



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH



December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Building up God's people through His word for His world

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God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

Flowers and plants in our sanctuary are supported by financial donations to the Flower Fund. These floral offerings beautify the chancel (area around the altar) uplift the service participants, and remind us all of God's good creation. This week, the floral offerings are given to the glory of God by Rob and Linda Fekete in celebration of Alex's birthday.

PIANO PRELUDE

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
(Dorotea Racz, cello)

arr. Marshall McDonald
and Steven Sharp Nelson

WELCOME

Pastor Johann

OPENING SONG

"Receive Our King"

Light my heart like a candle
Let it burn for only You
Join my song with the angels
Tell ev'ryone the news

For You came as a child
Beside us in our struggle
Now we come lifting high
The Name that's like no other

That You came as a child
Beside us in our struggle
Now we come lifting high
The Name that's like no other

Chorus

*Prepare Him room
Let the light of the world shine through (4x)*

Jesus, Wonderful Counselor
Prince of Peace
Son of God, here with us
We receive our King

Chorus (2x)

Light my heart like a candle
Let it burn for only You

Turn my eyes to the wonder
Let me see You as You are
Be my life, be my center
In my night, be the brightest star

"Receive Our King"
Words and music by Jared Anderson, Meredith Andrews
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(Capitol CMG Publishing)
CCLI #858354

INVOCATION, CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving and forgiving God, we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.

Service of the Word

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

Instead of David building a house (temple) for God, God promises to establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Centuries later, after the Babylonian exile, no king sat on the throne. Even then, however, the people of Israel remembered this promise and continued to hope for a king, the messiah, God's anointed.

L ¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” ³Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.”

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

SECOND READING

Romans 16:25–27

Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because, in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.

L ²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people from little known places. This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in this gospel.

P ²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"What Hope! An Eden Prophesied"

Hymn No. 342



1 What hope! An E - den proph-e - sied Where tame live with the wild;
2 A shoot will sprout from Jes - se's stem, A branch from Da-vid's line,
3 As ban - ner of God's love un-furled, Christ came to suf - fer loss,
4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, Lost Par - a - dise re - store;



The lamb and li - on side by side, Led by a lit - tle child!
A Prince of Peace in Beth - le - hem: The fruit of God's de - sign.
That by His death a dy - ing world Would ral - ly to the cross.
Lead past the an - gel's flam - ing sword—Come, o - pen heav - en's door.

MESSAGE

"Have I Got Good News for You"

Pastor James

REFLECTIVE RESPONSE

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

Pastor Johann

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Soon and Very Soon"

Andrea Crouch

Chris Sexton & George Pekarsky, violin; Raea Leinster, viola
Dorotea Racz, cello; Charlie Peterson & Zac Smith trumpet

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.
No more dying there, we are going to see the King;
no more dying there, we are going to see the King;

no more dying there, we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Soon and very soon.

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The people respond after "Lord, hear our prayer" by singing:

Leader: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, hear our cry and heal our land.
Let kindness lead us to compassion, bring us back again.

**All: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy on us now.**

"Kyrie Eleison"

Words and music by Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Matt Maher, and Matt Redman

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CCLI #858354

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

NUNC DIMITTIS [Peaceful Departure]



C Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, ✠ now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Hymn No. 357



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest all things
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from Sa - tan's
 5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 might - i - ly; To us the path of knowl - edge show,
 Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst give the Law
 tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y pow'r to save,
 heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - jice! Re - jice!
 And teach us in her ways to go. Re - jice! Re - jice!
 In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. Re - jice! Re - jice!
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - jice! Re - jice!
 And close the path to mis - er - y. Re - jice! Re - jice!



Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Verse 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
 And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain

Verse 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 In one the hearts of all mankind;
 Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
 And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

"Toccata in E Minor"

Johann Pachelbel

We hope you will continue to connect with us by liking our Facebook page and following our Instagram account. Find them by searching @gslcva within these social media platforms. We also encourage you to subscribe to our YouTube channel and follow us on Vimeo so that you don't miss any of our virtual services, kids' messages, and more!
If you have any questions, please reach out to grace@gslcva.org.

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Worship Leader
Preacher
Director of Music
Organist
Piano Prelude
Singers

Pastor Johann
Pastor James
Nemeh Azzam
Todd Grivetti
Laura Owens
Erin Bullock
Nicholas Carratura
Adam Cioffari
Jessica Hodges
Eric Hoplin
Suzanne Karpov
Mauricio Miranda
Donna Neil
Kathy Otterbacher
Cal Stone
Chrissy Tangredi
Nigel Tangredi
Bennett Umahau
David Zobot
Julian Berkowitz
Scott Dyer
Ruth Filipiak
Dan Lamaestra
Andy Muich
Steve Mutter
Bruno Nasta
Maryanne Perkel
Kirsten Bates
Georgia Thorstenson
Matt Hardy
Dan Lamaestra
Jeannie Johns
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Office Assistant (vacant)

BOARD OF SERVANT LEADERS

Jim Micsan, Chair

Ted Lillestolen, Vice-Chair

Josh Linder, Secretary

Leta Kent

Will Metts

Anne Morgan

Vicki Peter

CORE MINISTRY AREAS

Worship

Team Leaders: Georgia Thorstenson and Julie Schorfheide;

Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

music, seasonal celebrations, arts, worship schedule, Sanctuary Choir, Children's Choir (Laura Owens), traditional, contemporary, physical space, support personnel (e.g., ushers, greeters, acolytes)

Discipleship

Team Leader: Andy Muich

adult education, Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, family ministry, children's ministry, youth ministry

Parish Life

Team Leader: Brian Cors; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

Life Groups (Brian Cors), member engagement, fellowship events, new member inclusion (Melinda DeWan), concerts, public events, picnics, intergenerational events

Administration

Team Leader: Pastor Johann

property (Roger Thorstenson), financing the mission (Mike DeWan), stewardship (Don Kidwell), human resources/personnel (Matt Franker), communications, contracts, church office, calendar/program management, technology

Mission

Team Leader: Matt Dickert; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

world missions, synod, outreach, social ministry, community service, evangelism, publicity, media, social media

Congregational Care

Team Leader: Marilyn Voigt; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

member care visits, emergency transportation, maintain roster of the willing, guest follow-up

Good Shepherd is a member congregation of the Southeastern District
of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

About Good Shepherd...

Our vision

We will be a congregation known for building up God's people through His Word for His world.

Worship

During worship, God comes to us through his gifts of Word and Sacrament. What a joy to respond with prayer and songs of praise. Our worship services give us opportunity to listen to God's word and meditate upon it, thus feeding our faith; and express our concerns for our friends, families, community, and the world through prayer.

Serve

We are called to actively share the Good News of Jesus Christ through word and deed. One way we share is by serving one another and our neighbors in our community and throughout the world. Look at our Community Service Opportunities listing to find a way to serve.

Grow

We are committed to spiritual growth through the weekly gathering for prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, and through lifelong learning. In addition to growing in knowledge, we want to grow in love and service to others within and beyond our church community.

Connect

As we grow in our love for Jesus and our neighbors, as we serve our neighbors near and far, we help and encourage one another, challenge one another, and share one another's joys and sorrows. We build strong ties when we gather for worship as well as for events throughout the week. Look inside for many opportunities for connection.



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