

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 14, 2025

9:30 A.M.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

(803) 787-4413

3909 FOREST DRIVE, COLUMBIA, SC 29204
OFFICE HOURS: MON-THURS 9 A.M.- 4:30 P.M.; FRI 9 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

WWW.GSLC.COM



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.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS There are large print bulletins available. Please ask the ushers to assist 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.

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 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.

‡ **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

PEOPLE, LOOK EAST

BEDFORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please sign the attendance sheet.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Congregation stands.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ‡ one God, whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,

we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide.

We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.

We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake.

Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.

Increase our trust in God’s timing, and awaken us to your advent among us,

that we may abound in the hope you have promised.

Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God’s own righteousness. ‡

You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

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 *Congregation stands.*

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*

Text: Frans Mikael Franzen, © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-701826.

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

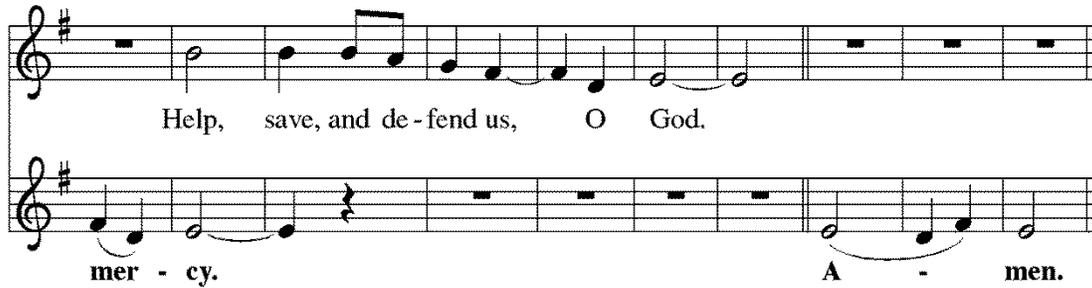
Lord. For your

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

word, let us pray to the Lord.

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



Text: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, adapt. Marty Haugen. Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen.
 Text & Music: ©1990 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-701826.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *Congregation sits.*

CANDLELIGHTING HYMN 715

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Week 3

Longing for food, many are hungry.
 Longing for water, many still thirst.
 Make us your bread, broken for others,
 shared until all are fed. Refrain

Refrain

Christ, be our light!
 Shine in our hearts.
 Shine through the darkness.
 Christ, be our light!
 Shine in your church gathered today.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Text © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

✚ WORD ✚

FIRST READING *Congregation sits.*

ISAIAH 35:1-10

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
 the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
 like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly
 and rejoice with joy and shouting.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
 the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
 the majesty of our God.]]

³ Strengthen the weak hands
 and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
 "Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
 with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;
⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert;
⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸ A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
⁹ No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM HYMN 723

1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of
the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,

CANTICLE OF THE TURNING

you will show your might, put the strong to
flight,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

3 From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

4 Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. *Refrain*

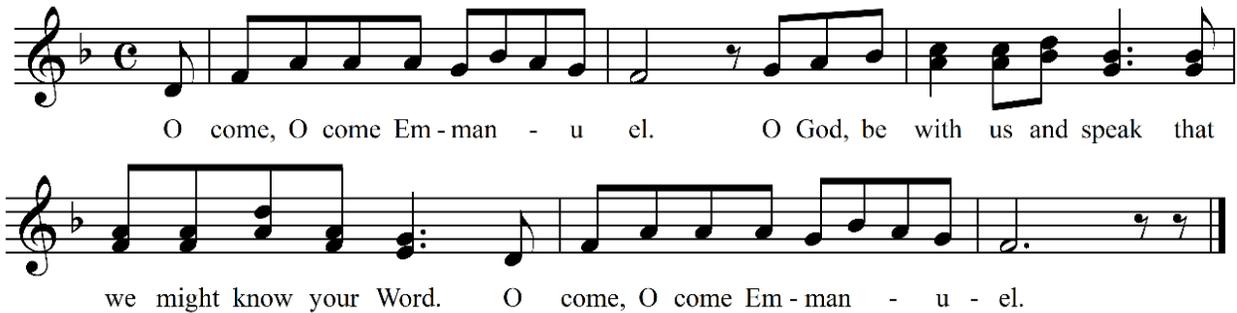
SECOND READING**JAMES 5:7-10**

A reading from James.

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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.

Clayton J Schmit, © Jubal House Publications

GOSPEL**MATTHEW 11:2-11**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴ Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ ¹¹ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON *Congregation sits.*

PASTOR ANDREW ISENHOWER

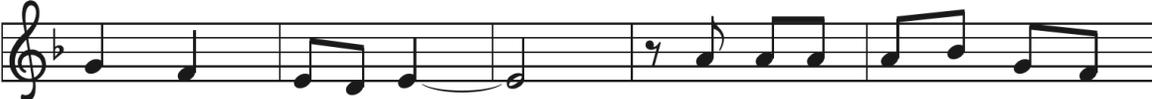
SERMON

PASTOR ANDREW ISENHOWER

Refrain — All



There is a long-ing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to re -



veal your - self to us. There is a long-ing in our



hearts for love we on - ly find in you, our God.

Leader or All



1 For jus - tice,	for free - dom,	for mer - cy:
2 For wis - dom,	for cour - age,	for com - fort:
3 For heal - ing,	for whole - ness,	for new life:
4 Lord, save us,	take pit - y,	light in our



hear our prayer.	In sor - row,	in grief:
hear our prayer.	In weak - ness,	in fear:
hear our prayer.	In sick - ness,	in death:
deep - est night.	We call you;	we wait:

Refrain



be near; hear our prayer, O God.

Text & Music: Anne Quigley, © 1992 OCP. All rights reserved.
Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-701826.

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.*

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

God of power and mercy, we praise you for Jesus and his acts of healing and liberation. Lead us to proclaim the good news from generation to generation, that all may place their hope in you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When lands are parched and dry, bring rain and snow; where wilderness is barren, sow seeds of life. Fill the lands with trees that grow, plants that flower, and creatures that thrive, as nature proclaims the wonder of your works. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When there is injustice or corruption among nations and leaders, root it out. Turn their attention to inequity and the cries of the poor. Instill a deeper sense of compassion and care in all who govern. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When bodies weaken and hearts grow fearful, speak your blessing. We pray especially for all those whom we name now. In uncertain times, remind us of the promises spoken to our ancestors in faith. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When people are held captive, break the chains and offer release. Strengthen the work of the church in restorative justice. We pray especially for the work of Lutheran Services Carolinas and other ministries of the church engaged in this vital work. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As we await your coming, we give thanks for the faithful who have lived and died in faith. May their boldness of faith inspire our witness and work. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

PEACE *Congregation stands.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

✠ MEAL ✠

OFFERING *Congregation sits.*

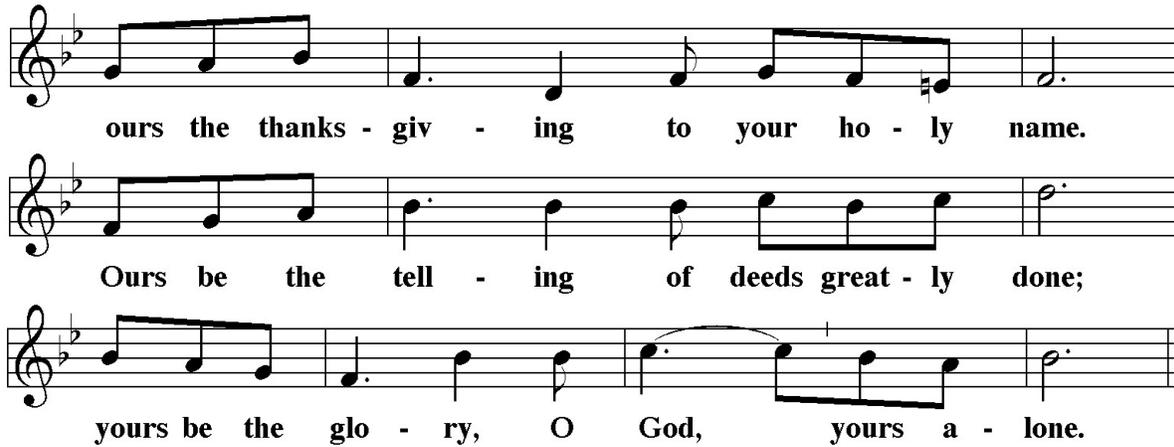
ANTHEM

THE KING SHALL COME

KEESECKER

OFFERING SONG *Congregation stands.*

Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
 Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
 yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, Music: J. Bert Carlson © 1995 Augsburg Fortress
 Reprinted by permission from OneLicense.net, License A-701826.

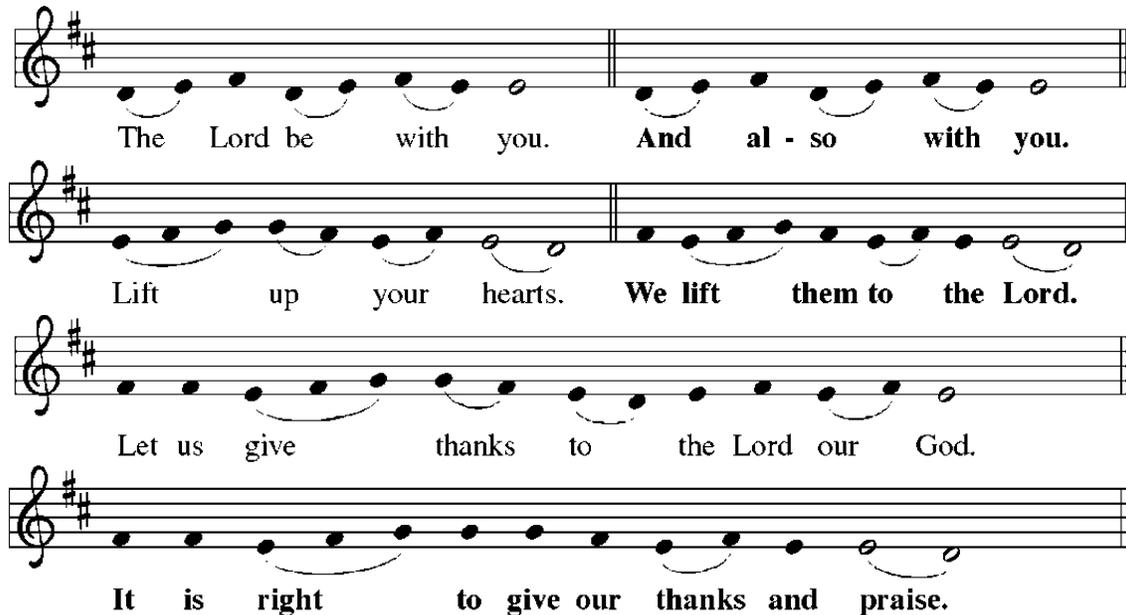
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God, in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 your 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!

Text: Martin A. Seltz, based on the Sanctus ©1998 Augsburg Fortress. Reproduced with permission under OneLicense.net #A-701826.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy God, the Beginning and the End,
 our Salvation and our Hope,
 we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
 When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
 you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
 At this end of the ages
 your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
 and to heal all the suffering world.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection,
 we await his coming in righteousness and peace.
 Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share:
 Strengthen our faith, increase our hope,
 and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.
 Through him all glory and honor is yours,
 Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
 in your holy Church, both 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

Here is life. God is with us.
Come, receive what God has promised.
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

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.

Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young. Music: ©1995 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-701826.

COMMUNION HYMN 242

AWAKE! AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN

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.
God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger,
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.
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 248

PEOPLE, LOOK EAST

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Guest, is on the way.</p> <p>2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Rose, is on the way.</p> | <p>3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Star, is on the way.</p> <p>4 Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Lord, is on the way.</p> |
|---|---|

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

POWELL

Portions of the service are from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS002234.
New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.
Prepare the Royal Highway; Cantic of the Turning; There is a Longing; People Look East; Kyrie; Christ Be Our Light; O, Come, O Come Emmanuel; Glory to You, God; Holy, Holy; and Lamb of God are reprinted by permission of OneLicense.net #A-701826.
Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from OneLicense.net with license A-701826. Advent 2A

LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

- Brickmont of John’s Creek Assisted Living** – Lena Duncan
The Heritage at Lowman –Marianne De Werdt, Violet Fetner
Harmony – Billie Jones
The Palmettos – Sara Loyd
Rice Estate – Grace Boozer
Vitality Living – Mary Clare McAbee
Wellmore of Lexington – Dot Correll
Wellmore of Daniel Island – Barbara Sutton
At their homes – Gwen Barnes, Steve Bowden, Sylvia Anne Derrick, Larry Evans, Bonnie Hammond, Sara Hydrick, Joyce Mobley, Justine Parker

DECEMBER 7, 2025 ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 109 Sunday School: 82

***Budgeted Weekly Benevolence Collections needed: \$9,325**

***Current Expenses & Benevolences Received: \$9,344**

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS OFFERINGS

From GSLC Foundation – Property Expense Reduction	\$3,000	2026 Congregational Retreat	\$400
Food Pantry	\$1,282	Angel Tree	\$350
Advent Food	\$81	Altar Flowers	\$55
Noisy Offering – Pawmetto Lifeline	\$25.72	Seasonal Flowers (Poinsettias)	\$95

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Pat Quattlebaum and Marcia Woodward to the Glory of God and in memory of Rosemarie Brown and Jeannine Jameson.

THE ALTAR ROSE is given by Deb Embrey to the Glory of God and in memory of her loving sister, Wanda, on her birthday today.

WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICES AND MEALS – There are two opportunities for you to worship on Wednesdays during Advent. Services are in the FAB at 12 noon and at 6:30 p.m. There will be a meal following the 12 noon service and at 5:30 p.m. prior to the evening service. This week's meal will be soup or chili and sandwiches.

FOOD PANTRY – Next Sunday (12/21/2025) is Food Pantry Sunday and the pantry needs **canned pasta**, (spaghetti & meatballs, lasagna, beefaroni, ravioli), **canned vegetables** (green beans, sweet peas, potatoes, corn, carrots), and **canned fruit** (peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, pineapple).

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2026 are on table in the Narthex. Please pick up your envelopes. If you do not see envelopes with your name and would like your own box of envelopes, please see Deb Embrey.

2025 RECEIPT REIMBURSEMENTS – If you have receipts for reimbursement, the last day to turn in receipts is December 28.

ANGEL TREE DONATIONS DUE BY DECEMBER 14 – 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 is in the Narthex until December 14.** The gift cards will be delivered before Christmas as many of the residents will use them to buy things for their families.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING DECEMBER 14 – There will be a called congregational meeting held today to elect new Council Members, Foundation Board Members, and to approve the proposed 2026 Budget. Plan to attend this important event in the life of our congregation.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS – You can offer poinsettia(s) to beautify the church for our Christmas Eve Services. The cost is \$15.00 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 Sunday, December 14. 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 late Christmas Eve Service.

GOOD SHEPHERD 2026 CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT – It's time for early registration! Pick up your form in the Narthex. Join us April 24-26, 2026, at Lutheridge for fun and celebration of "Walking in the Spirit" for 75 Years! A deposit of 1/2 will hold your spot and then you may divide your payments. You may pay online or put the form and money in the offering plate. If you pay online, you will still need to turn in a registration form.

SIGN UP TO OFFER FLOWERS FOR 2026 — The sign-up chart for offering flowers is on the **BULLETIN BOARD** in the Narthex. Please sign up – with your phone number – for the dates you want to offer flowers in 2025. Altar Flowers are \$85, Altar Rose is \$10, and Narthex Flowers are \$55.

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 12 noon each Wednesday. Email your announcements to Deborah Mitchell, Parish Administrator, at parishadmin@gslc.com.

PLEASE SEE THE MONTHLY CALENDAR – on the web page at www.gslc.com for a listing of events taking place at Good Shepherd.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

GREETER:	Debi Powell
USHERS:	Jan Haigler, Jim Tucker, Dick Sturkie
LECTOR:	Kerry Stubbs
COMMUNION ASST:	Joey Allison
ACOLYTE:	Anna-Marie Plyler
CRUCIFER:	Mike Sanchez
ALTAR GUILD:	Joey Allison, Becky Shealy
TABULATORS:	Karen Lucas
CC PERSON OF MONTH:	Don Caughman

THIS WEEK AT GSLC

December 14	Third Sunday of Advent 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) Congregational Meeting during Worship 10:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School (CL 1, 2, & Parlor) 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Confirmation Class (E-112) 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School (Youth Room) 10:45 – 11:25 a.m. Children’s Sunday School (E-113) 11:05 – 11:25 a.m. Preschool Music (E-115) 11:25 – 11:45 a.m. Children’s Choir (E-115) 6:00 p.m. Council meeting (Conference Room)
December 15	January Newsletter Deadline 6:30-9:00 p.m. [private event] Beta Sigma Phi Chapter meeting (Conference Room)
December 16	11:30 a.m. Bible Study (Conference Room)
December 17	8:15 a.m. Wednesday Virtual Bible Study 12:00 noon Advent Worship Service (FAB) 12:45 p.m. Advent Lunch (FAB) 5:30 p.m. Advent Supper (FAB) 6:30 p.m. Advent Worship Service (FAB) 7:15 p.m. Choir Practice (Choir Room)
December 18	3:00 p.m. Shepherd’s Visitors meeting (Conference Room) 6:00 p.m. Dorcas Christmas Social (Shealy house) 6:30 p.m. Tamar Group Christmas Gathering (off-site)
December 21	Fourth Sunday of Advent Food Pantry Sunday 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School (CL 1, 2, & Parlor) 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Confirmation Class (E-112) 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School (Youth Room) 10:45 – 11:25 a.m. Children’s Sunday School (E-113) 11:05 – 11:25 a.m. Preschool Music (E-115) 11:25 – 11:45 a.m. Children’s Choir (E-115)

2025 CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Becky Shealy
David Lucas
Anna-Marie Plyler
Jan Haigler

OFFICERS

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer

MEMBERS

Don Caughman
Sid Havird
David Lucas
Kate Ferlauto
Barbara Nagy
Deb Whitlow
Richard Inman
Mary Margaret Hoy
Becky Shealy
Chris Herrmann

COMMITTEE

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

TERM ENDS

2025
2026
2026
2026
2025
2026
2025
2026
2026
2025

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

(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