

God Gives Life to the Dead



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
www.dulutheran.org

March 1, 2026

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Office Phone (218) 722-4364 | Email contact@dulutheran.org | www.dulutheran.org

WELCOME

We are glad that you have chosen to spend time with us in worship. In our worship, we gather, before Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to offer him our love and praise. Our Lord builds us up in faith through his Word and equips us for living now and in eternity. Our prayer is that the good news of Christ's love touches your heart and transforms your life. Whether you're worshipping with us here today or watching online, we are happy you have joined us.

WORSHIP SERVICE

The goal of our worship is to praise God and enrich your faith through his Word. To make your experience today easier, the worship folder you're holding has the entire order of service. The pieces marked [P] are spoken by the pastor, and the parts marked [C] are to be spoken or sung by the congregation. If you prefer to use a physical hymnal or wish to see the songs in four-part harmony, there are hymnals available in the pew stands.

Today's order of service follows Setting Three which begins on page 188 in the hymnal.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Our congregation enjoys the "worshiping family." Each service includes a children's message which teaches God's truth to your kids. Parents with small children are an essential part of God's kingdom. That's why children are never considered an inconvenience to our worship. We also want your family to be comfortable. There is a cry room outside the main doors to the right if you need a moment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Teacher Call Meeting Update: On Thursday we extended a call to Mrs. Julie Pasch to serve as a teacher at Little Lambs. She currently teaches at St John Lutheran School in Goodhue, MN. Please keep Mrs. Pasch in your prayers while she deliberates where to serve.

Confirmation Sunday: Please save the date for Confirmation Sunday, which has been set for **May 24th**. Three of our youth will be professing their faith: Brock Bogart, Jonah Foster, and Adrian Hill.

Brunch and Bouquets: On **Saturday, March 28th at 10am**, the women of the church are invited to meet in the fellowship hall to enjoy brunch and learn how to arrange flower bouquets together. You'll go home with a bouquet to enjoy over Holy Week! Please RSVP to Kely Dunsmoor (218-750-0225). The cost is \$15. Please bring your own vase.

Little Lambs Weekly Update: Moving forward, the weekly newsletter sent out by Little Lambs Learning Center will be included in the worship folder announcements, either as an insert or on an available page. This week, you can find the newsletter printed on the back of your worship folder. We hope you enjoy hearing more about what our preschool is doing!

For more announcements and event information, visit the church website at www.dulutheran.org/events or sign up for our weekly email at www.dulutheran.org/subscribe. You can also view the church calendar at www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar.

OPENING HYMN: Blessed Be the God of Israel

CW 954

1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el, who
 2 With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the
 3 My child, as proph - et of the Lord, you

comes to set us free and rais - es up new
 cov - e - nant re - call, the oath once sworn to
 will pre - pare the way, to tell God's peo - ple

hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
 A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all,
 they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.

So have the proph - ets long de - clared that
 that we might wor - ship with - out fear and
 Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine

with a might - y arm God would turn back our
 of - fer lives of praise, in ho - li - ness and
 forth and nev - er cease to drive a - way the

en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
 right - eous - ness to serve God all our days.
 gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Stand

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
 C: Amen.

CONFESSION

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

ABSOLUTION

P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190

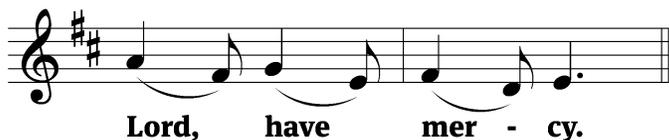
P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated

✠ READINGS FROM GOD'S WORD ✠

FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1–8

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, “Get out of your country and away from your relatives and from your father's house and go to the land that I will show you. ²I will make you a great nation. I will bless you and make your name great. You will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse anyone who dishonors you. All of the families of the earth will be blessed in you.”

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him. Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took Sarai his wife, Lot his brother's son, and all the possessions they had accumulated and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to travel to the land of Canaan. Eventually they arrived in the land of Canaan. ⁶Abram passed through the land until he came to the Oak of Moreh at the place called Shechem. The Canaanites were in the land at that time.

⁷The LORD appeared to Abram and said, “I will give this land to your descendants.” Abram built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

⁸He moved on from there to the hill country east of Bethel and pitched his tent there, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 4:1–5,13–17

¹What then will we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered according to the flesh? ²If indeed Abraham had been justified by works, he would have had a reason to boast—but not before God. ³For what does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

⁴Now to a person who works, his pay is not counted as a gift but as something owed. ⁵But to the person who does not

work but believes in the God who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited to him as righteousness.

¹³Indeed, the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not given to Abraham or his descendants through the law, but through the righteousness that is by faith. ¹⁴To be sure, if people are heirs by the law, faith is empty and the promise is nullified. ¹⁵For law brings wrath. (Where there is no law, there is no transgression.) ¹⁶For this reason, the promise is by faith, so that it may be according to grace and may be guaranteed to all of Abraham's descendants—not only to the one who is a descendant by law, but also to the one who has the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. ¹⁷As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations."

In the presence of God, Abraham believed him who makes the dead alive and calls non-existing things so that they exist.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 3:16



Refrain

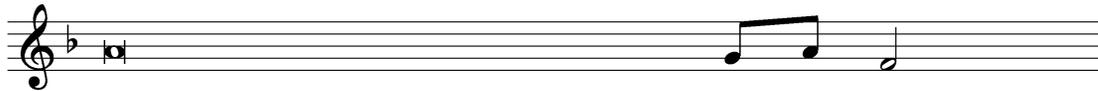


Glo - ry and praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

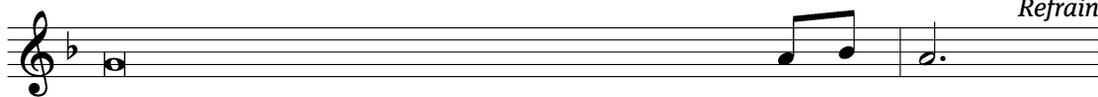


Glo - ry and praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

Tone



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and on - ly Son,



that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

John 3:1–17

¹There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these miraculous signs you are doing unless God is with him."

³Jesus replied, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?"

⁵Jesus answered, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God! ⁶Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh. Whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be surprised when I tell you that you must be born from above. ⁸The wind blows where it pleases. You hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹“How can these things be?” asked Nicodemus.

¹⁰“You are the teacher of Israel,” Jesus answered, “and you do not know these things?” ¹¹Amen, Amen, I tell you: We speak what we know, and we testify about what we have seen. But you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven, except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.

¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Children up through 5th grade are invited to come up to the altar steps and sit for a special devotion with Pastor Warskow. This service segment is intended to engage the children to help them understand today’s message. They will return to their seats afterward.

HYMN OF THE DAY: God Loved the World So That He Gave

CW 570



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; his Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God’s own Son for - gives the



Son the lost to save that all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in
sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the
sins that you have done. You’re jus - ti - fied by



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
him a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares that we in Christ are heav - en’s heirs.
Je - sus’ blood; bap - tized, you are a child of God.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death;
this is the anchor of my faith!

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessèd Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!

✘ THE MESSAGE ✘

God Gives Life to the Dead

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Stand

CONFESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for
our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and
became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was
buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the
dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Be seated

WORSHIPING THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS



Members of Shepherd of the Hills respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully and freely according to how the Lord has blessed them. If you are a guest today, please know that there are no expectations for you to make a donation. If you wish to support us by making an online offering, scan the QR code here or visit our website: www.duluthernan.org and click on the "GIVE" tab.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P:** Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.
- C:** **Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.**

P: Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

C: **Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.**

P: The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

C: **Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.**

P: Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

C: **Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.**

P: Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss some one they loved.

C: **Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.**

P: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

P: Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

C: **Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER ✠

The order of service can be found on page 199 in the hymnal.

Personal preparation and self-examination can be found on pages 295 and 296 in the hymnal.

P: The Lord be with you.



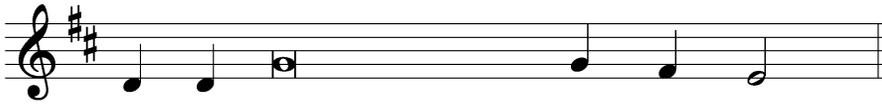
And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 200



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,



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



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



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



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



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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

Lamb of God

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CW 202

Lamb of God

CW 202

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us, grant us peace.

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION

The Lord's Supper is a wonderful gift in which we receive Christ's true body and blood for our forgiveness and the strengthening of our faith. It is our practice that only those who are members of Shepherd of the Hills or members of another WELS congregation come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you are a visitor from another Christian church, we kindly ask that you refrain from participating in the Lord's Supper this afternoon. If you are interested in learning more about becoming part of our fellowship, please speak to Pastor Warskow after the service.

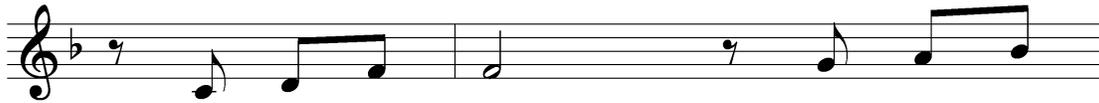
DISTRIBUTION HYMN: What Is This Bread

CW 665

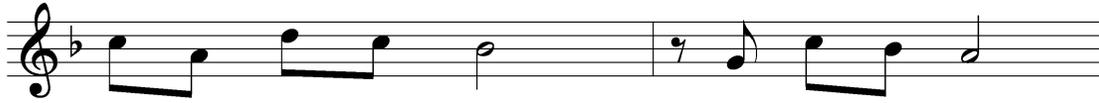
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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: What Is This Bread

CW 665



1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod - y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood of
3	So	who	am	I,	that	I should
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh,	yes! By
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am for -



ris - en	from	the	dead:	this	bread	we	break,
Je - sus	shed	for	mine;	the	cup	of	grace
live	and	he	should	die	un - der	the	rod?
Word	and	prom - ise	clear,	in	mouth	and	soul
giv - en	and	set	free!	I	do	be - lieve	



this	life	we	take,	was	crushed	to	pay	for	our	re -
brings	his	em - brace		of	life	and	love	un - til	I	
My	God,	my	God,	why	have	you	not	for - sak - en		
he	makes	us	whole—	Christ,	tru - ly	pres - ent	in	this		
that	I	re - ceive		his	ver - y	bod - y	and	his		



lease.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	peace.
sing!	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	King.
me?	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	free.
meal.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	real.
blood.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	good.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

CW 429

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1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and
 2 Men mock and taunt and jeer you, they smite your
 3 Now from your cheeks has van - ished their col - or,
 4 My bur - den in your pas - sion, Lord, you have



shame weighed down, now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed,
 coun - te - nance, though might - y worlds shall fear you
 once so fair; from your red lips is ban - ished
 borne for me, for it was my trans - gres - sion,



with thorns your on - ly crown, O sa - cred head, no
 and flee be - fore your glance. How pale you are with
 the splen - dor that was there. Grim death with cru - el
 my shame, on Cal - va - ry. I cast me down be -



glo - ry now from your face does shine; yet, though de -
 an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn! Your eyes with
 rig - or has robbed you of your life; thus you have
 fore you; wrath is my right - ful lot. Have mer - cy,



spised and go - ry, I joy to call you mine.
 pain now lan - guish that once were bright as morn!
 lost your vig - or, your strength, in this sad strife.
 I im - plore you; Re - deem - er, spurn me not!

5 What language shall I borrow
 to thank you, dearest Friend,
 for this, your dying sorrow,
 your pity without end?
 O make me yours forever,
 and keep me strong and true;
 Lord, let me never, never
 outlive my love for you.

6 My Savior, then be near me
 when death is at my door,
 and let your presence cheer me;
 forsake me nevermore!
 When soul and body languish,
 O leave me not alone,
 but take away my anguish
 by virtue of your own!

7 Lord, be my consolation,
 my shield when I must die;
 remind me of your passion
 when my last hour draws nigh.
 My eyes will then behold you,
 upon your cross will dwell;
 my heart will then enfold you—
 who dies in faith dies well!

THANKSGIVING

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

P: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

P: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: My Faith Looks Up to Thee

CW 811



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; take all my
my zeal in - spire! As thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide. Bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll, blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran-somed soul!

Acknowledgments

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February 27, 2026
Dear Little Lambs Family,

The Toddlers

This week, the toddlers worked their hand eye coordination by pushing and pulling transportation manipulatives. Then they played peek-a-boo in boxes. Some of their favorite books were: *No Pants!*, *The Zoo is Closed Today Until Further Notice*, and *Listen Up Train Song*.

The Preschool Rooms

This week, we continued our letter work by focusing on the letter M. Our small group theme focused on the ocean. We sorted animals based on their habitat and explored sea shells in a sensory bin. Then we created our own fish. Looking ahead to next week, we will be learning the number 13 and focusing on our fine motor skills.

The Bible Lesson

This week, our Bible story was **The Good Samaritan Helps a Hurt Man** (Luke 10:25-37). Jesus was teaching when a man asked him “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus told the man a story about a person who was robbed and beaten. Many passed by him refusing to help, except a Samaritan man. Jesus taught the people that when you believe in Jesus as the Savior, you show your thanks by loving and helping others. Next week, we will learn how Jesus heals 10 sick men



LITTLE LAMBS LEARNING CENTER

802 MAPLE GROVE ROAD, DULUTH