

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE
DECEMBER 12, 2021 | 8:30 AM

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

* PLEASE NOTE THE LAST TWO PEWS ON EITHER SIDE ARE RESERVED FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO SOCIAL DISTANCE.

1208 ROSE CREEK DRIVE
WOODSTOCK, GEORGIA 30189
770-924-7286



GOOD SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

GSLUTHERAN.ORG
FACEBOOK@GSLCWOODSTOCK
INSTAGRAM@GSLUTHERAN

"Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you."

Romans 15:7

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church warmly welcomes people of any age, race, nationality, sexual orientation, life circumstance, and physical or mental capability.

Gathering

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"Chatter With the Angels"

The Bells of Good Shepherd

-Arr. by Sondra K. Tucker

Stand and face the baptismal font at the rear of the church.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God for whom we wait,

C **in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of**

self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

P God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, † your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

ELW #242

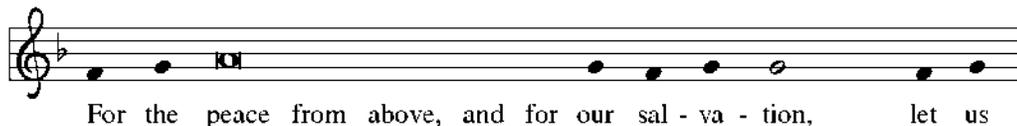
GREETING

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.

KYRIE

S120



continues on next page

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
 and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.
 Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
 A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

s121

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we
 wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

continues on next page

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of

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

scat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

G Amen.

Sit

Word

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

SONG

"He Came Down"

ELW #253, verses 1-3

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

- P** Blessed are you, God of might and majesty, for you promise to make the desert rejoice and blossom, to watch over the strangers, and to set the prisoners free.

As we light these candles, satisfy our hunger with your good gifts, open our eyes to the great things

you have done for us, and fill us with patience until the coming of the Lord Jesus.

O ransomed people of the Lord, come,

- G** **let us travel on God's holy way and enter into Zion with singing. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Pew Bible, page 862

At the conclusion of the reading:

- L** The word of the Lord.
G **Thanks be to God.**

Isaiah 12:2-6 *(Read Responsively)*

- A** Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord GOD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.
- G** **With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**
- A** And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the LORD,
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.
- G** **Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.**
- A** Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

Pew Bible, page 1071

At the conclusion of the reading:

- L** The word of the Lord.
G **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

“Wait For the Lord”

ELW #262

GOSPEL READING: Luke 3:7-18

Pew Bible, page 935

- P** The holy Gospel according to St. Luke.
G **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the reading:

- P** The Gospel of the Lord.
G **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

“What Then Shall We Do?”

Pastor Ruth

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM/RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

ELW p. 234

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(As the Minister closes each petition with the words, "Hear us, O God," worshipers respond with the words, "Your mercy is great.")

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(The people greet one another with a verbal sign of Christ's peace.)

Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Prepare Ye!"

by Jean Anne Shafferman

Chancel Choir

We encourage you to leave your gifts to the work of the Lord as the Spirit leads you. For those watching online, you may donate through many various ways detailed on our donation page of our website, gslutheran.org. We also encourage you to sign-up for SIMPLY GIVING or online giving through the VANCO MOBILE FAITH ENGAGEMENT app for consistent reoccurring gifts.

Stand

OFFERING PRAYER

A God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

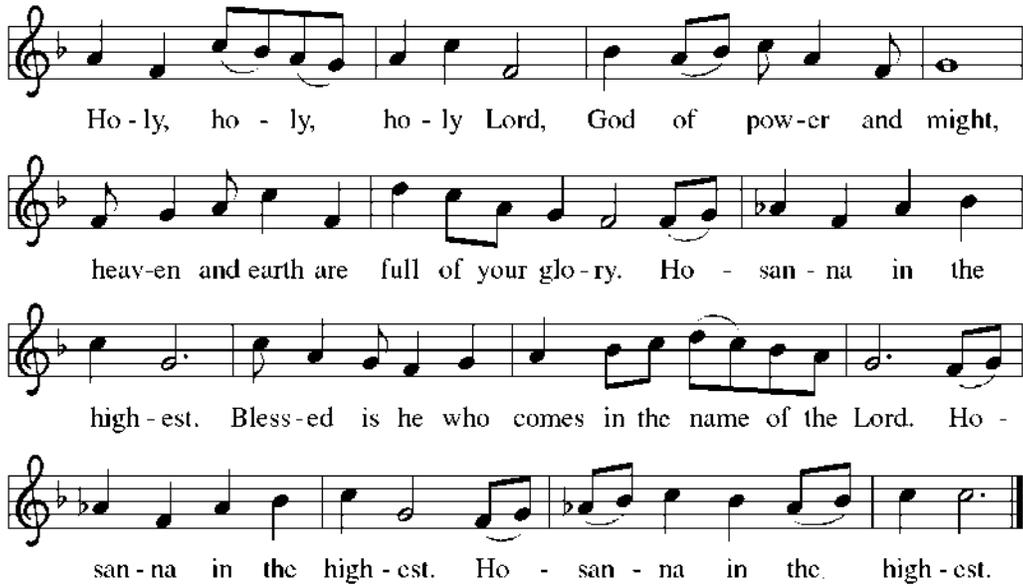
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

P It is indeed right....
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



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. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND LORD'S PRAYER

<p>P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.</p>
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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

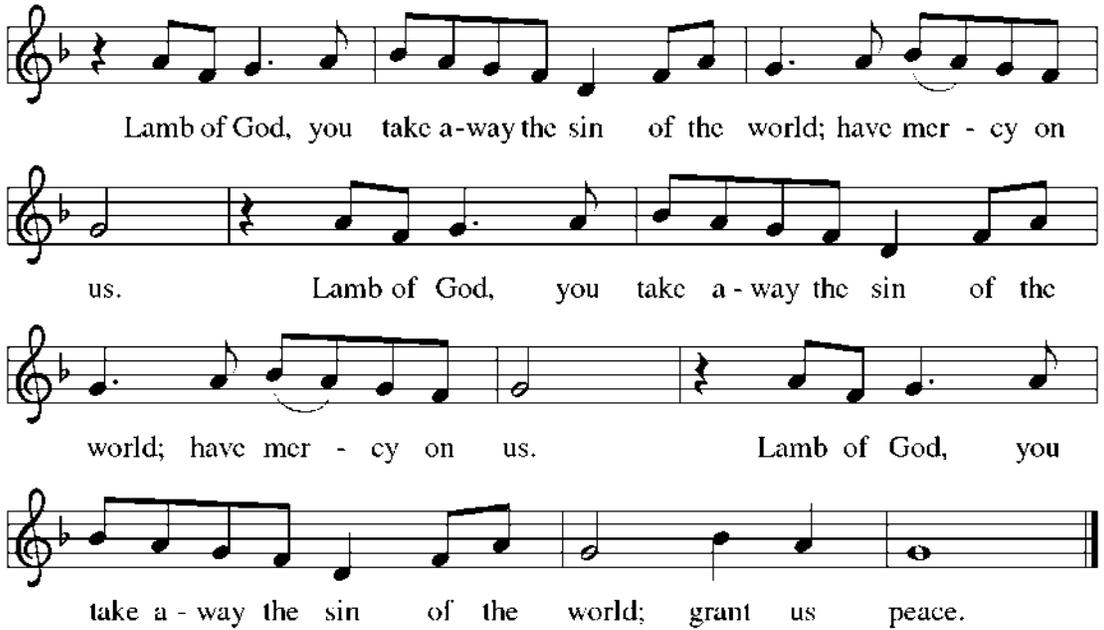
P Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

Sit

LAMB OF GOD

"Lamb of God"

s135a



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.

COMMUNION

- † All are invited to come and receive the real presence of Christ in the sacrament.
- † Those who do not wish to take communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.
- † Afterwards, the congregation will follow the directions of the ushers, who will release you from your row toward the center aisle.
- † For those that prefer, a sealed wafer & juice package is available in a basket from the ushers at the front of the communion line. Others have the choice of individual glasses and regular or gluten-free wafers.
- † Return to your seats by the side aisle.

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.**

COMMUNION HYMN

"Each Winter As the Year Grows Older"

ELW #252

Stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

- ☞ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace, unto life everlasting.
- ☞ **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞ Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.
- ☞ **Amen.**

Sending

BLESSING

- ☞ The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.
- ☞ **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

ELW #264

DISMISSAL

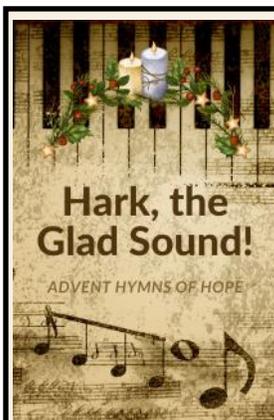
- ☞ Go in peace. Christ is near.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Savior of the Nations Come"

Thomas Eisnor

- J.S. Bach (1685-1750)



Advent Services

Wednesday, 7:30 PM
Dec. 15

The Fellowship Committee will be serving desserts and drinks prior to the service from 6:45 pm to 7:30 PM

Coming home for Christmas? We need your help! Sign-up to be a worship servant for our Christmas Services at:

Christmas Eve

Lessons & Carols: 3 PM

Family Service: 5 PM

Praise Service: 7 PM

Traditional Candlelight Service: 9 PM

Christmas Day: 11 AM

Sunday, Dec. 26th: 10:30 AM



We are called, gathered and blessed to be a community and instrument of grace for all sheep of the Good Shepherd.

WORSHIP AT 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM; FOR ONLINE SUNDAY SERVICES [YOUTUBE.COM](https://www.youtube.com)
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODSTOCK, GA

Pastor Ruth Hamilton..... Interim Pastor
Thomas EisnorOrganist/Choir Director
Pam Weinelt.....Praise Team Coordinator
Open..... Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator

Janice Swinford Sunday School Superintendent
Maureen HarkinsOffice Coordinator
Donna Garges..... Media Coordinator
Aaron Frink..... Custodian

Attendance Last Sunday

8:30 AM - 74

10:45 AM - 99

Sunday School - 52 Online - 9

The Altar flowers this morning are dedicated to the Glory of God and are given by Max and Susan Epling in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

Welcome New Members

A big Good Shepherd welcome to our new members:



Bill & Kathleen Brill
Travis & Julie Bryan
Blake & Annabelle Harris
Scott, Lisa & Annalouise
Panhorst

thank you A big THANK YOU to Diane Mau, Debi and Rod Radcliff, Sharron Ryan, Raelene, Gordon and Garret Swordsma, and Beth and Steve Ebert who came out last Saturday to help decorate the church for Christmas. The help was much appreciated!

Shepherd's Choir is practicing in the choir room (room 119) TODAY at 10:30 AM. We would love to have all K-3rd grade students participate in the choir as we practice for Christmas.



Family Christmas Eve Pageant

Be a part of this year's 5 PM Christmas Eve family Christmas program. Want to work behind the scenes? We are still in need of some artists to help with our background scenery. All ages are welcome to join us. Contact our director Rozalyn Mattocks today.

rozalynmattocks@gmail.com

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MASK UPDATE

The GSLC Congregation Council and COVID Task Force are in agreement to relax our current mask mandate while indoors at Good Shepherd. **The wearing of masks is not required, but is highly recommended.**

Look for the December & January Sunday Servants online—

We have **scheduled Sunday Servants**. A link is available on our [website](https://www.gslc.org). Please check to see if you are scheduled to serve this month. A list is hanging in the Administrative Hallway to confirm your date(s). We kindly ask that you try to find your own replacement before contacting the church office.



Yarn Angels

will meet next on January 10th at Jennifer Taylor's home. If you are interested in joining this group, contact Jennifer or the church office. We work on all different types of projects that

benefit "The Encouragement Project." You can read more about this organization on the Yarn Angels page on our website, under the community tab.

Caring for Creation

Continue to bring your used Oral Care Waste to the marked bins in Fellowship Hall. Every little bit recycled makes an impact in our landfills.



Caring for Creation Team has a limited supply of the Hefty  Energy Bags for recycling hard-to-recycle items. These will be available in the Fellowship Hall for a suggested donation of 50 cents per bag. Please begin filling with your recyclable items that are not accepted in your regular recycle bin. The guide from Hefty is available on our website on the Caring for Creation page. You may take the filled bags to the Cherokee County Recycling Center on Blalock Road, or bring to Good Shepherd in January and we will take a load to Blalock Road.

Please note: our next meeting be in **January 12**, via Zoom.

Sunday School Classes - 9:45 AM

Sunday School Classes are offered for ages 3 through high school along with three different classes for adults. *Masks are highly recommended for all teachers and students*. Contact Sunday School Superintendent Janice Swinford for more information at sundayschool@gslutheran.org. Need more information on class specifics? Visit our Sunday School page at gslutheran.org.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL DEC 19 & 26.

Weekly Bible Studies:

Monday Lunch and Learn: Mondays, lunch at noon, study at 12:30 PM—Meeting Room. New Study begins this week from Augsburg Series: *Book of Faith; Advent Reflections –While We Wait*. Contact the church office if you are interested. **Meeting Tuesday this week at the same time.**

Word on Wednesday: Wednesday mornings from 10:00-11:30 AM via Zoom. Contact group leader Lori Peters for the zoom link or via the [church office](#). Study is: *A Three-Year Banquet, The Lectionary for the Assembly* by Gail Ramshaw.

Thursday Morning Bible Study: In-person study at 10 AM. Led by [Pastor Ruth](#). We are studying the book, *By Heart, Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism* by R. Guy Erwin. **No class 12/23 or 12/30.**

Help us serve the Lord

We have an urgent need for more people to assist on Sunday mornings for **Altar Guild** and **Counters**. If this is an opportunity that interests you, please contact our Office Coordinator, [Maureen Harkins](#), to be added to the **Sunday Servant** list. Thank you.



OFFERING
COUNTERS



Who Loves Food and Fellowship?

With the return of Fellowship time on Sunday, we are in need of members to select a Sunday to sign-up for purchasing snacks and/or donuts.

This sign-up sheet is available in the Administrative Hallway outside the Office Coordinator's office. The cost is \$30.

A big thank you to Nancy Dias for providing our fellowship items this morning.

PRAYERS@GSLUTHERAN.ORG

is the e-mail address for you to submit prayer concerns. Prayers will be posted to the Prayer Circle, via e-mail, during normal business hours. You can also drop us an e-mail at this same e-mail address if you would like to be a part of the Prayer Circle.

YOUTH NEWS



Confirmation class meets today, Dec. 12 from 12:30 - 2 PM. Our lesson is on Wilderness to Land/10 Commandments.

Please continue to sign the worship tracker form outside the Youth Ministry office to get points for attending worship. Remember to pick up a worship note and turn in after the service to Pastor Ruth's box.

FX3 meets Dec. 12, from 12:30 to 2PM.

Devotion: Advent; John the Baptist.

Craft: Decorate Ornament, Christmas Cookie, Gingerbread House, **Games:** Superhero Charades, Newspaper Race. JOIN US 3rd -5th graders! Christmas Party will be December 19th, at 12:30PM. Bring a \$10 gift to exchange for a fun game.



Saints and Sinners celebrate the end of Finals, at the Saints and Sinners Christmas Party, Friday, December 17th, 6-8 pm Lite dinner provided. Bring a \$10-12 White Elephant gift, & bring a friend. Please RSVP to Janice by Thursday, to help obtain a proper head count.

Ladies Night Out



Tuscany Italian Restaurant
December 21st, 7 p.m.

250 Cinema View
Woodstock, GA 30189

Sign-up at Sign-Up Central and leave your cell phone number. Contact Sue Pence for more information.

FLY CHRISTMAS PARTY

FLY will have its Christmas Party on Sunday, December 19th, from 12:30 to 2pm. All youth grades 6-8 are welcome.



Everyone should bring a wrapped gift, \$10 limit, for the White Elephant Gift Swap. Use your imagination so we can have some fun and friendly competition! There will be cookie decorating and hot cocoa, too.

Support us when you shop this holiday season

Buy your gifts and holiday essentials at smile.amazon.com. You shop. Amazon donates.

amazonsmile



Select Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Woodstock
as your Charitable organization.