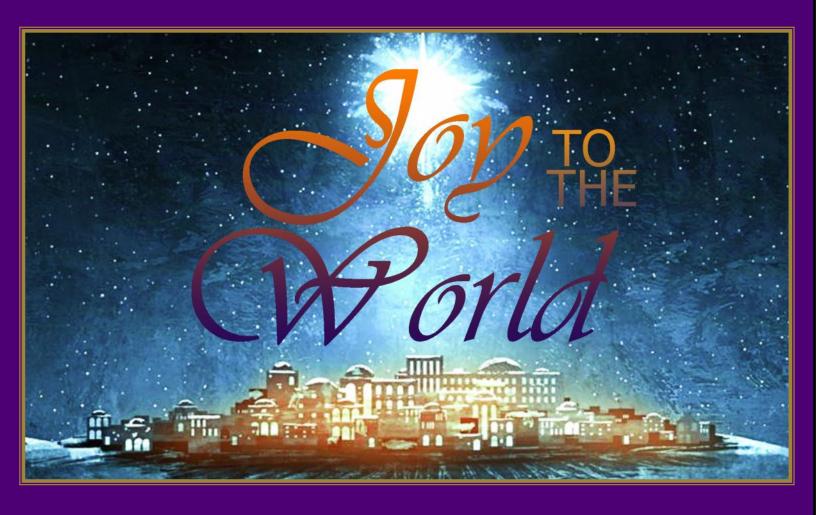
WELCOME TO WORSHIP



Christmas Eve | December 24, 2023 | 4 p.m. | 9 p.m.

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



GSLUTHER AN.ORG FACEBOOK@GSLCWOODSTOCK INSTAGRAM@GSLUTHER AN

"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.

Please silence your cell phones.

PRESERVICE MUSIC Musicians of Good Shepherd

PRELUDE "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"
-Robert Lau

Gay Lyn Ferry

WELCOME

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin. God of life,
- you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors
- and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.
- P Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.
- C Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ELW #283 vs. 1-3

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

- 2 The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*
- 3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

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

P The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY-THE CHRIST CANDLE

- Tonight, we celebrate hope fulfilled in the birth of Christ.
- lov to the world! The Lord has come.
- L Tonight, we celebrate the promise of peace on earth.
- **C** Let earth receive her King.
- L Tonight, we celebrate the joy of knowing a Savior has come.
- **C** Let every heart prepare him room.
- Tonight, we celebrate the love of God, through Jesus Christ.
- **Q** Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
- Tonight, we light all five candles on this advent wreath. As the flames gleam we are reminded that Christ is the true light of the world, and with the Christ candle in the center, the flames of hope, peace,

joy, and love burn even brighter. So it is with Christ in our hearts, we can rest in the hope of eternal life, and look forward to the promised peace on earth. Joy to the world! The Lord has come!

PRAYER

- Gracious God, as we celebrate tonight we join with the angel choir in proclaiming your glory. We thank you for giving us the perfect gift this Christmas Eve, the gift of eternal life through Christ. We ask that you guide our feet, direct our minds, hear our prayers, and fill our hearts with the hope, peace, joy, and love of this Christmas season. We ask these things in the name of Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

CHRISTMAS HYMN

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

ELW #282

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 "Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gracious king."
 The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world.

- Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing, and ever o'er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.
- 3 And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow: look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing; oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!

≫ WORD «

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7

L A reading from Isaiah:

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

At the conclusion of the reading:

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

PSALM 96 (read responsively)

- A Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.
- ⚠ Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
- © For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.
- As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
- Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.
- Morship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."
- Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.
- A You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

SECOND LESSON Titus 2:11-14

L A reading from Titus:

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

At the conclusion of the reading:

☐ The Word of the Lord. ☐ Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stand

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

ELW #289 vs. 1

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20

P The holy Gospel according to St. Luke the second chapter. G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave

birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

At the conclusion of the reading:

■ The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

ELW #289 vs. 2

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

Sit

SERMON Pastor Karen Boda

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

ELW #270

1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity! Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(As the Assisting 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 the Lord be with you always. **Q** And also with you.

(Please greet one another with a friendly word or non-contact gesture of God's peace.)

Sit

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (4 PM)

"Oh Holy Night" Arr. Duda Oriontte "Christmas Grace" by Ruth Elaine Schram Alan Boda, Violin

Chancel Choir

Stand

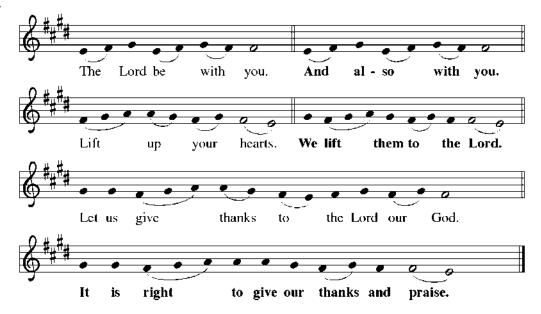
OFFERING PRAYER

(9 PM)

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. **CAmen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

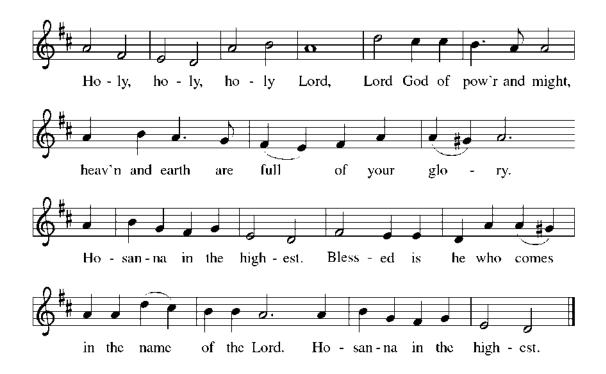
DIALOGUE



PREFACE

■ It is indeed right...praise your name and join your unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- P Holy One, the beginning and the end... ...Do this for the remembrance of me.

 Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
- Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- 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.

- 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.
- Come, Holy Spirit.
- 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.

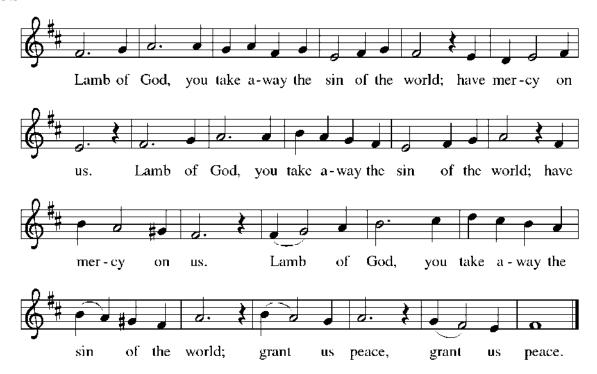
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Sit

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

- † All believers are invited to come and receive the real presence of Christ in the sacrament.
- † Follow the directions of the ushers, who will guide you from your rows toward the center aisle.
- † Please take the bread and an individual cup of red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers and sealed wafer & juice combination packets are also available upon request.
- † 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.
- † After receiving communion please proceed around the side aisles to return to your seat; use the trash receptacles provided.

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY (9 PM) "Away in a Manger/Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Arr. Cathy Mocklebust

Bells of Good Shepherd

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Away in a Manger"

ELW #277

- Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

"The First Noel"

ELW #300 vs. 1-3

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

- 2 They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*
- And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

ELW #276

1 Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all. Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true. Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow: Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Q** Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING ≪

CANDLE-LIGHTING HYMN

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

ELW #281

The pastor will light a candle from the Christ candle spreading the light to the ushers, who in turn will spread the light to those nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when spreading light to another.

- 1 Silent night, holy night!
 All is calm, all is bright
 round you virgin mother and child.
 Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
 sleep in heavenly peace,
 sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2 Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar,

- heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!
- 3 Silent night, holy night!
 Son of God, love's pure light
 radiant beams from your holy face,
 with the dawn of redeeming grace,
 Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
 Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

BLESSING

P God bless you and keep you, **+** Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **C** Amen.

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL

- A Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim the Good News!!
- C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"Toccata in F" – Dietrich Buxtehude Gay Lyn Ferry



If you ordered a poinsettia and want to take it home, you may do so following the 9 p.m. service tonight or following the Christmas Day service tomorrow.



Any poinsettias not picked up will be given away.

Poinsettias

Alan and Pastor Karen Boda in memory of Bill and Elizabeth Miller and in honor of Dan and Eleanor Boda

Bill and Kathy Brill in memory of family members

Sandy Cerstvík in celebration of the birth of our Savior and in memory of loved ones

Tammy Childree, Robbin Dycus, & Shannon Drost in memory of their father, Tom Ryan

Ruth Clark in memory of Bobby Swinick and Ken Clark

The Dias Family in memory of Ed Dias

Tony and Michelle Endozo in celebration of the birth of our Lord

Escamilla Family in memory of Armando and Virginia Escamilla, OD Allen and Bob Allen

Ronnie and Linda Ferentini in memory of Pearl Erb and their loved ones and in honor of their children and grandchildren

The Frink Family in honor of Aaron Frink, Allison Frink and Jonathan Poisler, and in honor of the staff of Good Shepherd

Sally and Terry George in celebration of their grandchildren

Tom & Kris Hebeisen in celebration of God's faithfulness

Donna Johnson in memory of Rosemarie and Ernest Faellaci

Vic and Deborah Johnson in celebration of Aubrey Johnson and Brian Reinke wedding

Keith and Holly Jones in celebration of the birth of our Lord and in memory of Donald McCann

Ken and Barb Kidder in honor of the birth of Jesus

Brenda Kviten Schumaker, Kari and Bridget in memory of Glen Kviten

Cathy Mattocks in memory of Grant and Jayne Mattocks

Ted and Carol Rodi in memory of our parents Bill, Inga, John and Armella

Vic & Linda Rowell in memory of Lloyd & Clara Rowell, Joseph & Barbara Damico, Tom & Mary Farley and Anita Hotchkiss and Ed Jones

Sharron Ryan in memory of loving parents, J.R. Weyandt and Sylvia Weyandt

Craig & Bev Stichtenoth in celebration of God's Greatest Gift

Reba Sumner in celebration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

The Swordsma Family in memory of their grandparents and in honor of their parents

Jennifer Taylor in memory of Vernon Taylor

Pam Weinelt in memory of Sylvia Exley

Don and Wendy Vogt in memory of family and loved ones and the 26th anniversary of Irina's adoption

Eileen White in honor of her wonderful family and friends

Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS AT GOOD SHEPHERD

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Monday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m. "Come as you are" (jeans, jammies — whatever!)

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 31 at 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

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

Are you worshiping with us for the first time?

WE WELCOME YOU!

Please stop by our welcome desk and receive a gift of appreciation for joining us today.

Our Sunday services are at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. We offer Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. for ages 3 through adult.

Come Worship with Us!

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF	
Rev. Karen Boda	Pastor
Gay Lyn Ferry	Supply Organist
Pam Weinelt	Praise Team Coordinator
Melina Thurmond	Youth/Family
	Ministry Coordinator
	& Office Coordinator
Donna Garges	Media Coordinator
Carrie Escamilla	Bookkeeper
Aaron Frink	Custodian

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