

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE DECEMBER 17, 2023 | 8:30 AM

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Please note there are cameras at the rear of the Sanctuary. This worship service is being livestreamed to [Facebook.com/gslcwoodstock](https://www.facebook.com/gslcwoodstock).

**Parents of small children: Children can and do encounter Jesus during worship. For your convenience, please know that our entryway and a nursery (Room 113) are equipped with an audio reception of the service. We also have activity bags available for their use during worship. Please see an usher for more information.*

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GOOD SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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“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.

(* The Assembly Stands) Note: Hymns marked “ELW” are in the back of the book with numbers at the top of the page.

Gathering

PRELUDE

“Immanuel with O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Gay Lyn Ferry

- Anna Laura Page

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

☞ **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination. Kneel or stand.

☞ Everlasting God,

☞ **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.

☞ 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.

☞ **Amen.**

*GATHERING HYMN

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

ELW #242

*GREETING

☞ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. ☞ **And also with you.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Let us pray. Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ☞ **Amen.**

Word

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH-ADVENT 3-JOY

- Ⓐ Advent is marked by a spirit of joy and celebration.
- ☑ **With joyful hearts we celebrate the coming King.**
- Ⓐ Advent is a time to open our eyes to our many blessings.
- ☑ **With joyful hearts we celebrate the coming King.**
- Ⓐ Advent is a time to appreciate the bonds of human love.
- ☑ **With joyful hearts we celebrate the coming King.**
- Ⓐ Advent is a time to remember the promises to God.
- ☑ **With joyful hearts we celebrate the coming King.**

Hymn

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”
Verse 1 - 3

ELW #240

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

- Ⓐ Today we light three candles – the candle of hope, the candle of peace, and the candle of joy. The light of this third candle reminds us that we have no reasons to be fearful or anxious, because God has sent us a Savior. We should be glad in this affirmation of God’s love for us and pledge to serve him faithfully with joy-filled hearts.

PRAYER

- Ⓐ Gracious God, remind us today and every day that we have good reason to be joyful, and forgive us for focusing our minds on negative things. Because you sent your Son into the world we can truly celebrate this season of wonder. Fill our hearts with calm assurance so that we might be messengers of peace who joyfully spread your love wherever we go. ☑ **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Pew Bible, Page 678

At the conclusion of the reading:

- Ⓐ The word of the Lord.
- ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 126

- Ⓐ When the LORD restored the for-^l tunes of Zion, then were we like^l those who dream.
- ☑ **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with^l shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great^l things for them.”**
- Ⓐ The LORD has done great^l things for us, and we are^l glad indeed.
- ☑ **Restore our for-^l tunes, O LORD, like the watercourses^l of the Negeb.**
- Ⓐ Those who^l sowed with tears will reap with^l songs of joy.
- ☑ **Those who go out weeping, carry-^l ing the seed, will come again with joy, shoulder-^l ing their sheaves.**

At the conclusion of the reading:

L The word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*GOSPEL READING: John 1:6-8, 19-28

P The holy gospel according to John.

G **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the reading:

P The gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Karen Boda

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“There's A Voice in the Wilderness”

ELW #255

*APOSTLES' CREED

G 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

(As the Assisting Minister closes each petition with the words, “Merciful God,” worshippers respond with the words, “receive our prayer.”)

*PEACE

A The peace of Christ be with you always.

G **And also with you.**

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

Meal

OFFERING

The "Who's Who in the Pew" pads are passed as the offering is received.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"

Bells of Good Shepherd

Arr. William Ringham

*OFFERING SONG

"As the Grains of Wheat"

ELW#465

*OFFERING PRAYER

A 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. **C** **Amen.**

*GREAT THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

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.**

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND 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

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and



Congregation:
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
fear:
peace:
love.

Final Stanza



Congregation or Assistant:
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you



Congregation:
take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"O Come O Come Emmanuel" (Arr. Martha Lynn Thompson)
"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

Bells of Good Shepherd
ELW #241

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

*COMMUNION PRAYER

☑ 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. ☑ **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sending

*BLESSING

☞ 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. ☞ **Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

ELW#264

*DISMISSAL

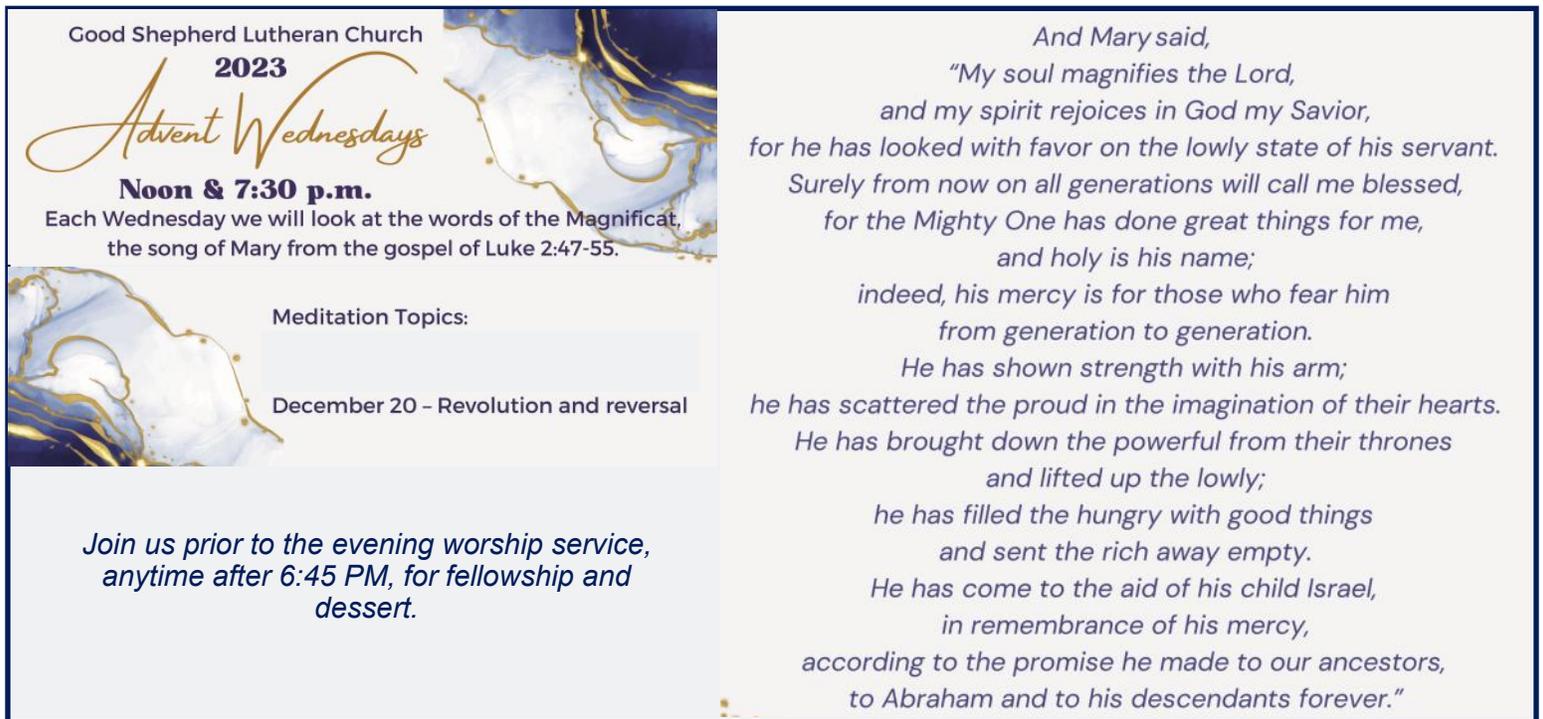
☞ Go in peace. Keep Awake. ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Il Est Ne' Le Divin Enfant"

Gay Lyn Ferry

- J. de Monther



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
2023
Advent Wednesdays
Noon & 7:30 p.m.
Each Wednesday we will look at the words of the Magnificat, the song of Mary from the gospel of Luke 2:47-55.

Meditation Topics:
December 20 - Revolution and reversal

Join us prior to the evening worship service, anytime after 6:45 PM, for fellowship and dessert.

*And Mary said,
"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;
indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."*

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF

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

Attendance Last Sunday

8:30 AM - 76
10:45 AM - 88

The Altar flowers this morning are dedicated to the Glory of God and are given by Max and Susan Epling in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Thank you to Max and Susan Epling for providing donuts/snacks for Fellowship this morning. If you would like to help with this ministry, sign up using a form in the Administration Hallway, the cost is \$30.

This Week

Sun	12/17	8:30/10:45 AM	Third Sunday of Advent
		9:45 AM	Youth Pageant/Cookie Walk
Tues	12/19	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Sanctuary
		7:00 PM	Ladies Night Out Tuscany
Wed	12/20	11:00 AM	Lunch & Learn Mtg. rm
		12:00 PM	Advent Worship Service
		1:00 PM	Staff Mtg
		6:00 PM	Bells of Good Shepherd
		6:45 PM	Advent Desserts
		7:30 PM	Advent Worship Service
Thu	12/21	11:00 AM	Thursday Bible Study F. Hall
		7:00 PM	Stewardship Mtg room
Sat	12/23	7:00 PM	Praise Team Rehearsal
Sun	12/24	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday of Advent
		4:00 PM	Christmas Eve –Traditional
		7:00 PM	Christmas Eve –Praise
		9:00 PM	Christmas Eve –Traditional
Mon	12/25	10:00 AM	Christmas Day –Lessons/Carols
Tues-Fri	12/26-12/29	Office Closed	

Upcoming Event Dates

Sign-up sheets are available at gslutheran.org ([Sign-up Central Online](#)) or Sign-up Central in Fellowship Hall

Jan 6	Blood Drive F. Hall 8AM - 1 PM
Jan 7	How to spot a scam seminar F. Hall 10 AM
Jan 14	Ministry Fair F. Hall 9:45
Jan 27	LRPTF Circle Conversations 10 AM –1 PM
Jan 28	Family Fun Night Bowling 5 PM



DECEMBER 17
YOUTH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
AND COOKIE WALK
9:45 AM

DECEMBER 24
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
10 AM

CHRISTMAS EVE
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP WITH
CANDLE LIGHTING
4 PM & 9 PM
PRAISE WORSHIP WITH
CANDLE LIGHTING
7 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY
LESSONS & CAROLS
10 AM

DECEMBER 31
8:30 AM TRADITIONAL
10:45 AM PRAISE



Throughout December for Timothy's Cupboard

Pick up a postcard to invite others for worship.