



## NARRATIVE LECTIONARY 222

# **PARABLES in MARK**

*Sunday, January 14, 2024 • 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

*Please turn off all cell phones.*

*If you are visiting with us today, we extend to you a particular welcome and invite your questions and comments.*

*Our entire worship service is printed in this worship folder for your convenience.*

*Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.*

*Child care is available for children ages 5 years and under in the Child Care Area, across from the Life Together Hall.*

In the order of service, the words that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.

**Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.**

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Stand.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross +, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
creator of darkness and light,  
word of truth,  
wind sweeping over the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Kneel or continue standing. Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge,

**we pour out our hearts before you.**

**We have known you but have not always loved you.**

**We have wounded one another  
and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit  
dwelling in each of us.**

**Remember your covenant.**

**Renew your creation.**

**Restore us,**

**that we might proclaim your good news to all.**

**Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of + Jesus Christ,

your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

**Amen.**

# KYRIE • "KYRIE"

*All Creation Sings, Holy Communion, Setting 11*



O Lord, have . . . mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer - cy.



O Lord, have . . . mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer - cy.



Have mer - cy, O Lord. Have mer - cy, O Lord.

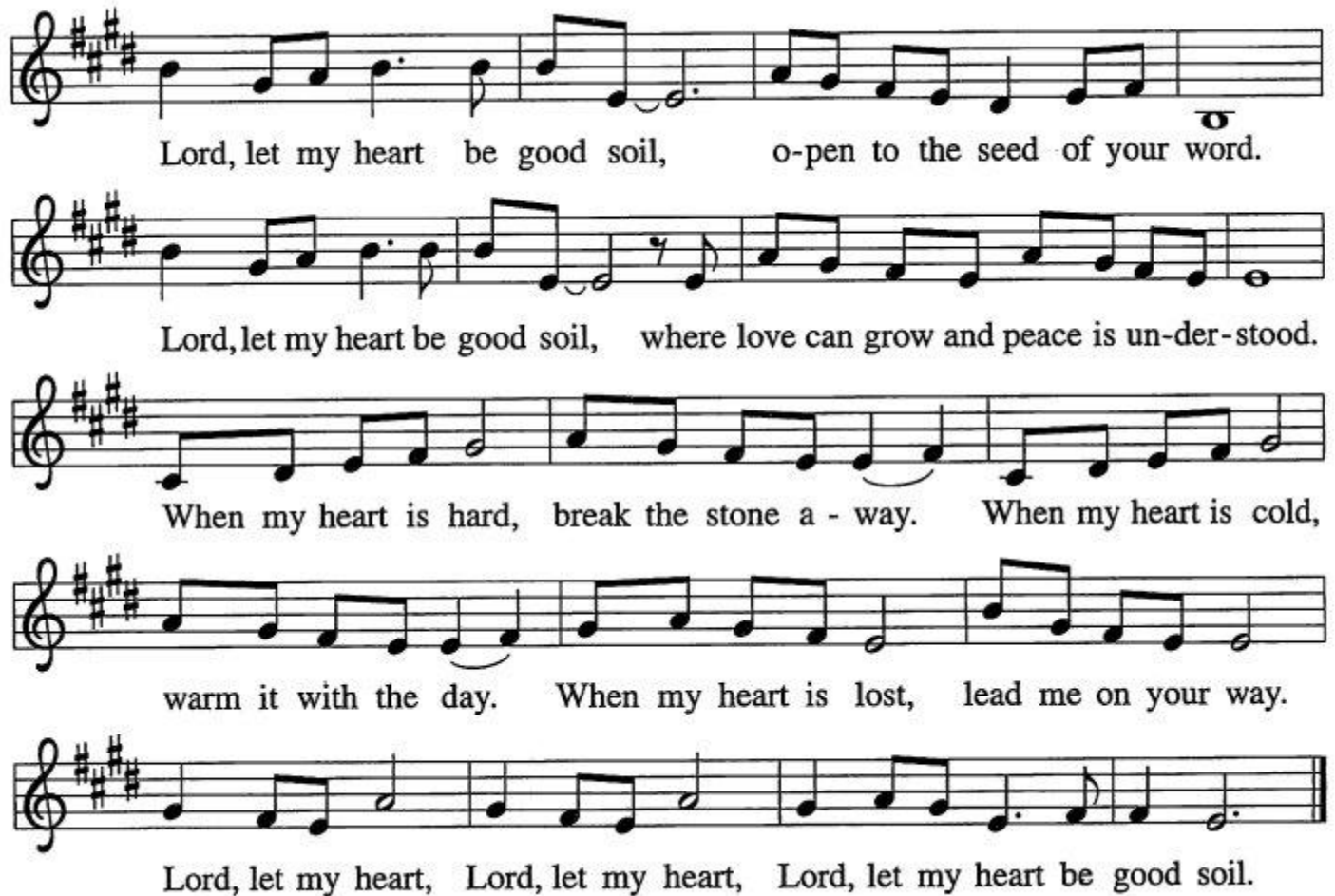
## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**And also with you.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE • "LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 512*



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of the Word, in the parable of the sower you showed us how your word can take root and grow within us. Nurture the seeds of your word in our hearts and help us to grow in faith and love.

**Amen.**

*Sit.*



# PSALM • "THE LORD HAS DONE GREAT THINGS"

PsalmSongs Volume 1 • Psalm 126

*Cantor sings refrain; then all repeat.*

*Cantor: verses; congregation: refrain.*

The Lord has done great things for us;  
we sing and are glad! The Lord has done  
great things for us; we sing and are glad!

When the Lord delivered us from our captors  
it seemed like a dream.

Then were our mouths filled with laughter,  
our tongues sang for joy. **Refrain.**

Many people said, "God has done great things,  
done great things for them."

Truly, the Lord has done wonders;  
we sing and rejoice. **Refrain.**

As the rivers will water the desert,  
O God, bring us back!

Those who are sowing in sorrow  
shall sing as they reap. **Refrain.**

They went out to the fields full of sorrow,  
sowing the seed;  
they come back from the harvest rejoicing,  
bearing their sheaves. **Refrain.**

Stand.

## ACCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

*All Creation Sings, Holy Communion, Setting 11*

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris'n in-deed.

## READING

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mark 4:1-34

<sup>1</sup>Again [Jesus] began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. <sup>2</sup>He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: <sup>3</sup>“Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup>Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. <sup>8</sup>Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.” <sup>9</sup>And he said, “Let anyone with ears to hear listen!”

<sup>10</sup>When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. <sup>11</sup>And he said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; <sup>12</sup>in order that

‘they may indeed look, but not perceive,  
and may indeed listen, but not understand;  
so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.’”

<sup>13</sup>And he said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? <sup>14</sup>The sower sows the word. <sup>15</sup>These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. <sup>16</sup>And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup>But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. <sup>18</sup>And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, <sup>19</sup>but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>20</sup>And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.”



<sup>21</sup>He said to them, “Is a lamp brought in to be put under the bushel basket, or under the bed, and not on the lampstand? <sup>22</sup>For there is nothing hidden, except to be disclosed; nor is anything secret, except to come to light. <sup>23</sup>Let anyone with ears to hear listen!” <sup>24</sup>And he said to them, “Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and still more will be given you. <sup>25</sup>For to those who have, more will be given; and from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.”

<sup>26</sup>He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

<sup>30</sup>He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit.*

**CHILDREN’S SERMON + SERMON**

Seminarian Hannah Johnsrud.

*Stand.*

# HYMN OF THE DAY • "YOU ARE THE SEED"

*This Far by Faith 226*

D A Bm D G

1 You are the seed that will grow a new sprout; you're a star that will  
 2 You are the flame that will light - en the dark, so re - splen - dent with  
 3 You are the life that will nur - ture the plant; you're the waves in a

A<sup>7</sup> D A Bm G

shine in the night; you are the yeast and a small grain of salt, a  
 hope, faith and love; you are the shep - herds to lead the whole world to  
 tur - bu - lent sea; yes - ter - day's yeast is be - gin - ning to rise, a

D G A<sup>7</sup> D A Bm D

bea - con to glow in the dark. You are the dawn that will bring a new day;  
 wa - ters and pas - tures of peace. "You are the friends that I chose for my - self,  
 new loaf of bread it will yield. There is no place for a cit - y to hide,

G A<sup>7</sup> D A

you're the wheat that will bear gold - en grain; you are a sting and a  
 you're the word that I want to pro - claim. You are the new reign of  
 there's no moun - tain can cov - er its might; let your light shine so that

Bm G D G A<sup>7</sup> D

soft, gen - tle touch, to wit - ness where - ev - er you go.  
 God built on rock, where jus - tice and truth are at home."  
 your lov - ing works give hon - or and glo - ry to God.

*Refrain/Estribillo*  
 A D G A<sup>7</sup>

Go, my friends, go to the world, pro - claim the great love of  
 Be, my friends, a loy - al wit - ness, from the dead Christ a -  
 Id, a - mi - gos, por el mun - do, a - nun - cian - do el a -  
 Sed, a - mi - gos, mis tes - ti - gos de mi re - su - rrec -

D Em<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup> Bm

God; mes - sen - gers to tell the way of life,  
 rose; "Lo, I'll be with you for - ev - er - more,  
 mor, men - sa - je - ros de la vi - da,  
 ción. Id lle - van - do mi pre - sen - cia;

<sup>1</sup>G A | <sup>2</sup>G A<sup>7</sup> D

peace and par - don for all. till the end of the world."  
 de la paz y el per - dón. con vo - so - tros es - toy.

## CREED

Together, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.  
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

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form,  
we pray for God's blessing on the church,  
the world, and all of creation.

*At the conclusion of each petition:*

God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us,  
we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts  
in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Sit.*

## OFFERING

God intends to unite all creation,  
so that all may share in the promises of God's new reign.

Therefore, with gratitude and joy,  
let us render tributes and bring gifts,  
for we have access to God in boldness and confidence  
through faith in Christ.

*You can participate in the Offering electronically  
by scanning the QR code and filling out the online form.*



## OFFERTORY

*10:45 a.m.*

*“Now the Green Blade Riseth”*

*Joan Kohler, flute; Bill Kohler, soprano saxophone*

*Stand.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, Holy One,  
for all good things come from you.

In bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table,  
that we receive what we seek  
and follow your Son, Jesus,  
in whose name we pray.

**Amen.**



# 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, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you,  
almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection  
opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# SANCTUS • "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

All Creation Sings, Holy Communion, Setting 11



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of pow - er and might,



heav - en and earth . . . are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of our God.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom  
and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## COMMUNION

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.  
Come and see.

*Sit.*

## DISTRIBUTION

*At Mountain View Lutheran Church we practice an open communion table, which means that everyone is welcome to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. (You don't have to be a member of MVLC.)*

*If you need an alcohol-free element or a gluten-free element, then please let your server know.*

*If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an usher know and you will be served where you are seated.*

## WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ.  
It is made ready for those who are loved by God,  
whether you feel loved or not.

It is for those who desire to grow in love with God.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little.

You who have been here often  
and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.

Come, you who have tried to follow  
and you who live with a sense of failure in your following.

Come, not because the Church invites you;  
it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed and loved here.

Please come. Receive the gifts of God for all the people of God.

# LAMB OF GOD • "LAMB OF GOD"

*All Creation Sings, Holy Communion, Setting 11*



O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the



sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.



O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the



sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.



O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the



sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up -



on us, have . . . mer - cy up - on us.



Grant us your peace. A - men.

# COMMUNION HYMN • "BY YOUR HAND YOU FEED YOUR PEOPLE"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 469*



1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav-en's bread.  
2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.  
3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.



For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:  
Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.  
In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:



Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow - ing, life out - poured,



giv - en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re - deemed, re - stored.



# COMMUNION HYMN • "ALL WHO HUNGER, GATHER GLADLY"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 461*



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

# COMMUNION HYMN • "COME TO THE TABLE"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 481*



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

*Stand.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Giver of every gift,

**Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.  
Raise us to life by your power  
for the benefit of all and to your glory,  
now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## DEACON SENDING

Deacons are called to “make Christ and his redemptive love known by word and example.” (1 Timothy)

Such love is expressed in the extension of Holy Communion to those who are homebound or hospitalized.

Gracious God,

**as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick and homebound. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## BLESSING

God who names you,  
Christ who claims you,  
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,  
+ bless you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN • "SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 547*



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.  
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

## SENDING

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Flowers on the altar  
are given to the glory of God  
by Darlene Thompson  
in memory of Jerry and Betty Hoffman.*

•

*Sunday Adult Education*

**REVELATION** with Pastor Eric

Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Life Together Hall.

*Wednesdays at the Well*

**MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS** with Pastor Eric and Pastor Bri

5:30 p.m. in the Life Together Hall for dinner. 6:30 p.m. for class.

We are starting from the premise that everyone is concerned about the level of gun violence in the U.S. which has become the leading cause of death for our children and teens. Through the sharing of our personal stories we hope to practice listening to the variety of narratives we hold around guns. Through shared reflection we hope to name realities, fears and hopes that we hold in common. And through conversation that can withstand division, we hope to name meaningful courses of action to help our community begin to change the realities of gun violence we face.

# WORSHIP NOTES

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Worship leaders include:

*Both services*

- J PREACHER: Hannah Johnsrud.
- J PRESIDERS: Pastor Eric Bostrom, Pastor Briana Merkle.
- J ASSISTING MINISTER:
- J DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES: Brenna Sage.
- J VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.
- J ALTAR GUILD: Karen Lonn, Dotty Shireman, Diana Smith, Sandi Swanson.

*8:15 a.m.*

- J USHERS: Joe Anderson, Janice Harrison, Skip Harrison (head usher), Gary Larson.
- J GREETER: Flora Larson.
- J LECTOR: Jeanne Anderson.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Kathy Harris, Genie Lennon.

*10:45 a.m.*

- J USHERS: Mark Cantrell (head usher), Ken Johnson, Terry Johnson.
- J GREETER: Diane Nelson, Lindy Nelson.
- J LECTOR: Bob Linden.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Terry Jensen, Diane Nelson.
- J SOUND: Beth Ann Johnson.

## MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

3505 - 122nd Avenue East, Edgewood WA 98372  
www.mtviewlutheran.org • 253-863-5171



# Senior Wellness

**Join the Green River College  
Occupational Therapy and Nursing  
Students every Thursday,  
January 18th - February 29th!**

**Free blood pressure checks starting  
at 9:00 am, and a fun activity  
following exercise at 11:00 am.**



**Questions?**

**Contact Senior Programs Coordinator Elizabeth  
Ferrier at [elizabethf@mtviewcc.org](mailto:elizabethf@mtviewcc.org) or 253-826-4329**



**MOUNTAIN VIEW  
COMMUNITY CENTER**

# WOMEN'S RETREAT

*February 23-25, 2024 at Camp Indianola*



The purpose of this retreat is to gather the generations of MVLC women to reflect on and share our stories of lived faith and to pause together for laughter, prayer, holy conversations, and fellowship.

**Cost:** \$75/person for the weekend payable through the registration website. (Click on the QR code.)

**Meals:** We will be making our own meals. You will be placed in a small group which will be responsible for bringing the needed supplies and cooking 1 meal. The planning team will provide recommendations of easy large group meals. We have a full industrial kitchen to use in our lodging space and will provide more information closer to the retreat.

**What time do we arrive/depart:** The arrival window of Friday will be from approximately 3:30pm to after dinner. We recognize some will be arriving after work. The retreat will begin following dinner Friday evening. On Sunday, we will end around 11am.

**I am not able to spend the night. Can I come out just for the day Saturday?** This year, we are close enough that you can drive out for the day. Please do not use the registration link though. You can communicate your desire to come for the day directly to Pastor Bri.

**Is there anything I need to do to prepare for the retreat?** You do not have to do any sort of preparation, however we will provide the small group conversation prompts ahead of time so that you can reflect on them as you are able. We are drawing inspiration for this Faith Stories retreat from Barbara Brown Taylor's book *An Altar in the World*, so here are so ways you can prepare as you are able/choose to: (1) Read *An Altar in the World*; and (2) listen to this On Being podcast episode: <https://onbeing.org/programs/barbara-brown-taylor-this-hunger-for-holiness/>

**Can I invite friends who don't attend MVLC?** Yes! If they are interested in reflecting on faith and life within community, please invite friends.

**Activities:** The camp is on the Puget Sound so beach front walks are possible weather-permitting. We will also have some planned activities including games at night, an art-based activity, and free-time Saturday afternoon to rest or explore the Peninsula.

**Camp Address:** 10635 NE Shore Dr, Indianola, WA 98342

**Further questions?** Contact Pastor Bri at [bmerkle@mtviewlutheran.org](mailto:bmerkle@mtviewlutheran.org)