Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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December 25th, 2025 9:30am

Christmas Day



Please leave your offering in the plate at the door
You may stand at times marked with an asterisk (*)

Opening

Prelude and Contemplation Tena Rackow

Welcome and Announcements

* 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.

* Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lessons and Carols

*** Carol** ***Of the Father's Love Begotten*** **ELW # 295, verses 1, 2, 5**

Psalm: 97

L: Let us read responsively Psalm 97.

1 The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;
let the many coastlands be glad!

2 **Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;**
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

3 Fire goes before him
and burns up his adversaries all around.

4 **His lightnings light up the world;**
the earth sees and trembles.

5 The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,
before the Lord of all the earth.

6 **The heavens proclaim his righteousness,**
and all the peoples see his glory.

7 All worshipers of images are put to shame,
who make their boast in worthless idols;
worship him, all you gods!

8 **Zion hears and is glad,**
and the daughters of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O LORD.

9 For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.

10 **O you who love the LORD, hate evil!**
He preserves the lives of his saints;
he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the upright in heart.

12 **Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,**
and give thanks to his holy name! *[ESV]*

Carol ***Angels, From the Realms of Glory*** **ELW # 275**

Lesson 1: *Isaiah 62:6-12*

L: A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

6 On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen;
all the day and all the night they shall never be silent.
You who put the LORD in remembrance, take no rest,
7 and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it a praise in the earth.
8 The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm:
"I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies,
and foreigners shall not drink your wine
for which you have labored;
9 but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD,
and those who gather it shall drink it
in the courts of my sanctuary."
10 Go through, go through the gates;
prepare the way for the people;
build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones;
lift up a signal over the peoples.
11 Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth:
Say to the daughter of Zion, Behold, your salvation comes;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him."
12 And they shall be called The Holy People,
The Redeemed of the LORD;
and you shall be called Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken. *[ESV]*

Carol ***Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*** **ELW # 288**

Lesson 2: *Isaiah 52:7-10*

L: A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

7 How beautiful upon the mountains
    are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
    who publishes salvation,
    who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”
8 The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
    together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
    the return of the LORD to Zion.
9 Break forth together into singing,
    you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
    he has redeemed Jerusalem.
10 The LORD has bared his holy arm
    before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
    the salvation of our God. *[ESV]*

Carol *Angels We Have Heard on High* ELW # 289

Lesson 3: *Hebrews 1:1-12*

L: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

[5] For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son,
today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son"?

[6] And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

[7] Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds,
and his ministers a flame of fire."

[8] But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.
[9] You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

[10] And,

"You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
[11] they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment,
[12] like a robe you will roll them up,
like a garment they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will have no end." *[ESV]*

Carol ***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*** **ELW # 270**

Lesson 4: *Titus 3:4-7*

L: A reading from Paul's letter to Titus.

4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. *[ESV]*

* Carol *Once in Royal David's City* ELW # 269

* Gospel: *Luke 2:1-20*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

2 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the registration before Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. 6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guest room.

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

[10] And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good
news of great joy that will be for all the people. [11] For unto you is born
this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. [12] And this
will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths
and lying in a manger.” [13] And suddenly there was with the angel a mul-
titude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

[14] “Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, good will among men.”

[15] When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds
said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing
that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” [16] And they
went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a
manger. [17] And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had
been told them concerning this child. [18] And all who heard it wondered
at what the shepherds told them. [19] But Mary treasured up all these
things, pondering them in her heart. [20] And the shepherds returned, glo-
rifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been
told them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

Meditation Rev. Thomas Mosbo

*** Hymn** ***O Come, All Ye Faithful*** **ELW # 283**

* Nicene Creed

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father,
through whom all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer

Prayer of the Church

L: Let us pray.

O Lord, our God…

… may ever praise your wonderful and holy name.

P: We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever through all ages of ages.

C: Amen.

We lift our prayers for

Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Fern Harnish, Denny Bergmann, Rene', Paul Fahr, Marilyn Fulfs, Gary Hudik, Virgil Martin, Caroline Jam, Darlene Aurand, Cyndy Schumacher, Virgil Gordon, Jerry Martin, Donna Christen, Richard Frietag, Waylon Andrews, Connor Stadermann, Diane, Randy, Brian, Paul Heller, Janet, Ryse Stone, Nicole, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Richard Gordon, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Lamar Hail, Connie, Rachel Collins, Pam, Caroline, Tina D., Jim DeMontigny Jr., Linda Kruger-Kleckler, Norman, Vivian, Tina Cheeney, Brenda, Kara Allen, Christine Beyer, Bob Schulz, Kenny Frie, Steve Rothschadl, Gary L. Hartwig, Josh, Hannah, Ray Phillips, Susan, Allison Biddick, Brad Rackow, Kim Choin, Jeannie, Dianne, Nancy, Pat McCluskey, Jim Briggs, Sandi, Tina, Jim and Ronald Schrader.

Sandi, Tina, Jim and Ronald Schrader.

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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.

Blessing

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.

* Hymn *Joy to the World* **ELW # 267**

* Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ the Savior is born.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Tena Rackow



Please be sure that any *offering contribution you would like credit for this year, is received prior* to the end of worship on

Sunday, December 28, 2025.

Contribution received after that time will be credited in 2026.Thank you for your cooperation.

Your generosity and cooperation are very much appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sheila at (815)369-5101. Thank you.

Annual Reports Are Due

Annual reports are required for each committee and organization of the congregation. These reports are assembled and made available to the congregation members prior to the meeting. The reports are the responsibility of the chairperson or offices. If possible, please type up the report and email it to;

GoodShepherdLena@outlook.com

in Word format.

Thank you.

Good Shepherd will be at the

Le-Win Food Pantry

Saturday, December 27th. 8:30am-11:30am

Men's Group

Saturday, December 27th, 4:30pm