

...by the name

of our LORD and
Jesus Christ...

Be united
in the same mind

and the same
judgment.

1 Corinthians 1:10, ESV

UPCOMING *Events*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS January

Jan. 1 - Happy New Years!

Jan. 3 - LHN Free Neighborhood Market,

Jan. 7 - Worship Committee Meeting @ 4:30PM, Pr. Ted's Office

Jan. 10 - Roeding Saturday Sports @ 10-12PM, Roeding Elementary

Jan. 12 - Esther Circle @ 6PM, Comm Ctr

Jan. 15 - Council Meeting @ 6PM, Jacobson Jall

Jan. 18 - GSLC Book Club @ 4PM, Comm Ctr

Jan 19 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

OFFICE CLOSED

Jan. 19 - OWLS @ 12pm, Pam Gerster's Home

Jan. 28 - Staff Meeting @ 10AM, Pr. Ted's

WEEKLY *Sneak Peek*

SUNDAY, January 25

10am: Worship Service

11:15am: Coffee Social

11:15am: Salt & Light, Class Rm 2

MONDAY, January 26

TUESDAY, January 27

6pm - 10pm: Voices United, Comm Ctr

WEDNESDAY, January 28

10am: Staff Meeting, Pr. Ted's Office

6:30pm: Wednesday Evening Bible Study, Comm Ctr

THURSDAY, January 29

FRIDAY, January 30

5-10pm: Voices United Set Up, Comm Ctr

SATURDAY, January 31

All Day: Voices United, Comm Ctr

SUNDAY, February 1

10am: Worship Service

11:15am: Coffee Social

11:15am: Salt & Light, Class Rm 2

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Worship Service
January 25, 2026 - 10AM
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude

Susan Berg, Pianist

Announcements

Temple Talk

Hymn of Dedication "We Are An Offering" #672
Song Leaders and Congregation

(sing twice)

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering.
Lord use our voices, Lord, us our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are Your, we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to You.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering,
we are an offering.

Opening Hymn

"Jesus, Messiah" by Daniel Carson, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash and Jesse Reeves, Arr. by Mary Tim
(c 2008 sixstetps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), worship together.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Wondrously Made Songs/Admin. by Music Services, Inc.), CCLI Song # 16220, CCLI License #2032355)

1. He became sin, who knew no sin;
that we might become His righteousness;
He humbled Himself, and carried the cross.
Love so amazing. Love so amazing.

Chorus: Jesus, Messiah; Name above all names;
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.
The Rescue for sinners, the Ransom from heaven;
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.

2. His body the bread, His blood the wine
broken and poured out, all for love.

The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn
Love so amazing. Love so amazing.
Chorus

Bridge:
All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You,
All the glory to You, God, the Light of the world.
Chorus

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God,
The Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
**You call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice,
love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P: We pray together...

C: Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows
after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways
of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Special Music

"The Lord Is in This Holy Temple" by Douglas E.
Wagner (c 2004 Lorenz Publishing Company, a di
vision of The Lorenz Corporation)
Choral Ensemble with The Good Shepherd Chimes

Lesson 1	Isaiah 9:1-4	Page 706 in the cranberry Bible Page 753 in the red Bible
Lesson 2	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Page 1038 in the cranberry Bible Page 173 in the red Bible
Gospel	Matthew 4:12-23	Page 879 in the cranberry Bible Page 4 in the red Bible

Kids' Talk

Julie Werfelmann

Children are now invited - but not required - to go with the adult leader to kids' church in classroom 2 during the sermon. They will return in time for communion with their families.

Sermon

"Choosing Up Sides"

Pr. Ted Niemi

Sermon Hymn

"Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)"
#798 (vv. 1-3, 5)
Song Leaders and Congregation

1. "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"

2. "Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?"

3. "Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"

5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Apostles' Creed

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 Church

Sharing the Peace

Special Music "This We Pray" Words and Music by Jay Althouse
 (c 2002, Alfred Music)
 John Montgomery, Solo

Offering

Offering Response "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise" #207
 Song Leaders and Congregation

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.
Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Holy Communion

Communion shall be served using the method known as "intinction": the wafer will be handed to you, and you will dip the wafer into either the gold chalice of wine, or the ceramic chalice of grape juice. For those who are not able to come up for communion, please just remain seated and our ushers will be happy to direct the communion servers to bring communion right to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to come up for communion to receive an animal cracker (unless otherwise advised by the parent or guardian). Please come, for all are welcome.

Communion Hymn "What Feast of Love" #487 (vv. 1-3)
 Song Leaders and Congregation

1. What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

2. What light of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is given!

3. What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!

Blessing

Closing Song "Shine, Jesus, Shine" #671 (vv. 1-2)
Song Leaders and Congregation

Refrain

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness
shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me: (refrain)

2. As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your like-
ness,
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me: (refrain)

Sending

P: Go in peace to love and serve.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Susan Berg, Pianist

Sunday, January 25, 2026

Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:18-22

God doesn't call the qualified; God qualifies the called.
—Attributed to A.W. Tozer, Corrie ten Boom, et al.

When I read today's Bible passage about when Jesus approached some fishermen and invited them to follow him because he would teach them how to fish for people, I wondered about the biggest fish ever caught on a rod and reel. I went to my computer and started to research.

I learned that on May 17, 1985, Les Anderson of Soldotna, Alaska, landed the all-tackle world record king salmon, a 97-pound, 4-ounce beast from the Kenai River. The mammoth Chinook was nearly 5 feet long and had an amazing 37.5-inch girth! It took him 40 minutes to bring it in. The fish was nearly as long as a grown man's arm span, and the story made headlines across the country. To this day, that salmon still holds the world record for the largest caught on sport tackle. People marveled — not just at the fish, but at the patience, strength and persistence it took to land it. According to one source, Anderson's record catch is still on display at the Soldotna Visitor Center.¹

Fishing takes patience, timing, skill, and a little bit of faith that what's beneath the surface will bite. So, it's no surprise that when Jesus called his first disciples, he called fishermen. "Follow me," he said, "and I will make you fishers of people" (v. 19).

Peter, Andrew, James and John weren't famous or powerful. They were just regular working men with nets in hand. But when Jesus called, they dropped everything. The Bible says, "Immediately they left their nets and followed him." No hesitation. No excuses.

Now you might be wondering, "What does that have to do with me? I'm not holding a fishing pole, and I don't get around like I used to." But here's the truth: Jesus still calls you. And you can still "fish" for people.

Fishing for people doesn't mean thumping a Bible in someone's face, or inviting a friend to church. Fishing for people, as with fishing for fish, requires *lures*. What can you do to attract people to Christ? Perhaps expressing appreciation is the ticket. Sometimes it means writing a card of condolence, making a phone call, praying for someone by name, or sharing your story of faith with a grandchild. Do you see what I mean? Fishing with lures means keeping your heart open and your eyes alert for someone who needs encouragement, forgiveness or a gentle word of understanding. You don't need a boat to be a fisher of people. You just need love and willingness.

—Timothy Merrill

¹ Les Anderson's World Record King Salmon: The Biggest Fish Story. <https://alaskasportshall.org/inductee/les-andersons-king-salmon>

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for still calling us to follow you. Give us the courage and compassion to keep fishing—not with nets, but with love. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Job 1-4
Monday: Job 5-7
Tuesday: Job 8-10
Wednesday: Job 11-13
Thursday: Job 14-17
Friday: Job 18-20
Saturday: Psalms 7-9

What well-known
expression do you
see here?

little little

late late

Answer: Too little, too late.

Answer: Ma has a ham; Euston saw I was
not Sue.

PALINDROME PUZZLE

Directions: A *palindrome* is a word that reads the same backward or forward, like *radar*, *sis*, *Bob* or *racecar*. But here are short sentences with the words mixed up. Rearrange **the words** so that the sentence is the same spelled forward or backward. Write your answer on the line provided.

has ham Ma a

was Sue I Euston saw not

UNSCRAMBLE THE MINOR PROPHETS

Our readings this week take us into the Minor Prophets, so called because most of them are short books. The list below contains all 12 of the Minor Prophets. Unscramble their names to discover their identities!

OJEL _____

AZAEHINPH _____

M CIAH _____

NJHAO _____

ABKUKKAH _____

AGIAGH _____

DHAIABO _____

OASM _____

MUNAH _____

AHRIZAHCE _____

OAESH _____

IHCMALA _____

Unscramble the circled letters to reveal the secret word (the first letter is provided).

K _____

Answer key to UNSCramble: Joel, Zephaniah, Micah, Jonah, Habakkuk, Haggai, Obadiah, Amos, Nahum, Zechariah, Hosea, Malachi. Secret word: KINDNESS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Volunteer Needed—Instagram Posts

The church is needing someone to step up and begin doing the Instagram post for the upcoming events and activities.

Food Pantry Needs Restocking



We could use: Rice, bagged pasta, canned sauces, canned vegetables, canned fruit (fruit cocktail, peaches, pineapple), canned chili beans, egg noodles, Cream of mushroom or chicken soup, Mayo, canned tuna, chicken or beef, ramen noodles, Mac N Cheese, boxed pasta meals, peanut butter and grape jelly. Donations can be dropped off at the office M - F, from 9 - 1PM.

Many Thanks!!

Many thanks to the wonderful volunteer Counters who have committed for the month of Jan. to sort the Sunday Offering and prepare the weekly deposit.

January 4th Art Mehl

January 11th Alan & Brenda Hofmann

January 18th Jim and Ruth Thompson

January 25th John & Joyce Velasquez



Thank You Everybody



Thank you to the whole congregation for your help and patience with the roof in Jacobson Hall.

To Marty and Dana Klein for the wonderful job with the remediation done in the women's restroom.

Next is the sheet rock and painting.

Then, we will tackle the same process with the Jacobson Hall HVAC room; remediation then sheet rock.

Pastor Ted's & Melissa's Address

6141 N. West Ave, #121 Fresno, CA 93711



Special Birthday Celebration for Neil Walden TODAY



Neil is turning 98!! We will be celebrating him TODAY during the fellowship hour after worship with a cake brought by his daughter and a card shower. You are invited

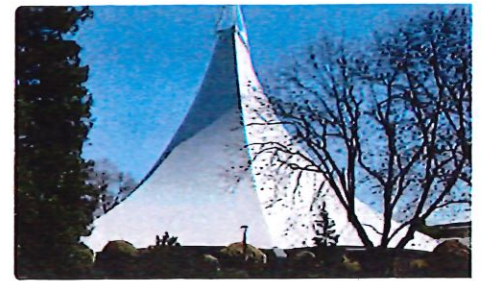
HVAC GoFundMe Fundraiser Goes Live

The Good Shepherd HVAC GoFundMe fundraiser is now live on it's website. <https://gofund.me/05d79cff>

Please send this link: to family, friends, businesses etc., via Facebook, email and any other social media platforms to get the word out to raise funds for a new HVAC system. We have a fundraising goal of \$150,000 to support the purchase of a new HVAC system.

Every donation, big or small, will make a tremendous difference. Together, we can bring warmth back to our church and restore the place where our community worships and grows faith. Thank you for your support. We are truly grateful for your kindness and generosity. Blessings, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Fresno
Thank you, Reynaldo Villalobos

Support New HVAC at Good Shepherd
Fresno



Calling All Volunteers



We are hosting the next FREE Neighborhood Market on February 7th from 9-11. We will need lots of volunteers to help get people signed in, food sorted and packed, and cars loaded.

Roeding Saturday Sports & Crafts

There was no gathering in January due to the length of Christmas break & the unavailability of a custodian to open the bathrooms. We will be back out there on Saturday, February 14 & will be planning a special Valentine's Day for the kids and their families. Please see me if you have any ideas you'd like to share!

Shalom. Peace. Paz.

Julie Werfelmann



to make a fuss over our friend for his birthday!

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus Begins His Ministry in Galilee

¹² Now when Jesus^[a] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles,
¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned."

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."^[b]

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus Ministers to Crowds of People

²³ Jesus^[c] went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news^[d] of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.