

*Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church
First Sunday of Christmas
December 31, 2017*



*Artwork by
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Prelude

Announcements and Community Concerns

Call to Worship (*Psalm 96:1-2, 8-9, 11-13*)

A: Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

C: Declare his glory among the nations, his wonders among all the peoples.

A: Give to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

C: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.

A: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad, let the sea roar, let the field be joyful!

C: All the trees of the forest, shout for joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth with righteousness and the peoples with truth.

Hymn/Song

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray. **C: Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:21-35

Story of Christmas

Rene Johnson

Hymn

What Child Is This

ELW 296

Responsive Prayer

WA: It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

C: Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

WA: In his light, draw all to the manger

C: to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

WA: In his light, draw all to the manger

C: to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

WA: In his light, draw all to the manger

C: to sing for joy with the angels.

WA: In the brightness of his life

C: cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

WA: We especially pray for those whom we name before you.

(names) It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

C: In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life. Amen.

Peace

P: Peace of Christ be with us always. **C: And also with you.**

Offering

Hymn/Song

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray. **C: God with us: You came as a baby to a manger.**

You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name. Amen.

Communion

ELW page 144

Lord's Prayer

Communion Songs

Prayer after Communion

Blessing for the New Year

P: O God, you have been our help in ages past, our hope for years to come.

C: As we welcome this new year, bless us with peace. Fill our days with the light of Christ and lead us on the path of life until we see you in our heavenly home. You live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

Sending Hymn/ Song

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

~**Worship Volunteers**~

Lector	Shirley Fox
Assisting Minister	Sheila Keene
Worship Assistant	Shirley Fox
Ushers	Bill and Jean Engel

Let the Word Go Forth

The time is at hand!
Let bugles sound to awaken a sleeping world
And angels sing of the Messianic Rose.
Clash the cymbals; beat the drums
Let it be known:
What was promised of old is here at last,
And the heavens proclaim the coming of a king!
Let the stars burst forth in blessed message
As saint and sinner, magi and shepherds bow in awe.
For what has been foretold, is now delivered.
A weary world is led out of darkness
And salvation shines from a stable in Bethlehem
Captured in the smile of a Holy Babe
Guarded and guided in the arms of mortals
Lulled by the gentle earthly voices,
But, held in the heart of God Himself.
Let the ringing of once silent bells rise
And shadowed paths open with sudden vision.
Ancient prophesies unfold
And a single star shines forth in clarity and direction.
The magic of a simple manger is revealed
In resounding magnificence of quiet splendor
A Child in holy humility looks on
And the world falls on its knees.
Let the Word go forth again
His time has come
Gloria!

Alleluia

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