

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 28, 2025

8:30 AM Traditional 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

*You are invited to stand—please silence your cell phones

∞ GATHERING ∞

PRELUDE

“Shepherds”

Anna Kate Peed

-Wilbur Held

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace. **C Amen.**

P Trusting in God’s steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection. (Stand or kneel)

P Reconciling God,

C we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace.

We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news.

Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

P God’s grace upon grace flows over you. † Christ’s presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

C Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**

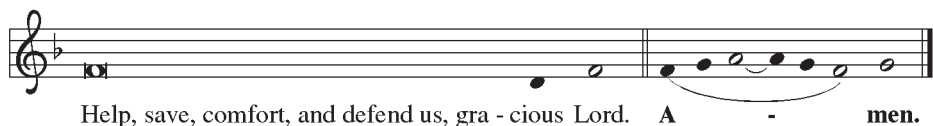
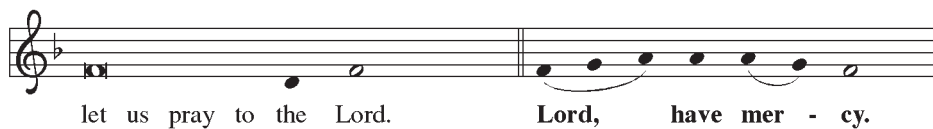
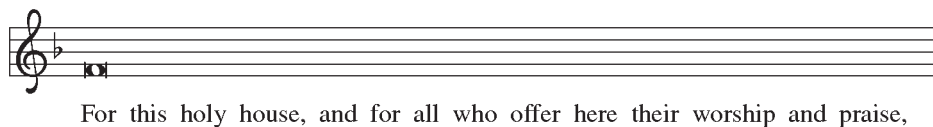
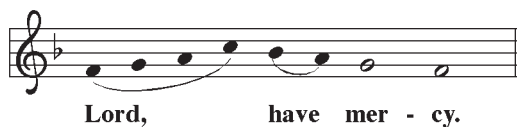
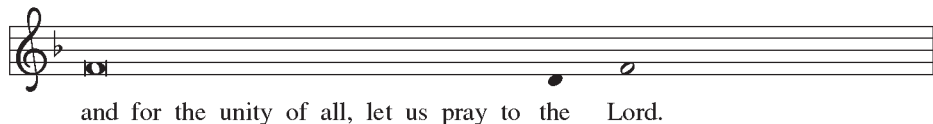
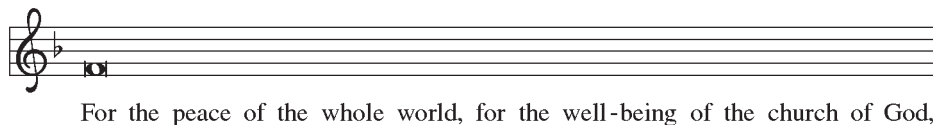
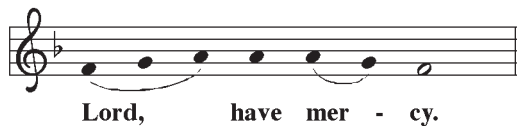
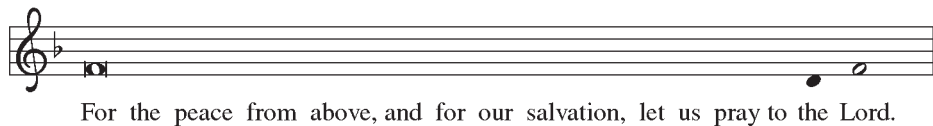
“Love Has Come”

ELW #292

***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



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☞ Let us pray. O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ☞ **Amen.**

∞ WORD ∞

FIRST READING

- 📖 A reading from Isaiah.

At conclusion of reading

The Word of the Lord. ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

Isaiah 63:7-9

Pew Bible, Page 679

PSALM 148 *(please read responsively)*

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☞ Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights! | ☞ Praise him, sun and moon; Praise him, all you shining stars! |
| ☞ Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! | ☞ Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens! 4 |

- [A]** Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were
created.
- [C]** **He established them forever and
ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot
be passed.**
- [A]** Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea
monsters and all deeps,
- [C]** **fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy
wind fulfilling his command!**
- [A]** Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and
all cedars!
- [C]** **Wild animals and all cattle, creeping
things and flying birds!**

- [A]** Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
- [C]** **Young men and women alike, old
and young together!**
- [A]** Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted; his glory
is above earth and heaven.
- [C]** **He has raised up a horn for his
people, praise for all his faithful, for
the people of Israel who are close to
him.
Praise the Lord!**

SECOND READING

- [L]** A reading from Hebrews.

At conclusion of reading

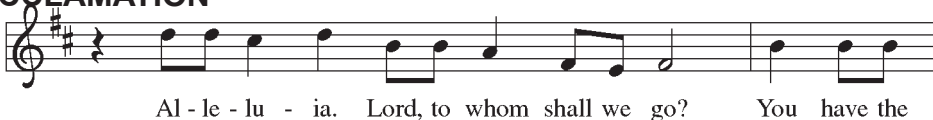
- [L]** The Word of the Lord. **[C]** **Thanks be to God.**

Hebrews 2:10-18

Pew Bible, Page 1090

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL READING

- [P]** The holy gospel according to Matthew.

[C] **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At conclusion of reading

- [L]** The gospel of the Lord. **[C]** **Praise to you, O Christ**

Matthew 2:13-23

Pew Bible, Page 878

SERMON

“The Work of Christmas”

Pastor Karen Boda

*HYMN OF DAY

“What Child Is This?”

ELW #296

***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, "Hear us, O God." Worshippers respond with the words, "Your mercy is great."

***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.)

MEAL

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 ANTHEM "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" Alan Boda, Violinist

-Robert J. Powell

***OFFERING HYMN**

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW #181

***OFFERING PRAYER**

A Let us pray. God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

☩ Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure.

☐ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major and 4/4 time. The melody is more complex than the first hymn, with some eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below each staff.

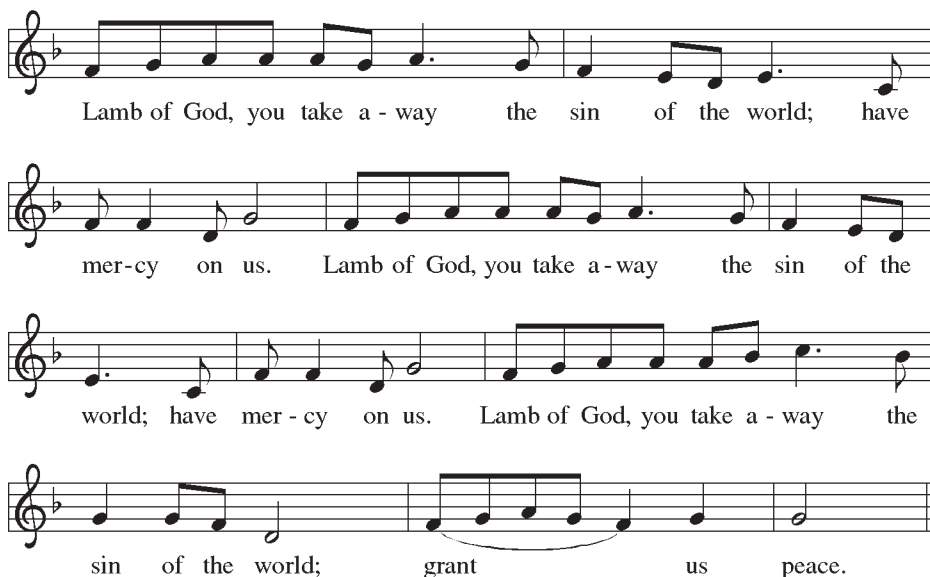
*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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/COMMUNION HYMNS

“Your Little Ones, Dear Lord”

ELW #286

“We Come to the Hungry Feast”

ELW #479

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

A Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray. Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **A** Amen.

∞ SENDING ∞

***BLESSING**

P The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, †bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

C Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

ELW #288

***DISMISSAL**

A Glory to God in the highest!

C **And peace to God’s people on earth!**

A Go in joy. Embody God’s redeeming grace.

C **Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Anna Kate Peed

-David Wilcocks

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 to be added to the list of recipients.



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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WORSHIP WITH US EACH SUNDAY!

8:30 AM Traditional Worship | 10:45 AM Praise Worship | 9:45 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Studies | Facebook Live at facebook.com/gslcwoodstock

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