



# GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2023 9:30 A.M.

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**WELCOME!** We are delighted to have you worship with us. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to share ours. Please sign our “Friendship Register” providing the requested information. Be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Andrew; he would love to meet you.

**NURSERY** The nursery is open for parents to take their small children during worship service. The space is available but not staffed. Parents are invited to take their children to play. For your convenience a TV is provided to watch a live stream of the worship service. Please make yourself at home and pick up toys before leaving. For your safety, the Education Building is locked. Please see an usher to open the door if you do not have a key.

**FOR THOSE CHILDREN REMAINING IN THE SANCTUARY,** Quiet Bags filled with activities are hanging on the coat racks in the Narthex. Parents of young children are invited to pick up a bag at the beginning of the service. Ushers can direct you to their location.

**ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS ARE WELCOME TO THE FEAST AT THE LORD’S TABLE.**

If you are unable to come forward for communion, please notify an usher so that communion may be brought to you at your seat. If you are unable to receive either the bread or wine, please be assured that the fullness of our Lord’s presence is complete in either element alone. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available; please let the communion server know of your need. Young children who commune should be assisted by their parents.

**A PRAYER BOX** is located in the Narthex for any Prayer Requests that you might have.

**PLEASE SEE THE CALENDAR** in this bulletin for a listing of events taking place at Good Shepherd this week. There is also a monthly calendar on the web page at [www.gslc.com](http://www.gslc.com).

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP,** our services are live-streamed and archived for viewing at other times. See the web page at [www.gslc.com](http://www.gslc.com) for links to these services.

**THE GOOD SHEPHERD FOOD PANTRY** collects non-perishable food items throughout the month with special emphasis on collection the third Sunday of every month. It is open for distribution Wednesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

**REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH FAMILY,** especially those you have not seen for a while. Send a card, make a phone call, or pay a visit. Let them know we love and care for them and wish them God’s blessings.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** is closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Office hours are Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. In the event of an emergency, call the church office at (803) 787-4413 or Pastor Andrew Isenhower at (803) 409-8270. His email address is [pastor@gslc.com](mailto:pastor@gslc.com).

*We are a community of all ages gathered by God’s grace in faith  
for worship, learning, loving, and service to all.*

✠ GATHERING ✠

*As we gather for worship, please be aware of those around you who may be in a time of quiet reflection before the service starts. Please remember to silence any electronic devices.*

**PRELUDE**

**ON JORDAN’S BANK THE BAPTIST’S CRY**

**BURKHARDT**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** *Please sign the attendance sheet.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *Congregation stands.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The congregation turns to face the cross in procession, reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence and love of God.*

**GATHERING HYMN 264**

**PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY**

1 Prepare the royal highway;  
the King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley  
a level road appear!  
Then greet the King of glory,  
foretold in sacred story:

*Refrain*

Hosanna to the Lord,  
for he fulfills God's word!

2 God's people, see him coming:  
your own eternal king!  
Palm branches strew before him!  
Spread garments! Shout and sing!  
God's promise will not fail you!  
No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain*

3 Then fling the gates wide open  
to greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation  
its tribute too may bring.  
All lands will bow before him;  
their voices join your singing: *Refrain*

4 His is no earthly kingdom;  
it comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
and justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
for kindness so abounding: *Refrain*

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

Leader  
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly  
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features two staves per system, with the top staff for the Leader and the bottom staff for the Assembly. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The score includes rests for the Assembly during the Leader's parts and vice versa. The lyrics are: "In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have For the reign of God, and for mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord. For your Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your".

word, let us pray to the Lord.  
 Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have  
 Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.  
 mer - cy. A - men.

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Congregation sits.*

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  
 CANDLELIGHTING HYMN 240**

*LIGHT ONE CANDLE*

Light two candles to watch for Messiah:  
 let the light banish darkness.  
 He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
 gently lead them homeward.

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**✚ WORD ✚**

**FIRST READING** *Congregation sits.*

**ISAIAH 40:1-11**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people,  
 says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
 and cry to her  
 that she has served her term,  
 that her penalty is paid,  
 that she has received from the LORD's hand  
 double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, “Cry out!”  
And I said, “What shall I cry?”  
All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
“Here is your God!”

<sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

### **PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13**

<sup>1</sup>You have been gracious to your <sup>1</sup>land, O LORD;  
you have restored the good for- <sup>1</sup>tune of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>**You have forgiven the iniquity <sup>1</sup>of your people  
and blotted out <sup>1</sup>all their sins.**

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD <sup>1</sup>God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their <sup>1</sup>hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to <sup>1</sup>those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell <sup>1</sup>in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have <sup>1</sup>met together;  
righteousness and peace have <sup>1</sup>kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up <sup>1</sup>from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look <sup>1</sup>down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed <sup>1</sup>grant prosperity,  
and our land will <sup>1</sup>yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>**Righteousness shall go be- <sup>1</sup>fore the LORD  
and shall prepare for <sup>1</sup>God a pathway.**

**SECOND READING**

**2 PETER 3:8-15A**

A reading from 2 Peter.

<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. <sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Congregation stands.*

O come, O come Em - man - u el. O God, be with us and speak that  
we might know your Word. O come, O come Em - man - u - el.

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**GOSPEL**

**MARK 1:1-8**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; <sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON** *Congregation sits.*

**PASTOR ANDREW ISENHOWER**

**SERMON**

**PASTOR ANDREW ISENHOWER**

**HYMN OF THE DAY 249** *Congregation stands.*

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;

**ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY**

- without your grace we waste away  
like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more;  
oh, let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.
  - 5 All praise to you, eternal Son,  
whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

**NICENE CREED**

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

**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 him 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 and the Son, 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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** *Congregation kneels or sits.*

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

*A brief silence.*

Send forth your faithful people with words of promise and forgiveness. Teach your church to be bold in revealing your good news in word and in deed. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Reveal your majesty in mountain peaks, flowing rivers, and blossoming wilderness roads. Heal the earth where it longs for renewal. Bring wholeness to the earth and all its creatures. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Turn the hearts of the nations toward righteousness and peace. Increase cooperation for justice between countries, commonwealths, political parties, and diplomatic leaders. In times of prosperity, direct leaders to be generous for the sake of all. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Comfort your people with tender words of love and healing. Surround all who are grieving, all who know depression or anxiety, or all who feel lonely or forgotten. Be a steadfast presence when all else feels uncertain. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Grant holy patience to all who are waiting this season. Give hope to those seeking employment. Bring reassurance to people awaiting new diagnoses or treatments. Protect expectant parents. Watch with those who keep bedside vigil. At this time we lift before you those whom we hold dear, especially those on our prayer list and those whom we name aloud and in the silence of our hearts. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

With you a thousand years is like a day. Bless the memory of the saints from ages past and the anticipation of saints yet to be born. Inspire us to live with faith as we await your new heaven and new earth. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**  
 Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.  
**Amen.**

**PEACE** *Congregation stands.*  
 The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**✠ MEAL ✠**

**OFFERING** *Congregation sits.*  
**ANTHEM** *COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS* **RUNNING**

**OFFERING SONG** *Congregation stands.*

Now in this ban-quet, Christ is our bread; Here shall all hun-gers be  
 fed. Bread that is bro-ken, wine that is poured, Love is the  
 sign of our Lord. You who have touched us and graced us with love,  
 make us your peo-ple of good-ness and light. **D.C.**

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**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.  
 God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus 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.

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted you people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord most ho - ly, God of pow'r and God of\_\_ might:  
heav'n and earth re - veal your glo - ry. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of\_\_ light!  
Bless-ed be the com - ing Sav - ior. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of\_\_ light!

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## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence.

We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us.

We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all.

We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the ancestors, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain.

In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us.

We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death.

But chiefly we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit.

We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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.**

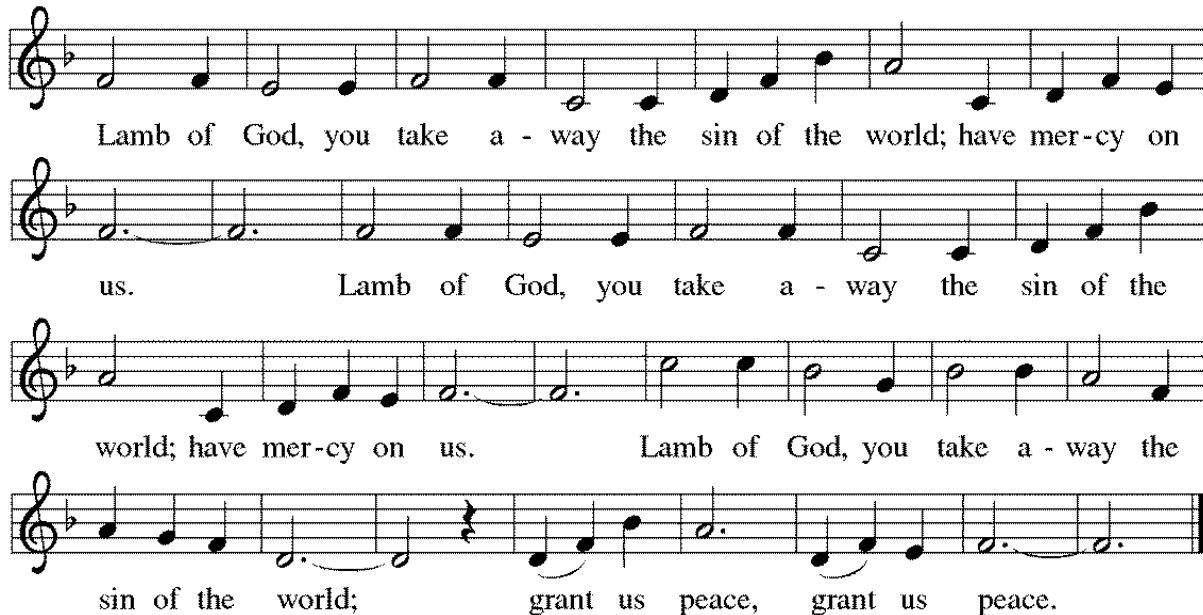
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.  
Come, take your place at the table.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## COMMUNION *Congregation sits.*

*All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table. Young children who commune should be assisted by their parents. If you are unable to receive either the bread or wine, please be assured that the fullness of our Lord's presence is complete in either element. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available; please let the communion server know of your need. After communing, please return to your seat. If you are unable to come to the altar, please notify an usher so that communion may be brought to you.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION



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, grant us peace.

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## COMMUNION HYMN

## WE SHALL PREPARE

*The congregation joins the choir in singing the Refrain.*



Refrain  
We shall pre-prepare our hearts for new love. We shall pre-prepare our  
eyes for the blind-ing light. We shall pre-prepare our faith to break the  
dark of night. We shall pre-prepare the way of the Lord!

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**BLESSING OF THE COMMUNICANTS** *Congregation stands.*

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

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

**✠ SENDING ✠**

**BENEDICTION**

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The congregation faces the cross as it leaves the sanctuary, following the cross as we follow Jesus into the world. All remain facing the cross for the dismissal.*

**SENDING HYMN 250**

***BLESSED BE THE GOD OF ISRAEL***

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Blessed be the God of Israel<br>who comes to set us free<br>and raises up new hope for us:<br>a Branch from David's tree.<br>So have the prophets long declared<br>that with a mighty arm<br>God would turn back our enemies<br>and all who wish us harm. | that we might worship without fear<br>and offer lives of praise,<br>in holiness and righteousness<br>to serve God all our days.   |
| 2 With promised mercy will God still<br>the covenant recall,<br>the oath once sworn to Abraham,<br>from foes to save us all;  | 3 My child, as prophet of the Lord<br>you will prepare the way,<br>to tell God's people they are saved<br>from sin's eternal sway.<br>Then shall God's mercy from on high<br>shine forth and never cease<br>to drive away the gloom of death<br>and lead us into peace. |

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Keep awake.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

***PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY***

**CHERWIEN**

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*We Shall Prepare; Kyrie; Light One Candle; Now in This Banquet; Holy, Holy; and Lamb of God* are reprinted by permission of OneLicense.net #A-701826.  
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**LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS**

**Brickmont of John’s Creek Assisted Living** – Lena Duncan

**Lowman Home** – Rosemarie Brown, Marianne De Werdt

**Merrill Gardens** – Mary Clare McAbee

**The Palmettos** – Sara Loyd

**Rice Estate** – Grace Boozer

**Wellmore of Lexington** – Dot Correll

**Wellmore of Daniel Island** – Barbara Sutton

**Wildewood Downs** – Joanna Carpenter

**At their homes** – Gwen Barnes, Helen Derrick, Sylvia Anne Derrick, Larry Evans, Bonnie Hammond, Milford Hunter and Jeannine Jameson

**DECEMBER 3, 2023 ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS**

9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 114      Sunday School: 42

**\*Budgeted Weekly Benevolence Collections needed: \$9,733**

**\*Current Expenses & Benevolences Received: \$9,107**

**OTHER MISCELLANEOUS OFFERINGS**

Altar Flowers	\$80	Social Ministry November Emphasis- VA Food Pantry	\$30
Food Pantry	\$300	Angel Tree Gift Cards	\$100
Capital Improvement Fund	\$25	Supper Club	\$195
Memorial Fund	\$350	Poinsettias	\$125.75
		VANCO – Processing fee	\$10

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Rick and Bobbie Storey to the Glory of God and in honor of Bobbie's sister, Sylvia Osborne, on her birthday December 9.

**THE ALTAR ROSE** is given by Anne Rush to the Glory of God and in memory of her grandson, Keith Patrick Boggs.

**THE NARTHEX FLOWERS** are given by Steve Steck to the Glory of God and in memory of his parents David and Frances Steck.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONS** – Advent Devotions booklets are available for you and your family. Please help yourself to these Advent materials and take only what your family will use; materials are limited. We encourage you to use them to enhance your Advent season as we prepare and anticipate the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior.

**CHILDREN’S NATIVITY PROGRAM** – The Youth and Children of GSLC invite you to their annual Nativity Program today in the FAB starting at 11:00 a.m.

**SUPPER CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER** – Join us tonight as we’ll celebrate the holidays with a joint meeting of Supper Club. All adult members of the congregation are invited to participate. We will have a social hour between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served after the social hour. The cost of the meal will be \$15 per person and you can pay at the door.

**POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS** – You can offer poinsettia(s) to beautify the church for our Christmas Eve Services. The cost is \$15.50 each; fill out a Seasonal Flower Offering envelope found in the back of the pews and return it with your money to the offering plate by TODAY, Sunday, December 10. We will list who the poinsettia is placed in honor or memory of in the bulletin as we have in the past. If you donate a poinsettia, you may take your plant home after the 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.

**ANGEL TREE DONATIONS DUE TODAY** – Good Shepherd is having an Angel Tree again this year. We are supporting Providence Home with 60 men and Women's Shelter with 13 women. We will provide a \$25 gift card from Walmart, Visa, MC, or AMEX for each resident. If you are unable to get a gift card, a donation can be made to GSLC and designated for Angel Tree on the envelope or check. Each card is placed in a box or bag before it is delivered. There will be Christmas cards available if you would like to write a note of encouragement to add to your gift card. **The tree will be in the Narthex through December 10.** The gift cards will be delivered before Christmas as many of the residents will use them to buy things for their families.

**POGS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** – For those who have made reservations, don't forget to join us for lunch immediately following the 12:00 noon Midweek Advent Worship this Wednesday, December 13, as we enjoy hearing Lynn Derrick share his travels to the Holy Land. Bring a dozen of your favorite cookies IF you wish to participate in our holiday cookie swap.

**SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING** – Good Shepherd members will be ringing the bell on Thursday, December 14 at Wal-Mart on Forest Drive, Grocery Entrance. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sign up for your one-hour shift on the sheet in the Narthex.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING DECEMBER 17**—A congregational meeting is scheduled to elect new council members and new Good Shepherd Foundation Board Directors, and to approve the Good Shepherd budget for 2024.

**2024 CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT – Deadline is December 17, 2023**, to register for our annual congregational retreat at Lutheridge on February 2-4, 2023. Rooms still available in Thornburg. Enjoy social time, camp songs, cook out, learning, discussion, relaxation, and worship as we wrap up our “Renew. Respond. Reach Out” emphasis with the theme “Work for the Good of All.” Registration forms are available on the tables in the Narthex and outside the church office.

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES** – Packets from the month's council meeting are available on the table under the bulletin board in the Narthex. This packet consists of the current committee minutes/reports and approved prior month's council meeting minutes.

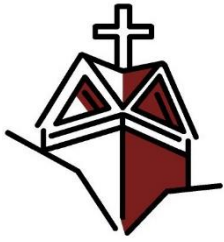
**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY** bulletins are **due by noon each Wednesday**. Email your announcements to Deborah Mitchell, Parish Administrator, at [parishadmin@gslc.com](mailto:parishadmin@gslc.com).

<b>USHERS</b>	Pat Quattlebaum, Marcia Woodward, Dick Sturkie, Mary Stallings, Alice Buckner
<b>LECTOR</b>	Steve Steck
<b>COMMUNION ASST</b>	Steve Steck
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Anna-Marie Plyler
<b>CRUCIFER</b>	Don Caughman
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Joey Allison
<b>TABULATORS</b>	Steve Steck, Lavina Chandler
<b>CC PERSON OF MONTH</b>	Becky Shealy, Jason Fowler, Anna-Marie Plyler

### **THIS WEEK AT GSLC**

December 10	9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Nativity Program (FAB) 5:30 p.m. Supper Club (FAB)
December 12	11:30 a.m. Bible Study (Conference Room) 3:00 p.m. Executive Committee meeting (CL 2)
December 13	<b>January 2024 Newsletter Deadline</b> 8:00 a.m. Zoom Bible Study 12:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Worship (Sanctuary) 12:45 p.m. POGS Luncheon (FAB) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (Choir Room)
December 14	Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Walmart 5:30 p.m. Dorcas Circle Christmas Social (Becky Shealy's house) [private event] 5:30 p.m. Madison HOA meeting (FAB)
December 17	<b>Food Pantry Sunday</b> <b>Congregational Meeting</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School (CL 1, 2, & Parlor) 10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School (Youth Room) 10:45 – 11:25 a.m. Children's Sunday School (E-111, E-113) 11:25 – 11:45 a.m. Children's Music (E-115) 10:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School (CL 1, 2, & Parlor) 6:30 p.m. Council meeting (CL 2)

# 2023 CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Ed Woodward  
Debi Powell  
Anna-Marie Plyler  
Jan Haigler

## OFFICERS

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

## MEMBERS

Carole Sox  
Jason Fowler  
David Lucas  
Ed Woodward  
Heather Gilbert  
Debi Powell  
Mike Weaver  
Suzanne Sanders  
Becky Shealy  
Amy Kemp

## COMMITTEE

Communication  
Evangelism  
Finance  
Gifts  
Learning  
Parish Life  
Property  
Social Ministry  
Worship Life  
Youth & Children

## TERM ENDS

2024  
2024  
2024  
2024  
2023  
2023  
2023  
2023  
2024  
2023

### **\*\*Non-Council Members\*\***

Rod Kent

Property

## **OUR MISSION**

*We are a community of all ages gathered by God's grace  
for worship, learning, loving, and service to all.*

### **GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3909 Forest Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29204

[www.gslc.com](http://www.gslc.com)

(803) 787-4413

*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, South Carolina Synod*

Rev. Andrew W. Isenhower, Pastor  
Jim Johnson, Director of Music Ministry  
Susan Sturkie, Organist/Music Associate  
Deborah Mitchell, Parish Administrator  
Deb Embrey, Financial Secretary  
Joey Allison, Sexton