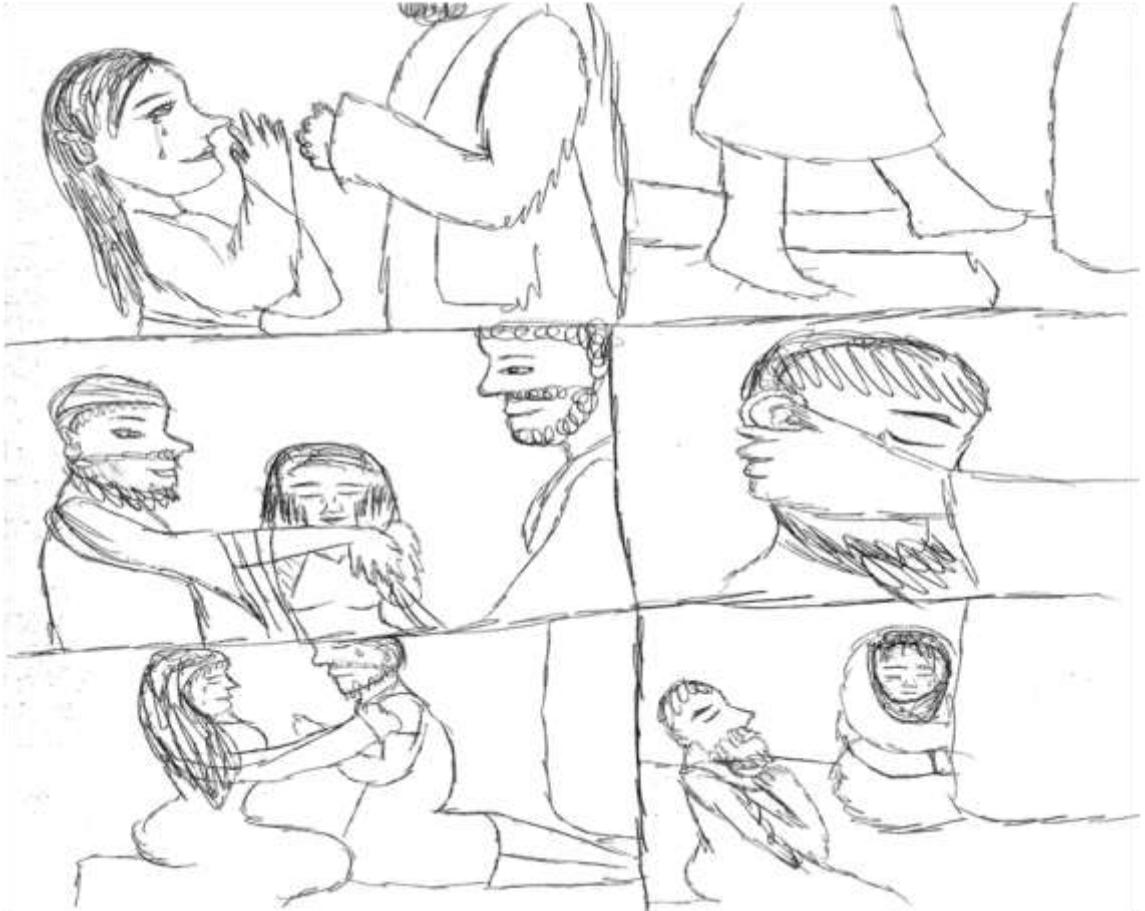


Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Christmas Program

Sunday, December 15th 2019



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

118 E. Mason, Lena, IL 61048

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Pastor Miho: (815) 821-9570

Art by
Anna Patterson



Welcome to worship at Good Shepherd.

This service will use ELW (cranberry hymnal) and WOV (blue hymnal) in you pew.

Prelude

Tena Rackow

Welcome

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle—Joy

Sunday School Children

During Advent we add one candle every Sunday to remind us that the light of Christ illuminates darkness. Christ is with us in our sorrows which gives us joy. We light the peace, hope, and joy candles today.

Youth: Let us pray. In the dark, do not fear. Always know that God is near. God is with you day and night, in the dark and in the light. Thank you, Wonderful Counselor, for the gift of joy. **Amen.**

(During the song, light the hope, peace and love candles)

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” (verse 3) ELW#240

Light three candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway
for the King of glory.

Christmas Program “The Wonder”

Songs in the program:

Hymns will be introduced by the Youth Band.

Away in the Manger	ELW#277
<i>Children will sing verse 1, and the congregation will join in verse 2</i>	
Angels We Have Heard on High	ELW#289 <i>verse 1 & 2</i>
We Three Kings of Orient Are	WOV#646 (blue hymnal) <i>verse 1 & 2</i>
O Little Town of Bethlehem	ELW#279 <i>verse 1 & 2</i>
Joy to the World*	ELW#267 <i>all verses</i>

**our member's favorite Christmas carol*



Memorial Dedication

Dear friends, today we give thanks to God and we seek God's blessing as we set apart star lighted treetop, window candles, and handbells for the glory and praise of God.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for you have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift; you have commanded us to show your splendor to our children; and you have invited us to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy.

Star Treetop Ornament

Lord, giver of everlasting love, accept this star lighted treetop given in memory of Matilda "Tip" Schneider. Send your blessing on this star lighted treetop, which we set apart today. As the star shined and guided the wise men may this leads us to your light. To you, O God, be all glory and honor through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the unity of Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Window Candles

Lord, giver of eternal life, accept these window candles given in memory of Ed and Jean Wenzel. Send your blessing on these candles, which we set apart today. May they be to us a sign of Christ, the Light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome. To you, O God, be all glory and honor through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the Unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Handbells

Lord, giver of great mercy, accept these handbells given in memory of Alice Price, Ed and Jean Wenzel, Esther Bergman, and Lee and Marjorie Wenzel. Send your blessing upon us and upon these handbells, which we set apart today. May they enrich the lives of your people and proclaim your unconditional love. To you, O God, be all glory and honor through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, giver of new life. Grant us faith to know your gracious purpose in all things, and continue your blessings to us through the bounty of your creation; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The Sharing of the Peace

P: May the peace of Christ be with you always! **C: And also with you!**

Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

Offering

Offering Anthem

"Advent Hope"

Handbell Choir

Offering Prayer: Let us pray. **Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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

Lord's Prayer

ELW page 112

Invitation to Communion

Lamb Of God Tune:

JEG ER SÅ GLAD

ELW#271

1. O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all, the world away; you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.
2. O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all, the world away; you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.
3. O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all, the world away; eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Song

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

ELW#242

Prayer After Communion

Community Concerns & Celebrations

Blessing

Sending Hymn

“On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry”

ELW#249

verses 1, 3 and 5

Dismissal (from the back)

Youth: Go in peace. Christ is with you. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Tena Rackow

Please come to fellowship hour after worship in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.

<p>Worship Attendance December 8, 2019: 62 Total Offering for December 8, 2019: \$2123.00 amount needed \$2259.40</p>



Worship Assistants

Pianist ~ Krista Keene, Tena Rackow
Sound System ~ Troy Doubler and Youth
Elevator Operator ~ Chris Brinker
Sunday School children and youth will help with worship.

Thank you!



~We Lift Our Prayers ~

For God's peace

To our homes, among nations, God's church, those who are affected by severe weather, and our hearts

For God's blessings

To the work at ELCA, Good Gifts, Lena Area Church Cooperative, Lutheran World Relief, our families and friends.

For God's healing...

...to Bob and Lynn Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Delbert Scheider, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Robin Cross, Connor Stadermann, Jaden, Jon Forsythe, Brooke, Meghan, Diane, Myron Coaty, Deb Lindeman Harder, Cindy Tessendorf, Randy, Brian, Don Hoge, the Heimann family, Richard Gordon, Dave Heinkel, Janet, Paul Heller, Lori, J.T., Kris Sanders, Dan and Sue White, Irene, Jeff and Deb, Paul Nelson, Ryse Stone, Carolyn, Harry Perra Jr. and Vicar Mike Reibel.

We pray for those who are confined to their homes or health care centers...

Lois Paulsen and Fern Harnish

For God's comfort...

To those who miss loved ones this season, friends and family of Marian Clark.

Merciful God, we pray for peace to ring out in our hearts and in our homes; for mercy and forgiveness to reign in every community; for war to cease and hunger to end. Give us this joy now, Holy One. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



God Hears and Answers Prayers

~ *Announcements* ~

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.

Lena Area Church Cooperative

The Angel Tree gifts are due today. Because of your generosity, a needy family will have something special this holiday season. Thank you! And another thank you goes out to all of you who donated cookies for the Lena Lions Club Operation Good Fellow.

We personally want to say how very thankful we are to this congregation for how devoted you are to the projects of the Church Cooperative.

God Bless you and Merry Christmas!

Shirley Fox and Mary Lloyd

Matthew 25:40 "And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Youth OWL Night

December 20th (Friday) 5:30pm -December 21st (Saturday) 9:00am

There will be activities all night at the church, come and stop by anytime. Door is open and we will have snacks all night. Questions? Please talk to Kristy or Pr. Miho for more information.

Caroling at Lena Living Center

We'll go Christmas caroling at the Lena Living Center on Friday, December 20th. Meet at church at 5:40pm.

Year End Contribution

To facilitate the year end closing of the church books and statements of contributions, it would be appreciated if any year end contributions could be received by the last Sunday of December. All contributions received after December 29, 2019 will be applied to 2020 year. This will greatly help our congregational treasurer and financial secretary.

~ *This Week at Good Shepherd* ~

<i>December 18</i>	<i>Piece Corps Quilting Group</i>	<i>8:00am-11:30am</i>
<i>December 19</i>	<i>Good Shepherd at Friendship Center Devotions & Dessert</i>	<i>1:00pm</i>
<i>December 20</i>	<i>Hannah Circle "Birthday Party at LLC</i>	<i>2:00pm</i>
<i>December 20-21</i>	<i>Youth Owl Night</i>	<i>5:30pm-9:00am</i>
<i>December 22</i>	<i>Worship Service with Holy Communion</i>	<i>9:30am</i>

There will be no Sunday School classes December 22nd and December 29th.
Classes will resume Sunday, January 5th, 2020.



Come join us for Christmas

Holy Communion will be celebrated at all services.



Family Christmas Eve Service.
December 24th at 5:00pm
Hear the Christmas story from Martin Luther's family. We end the service with singing Silent Night with candlelight.
candle light

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Worship service filled with music and light.
December 24th at 7:30pm



Christmas Day Worship Service

Carols through the ages
December 25th at 9:30am.



Blue Christmas Service.
December 29th at 9:30am

We gather and read the massacre of the Infants.
Violence was and still is real to human lives.
Rene Johnson will share the message and we will
bless the first responders in our community in
the worship. service





A BIG thank you to all people involved in getting the Christmas program together. We had a lot of behind the scenes work going on and everyone's contributions were greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Kristy Patterson for heading up the program this year and to Anna Patterson for her artwork on the front cover of the program, and also to Sue Diddens for leading the Youth Choir. Thank you to Dale Gullickson, Karen Niemeier, and Marybeth Brinker for their help with the program. Thank you Krista Keene for accompaniment of the hymns during the program and BillieJo Runkle for organizing our instrumentalists!

Thank you to parents, grandparents and family members for their support and love. We thank God for you!

Parents and children, please return costumes to the hangers in the 1st-6th grade classroom before heading down for treats.

Our Performers

Kenlee Price
Brianna Fye
Jared Runkle

Penelope Price
Nakoah Cornwell
Lucas Fye

Lukas Price
Jacob Runkle
Ethan Fye

Youth Christmas Band

Jacob Runkle
Sarah Gieseaman

Jared Runkle,
Cierra Hatelak

Kayla Runkle
Nakoah Cornwell

Youth Christmas Choir

Kayla Runkle Krista Keene
Sarah Gieseaman Cierra Hatelak