

# GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

*10:45 AM Praise Worship Service with Holy Communion*

*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

\*You are invited to stand

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### ✠ GATHERING ✠

#### GATHERING MUSIC

Praise Team

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

✠ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

✠ Amen.

✠ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection. (Stand or kneel)*

✠ Long-expected God,

✠ we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

✠ God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ✠ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

✠ Amen.

#### \*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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ✠ Amen.

**ADVENT WREATH BLESSING**

📖 Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. In your Son, Emmanuel, you have shown us your light and saved us from the power of sin. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Increase our longing for your presence, that at the celebration of your Son’s birth his Spirit might dwell anew in our midst, for he is our light and our salvation. 🙏 **Amen.**

**ADVENT SONG** **“Even So Come”**

*Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Jess Cates, and Jason Ingram © Publishing | Sixsteps Songs | Worship Together Music | Openhands Music | So Essential Tunes | Lily Makes Music | Remaining portion is unaffiliated*

**Verse 1**

All of creation all of the earth  
Make straight a highway a path for the Lord  
Jesus is coming soon

**Verse 2**

There will be justice all will be new  
Your name forever faithful and true  
Jesus is coming soon

**Chorus**

Like a bride waiting for her groom  
We’ll be a Church ready for You  
Ev’ry heart longing for our King we sing  
Even so come Lord Jesus come  
Even so come Lord Jesus come  
God we wait You’re coming soon  
Even so come Lord Jesus come  
Even so come Lord Jesus come

🌀 WORD 🌀

**FIRST READING**

📖 A reading from Isaiah.

*At conclusion of reading*

📖 The Word of the Lord. 🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

**Isaiah 7:10-16**

*Pew Bible, Page 623*

**SECOND READING**

📖 A reading from Romans.

*At conclusion of reading*

📖 The Word of the Lord. 🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

**Romans 1:1-7**

*Pew Bible, Page 1024*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**\*GOSPEL READING**

📖 The holy gospel according to Matthew.

*At conclusion of reading*

📖 The gospel of the Lord. 🙏 **Praise to you, O Christ**

**Matthew 1:18-25**

*Pew Bible, Page 877*

**MEDITATION**

**Pastor Dave Helfrich**

## **\*SONG OF DAY**

## **"O Come O Come Emmanuel"**

*Words and Music by Joel Smallbone, Luke Smallbone, Mark Campbell, Stephen Lynch, Stephen Blake Kanicka and Ben Backus; © Words: Public Domain | Music: 2017 Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. | Ben Backus Music | Curb Congregation Songs | Fleauxmotion Music | Mike Curb Music | Modcast Music | STUDIO SBK PUBLISHING | Fleauxmatic Music | Kilns Music | Shaun Shankel Pub Designee | Method to the Madness | Shankel Songs | WC Music Corp*

### **Verse 1**

O come O come Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear

### **Chorus**

Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel

### **Verse 2**

O come Thou Dayspring come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadow put to flight

### **Interlude**

Oh oh

## **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**☩ 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**

*The Assisting Minister will close each petition with the words, "God of grace," worshippers respond with the words, "hear our prayer."*

## **\*PEACE**

**☪ The Peace of the Lord be with you always. ☩ And also with you.**

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

## OFFERING

Please sign the "Who's Who in the Pew" pads and pass along as the offering is received. Please indicate if you are a visitor to Good Shepherd.



### \*OFFERING SONG

#### "Waiting Here For You"

Praise Team

By Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves and Martin Smith

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

**G** Amen.

### \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### \*LORD'S PRAYER

**G** 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

### COMMUNION/COMMUNION SONGS

#### "Jesus Messiah"

Words and Music by Daniel Carson, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, and Jesse Reeves; © 2008 Rising Springs Music | Vamos Publishing  
| [worshiptogether.com](http://worshiptogether.com) songs | Wondrously Made Songs

##### Verse 1

He became sin who knew no sin  
That we might become His righteousness  
He humbled Himself and carried the cross  
Love so amazing love so amazing

##### Chorus

Jesus Messiah Name above all names  
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel  
The Rescue for sinners  
The Ransom from heaven  
Jesus Messiah Lord of all

##### Verse 2

His body the bread His blood the wine  
Broken and poured out all for love  
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn  
Love so amazing love so amazing  
(To Chorus)

##### Bridge

All our hope is in You  
All our hope is in You  
All the glory to You God  
The Light of the world Chorus

## "Come Lord Jesus"

*Words and Music by Diane Thiel; © 2009 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing*

### Intro

Come Lord Jesus come redeem us  
We will wait for You

### Verse 1

You will flood our souls with light  
Bring the broken world to rights  
As You swallow death with life  
We will be singing

### Chorus

Come Lord Jesus come redeem us  
We will wait for You  
When the night gives way to the light  
Our hearts will know it is You

## "Prepare the Way"

*Words and Music by Jonny Bird and Nick Herbert; © Capitol CMG Genesis | Safe and Sound Music | Remaining portion is unaffiliated*

### Verse 1

Prepare the way of the Lord  
Prepare the way of the Lord  
Prepare the way of the Lord  
Come and worship Him  
Let His Kingdom in *Repeat*

### Chorus

Make straight in the desert  
A highway for God  
Each mountain made low  
Each valley raised up  
The Lord God Almighty  
Will never be stopped  
His glory will be revealed

### Verse 2

Jesus Christ is the Lord  
Jesus Christ is the Lord

### Verse 2

And still waters You will stir  
As we're changed from who we were  
We're no longer 'neath the curse  
You'll find us singing  
*Chorus*

Jesus Christ is the Lord  
Come and worship Him  
Let His Kingdom in *Repeat*

### Chorus

Make straight in the desert  
A highway for God  
Each mountain made low  
Each valley raised up  
The Lord God Almighty  
Will never be stopped  
His glory will be revealed *Repeat*

### Ending

Prepare the way of the Lord  
Prepare the way of the Lord  
Prepare the way of the Lord  
Come and worship Him  
Prepare the way of the Lord

### **\*POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

**C Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A** Let us pray. God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

**C Amen.**

## SENDING

### **\*BLESSING**

**P** May God who comes among us, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

**C Amen.**

### **\*SENDING SONG**

#### **"Prepare the Way"**

*Words and Music by Bethany Wohrle, Chris Cleveland, Dante Bowe, Ethan Hulse and Justin Amundrud"; © 2019 Bethel Worship Publishing | Maverick City Publishing | Centricity Songs | Curb Songs | Be Essential Songs | Bethel Music Publishing*

#### **Verse 1**

We've heard the revival stories  
Of ancient and old time glory  
Spirit of God come do it again  
Miracle-working power  
Moving in signs and wonders  
Spirit of God come do it again

#### **Chorus**

Prepare the way He's coming through  
Ready or not our God's on the move  
We're gonna see heaven on earth  
Come Holy Spirit awaken Your church

#### **Verse 2**

God You're just getting started  
A testimony of more to come  
Spirit of God come do it in us  
We join in the faith of heaven  
And prophesy Your kingdom here on earth  
Spirit of God come do it in us

#### **Final Chorus**

Prepare the way He's coming through  
Ready or not our God's on the move  
We're gonna see heaven on earth  
Come Holy Spirit awaken Your church  
We've heard the revival stories  
Of ancient and old time glory  
Spirit of God come do it again

**\*DISMISSAL**

**A** Go in peace. Keep awake.

**G** Thanks be to God.

**\*SENDING MUSIC**

**PRAISE TEAM**

# **Christmas Worship**

**DEC 24**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP WITH  
CANDLE LIGHTING & COMMUNION

**4 PM & 9 PM**

PRAISE WORSHIP WITH  
CANDLE LIGHTING & COMMUNION

**7 PM**

**DEC 25**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

LESSONS & CAROLS

**10 AM**



LIVESTREAMED CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: 4 PM | [FACEBOOK.COM/GSLCWOODSTOCK](https://www.facebook.com/GSLCWOODSTOCK)

## STAY CONNECTED AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Looking for more announcement details? Read your Sheep Buzz! Sign-up on our website for a newsletter to be delivered to your e-mail inbox every Friday around 3 PM. Want to get a text when a Sheep Buzz is sent? Text [media@gslutheran.org](mailto:media@gslutheran.org) to be added to the list of recipients.

## WORSHIP WITH US EACH SUNDAY!

8:30 AM Traditional Worship | 10:45 AM Praise Worship  
Facebook Live at [facebook.com/gslcwoodstock](https://facebook.com/gslcwoodstock)

9:45 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Studies (Through Dec. 21 for adult classes;  
Last day for youth classes is Dec. 7 All classes resume January 4, 2026)

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our weekly  
SHEEP BUZZ



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### GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF

Rev. Karen Boda ..... Pastor  
Pam Weinelt ..... Praise Team Coordinator  
Anna Kate Peed ..... Organist/Choir Director  
Michelle Provost ..... Office Coordinator  
Donna Garges ..... Media Coordinator  
Carrie Escamilla ..... Bookkeeper  
Aaron Frink ..... Custodian

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