

# Welcome to Shepherd of the Desert Evangelical Lutheran Church

Fifth Weekend after Epiphany

February 8, 2026



¶ Please stand in body or spirit.

## Preludes

Words of Welcome Pastor John Maroni

## ¶ Confession and Forgiveness

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
To you, O God,

C **all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

P By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

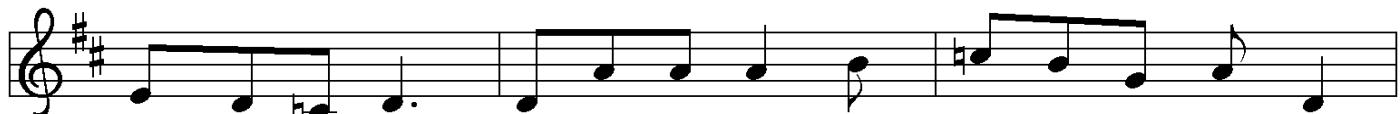
C **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn** Gather Us In

ELW # 532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,  
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
 light years a-way— here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly,  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion  
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-plies to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

## II Prayer of the Day

A The Lord be with you.  
C And also with you.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

### First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord  
C Thanks be to God

### The Psalm: Psalm 112:1-9

Pew Bible

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Happy are they who I fear the LORD  
and have great delight in I God's commandments!  
<sup>2</sup> **Their descendants will be mighty I in the land;**  
**the generation of the upright I will be blessed.**  
<sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches will be I in their house,  
and their righteousness will I last forever.  
<sup>4</sup> **Light shines in the darkness I for the upright;**  
**the righteous are merciful and full I of compassion.**  
<sup>5</sup> It is good for them to be gener- I ous in lending  
and to manage their af- I fairs with justice.  
<sup>6</sup> **For they will nev- I er be shaken;**  
**the righteous will be kept in everlast- I ing remembrance.**  
<sup>7</sup> They will not be afraid of any I evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting I in the LORD.  
<sup>8</sup> **Their heart is established and I will not shrink,**  
**until they see their desire up- I on their enemies.**  
<sup>9</sup> They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands I fast forever;  
they will hold up their I head with honor.

### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord  
C Thanks be to God

## Gospel Acclamation

Setting 8 pg. 188

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

## Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

Pew Bible

P The Gospel of Our Lord  
C Thanks be to God

## Message

### Hymn of the Day Christ Be Our Light

ELW # 815

1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
4 Long - ing for shel-ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
hope, man - y de - - spair. Your word a - lone  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
church gath - ered to - day.

## Apostles Creed

A With the whole church let us confess our faith

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers of the Gathered Community

Each petition ends with:

A Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

## Share the Peace

## Offering Music

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**¶ Prayer at the Table**

P The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**  
P Lift up your hearts.  
C **We lift them to the Lord.**  
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
P It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**¶ Holy, Holy, Holy**

Setting 8 Pg. 190

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C **Amen**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

### Invitation to Communion

P There's a place for everyone at the table. All are welcome here.

#### ☩ Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

### Special Music

#### ☩ Post-Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

#### ☩ Post-Communion Prayer

A Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

### Sending of Communion to the Homebound and Ventana Winds

#### ☩ Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

**† Sending Hymn** I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW #815

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je sus. God set the stars to give  
 look at Je sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,  
 be with Je sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je sus.  
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

Shine in my heart, Lord Je sus.

**† Dismissal**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

# Shepherd of the Desert Announcements

**Monday Morning Bible Study** 10:00 a.m. in the Founders Room. Remember to bring your Bible and a beverage. We will be reading the lessons for the upcoming weekend services.

**Choir Rehearsals** Come and join Kevin DeYager, our Sunday Organist, as we rehearse choir music for the upcoming services. The next rehearsal is Tuesday Feb. 17th in the Sanctuary at 2:00 p.m.

**Ladies Book Club** Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. The Book they are reading is The Story of Ruth by Liz Curtis Higgs. The cost is \$5.00. Please reach out to Nancy Fisher if you need a book.

**Paint Night February 11th at 5:30 p.m.** Please make sure to sign up so we can plan on snacks and supplies. Bring a beverage there is snacks provided.

**Tea Tasting with Sherry Shenkman** Come and try different types of teas and how they pair with chocolate. **February 16th at 11:00 am** in the Founders Room. Make sure to sign up so we can plan for you!

**Ash Wednesday February 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**

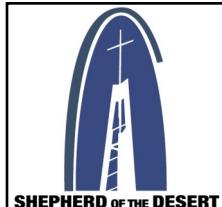
**Organ Stop Pizza Outing Sunday Feb. 22nd.** We are going to Organ Stop! We will meet at the church to carpool. You can also meet us there if you would like to drive on your own. We will leave the church at 2 pm. Make sure to sign up so we can plan on rides if needed. Join us for a fun outing!

**Mission of the Month - February - Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest.**

They respond to Arizona's changing needs by compassionately offering quality services and resources that contribute to a stronger heathier Arizona for all people.



Kim Simons	2/08
Larry Thorson	2/08
Rev. Art Goetz	2/09
Lisa Maroni	2/12



**Senior Pastor:** Rev. John Maroni

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**Musicians:** (Sunday) Kevin DeYager (Saturday) Linda McClentic (1&3) Tony Lake (2&4)

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