

# ***Good Shepherd Lutheran Church***

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December 15th, 2024 9:30am

Third Sunday of Advent



*With One Voice - Setting 5 (Bread of Life), page 28*  
*Please leave your offering in the plate at the door*  
*You may stand at times marked with an asterisk (\*)*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Prelude and Contemplation

Karen Niemeier

### Welcome and Announcements

### Lighting of Advent Wreath

**P:** Seek the Lord while he may be found.

**C:** Call upon him while he is near.

**P:** Prepare the way of the Lord.

**C:** Make the Lord's paths straight.

**P:** Lift up your heads, O gates,

**C:** that the king of glory may come in.

**P:** The Spirit and the church cry out:

**C:** Come, Lord Jesus!

**P:** All those who await his appearance pray:

**C:** Come, Lord Jesus!

**P:** The whole creation pleads:

**C:** Come, Lord Jesus!

**P:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. Your prophets spoke of a day when the desert would blossom and waters would break forth in the wilderness. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.

Strengthen our hearts as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. May he give living water to all who thirst, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

**C:** Amen.

# Advent Song

## Three candles are lit. Waiting, Waiting

verse 3

### Waiting, Waiting

Donald F. Marsh



3, Waiting, waiting.



## Confession and Forgiveness

WOV page 10

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence for reflection*

**P:** Father eternal, giver of light and grace,

**C: we have sinned against you and against our neighbor,  
in what we have thought,  
in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with repentance and faith turn to him, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life, through ☩ Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

\* Hymn

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

ELW # 311

**\* Greeting**

*WOV page 28*

**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.**

**\* Kyrie**

*Lord, Have Mercy*

*WOV page 28*

**P:** Kyrie eleison.      **C:** Lord, have mercy.

**P:** Christe eleison.      **C:** Christ, have mercy.

**P:** Kyrie eleison.      **C:** Lord, have mercy.

**\* Canticle**

*Glory to God*

*WOV page 29*

**C: Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;  
glory to God, glory to God,  
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory to God...**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God...**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Glory to God...**

**and peace to God's people on earth.**

## \* **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **First Reading: *Zephaniah 3:14-20***

**L:** A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

<sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup> The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.

<sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
“Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup> The LORD your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing.

<sup>18</sup> I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,  
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

<sup>19</sup> Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors.  
And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

<sup>20</sup> At that time I will bring you in,  
at the time when I gather you together;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes,” says the LORD. [ESV]

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: *Isaiah 12:2-6***

L: Let us read responsively from Isaiah.

<sup>2</sup> “Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.”

<sup>3</sup> **With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

<sup>4</sup> And you will say in that day:  
“Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup> **“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.**

<sup>6</sup> Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

## **Second Reading: *Philippians 4:4-7***

**L:** A reading from Paul's letter to the PHilippians.

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup> do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. [ESV]

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **\* Gospel Acclamation**

*WOV page 31*

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

### **\* Gospel: *Luke 3:7-18***

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" <sup>8</sup> Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup> Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." <sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" <sup>11</sup> And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise."



<sup>12</sup> Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” <sup>13</sup> And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

<sup>15</sup> As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup> So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. *[ESV]*

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Meditation**

Rev. Thomas Mosbo

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
2024 Children's Christmas Pageant

A Savior's Birth

Accompaniment for hymns by;  
Karen Niemeier, church Organist

**Narrator:** Christmas fills our hearts with joy as we think of gifts, lights, and holiday spirit. But remember, Christmas means something more, it's the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Let us travel back to Bethlehem and share the story of His birth.

**Congregation:** "O Come All Ye Faithful"

**ELW 283**  
**Verses 1 & 4**  
**With refrain**

**Narrator:** And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed... And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem... to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. (Luke 2:1-5)

**Congregation:** "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**ELW #279**  
**Verse 1**

**Joseph:** Do you have any room in the inn?

**Inn Keeper #1:** No, I'm sorry we are full. Try across the way.

*Joseph leads Mary to the next inn and knocks.*

**Joseph:** Please, do you have any room for us in your inn?

**Inn Keeper #2:** We have too many guests already, we have no room.

*Joseph leads Mary to the third inn and knocks.*

**Joseph:** Do you have any room for us in your inn? We have come a long way and my wife is with child.

**Inn Keeper #3:** All of our rooms are full. I have an empty stable out back you may use, it's not much, but it will give you some shelter.

**Mary:** Joseph, the baby will be coming soon, let's please go to the stable.

*Inn Keeper #3 shows Joseph and Mary the way.*

**Congregation:**

**“O Holy Night”**

**Verse 1**

O holy night!  
The stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of our dear savior’s birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
‘Til He appear’d, and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees!  
O hear the angels’ voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;  
O night divine, O night, O night divine.

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**Narrator:** And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. (Luke 2:6-7)

**Congregation:**

**“Away In A Manger”**

**ELW #277**

**All Verses**

*Shepherds enter the scene and take care of their sheep*

**Narrator:** And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were afraid. (Luke 2:8-9)

**Angel:** Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. (Luke 2:10-12)

**Narrator:** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying... (Luke 2: 13)

**Narrator & Angel** in Unison: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Luke 2:14)

**Congregation:**

**“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

**ELW #270**

**Verse 1**

**Shepherds:** Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. (Luke 2:15)

*Shepherds quickly head to the manger.*

**Narrator:** And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. [And] Behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem. (Luke 2:16-20, Matt 2:1)

*Wise Men enter the scene bringing their gifts.*

**Wise Men:** Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. (Matt 2:2)

**Narrator:** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. (Matt 2:10)

*Wise Men travel following the Star and arrive at the stable as the song ends.*

**Congregation:** “We Three Kings”

**WOV #646**

**Verses 1 & 2 with refrain**

**Narrator:** And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. (Matt 2:11)

*Each Wise Men presents his gift to baby Jesus.*

**Congregation:** “Go Tell it on The Mountain”

**ELW#290**

**Narrator:** As we see the twinkling Christmas lights, let us remember the star that led the Wise Men to seek the Savior. When we give and receive gifts, stop to ponder what gifts you can give to the Christ child. For, “The Spirit of Christmas is the spirit of love and of generosity and of goodness. It illuminates the picture windows of the soul, and we look out upon the world’s busy life and become more interested in people than in things. The spirit of Christmas is something I hope all of us would have within our hearts and within our lives, not only at this particular season but also throughout the years. A wise Christian once urged, ‘Let us not spent Christmas... but let us keep Christmas in our hearts and in our lives’.” (Thomas S. Monson, Because He Came) **Congregation and cast in unison, “Merry Christmas “**

## Prayers of Intercession

WOV page 34

*Please respond to each petition with the following:*

**L:** ... Lord, in your mercy,  
**C:** **receive our prayer.**

**P:** Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ .

**C:** **Amen.**

### *We lift our prayers for*

Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Fern Harnish, Taylor B., Denny Bergmann, Rene', Paul Fahr, Gary Hudik, Brady Meier, Virgil Martin, Tena Rackow, Marilyn Fulfs, Richard Freitag, Todd Schlachter, Cyndy Schumacher, Duane Tessendorf, Connor Stadermann, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Paul Heller, Janet, Ryse Stone, Nicole, Meghan and her baby, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Richard Gordon, Kay, Shanna, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Jack, Tina, Joe, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Lamar Hail, Connie, Rachel Collins, Hanna, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Heckman, Jeri, Allie, Al, Bruce Stewart, Pam, Caroline, Tina D., Howard D., Christine, Jim DeMontigny Jr., Anita, Eric, Roger, Larry, Linda Kruger-Kleckler, Libby Wuethrich, Norman, Vivian, Tina Cheeney, Dennis Bokemeier, Susan Anderson, Brenda, Sylvia Jones, Madilyn Yeager, Kara Allen, Christine Beyer, Judy, Bob Schulz and prayers for stroke patients, Pete Grandstand and Steve Rothschadl.

# LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

## Peace

*WOV page 34*

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

*Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

## **Bell Choir Anthem**     *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

## Responses

*WOV page 36*

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Preface

**P:** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **Holy, Holy, Holy**

*WOV page 36*

**C:** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

*WOV page 37*

**P:** We give you thanks, Father...

with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

WOV page 39

**P:** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

## Canticle

*Lamb of God*

WOV page 39

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**  
**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**  
**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**  
**grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## Distribution

*All are welcome to come to receive Christ's body and blood*  
*or you may come to receive a blessing.*

*Once all have received:*

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and  
keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

## Canticle

*Now, Lord*

**C:** Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace;  
your word has been fulfilled.

**My own eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:  
a light to reveal you to the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.**

## Blessing

*WOV page 41*

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you,  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace,  
In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## \* Hymn

*Joy to the World*

**ELW # 267**

## \* Dismissal

*WOV page 41*

**P:** Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

Karen Niemeier

### Christmas Worship Schedule

*December 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Service, communion will be served*

*December 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am, Christmas Worship Service, communion will not be served.*

### Offering Contributions

Contributions for 2024 are due by Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> to receive credit for 2024.

Contributions received after the 29<sup>th</sup> will be credited for 2025. *It is imperative that you write your name on your envelope so that you receive proper credit. Questions, contact Sheila Keene*

*815--369-5101*

***Attendance December 1<sup>st</sup>***

***In-person 39, Online 83***