
December 4th, 2016 at 9:30 am 2nd Sunday of Advent
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 E. Mason, Lena, IL 61048

Phone # (815)369-5552

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Email: gslchurch@aeroinc.net Website: www.GoodShepherdLena.org

Facebook: "GSLCLenaIL"



Art by
Anna Patterson

***Welcome to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
If you are visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome
And to know that we are delighted to have you here***

We would like everyone to fill out the Friendship Pad at the end of the pews and pass it along for all to fill out. Please also mark the names of all in the family who are receiving Communion. If you are visiting, please include your address and phone number.

Nursery Children are always welcome at our worship services; however, if you desire, please feel free to use the nursery located out the north entrance of the sanctuary.

— **ORDER OF WORSHIP** —
ELW SETTING 3

PRELUDE (A time for prayer and reflection)
Announcements & Community Concerns

Karen Niemeier

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*Please stand*)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
 who comes to wake us from sleep,
 who leads us into the light of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us prepare the way of the Lord
 by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: God of all time,

**C: we confess that we have not prepared
 for your merciful reign among us.**

**We ignore our neighbors in need
 and fail in the labor of justice and peace.**

In your mercy forgive us.

**Grant us wisdom to welcome your light
 and to seek the things that will endure
 until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

P: Comfort, O comfort my people,
 says your God.

In ☩ Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven
 and all things are made new.

Rejoice in this good news!

C: Amen.

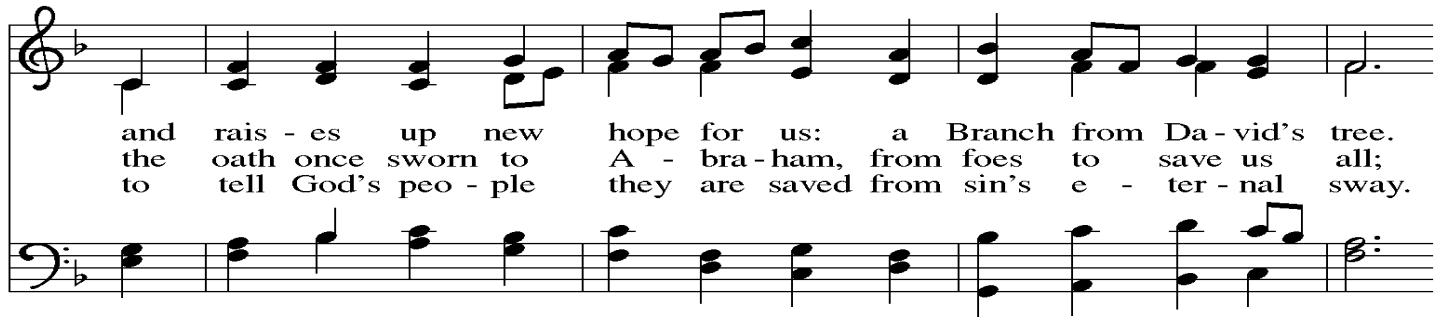
GATHERING SONG

Blessed Be the God of Israel

ELW#250



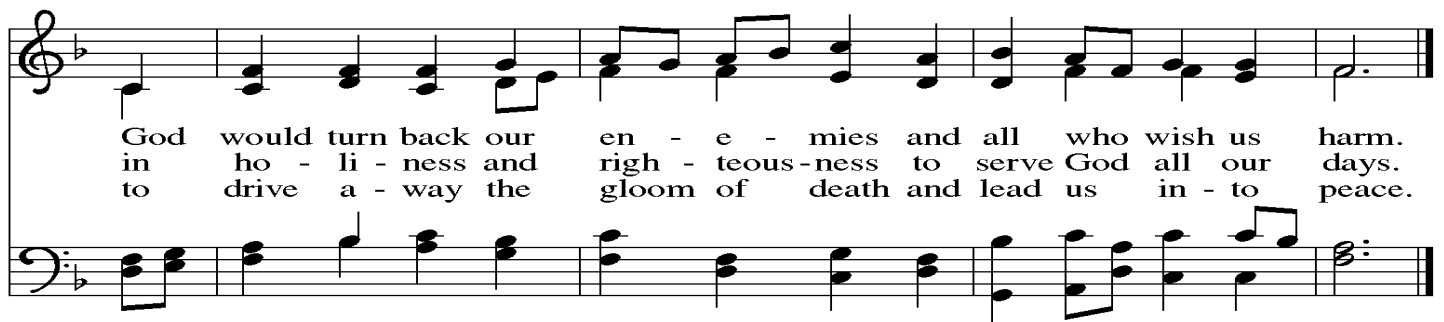
1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
 2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
 3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre - pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
 the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all;
 to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



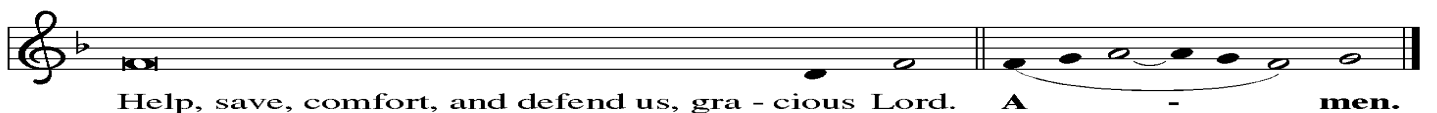
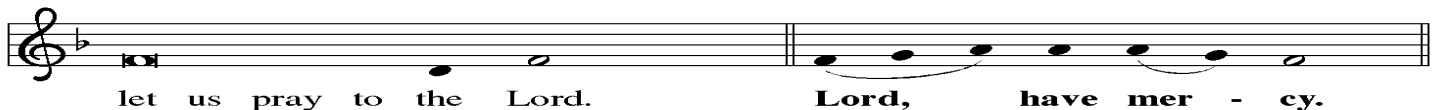
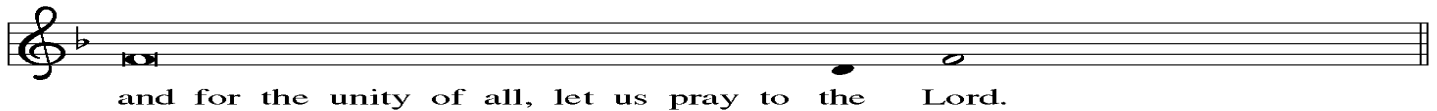
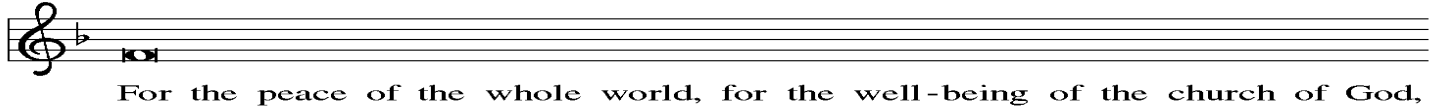
So have the proph-ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm
 that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
 Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
 in ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.
 to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

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 *Please stand as you are able.* (Assisting Minister: regular print, **C: bold print**)

Please be seated

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

One of the best known customs for the season is the Advent wreath. The wreath and winter candle-lighting in the midst of growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The unbroken circle of greens is an image of everlasting life, a victory wreath, the crown of Christ, or the wheel of time itself. Christians use the wreath as a sign that Christ reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light.

Litany for the Second Sunday in Advent:

L: At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming. O Emmanuel,

C: Prepare us for your coming.

L: We gather together to get ready for what? Only heaven knows. O Emmanuel,

C: Prepare us for your coming.

L: We wait for the day when God will create a prevailing peace on the earth, and natural-born enemies turn into newborn friends. O Emmanuel,

C: Prepare us for your coming.

L: We get ready for God to come close by laying our lives open to Jesus, asking him to sort through all our mixed motives. O Emmanuel,

C: Prepare us for your coming.

L: Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of these candles, whose flames bring warmth to winter and fill this place with the glow of hope.

C: Amen.

Light two candles.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Verse 2) ELW#257



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray, **C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

L: The 1st READING is from Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on

the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 (*Please join the Assisting Minister in reading the psalm responsively*) **ELW#72**

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

²**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁸**Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel; you alone do wondrous deeds!**

¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever, and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

L: The 2nd READING is from Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹²and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to Matthew 3:1-12 **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”P: The gospel of the Lord! **C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

Please be seated

CHILDREN ‘S MESSAGE

Pastor Miho Yasukawa

SERMON

Pastor Miho Yasukawa

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

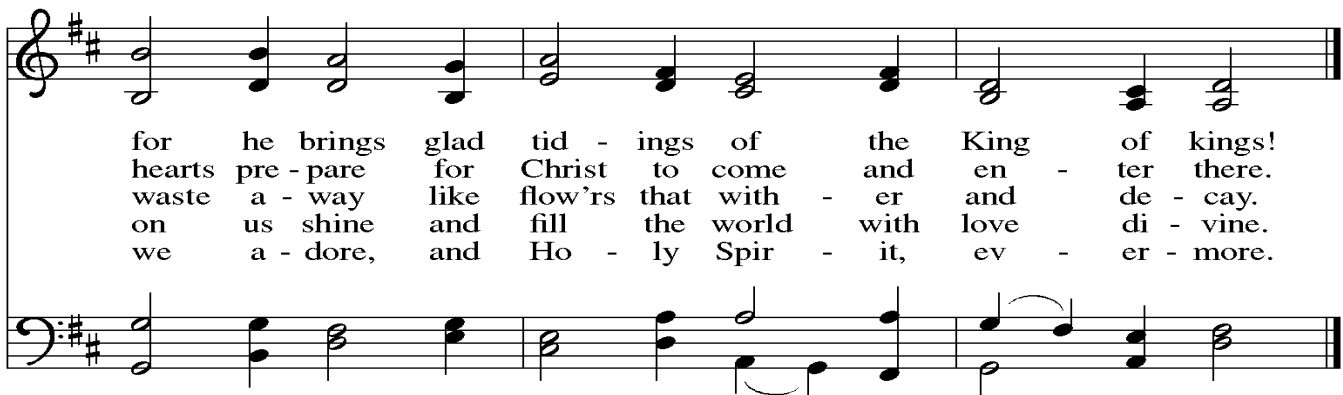
ELW#249



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

APOSTLES CREED *Please Stand*

A: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: **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

After each petition: WA: let us pray. **C: Have mercy, O God.**

WA: As we anticipate the fullness of the presence of Christ, we join with the church throughout the world, praying for all who are in need. *A brief silence*

WA: For the church throughout the world, for all inspired and led by the Holy Spirit, and for all who proclaim the wondrous deeds of God; that all divisions and disagreements cease, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

WA: For the earth and its creatures, for animals of every size, for plants that provide shade and nourishment; that we see God's goodness revealed in every living thing, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

WA: For the nations and those in authority, for police officers and firefighters, for social workers and attorneys; that God grant them wisdom to work for peace and justice, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

WA: For the poor, the meek, the unwelcomed, those suffering from malaria and HIV/AIDS, the sick and the bereaved *especially, Bob Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Verl Price, Bruce, Beverly, Donna Euler, Katy Lartz, Kelli Huneke, Jane Parks, Terry, Bill and Marion* strengthen and encourage **Laura Derr, Lois Paulsen and Fern Harnish** that they experience Christ embodied in healthcare workers and caregivers, let us pray. **C: Have mercy, O God.**

WA: For those traveling and those absent from this gathering, for those serving in the military, for those preparing for baptism, and for our congregation; that in all we do we praise and glorify God, let us pray. **C: Have mercy, O God.**

WA: In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who have died in Christ; that they show us the way of hope through the incarnate Word, let us pray. **C: Have mercy, O God.**

Pastor: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, those spoken aloud and those known only to you, and grant us peace through Jesus Christ, our coming Savior. **C: Amen.**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING**Choir Anthem**

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church locally and throughout the world, including those in need. We also offer up prayers to God as we offer ourselves (time, talents, gifts, and interests) to the Lord's service and dedicate our lives to God's work in the world. During this time, the table is set. After the table is set, the offering is gathered & the anthem concludes, the acolyte walks out to the edge of the chancel steps to receive the offering from the ushers.

Offering Prayer (*after acolyte presents offering at altar*)

A: Let us pray, **C: Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.**

DIALOGUE

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION**LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**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 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

We practice open Communion here — Christ invites us to the table. All baptized Christians are welcome to partake the body and blood of Jesus Christ. If you wish to receive a blessing, you may come forward. Holy Communion will be celebrated by intinction you will dip the bread into the chalice. The gold chalices have wine; the chrome chalices have grape juice. You will be ushered down the center aisle and return to your pew by way of the side aisles. If you need assistance, please let an usher know.



COMMUNION SONG (sung by all) Lamb of God

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "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." The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence on the word "peace".

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.

TABLE BLESSING:

P: The Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION A: God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

BLESSING P: May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hark, the Glad Sound

ELW#239

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace, to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

DISMISSAL (from the back)

A: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE**Karen Niemeier**

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THIS WEEK AT GOOD SHEPHERDDecember 4th thru December 11th 2016

Today	Worship Service with Holy Communion	9:30 am
	Fellowship	10:30 am
	Sunday School	10:45 am
	Choir Practice	11:00 am
	Chime Practice	5:00 pm
Wednesday	"Piece Corps" Quilting Group	8:00 am-11:30 am
	Confirmation Class	6:30 pm-8:00pm
	After School Program for 4 th -8 th graders at the Hangout	3:30 pm-5:00pm
Thursday	Friendship Club Potluck/Entertainment "Take Two"	12:00 pm
Saturday	Men's Group	4:30 pm
Next Sunday	Worship Service with Holy Communion	9:30 am
	Fellowship	10:30 am
	Sunday School	10:45 am
	Choir Practice	11:00 am
	Christmas Caroling	2:00 pm

Attendance November 20th was 61 – Attendance for November 27th was 64

Total Offering November 20, 2016: \$1,260.00 - Amount needed to meet budget: \$5,048.79

Total Offering November 27, 2016 \$3163.00 – Amount needed \$5,585.24

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

<u>Pastor:</u>	Pastor Miho Yasukawa	<u>Missionaries to Tanzania:</u>	Randy & Carol Stubbs Family
<u>Pianists:</u>	Tena Rackow, Sarah Baker	<u>Organist:</u>	Karen Niemeier
<u>Choir Dir. /accomp:</u>	Janis Kurth / Marion Fahr	<u>Secretary:</u>	Darlene Barr
<u>Lector</u>	Shirley Fox	<u>Acolyte:</u>	Madilyn Diddens
<u>Assisting Minister</u>	Taylor Bastian	<u>Worship Assistant:</u>	Taylor Bastian
<u>Communion Usher</u>	Jerry and Beth Martin	<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Beth Martin
<u>Communion Asst:</u>	Tony and Jackie Jordan		
<u>Elevator Operator</u>	Taylor Patterson, Kristy Patterson		
<u>Sound System:</u>	Troy Doubler, Hanna Brinker		
<u>Greeters:</u>	Virgil and Joanne Martin, Paul and Shirley Fox		
<u>Ushers:</u>	Jerry and Beth Martin, Gary and Cynthia Boekle		

Children's Christmas Program will be December 18th

Join us for a festive worship service led by our children and youth as they present

"Footprints to the Manger"

The children will lead us in song and actions. There will be special music from our children and youth. We will have congregational hymns, and we will hear and see the story unfold.

All Sunday school children are encouraged to attend Sunday School to help prepare for the Christmas program.

Hope to see you all there!

Christmas Gifts Bags

Items are needed for Sunday School Christmas Gift Bags, please see signup sheet by the Fellowship Hall for items that are needed

Pastoral Care:

If you or someone you know needs pastoral care, please notify or call the church office (815-369-5552) and/or Pastor Miho E-mail: gslpastor@aeroinc.net Cell: 815-821-9570

Poinsettias:

Each year, Good Shepherd's chancel is decorated with poinsettias for the Christmas Services. You may order a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one; or in celebration of the birth of Jesus! Please write your information requested on a flower envelope found in the pew holders, and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office by December 4th (Cost \$10.00).

Christmas Caroling, December 11th

We will meet at the church at 2:00 pm, dress warmly, we will bring the Joyful sounds of the Christmas Season to others in our community. After Caroling, enjoy a hot bowl of soup back at Good Shepherd.

Bring finger foods to share.

Lena Area Church Cooperative

The Angel Tree is up in the fellowship hall. Please remember to return your gift (s) to the church by Sunday, December 18th, with the top angel attached to it. Make sure that if you have multiple packages, that they are all marked or tied together.

Please do not forget to drop off your cookies for Operation Good Fellow this Wednesday, December 7th! Please be sure and cross off your name and if you could also mark off how many dozen you left that would be great! Thanks!

Any Questions, please contact Shirley Fox or Mary Lloyd

Join us for Christmas Eve Worship Services

Join us on Saturday December 24th as we celebrate Christmas Eve Candlelight worship with Holy Communion at 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm. Choir and Chime will offer their music.

Volunteers Needed

For All positions at the 5:00pm and 7:30pm Christmas Eve Services

If you can assist please write your name, time of service and volunteer position on the pew pad or call the church office at 815-369-5552 or email gschurch@aeroinc.net or GoodShepherdLena@outlook.com with the information.

**Consider Alternative Giving this Christmas
Celebrate Giving with ELCA GOOD GIFTS**

Make a difference in the world as you give gifts to loved ones this Christmas

In lieu of traditional gifts, consider supporting meaningful projects of the ELCA in honor of friends and loved ones through **ELCA Good Gifts, ELCA Disaster Relief, or God's Global Barnyard**. Honor friends and loved ones with gifts that grow the church, fight hunger, and transform lives. You can buy a chicken that will provide eggs and income, you can support a missionary, support a church plant, buy a well or a portion of a well, and so much more. Consider creating a new family tradition! Maybe you can decide to go in together and choose together what would be meaningful to do. **Check out the bulletin board outside the fellowship hall for more ideas!**

Update Your Information

Good Shepherd Church is up-dating the Church's contact file.

Please fill out the enclosed form and place it in the offering plate or in the wicker baskets that are at the doors as you exit. Thank you.