

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

118 E. Mason St., Lena, IL 61048

Vicar Thomas Mosbo: (563) 258-1502

Church Office: Phone (815) 369-5552

**Email: GoodShepherdLena@outlook.com (office);
gslpastor@outlook.com (Vicar Thomas Mosbo)**

Website: www.GoodShepherdLena.org

Facebook: "GSLCLenaIL"

December 17, 2023 9:30am

Third Sunday of Advent



John 1:6-8

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

To listen to the service, please turn your radio to

FM 88.9

Thank you for joining our service today.

Please leave your offering in the plate at the door as you enter or leave the service.

This worship we will be using ELW Setting 3.

You may stand during worship with asterisk () in this bulletin.*

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Karen Niemeier

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of Advent Wreath

L: Seek the Lord while he may be found, **C: call upon him while he is near.**
L: Prepare the way of the Lord, **C: make the Lord's paths straight.**
L: Lift up your heads, O gates, **C: that the king of glory may come in.**
L: The Spirit and the church cry out: **C: Come, Lord Jesus!**
L: All those who await his appearance pray: **C: Come, Lord Jesus!**
L: The whole creation pleads: **C: Come, Lord Jesus!**

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe...

Wreath Hymn

"Light One Candle to Watch"

ELW #240, verse 3

Confession and Forgiveness

ELW page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☐ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.**

Uphold us by your Spirit

**so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **C: Amen**

Gathering Hymn “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” ELW #242

*** Greeting**

ELW page 138

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**

ELW page 138

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. .

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*** Prayer of the Day**

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;

²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Luke 1:46b-55

^{46b}My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
⁴⁷my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸**for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:**
⁴⁹you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.
⁵⁰**You have mercy on those who fear you,
from generation to generation.**
⁵¹You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
⁵²**casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.**
⁵³You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴**You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,
to remember the promise of mercy,**

⁵⁵the promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his children forever.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit.

²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

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

***Gospel Acclamation**

ELW page 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

*** Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John. C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' " as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?"

²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

* Hymn of the Day

“Hark, the Glad Sound”

Vicar Thomas Mosbo

ELW#239

* Apostles' Creed

ELW page 105

P: With the whole church, let us 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 again 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

Congregation responds to each petition with the following:

L: Merciful God, C: **receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Taylor B., Denny Bergmann, Willie Kayser, Rene', Paul Fahr, Gary Hudik, Brady Meier, Leona Block, Connor Stadermann, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Paul Heller, Janet, Ryse Stone, Nicole, Meghan and her baby, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Richard Gordon, Kay, Shanna, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Jack, Gretchen, Tina, Joe, Dan Kempel, Justin Yeager, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Lamar Hail, Connie, Rachel Collins, Jim Clay, Sharon Janicke, Ethan, Hanna, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Heckman, Vera Kempel, Jeri, Allie, Al Glen Hagemann, Bruce Stewart, Pam, Caroline, Betty Tina D., Howard D., Christine, Michelle. Pray for love, peace, comfort and hope of resurrection for the family of Jim Swain and Lee Bramlet.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Peace

ELW page 143

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

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

Chime Anthem

“Carol of the Bells”

Great Thanksgiving

ELW page 144

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.

Preface

ELW page 144

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

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW page 144

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer

ELW page 145

Lord's Prayer

ELW page 145

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray,

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

Lamb of God

ELW page 146

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Communion Hymn

“ Jesus Remember Me”

ELW #616

Communion

ELW page 146

P: The body of Christ given for you. *(eat the body of Christ)*
The blood of Christ shed for you. *(drink the blood of Christ)*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you
in his grace. **C: Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

ELW page 146

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you,
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace,
In the name of the Father, † and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

“Joy to the World”

ELW #267

*** Dismissal**

ELW page 146

P. Go in peace. Christ is near.

C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Karen Niemeier

*Attendance December 3rd
In-person 35. Online 36*