



## *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church*

*A Member of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

**Worship Schedule: Sunday 9:00am**

**Education Hour: Sunday @ 10:30am**

**Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday from 8am-12:00pm  
507-532-4857**

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[www.gslcmarshall.org](http://www.gslcmarshall.org)

*Pastor: James J. Stefanie*

We, the members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, believing the Bible to be God's inspired and inerrant Word, acknowledging that Jesus Christ is Lord, and affirming that we are saved by Grace through faith in Him alone, offer the following as our statement of mission:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit and loving our neighbors as ourselves, we, as ambassadors for Christ, must strive to make disciples of all nations; Using the gifts the Lord has given to each of us, we must help the saints to grow in unity of faith through regular worship attendance, the partaking of the Sacraments, the study of God's Word, and by ministering to the spiritual needs of others; we will persevere in prayer and thanksgiving for all the opportunities and blessings which God places before us.

**CHRISTMAS EVE  
December 24, 2024**

## Welcome

Welcome to the Lord's House on this blessed and holy night. The Service of Lessons and Carols is observed this evening to focus upon the fulfillment of God's promise to send us a Savior in the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray that the Holy Spirit will enable you to truly listen to the Lord tonight as He speaks to you through His Holy Word and points you to the Word made flesh. May you be led to faithfully confess with confidence that this Baby is the Eternal Word of God in human flesh, who came down from heaven and was Incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary in order to save you from your sins. He is our Immanuel, which means "God with us." He is the King of kings and Lord of lords who was born to die for you!

That is what Christmas is truly about – the salvation accomplished and won by Jesus Christ. May this Service of Lessons and Carols be a celebration for you of the forgiveness, life, and salvation you have through faith in Christ! Please take the time to fill out the Record of Fellowship form that is in the pew. If you are visiting with us this evening, we want you to know that we are overjoyed that you are here. Please make your visit known to us by introducing yourself to us after the Service and by signing the guest book that is in the hallway on the left as you leave the sanctuary. Thank you and MERRY CHRISTMAS!

**Organist – Beth Steuck**

**Acolyte – Isaiah Berner**

**Liturgist and Preacher – Pastor James Stefanic**

# Processional Hymn

## 376 Once in Royal David's City (v. 2 *a cappella*)



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a  
2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is  
3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by  
4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His  
5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her  
God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a  
day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and  
own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and  
ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y  
sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the  
help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He  
gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He  
heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.  
leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.  
stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–95, alt.

Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–76

Text and tune: Public domain

## The Invocation

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## Opening Versicles

**L** The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

**C** **The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.**

**L** On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

**C** **We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son who came from the Father.**

**L** For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**C** **In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.**



## Hymn of Preparation

### 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

#### *Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.

Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786

Tune and tune: Public domain

### The Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray:

**P** O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** **Amen.**

# The First Lesson

# Genesis 3:8-15

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## 360 All My Heart Again Rejoices



1 All my heart a - gain re - joic - es As I hear Far and near  
2 Hear! The Con - quer - or has spo - ken: "Now the foe, Sin and woe,  
3 Should we fear our God's dis - plea - sure, Who, to save, Free - ly gave  
4 See the Lamb, our sin once tak - ing To the cross, Suf - f'ring loss,



Sweet - est an - gel voic - es. "Christ is born!" their choirs are sing - ing  
Death and hell are bro - ken!" God is man, man to de - liv - er,  
His most pre - cious trea - sure? To re - deem us He has giv - en  
Full a - tone - ment mak - ing. For our life His own He ten - ders,



Till the air Ev - 'ry - where Now with joy is ring - ing.  
And the Son Now is one With our blood for - ev - er.  
His own Son From the throne Of His might in heav - en.  
And His grace All our race Fit for glo - ry ren - ders.

5 Softly from His lowly manger  
Jesus calls  
One and all,  
"You are safe from danger.  
Children, from the sins that grieve you  
You are freed;  
All you need  
I will surely give you."

6 Come, then, banish all your  
sadness!  
One and all,  
Great and small,  
Come with songs of gladness.  
We shall live with Him forever  
There on high  
In that joy  
Which will vanish never.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr., adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text and tune: Public domain

# The Second Lesson

## Genesis 22:15-18

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(vv. 1-2, 7-all; vv. 3 and 5-men & boys; vv. 4 and 6-women and girls)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rst  
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy  
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of  
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.  
give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

#### *Refrain*



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. Refrain

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

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

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Canticum  
Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-  
66, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

# The Third Lesson

Isaiah 7:14; 9:2, 6-7

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## What Child Is This (v. 3 a cappella)

LSB #370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98

Tune: English, 16th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain



# The Fourth Lesson

Micah 5:2-5

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## O Little Town of Bethlehem

LSB #361



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;  
While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.  
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!  
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.  
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-93

Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

Text and tune: Public domain



# The Fifth Lesson

# Matthew 1:18-25

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Away in a Manger (v. 3 *a cappella*)

LSB #364



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.  
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.  
Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



The stars in the sky \_\_\_\_\_ looked down where He lay,  
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.  
And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Text (sts. 1–2): Little Children’s Book, 1885, Philadelphia; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, 1892, Louisville, alt.

Tune: James R. Murray, 1841–1905

Text and tune: Public domain



## The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing      LSB #380



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



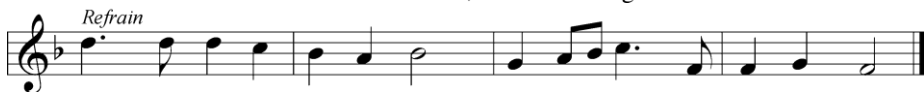
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty!  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–47

Text and tune: Public domain

## The Seventh Lesson

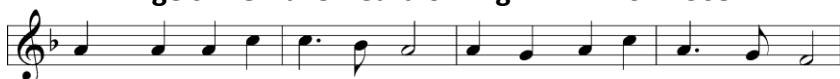
Luke 2:8-20

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB #368



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

*Refrain*



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.

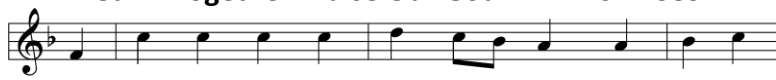
Text and tune: French

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

### Let All Together Praise Our God

LSB #389



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His  
 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an  
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -  
 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To  
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies  
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The  
 hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.  
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.  
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.  
 glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

5 He is a servant, I a lord:  
 How great a mystery!  
 How strong the tender Christ Child's love!  
 No truer friend than He,  
 No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door  
 To blessèd paradise;  
 The angel bars the way no more.  
 To God our praises rise,  
 To God our praises rise.

△ 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,  
 Lord Jesus, we adore  
 And praise to God the Father yield  
 And Spirit evermore;  
 We praise You evermore.

Text (sts. 1, 3–7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 2): tr.  
 August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
 Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

## The Eighth Lesson

## John 1:1-14

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### A Great and Mighty Wonder

### LSB #383



1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:  
 2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,  
 3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,  
 4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,  
 5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!  
 And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.  
 Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.  
 The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.  
 And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

*Refrain*



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Text: Germanus, c. 634–c. 734; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1599, Köln

Text and tune: Public domain

## The Offering and Candle Lighting

As our tithes and offerings are gathered for the Lord's work, your individual candles will be lit. Remember, when you light your candles, please tip only unlit candles. After the offerings have been gathered and all candles have been lit, we will sing "Silent Night, Holy Night."

### Silent Night, Holy Night (vv. 2-3 a cappella) LSB #363



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
at the sight; Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
love's pure light Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly  
Heav'n - ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85

Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787–1863

Text and tune: Public domain

## The Concluding Collect

**P** Let us Pray:

O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## The Postlude

### ***A Christmas Carol for Children by Martin Luther***

*Good news from heaven the angels bring,  
Glad tidings to the earth they sing:  
To us this day a child is given,  
To crown us with the joy of heaven.*

*This is the Christ, our God and Lord,  
Who in all need shall aid afford:  
He will Himself our Saviour be,  
From sin and sorrow set us free.*

*To us that blessedness He brings,  
Which from the Father's bounty springs:  
That in the heavenly realm we may  
With Him enjoy eternal day.*

*All hail, Thou noble Guest, this morn,  
Whose love did not the sinner scorn!  
In my distress Thou cam'st to me:  
What thanks shall I return to Thee?*

*Were earth a thousand times as fair,  
Beset with gold and jewels rare,  
She yet were far too poor to be  
A narrow cradle, Lord, for Thee.*

*Ah, dearest Jesus, Holy Child!  
Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,  
Within my heart, that it may be  
A quiet chamber kept for Thee.*

*Praise God upon His heavenly throne,  
Who gave to us His only Son:  
For this His hosts, on joyful wing,  
A blest New Year of mercy sing.*