

## SERVING US IN WORSHIP TODAY



ORGANIST & HANDBELL DIRECTOR  
CHOIR DIRECTOR  
CONTEMPORARY MUSIC  
PIANIST & ORGANIST

Cheryl Todd  
Jonathan Tatar  
Jon Conover and ReBorn  
Sue Gilla

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GIVING:** Online giving is available and is appreciated as we will still have our regular operating costs and bills. Please mail in your giving to P.O. Box 695 5 W. Washington St. Oswego IL 60543 or use our E giving for online giving <https://giving.ncsservices.org/app/giving/goodshepherdoswego> which can also be found on our website under the giving tab. ~ Thank you!

**LENT BIBLE STUDY with Pastor Steve:** *The Message of Jesus: Words that Changed the World.* Pastor Steve invites you to sign up for a 6 week class every Monday night in Lent at 7:00 pm in the Gathering Room. We will study scripture using Adam Hamilton's new curriculum: "The Message of Jesus". "We will explore six of the most important themes in Jesus' teachings, why they matter, and how they speak to us today. The book explores Jesus' preaching on the Kingdom of God, the Sermon on the Mount, the parables, the "I am" sayings in John, and more. Please purchase your own student book online (about \$15). Bring your bible to class or borrow one from the church. Please sign up in the Gathering Room (or contact the church office) and provide your email.

**BOOK CLUB:** Our next selection will be *We Are Not Like Them* by Christine Pride and Jo Piazza. We will be discussing it on Tuesday, April 15 at 1:00 p.m. at Nancy Patush's home. Please join us! New members are always welcome!

**VBS: SAVE THE DATE! Registration will begin soon for VBS.** Save the dates June 9-12!

**UW Faith** are collecting personal hygiene items for Mutual Ground. There is a list of items needed and a collection bin in the Gathering Room.

**BURRITOS ARE BACK!** The United Women in Faith will be taking burrito orders throughout the month of April. Watch for the order form in the Gathering Room. We will have frozen burritos ready for pick up on Sunday, May 3. In light of fluctuating grocery prices, cost for burritos is still being determined. More details to come - feel free to contact [sharmomich@gmail.com](mailto:sharmomich@gmail.com) with any questions.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** We are still looking for substitute teachers in case our teachers. If you are able to help out when needed, please contact Ruth [gssundayschool1@gmail.com](mailto:gssundayschool1@gmail.com)

**MEN'S LUNCH:** The United Methodist Men will be having their monthly Men's Luncheon at Lucky Ou Buffet, 684 W. Veterans Pkwy, Yorkville on Wednesday, April 16th at noon. Please join us for fellowship and a fine meal.

perfect  
harmony

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Online Worship Service**  
**March 30, 2025**

Office: (630) 554-3269 Email: [office@goodshepherdoswego.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdoswego.org)

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[www.goodshepherdoswego.org](http://www.goodshepherdoswego.org)

“OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.”

**March 30, 2025**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

*WELCOME! We are happy you came to worship with us today. If you would like to join our mailing list please subscribe on our website. [www.goodshepherdoswego.org](http://www.goodshepherdoswego.org)*

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PRELUDE *The Old Rugged Cross* Cheryl Todd

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WORSHIP IS CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE AND POWER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O magnify the Sovereign One with me, and let us exalt God's name together!

**People: I sought the Sovereign One, and God answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.**

Leader: Let us worship God. +

SONG OF PRAISE *Goodness of God* Reborn

WORSHIP IS SHARING AND PRAYING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Leader: "Lord, in your mercy"

**People: "Hear our prayer"**

SILENT PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORDS PRAYER #895

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We have tasted your goodness, O God, in Christ our Savior. In that name we come asking forgiveness. We confess that we are greedy, while others go hungry. The daily bread you give is not enough; we must indulge our appetites. Our egos need feeding as well; we crave recognition and ignore our neighbors. Show us once more that Christ is our cup and our portion; may we find in him our heart's delight. Amen**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Know that whoever is in Christ is a new creation. "The old has passed away, behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us. . . and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." Friends, put on the new being and become ambassadors for Christ, for we are forgiven.

WORSHIP IS HEARING GOD'S WORD

SONG OF PRAISE *Come as You Are* Reborn

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, \*Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 Rev. Steve Good

SERMON: *Perfect Harmony*

WORSHIP IS WITNESSING TO THE WORLD

SONG OF PRAISE *Mercy* Reborn

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *We Gather Together* Cheryl Todd

+ Kirk When We Gather

*Let Go* music and lyrics by Jon Conover

*The Old Rugged Cross* By George Bennard and arranged by Benton Price  
*Goodness of God* by Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson  
2018 Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
Fellow Ships Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)  
So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) Bethel Music Publishing  
*Come As You Are* by Ben Glover, David Crowder, Matt Maher  
2014 Ariose Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) sixsteps Music  
(Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Thankyou Music Ltd (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
Valley Of Songs Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) [worshiptogether.com](http://worshiptogether.com) songs  
(Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
*Mercy* by: Chris Brown, Dante Bowe, Jason Ingram  
*We Gather Together* arranged by Robert Hughes,  
A 17th century Netherlands Folk song.

## 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

## Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable:

Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.’ So he divided his assets between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to his senses he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”