

**OUR SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
GREENDALE, WISCONSIN**

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The Reverend Douglas W. Schroeder, Pastor

The Seventh Sunday After the Epiphany 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM February 23, 2025

OUR THEME FOR THIS YEAR IS: LOOK ALIVE IN 2025!

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ~ Eph. 2: 4-5

We welcome you to Our Shepherd. It is a joy to have you with us today! We pray that you will be strengthened and uplifted through our worship.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Organ Prelude: My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker . . . D. Busarow

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn: LSB 845 – Where Charity and Love Prevail

Invocation and Confession/Absolution

Pastor: In the name of the Father, who is the “Father of the heavenly lights,” and of the Son, who is the “Light of the World,” and of the Holy Spirit, who reveals that light to us through the gospel.

Congregation: Amen

P: Without the Light of Jesus our hearts are dark.

C: In this darkness sin finds a welcomed home.

P: But we don’t live in darkness anymore. Jesus’ light shines into our hearts. We not only see the ugliness of our sin, we hate sin. For this reason, we choose not to hide our sin, but to confess it freely:

ALL: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise: Sing Praise to the God of Israel (LSB 936, vs. 1 & 4)

Sing praise to the God of Israel!
Sing praise for His visitation!
Redeeming His people from their sin,
Accomplishing their salvation,
Upraising a mighty horn within
The house of His servant David!

O bright, rising Sun, now shine on us
In need of illumination;
Come scatter the shades of sin and death
And shatter their domination.
Be guiding our footsteps on the path
Of peace, in Your presence dawning!

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

C: *O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Scripture Readings (Back of Bulletin)

Old Testament: Genesis 45: 3 – 15

Anthem (10:30): Eternal Light . . . A. Lovelace

Eternal light! Eternal light!
 How pure the soul must be,
 When, placed within your searching sight,
 It does not fear, but with delight
 Can face such honesty.

There is a way for us to rise
 To that sublime abode:
 An off'ring and a sacrifice,
 A Holy Spirit's energies,
 An Advocate with God.

Such grace prepares us
 For the sight of holiness above;
 For all of ignorance and night
 May dwell in the eternal light
 Through God's eternal Love.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15: 21 – 26, 30 - 42

Gospel: Luke 6: 27 - 38

P: The Gospel of the Lord
C: *Thanks be to God*

Hymn of the Day: LSB 820 – My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker (10:30 Choir sings vs. 1)

Video: Video: There . . . Freebridge Media

Message from the Word:

Sermon Series: Encouragement from God, Part 1 – God Knows Us

Sermon Text: Psalm 139

Nicene Creed: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering**Prayer of Thanksgiving****Responsive Prayer:**

P: Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;
C: *fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way.*
P: Fret not yourself because of evildoers;
C: *be not envious of wrongdoers!*
P: For they will soon fade like the grass
C: *and wither like the green herb.*
P: Trust in the Lord, and do good;
C: *dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.*
P: Delight yourself in the Lord,
C: *and he will give you the desires of your heart.*
P: Commit your way to the Lord;
C: *trust in him, and he will act.*

Prayers/Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution/The Lord’s Supper (10:30 a.m. only)

The Bible is specific about who should attend the Lord’s Supper (1 Corinthians 10: 16-17; 11: 27-30). We invite those who wish to confess their sins and believe they receive Christ’s body and blood in this sacrament, for their forgiveness, to join us at the Lord’s Table for their spiritual strengthening.

Communion Hymn: LSB 848 – Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service

Post-Communion Canticle (10:30): Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace (LSB 937, vs. 1&2)

Lord, bid Your servant go in peace,
Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation’s dawn,
This child so long foretold.
This is the Savior of the world,
The Gentiles’ promised light,
God’s glory dwelling in our midst,
The joy of Israel.

Closing Hymn: LSB 851 – Lord of Glory, You have Bought Us

Benediction

Postlude: My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker . . . J. G. Walther

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALUMINUM CANS: We are collecting aluminum cans next weekend (March 1&2) in the north parking lot. No glass or plastic, please.

FIRST-TIME VISITORS: Welcome to our guests and visitors! Please take home an Our Shepherd gift bag located on the table in the narthex as a “thank you” for being here!

FLOWERS: Flowers are given to the glory of God this weekend by Kathi and Gerald Svick.

LENT: We will have Lenten services at 7:15 p.m. each Wednesday during Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 5th.

MOVIE NIGHT: Plan to attend our next movie night on Friday, February 28, at 6:00 p.m. **The Hill** will be shown, *the true story of Rickey Hill, the son of a traveling pastor who overcomes physical obstacles to pursue his dream of playing in the major leagues.* Popcorn and pizza will be provided; please sign up on the sheet at the entrance.

SERVE AT THE EBENEZER BREAKFAST: Please sign up if you can help to make and serve breakfast to those in need on Saturday, March 1, 2025, beginning at 7:30 a.m. See our website for the link.

2025 GWT MISSION TRIP: God’s Work Today’s next mission trip is scheduled for August 30th through September 6th 2025. We are going to the Dominican Republic. The cost is \$700 per person, and you don’t need to be physically fit to help. The ministry can find work for everyone. We will be helping Mission 2535 build houses. Their website is Mission 2535 – Building Sustainable Communities in the Dominican Republic. We are in the process of booking flights and would like to have a firm count by the end of February. We request that you put a \$100 deposit down if you are interested in going with us (please make checks payable to God’s Work Today). If you would like to hear more about the trip or the ministry, please see Paul/ Cori Schoenke or Pastor Doug.

SERVE AT THE EBENEZER FOOD PANTRY: On Saturday, March 15, 2025, we are asking for 8 volunteers to bag and distribute food to those in need from 8:00 – 11:30 a.m. Please sign up using the link on our website.

VBS 2025: Save the date! VBS will be June 23 – 27. Details and information will be coming soon!

TWT CHANGE TO CHANGE THE WORLD: Remember to bring your collected change on the last weekend of the month, (Feb. 22 & 23) for our ongoing “Change to change the world” project supporting The Word Today.

UPDATED CONTACT INFO: Please let the church office know if you have changed your address, phone number or email address so we can keep our records current. Thank you!

FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL AND GLORIES OF GREECE: New dates are scheduled for Pastor Doug’s trip to Greece, September 20 – 30, 2025. Updated flyers are available on the entry table.

The Word Today is aired locally on Sunday mornings at 7:45 on WJYI 1340 AM and at 8:30 on WRJN 1400 AM.

Listener Responses to The Word Today

TWT Arabic

- Through the journey with the Lord, I fall and rise. Too many problems and challenges are facing me while walking the life path with Jesus. But I am willing to count all of this as trash for the sake of being with the Lord. The Word Today is accompanying me through it all and encouraging me. Pray for me, to keep standing tall in front of my enemy (evil) by the power of the Holy Spirit. My Muslim family is not leaving me in peace. Pray for them please that my life change would reveal Jesus to them.
- Because I am a Christian now and I have faith in Jesus, I have told my family and friends but they all are against me now. I have been listening to your program for some time now, I felt that I can ask you trusting you can help me in this new life I'm living now. My family is sad, because they think I'm doing wrong, my work employer knew about my new faith and fired me. It's a tough life, but I'm willing to leave all for my Lord and Savior, so I only need guidance of what do you think I should act according to these circumstances.

TWT Sgaw Karen

- I receive spiritual strength from the message on God's mercy and forgiveness presented in Sgaw Karen The Word Today. I praise God's grace for forgiving my sin and I also thank this Sgaw Karen The Word Today. That is why, I will heed and obey God's Word.
- Through Sgaw Karen The Word Today, I learned that we need to change from our living which follows our desires to a life living accordingly to His will likewise Jesus Christ changed Himself into human flesh in order to reconcile between God and human beings.

TWT Romani Balkan

- I remained disabled after a stroke. I can't move, but praise God, I can listen to the radio. After I had believed, I understood the importance of family, so the program became very interesting to me. The radio programs encourage me and make me feel comfort. Be blessed in the Lord.
- My profession is a teacher, however when listening to the radio programs I teach myself on the biblical truths about family values. Bible teaching and prayer are important for our family, so we are thankful for this weekly program.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Monday	Women's Bible Study	2:00 PM
Monday	Bell Choir	3:30 PM
Monday	Adult Bible Study	6:30 PM
Tuesday	Share Our Strengths (S.O.S.)	7:00 PM
Wednesday	Men's Bible Study	6:00 AM
Wednesday	Women's Bible Study	9:30 AM
Wednesday	Bell Choir	6:45 PM
Wednesday	Senior Choir	7:30 PM
Saturday	Worship Service	6:00 PM
Sunday	Worship Service	8:00 & 10:30 AM
Sunday	Sunday school Classes	9:30 AM
Sunday	Adult Bible Class	9:30 AM

NOTES