

**THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
February 21st, 2021**

Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes!

The members of Shepherd of the Lakes are very pleased to have you worship with us today. We invite you to join with us in worshipping the Triune God: the Father who created us, the Son who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit who sets us apart to be God's people through his powerful word. Our church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, a group of Lutheran churches committed to the Bible's teaching about life and salvation.

God speaks to us from the Scriptures:

The First Reading: Genesis 22:1-18

If you do not love God enough to give up your son for him, why should he give up his Son for you? But that's what he promises in the closing verses of the reading. The offspring, descended from Isaac, in whom we will really be blessed, deserves our all. We deserve nothing. How little he gets. How much he gives just to forgive the littleness of our heart's devotion.

The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 6, page 66 in your Hymnal

Second Reading: Romans 8:31-39

As beautiful as these verses are, it takes a miracle for us to believe them! That's what Lent is all about, a detailing of the otherwise unbelievable love of God in the sacrifice of his own Son for the likes of us sinners. Having given his Son, and having performed the miracle of giving us faith to believe it, how could we ever again doubt his love? Come death, come angels or demons!

The Verse of the Day: It is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only." (Matthew 4:10b)

The Gospel Reading: Mark 1:12-15

He begins his earthly ministry and his journey to the cross by a time of loneliness and struggle in the desert. Given the seriousness with which he begins his journey to the cross, you can be sure that his call to repentance was not trite or cute or trivial.

Applying God's Word to our Lives this Week:

Text: Romans 8:31-39

Theme: If God is for us, who can be against us?

Holy Communion: In Holy Communion we are receiving Jesus' true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, new life, and salvation. But that's not all. We also receive strength, encouragement, and comfort knowing that in this sacrament **we are at one with our God** through Jesus' death on the cross for our sins, **we are one in faith with those communing beside us**, and **we are joined with all the saints**, who share our common faith. For this reason we practice **close communion**, inviting only WELS or ELS members to partake of the sacrament so as not to call into question the communion that we share. **If you are a visitor, please speak to Pastor Seelow before communing.**

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS TO US

Worship service attendance for Sunday, February 14th was 23. (Wednesday 18/15 comm.) Our hearts acknowledged God's love for us in all he has blessed us with and showed our trust in his continued blessing by offering him \$1400.00 (Wed. \$170) for the work of his church.
"Whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God!"

GOD'S PEOPLE GROWING AND SERVING

Usher/Altar Guild Schedule

March 7 — Deb Mosier/ Rosemary Borchert

Cleaning Crew February: Dave and Dianne Bodey

NEWS AND NOTES

Today's Theme The call to sinners in Lent is a serious call to focus - on our Savior, repentance, and forgiveness.

Midweek Lent Service Wednesday at 6pm.

Next Sunday Worship – 9am

**OUR PATH OF
WORSHIP**

"The Service of Word and Sacrament" p. 26

PREPARATION p.10

Opening Hymn: #368

Confession of Sins: **p. 26**

Prayer and Praise: **p. 27-29**

THE WORD

Genesis 22:1-18

Psalm 6, page 66

Romans 8:31-39

Verse of the day, p. 30

Mark 1:12-15

Response, p. 30

Hymn of the Day: #419

The Sermon

Nicene Creed, p.31

The Offering

Prayers, p. 32

THE SACRAMENT

p. 33-36

**Distribution Hymn: #310
1,3,6,8**

THANKSGIVING p. 36

Blessing, p. 37

Closing Hymn: #202

Shepherd of the Lakes

Ev. Lutheran Church

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2021

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