



*Greetings,
favored one!
The Lord
is with you.*

Luke 1:28

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24th, 2023, 10:00 am
The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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Live on Zoom: Meeting ID: 707 611 3829 Passcode: 4316

*** WORSHIP NOTES ***

- ✧ *Welcome to worship at Good Shepherd. We warmly greet you in the name of the Lord and give God thanks for your presence today.*
- ✧ *Most hymns are found in the Hymnal located in the pews. Hymns from other hymnals will be printed and provided in the insert.*
- ✧ *All baptized believing Christians are welcome to gather at the altar for Holy Communion. **Grape juice and low gluten wafers are available. Please see a greeter or pastor prior to the beginning of service.***
- ✧ *When it comes time for sharing of the peace, you may pass the peace by sign or physically to your neighbors as you are comfortable.*
- ✧ *After receiving communion, you may kneel at the altar or return to your seat for silent prayer or singing the communion hymn.*

SETTING ONE—EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

+ + + GATHERING + + +

Please maintain silence in the Sanctuary as we prepare for worship

PRELUDE

We Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,
† one God, who opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C:Amen.

P: God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

P: Everlasting God,

C: you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.

**We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.**

We are complicit in systems of exploitation.

We choose comfort over courage.

We are careless with creation's bounty.

Look upon us with mercy.

Turn our hearts again to you.

**Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways
for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.**

P: Hear these words of assurance:

God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.

In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Signs and Wonders”

ELW 672

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Celebrate Insert

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

L: Blessed are you, O Lord our god, ruler of the universe.

C: John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way for the kingdom of heaven is near.

L: Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit, that we may be a light shining in the darkness

C: welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us,

L: for he is our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

As the Advent candles are lit by the, the lector prays this prayer

L: Praise to you, O God, who lives with us, sharing our flesh and bones.

As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed, so we dream and wait for you.

Bless us and let your face shine upon us,

more radiant than these candles, and more dear than all else we seek.

Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil and choose the good,

and banish all our fears.

We pray in the name of Emmanuel, your promised child and our savior.

C:Amen

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”

ELW 240 v. 1-4

+ + + WORD + + +

We sit

FIRST READING

Celebrate Insert

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(sung or spoken responsively)*

Celebrate Insert

SECOND READING

Celebrate Insert

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

We stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

CCLI 3180763

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

P: The holy gospel according to...

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Celebrate Insert

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit

SERMON

Pastor Bill Carr

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand

Hymn of the Day

“Savior of the Nations”

ELW 263

APOSTLES' CREED

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

**C: 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 INTERCESSION

Celebrate Insert

PEACE *(a time set aside for sharing God's peace)*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

+++ MEAL +++

We sit

OFFERING

We stand

OFFERING HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" ELW 257, v. 1-4



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far - and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: God our provider,

by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth.

Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.

Let them be a sign of your steadfast love

and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows a musical score for 'The Great Thanksgiving' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for 'Sanctus & Benedictus' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The melody is more complex than the previous piece, featuring some dotted rhythms and longer note values.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: 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.

COMMUNION

P: In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.

Come, take your place at the table.

*(Please process, take a wafer from the pastor and then
a communion cup from the assistant. Grape juice is in the center
of the tray)*

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (*AGNUS DEI*)



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 peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

“One Bread, One Body”

ELW 496

We stand

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen and preserve
you in eternal life.

C: **Amen.**

CANTICLE (*NUNC DIMITTIS*)

5113



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful-
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Generous God,
in bread and cup you have revealed your glory
for all people to see together.
Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim
your good news of liberation and release,
brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

+ + + SENDING + + +

We sit

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand

BLESSING

P: The God of peace bless you,
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,
and the anointing of the Spirit † remain upon you now and forever.

C: Amen

Sending Hymn

“Joy to the World”

ELW 267

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The greens in the church are in memory of Sara Poovey from her church family. The greening of the church was done by Sally Allen, Felicia Brandt, Rae Johnson, and Wylene Hinkle.

Communion Celebrant: Rev. Steve Werner

Communion Assistant: Matt Bergstresser

Communion Setup: Wylene Hinkle

Pastor: Rev. Bill Carr

Lector: Rea Johnson

Organist/Choir: Karoline Van Horn

Zoom: Shannon Hancock



WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER



Members

Healing, comfort & strength

Family and Friends of Sara Poovey, *comfort in sorrow*

Larry Wallingford

Janet Cate

Karoline Van Horn

Ric Van Horn

Jan Wallingford, *comfort in time of sorrow*

Ed & Judy Skorski, *comfort in time of sorrow*

Carroll Allen

Jack Lowe

Pastor Bob Schefter

Elizabeth Schefter

Josh & Bergen Gray, *God's guidance*

Carolyn Absher

Darlene Kline

Juanita Reynolds

Family & Friends

Healing, comfort, strength & peace

Family and Friends of Donald Roe, *father of Amy Hancock, comfort in sorrow*

Family and friends of Whitney Dixon Mason, *step-daughter of Dee*

Dee Talley Dixon & Wayne Dixon, *aunt of Cody Nelson, comfort in*

sorrow

Collis and Asilee Nelson, *Grandparents of Cody Nelson*

Bedford Collins, *friend of Juanita Reynolds*

Dee Dee and Tim Clevenger, *friends of GSLC*

Flip DeFilippo, *father of Sandy Kubis*

Bev DeFilippo, *mother of Sandy Kubis*

Family & Friends of Rosa Mullins Bailey, *family of Cody Nelson,*

comfort in sorrow

Family and Friends of Jeanne Remillard, *Jan Wallingford's sister,*

comfort in sorrow

Carol Yohn (*brain cancer*), *Carroll & Sally Allen's friend*

Rev. George Martzen, *friend of Cody Nelson*
Family & Friends of Sue Zokoe, *Ed & Judy Skorski's daughter,*
comfort in sorrow.

Amy Anderson, *Alan Anderson's niece*
Jackie & Dwayne Collins, *Nancy McLoughlin's friends*
Mary Jean Wesche, *Ed & Judy Skorski's friend*

From The Community

comfort, strength, healing, and peace

Stephanie Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. William Bailey
Kim Gross
George Ruth
Rebecca Atkins
Katherine Tucker
Elizabeth Rivara
Peggy Ayers
Dwayne Patty

Military Serving our Country

Protection, comfort & strength

John Gray, *Joshua Gray's brother*
Ian Anderson, *Alan Anderson's nephew*
Joshua Sheaf, *Good Shepherd member*

COMING UP AT GOOD SHEPHERD

- Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent
10:00 am Worship Service
Christ News, *fellowship hall following service*
7:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship
- Monday, December 25 Christmas Day
- Sunday, December 31 First Sunday of Christmas
10:00 am Worship Service
7 pm—12 am Christ News, *fellowship hall*
- Tuesday, January 2 5:30 pm Christ News
6:00 pm American Legion
- Saturday, January 6 Epiphany of Our Lord
- Sunday, January 7 Baptism of Our Lord
10:00 am Worship Service
Gather in the Narthex
11:15 am Bible Study
- Thursday, January 11 6:30 pm Mission Council Meeting
- Sunday, January 14 Second Sunday after Epiphany
10:00 am Worship Service
Congregational Meeting Following Worship
- Monday, January 15 10:00 am–12:00 pm Food Pantry
- Sunday, January 21 Third Sunday after Epiphany
10:00 am Worship Service
2:00 pm Installation of Pastor Bill Carr
- Sunday, January 28 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
10:00 am Worship Service
11:15 am Bible Study
- Sunday, February 4 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
10:00 am Worship Service
11:15 am Bible Study

DAILY MORNING PRAYER AND COMMUNION UPDATES

- There will not be daily morning prayer and Communion from Monday, December 25, through Saturday, December 30.
- Morning prayer will resume on Sunday, December 31, at 8:00 am.
- TIME CHANGE: Beginning on Monday, January 1, Morning Prayer will be at 9:00 am, and Daily Communion will be at 9:30 am.

NEW BIBLE STUDY

Join us for a new, ongoing Bible study, "Matthew for Everyone." Pr. Bill will guide us through this study of the Gospel according to Matthew, based on the book "Matthew for Everyone, Part 1" by New Testament scholar and Anglican bishop N.T. (Tom) Wright. The study begins on **Sunday, January 7**, following worship, from 11:15 am to 12:00 pm. Participants are encouraged to purchase a copy of the book through Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, Books-A-Million, or any other book seller. But all are welcome, whether or not you have the book.

EPIPHANY HOME BLESSINGS

The season following Epiphany is traditionally a time for blessing homes for the coming new year. Pr. Bill is happy to visit your home at your invitation to pray a blessing for the various rooms and their functions. It is also a good opportunity for pastor and parishioners to get to know each other a little better! If you would like a home blessing in the early part of 2024, please speak with Pr. Bill to schedule a time. You are welcome to share a meal or coffee together if you wish, or simply to have the blessing.

BLESSING OF THE CHURCH THRESHOLD FOR 2024

On Sunday, January 7, worship will begin with a blessing of the church entrance as we gather in the narthex. As we bless our homes for the coming year, it is appropriate that we begin with "God's house." This practice is based on the memory of the magi's visit to the home of the Holy Family, as they blessed Jesus with their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Pr. Bill wants to meet you!

Pr. Bill is inviting all congregation members to come by the office for fifteen minutes just to make brief introductions (or re-acquaintance, as the case may be), and he has four questions he'd like to ask you:

1. Who are you? (Tell me about yourself).
2. What do you love about Good Shepherd? (What do we do well, or what brought you here?)
3. Are there any ministries you'd like to see us either do better or start doing?
4. How can I pray for you today?

In this way, I can get to know y'all better, and get a sense of direction for Good Shepherd's direction in ministry and my place in it. Feel free to contact me to set up your fifteen-minute appointment!

Community Dinner Update

There will be no community dinner in January 2024. We will resume on February 14, 2024.

Directory and Mailbox

I am working on an updated directory and mailbox list. Please see them on the table in the narthex and list any corrections or updates you see that should be made. Thank you, Cody

UPDATE FOOD PANTRY

On Monday, November 20, 18 people came to the Food Pantry.

A total of 52 people received food.

Thank you to Felicia, Dixon, and Marilyn for manning the Food Pantry that day.

Thank you to the entire congregation for their support of the Food Pantry.

At this time, we have a good supply of corn, green beans, and peas.

A reminder that we cannot accept any food that has expired or will be expiring within a month to six months. Also, please find cans that have pulled tabs.

The following items are needed for the Food Pantry: Peanut Butter, crackers, fruit, Vienna Sausage, canned meats, meals, and paper towels.

Monetary donations are greatly appreciated and preferred at this time.

Thank you again for your generous support.

Blessings, Chris Thompson

Sermon Notes