



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Ministers: All The People of The Congregation

Called by God to: Grow; Serve; Love; Care and Worship

First Sunday of Christmas. December 28, 2014

9:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols

*Please stand

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Carol "Joy to the World". ELW 267

***Call to Worship**

P: Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

C: By day and night he shines for all to see.

P: Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

C: that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

P: God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

C: so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

P: Jesus is the light of the world.

C: Jesus is the light of our lives.

P: Sing to God a new song!

C: A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

*Prayer

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray. Gracious God of heaven and earth, you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness-- a beam of light that shines through Jesus. Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation. Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life. Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world and in our hearts.

C: Amen.

*Carol "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly". ELW 276

Psalm 148 (read responsively)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

²Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

³Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

⁴Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

⁵Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

⁶He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

⁷Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

⁸fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

⁹Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

¹⁰Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

¹²Young men and women alike, old and young together!

¹³Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

¹⁴He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

Children's Message

Carol "Away in a Manger". ELW 277

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Carol "Good Christians Friends, Rejoice". ELW 288

Scripture Reading Galatians 4:4-7

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Carol "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear". ELW 282

Scripture Reading Luke 2:22-40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." ³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed--and a sword will pierce your own soul too." ³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty- four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Sermon

*Carol "Angels, From the Realms of Glory". ELW 275

***The Apostles' Creed**

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right

hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

***Sharing of the Peace**

The Offering

Offertory Response "O Little Town of Bethlehem". ELW 279

The Prayers of the Church (kneel or sit)

***The Lord's Prayer**

***Benediction**

***Sending Song** "Go Tell It on the Mountain". ELW 290

***Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Mary Iverson

Acolytes: Halie Stern, Lizzy Baird

Assisting Worship Leader: Sandi Hartman

Scripture Reader: Trudy Drugg

Birthdays - Dec. 28-Jan. 3 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

28-Jacob Elmer	30-Lori Hotzler	Diane Walters	1-Dorine Miller
Jaxon Hart	Chris Tatge	31-Lillian Neubauer	2-Linda Niebuhr

Annual Meeting is Jan. 25, 2015 following the 9:00 a.m. worship service. Council recommends a by-law change to the congregation to remove the youth representative from the council.

Attention all Ministry Teams and other organizations of Good Shepherd. Your annual report for 2014 is due Jan. 7th to be included in the Annual reports book. Please submit them to the church office by that date. Thank you.

Cutoff for Financial giving for 2014 will be 9:00 a.m. Wed., Dec. 31st. This allows time to get the deposit to the bank for credit also. God has blessed us to be a blessing. With the support of Good Shepherd we may continue to meet our obligations as a Christian community. Thank you.

Coming January 3 - Curtis Fry, an inspirational speaker from Des Moines, IA, will share his testimony at Wells United Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m. Sat., Jan. 3rd, preceded by a spaghetti supper at 5:30 p.m., free-will donation. Everyone is invited! Curtis speaks to youth groups and churches whenever he can.

Daily Scripture Readings

Dec 29 - Luke 1:46b-55
1 Samuel 1:1-18
Hebrews 9:1-14

Dec 30 - Luke 1:46b-55
1 Samuel 1:19-28
Hebrews 8:1-13

Dec 31-Luke 1:46b-55
1 Samuel 2:1-10
Mark 11:1-11

Jan 1 - Numbers 6:22-27
Psalm 8
Galatians 4:4-7 *or* Philipians 2:5-11
Luke 2:15-21

Jan 2 - Psalm 148
Proverbs 1:1-7
James 3:13-18

Jan 3 - Psalm 110
Proverbs 1:20-33
James 4:1-10