

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

To reach out to all, proclaiming God's love in Jesus Christ

1600 Fowler Avenue, Berwick, PA (570) 752-3737

Sunday morning worship, 8:30AM

www.goodshepherdberwick.org

Facebook: @GSLCBwk

Instagram: @gslcberwick

YouTube: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Berwick



Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 15th, 2026

8:30am

Good Morning and Welcome !

About our church

*We are a group of Christians who do our best to live our faith. Sometimes we falter and we often fall short of the glory of God. Because of this, we celebrate God's abundant grace poured out through the love of Jesus Christ. It is this same love that inspires us to carry out our mission statement - **reaching out to all proclaiming God's love in Jesus Christ** - so that everyone would know of the freeing, redeeming, calming, peaceful love of God.*

About our worship

Here at Good Shepherd, we marry the reverence of "high liturgy" with a relaxed, contemporary feel. What does that mean? First, the word - liturgy - means "the work of the people." So our worship is our collective effort to place God on the throne of our hearts. Second, the word - high - refers to the high degree of reverence given to God's presence in our midst. You may see people bow toward or before the altar and the cross or tracing the sign of the cross on their bodies at certain points in worship. You may also notice people clapping in celebration or responding to a question asked in the sermon. Join in as you feel comfortable!

Navigating our bulletin

*Italicized text is there to help orient you to our worship. Plain text (like this) is meant for the leader to read. Plain, bold text (**like this**) indicates the congregational response. Join in as you feel comfortable! We do use a hymnal here at Good Shepherd. You will find a green and blue hymnal in the pew rack in front of you. Each hymn is numbered. Join in the singing as you are comfortable!*

COUNCIL UPDATE

Thank you to all who volunteered to serve on the Call Committee. The Council has selected - Addy Berlin, Michele Ouimet, Kim Scheirer, and Peggy Yeastedt as our Call Committee.

Please feel free to contact John Widger at either 570-204-1286 or jwidg54@gmail.com. You can also contact any council member for updates on the Call Process

Music Prelude

Call to Worship

Rise in body or spirit

Processional Hymn- Blue No. 737 - “There is a Balm in Gilead”

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdainning the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,

and for disregarding Christ’s call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God’s steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God’s love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By

your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

¹ The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ² Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’” ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” ⁴ Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” ⁵ He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. ⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the Lord.” ⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.” ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.” ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

² **The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures**

and leads me beside still waters.

³ You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Rise in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Holy Gospel according John the 9th Chapter
Glory to you O Lord

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

Please be seated

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon - Pr. Wayne Muthler

Choir Anthem - "When I Survey"

Rise in body or spirit

The Confession of Faith - The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 PEOPLE

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name's sake. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant, and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

Oh God, we pray for your healing

Kristian Keefer, David & Sandy Campbell, Charlotte Wands, All victims of violence, Pray for Peace in our Country, Doug Johnson, Glenbrook Residents, Mary Hoida, Emma Shaffer, Shari Slowick, Val Donahue, Bettyanne, Hurley “Duke” Slusser, Pr. Warntz, Brandon Knorr, Len and June Swida, Lorraine DeFinnis, Lynn Baker, Frank Knorr, Kevin Smith, Ashlyn Spiker, Kaylor M., Ashley H., Tim Wentzel, Jim Stanley, Bob B, Jason, Bruce Gilbert & Family, Ray Sterner, Klenner babies, Kyle, Elias Sitter, Haley B., Frank G., Lorein B., Family of George Stelega

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always
And also with you

OFFERING PRAYER

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

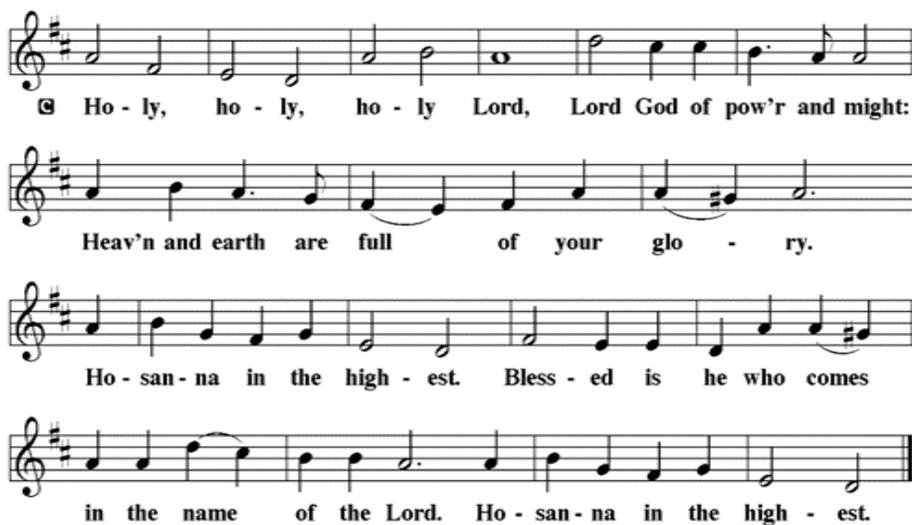
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary..... Therefore, we angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Institution - from 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

On the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

The Lord's Prayer

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

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Please be seated

Hymn Green No. 448- "Amazing Grace"
(see insert) "You're My All in All"

Rise in body or spirit

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you to live in His grace **Amen**

Post Communion Canticle



Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace: your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
and will be for - ev - er. A - men

Post Communion Prayer

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending Blessing

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, bless you now and always.

Amen.

Hymn: Green No. 104 - "In the Cross of Christ, I Glory"

Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

The worship is over, now let the service begin!

* * * * *

Oh God, we thank you for our celebrations

Birthdays
Sam DeFinnis 3/19

Love offering March will go to Special Needs

LAST WEEK	03/08/2026
BUDGETED OFFERING	\$ 1,538.46
WEEKLY ENVELOPES	\$ 1,325.00
LEGACIES (Simpson, Fabian)	\$
OTHER OFFERINGS	\$ 363.00
TOTAL	\$ 1,688.00
DIFFERENCE	\$+149.54
ATTENDANCE	62

8:30am - Worship Leaders, Sunday, March 15th, 2026

Presiding Minister	Pr. Wayne Muthler
Assisting Minister	Dr. John Widger
Communion Assistant	Peggy Yeastedt
Lector	Beck Dows
Usher	Vance Ouimet, Donna Lynn
Acolyte	Cody Welliver
Choir Director	Jan Hoida
Organist	Jackie Titus
Altar Guild	Sandy Sterner
Counting	Amber Keefer, Dr. John Widger
Depositor	Jackie Titus
Lock/Unlock	Sam DeFinnis
Live Stream Tech	Brenda Sterner

8:30am - Worship Leaders, Sunday, March 22nd, 2026

Presiding Minister	Fr. David Bateman
Assisting Minister	Beck Dows
Communion Assistant	Dr. John Widger
Lector	Jan Hoida
Usher	Matt and Peggy Yeastedt
Acolyte	Kyler Krumenaker
Choir Director	Jan Hoida
Organist	Jackie Titus
Altar Guild	Sandy Sterner
Counting	Amber Keefer, Dr. John Widger
Depositor	Jackie Titus
Lock/Unlock	Sam DeFinnis
Live Stream Tech	Brenda Sterner

We welcome and thank Pr. Wayne Muthler who is presiding over our worship service today.

Weekly Announcements

- **Thursday, March 19th - 6:00pm - Make eggs**
- **Friday, March 20th - 9:00am - Coat eggs**
- **Monday, March 23rd - 6:00pm - Make Eggs**
- **Tuesday, March 24th - 9:00am - Coat Eggs**
- **Saturday, March 28th - 1:00 - Community Easter Egg Hunt**
- **Monday, March 30th - 6:00pm - Prayer Service**

The Berwick Ministerium will be having a **Prayer Service to begin Holy Week**. It will be at Charles Park (on the corner of Market and Front Street in Berwick). In case of rain, it will be held in the Eagles Building.

*****2025 Contribution Statements are available in the office *****

Mid-Week Lenten Services

Wed., March 18th 6:00 pm - Soup/Sandwiches at Christ Church
7:00 pm - Lenten Service

Wed., March 25th 6:00 pm - Soup/Sandwiches at Good Shepherd
(Christian Ed and Outreach)
7:00 pm - Lenten Service

Holy Week

Sunday, March 29th 8:30 am - **Palm Sunday**

Thursday, April 2nd 7:00 pm - **Maundy Thursday** - Christ Church

Friday, April 3rd 7:00 pm - **Good Friday** - Good Shepherd

Sunday, April 5th 7:30 am - **Easter** breakfast before service
8:30 am - **Easter** Service