alvin Johnson which is January 31st. It is given by Coni Olson.

Hymn: Once A Woman Seeking Water

(to the tune of "What a Friend We Have in Jesus")

Once a woman seeking water at a well not far from home
Met a thirsty, waiting stranger from a people not her own.
Would she give a drink of water and respond to human need?
Could she know the joy and wonder she, the giver, would receive?

She drew water for the thirsty; Jesus offered something more:
Living water, God's own mercy, love abundant, freely poured.
One, a blessing for the body; one, a blessing for the soul!
Both are gifts of our Creator - gifts that help to make us whole.

Still God's people carry water from their wells and mountain streams;
Still at rivers women gather, sharing labor, sharing dreams.
Still a cup of water given in a dry and weary place
Is a blessing overflowing from the fountain of God's grace.

God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do;
May we gladly share clean water and your living water, too.
May we see the face of Jesus, and how far your love extends,
In the ones we call our partners - no more strangers, now our friends.

In memory of Betty Korman memorials have been received towards the General Fund.

First Communion - 5th grade students and a parent will gather on four Wednesday evenings to prepare to receive their First Holy Communion. Pastor Mary will lead the preparation classes and it will include the painting of cups and the baking of bread that will be used for First Communion. The group will gather in the basement Church Social Hall. Please bring your Bible.

First Holy Communion Preparation Classes

Weds, Feb. 21 7:00-7:30 p.m.

Weds, Feb. 28 7:00-7:30 p.m.

Weds, March 7 7:00-7:30 p.m.

First Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday Worship, March 29, 7:00 p.m.

The Season of Lent - God's Persistent Love - While it is often called The Parable of the Prodigal Son, more accurately it is the story of God's persistent love for us. This year we will have dramatic presentations that spotlight the familiar story of a wayward son, a jealous brother and the extravagant love that God has for us. Lenten Wednesday Worship:

Ash Wednesday Worship - February 14 6:15pm

Lenten Wednesday Worship - February 21 - March 21 6:15pm

Holden Evening Prayer & Drama