



Welcome to Good Shepherd

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

Today's Worship

December 4, 2016

The Coming of Christ ~ Mary and Elizabeth

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath "Light One Candle" vs 1 & 2. ELW 240
(Family: Chris, Jenny, Chloe, Lillyan Lutteke)

***Gathering** "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers". ELW 244

Confession and Forgiveness

P: As we prepare to welcome the Christ Child, let us confess our sins, that we might receive forgiveness and grace.

Pause for silence and reflection

P: Holy and Living God...

C: We confess that we have not always trusted your Word. We long to faithfully follow but are often more concerned with following our own desires. We hesitate to help others even when we know you place these opportunities in our lives. Helping others often seems too hard or inconvenient. Forgive our sins, O God. Give us faith like Mary and Elizabeth and fill us with your Holy Spirit.

P: God's forgiveness is for all who honor the Lord, from generation to generation. God forgives us all our sins.

C: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of the Day

C: Stir up your power, Lord Jesus, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from sin that would hinder your mercy, that we may share your love with the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Children Message/Excuse for Sunday School

Choir Anthem "Morning Star: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel". Adult Choir

Psalms 96:1-8 (read responsively)

¹O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

²**Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.**

³Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

⁴**For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.**

⁵For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

⁶**Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

⁸**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.**

*Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of Luke chapter 1.

C: Praise to you, O Lord.

Bible Story . . . Luke 1:39-45

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Hymn "Christ, Be Our Light" ELW 715

The Apostles' Creed. page 105

*Sharing the Peace

Offering

Offertory Response. . . . "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" vs 3 & 4. ELW 257

Prayers of the Church

Words of Institution/The Lord's Prayer

Distribution

Communion Blessing

*Benediction

***Sending Song** "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" ELW 547

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Presiding & Preaching: Ken Jensen **Scripture Reader:** Jody Wegner

Birthdays-Dec 4-10

 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

4-Jesse Bye	Tammy Bullerman	Jean Kruger	Mary Ovrebo
Daryl Kruger	Stacy Magnuson	Muriel Peters	Amber Roessler
Sheila O'Rourke	6-Elaine Grunzke	8-Deb Colvin	10-Ardene Breitkreutz
Skylar Niebuhr	John Vee	Jason Huper	Blake Rucker
5-Shane Buendorf	7-Trevor Foley		

Children's Christmas Program - there will be a Christmas program presented by the children on Wed., Dec. 14th at 6:15 p.m. Practices will be held on Dec. 7th from 7:00-7:45 p.m. Children will gather in classroom 1 near the church offices. All are welcome to participate.

December Food Collection - During the month of December we will collect food donations of Whole Kernel Corn and canned peas.. A grocery cart is parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Thank you for your November donations of brown sugar and cinnamon that also went to the Food Shelf.

Special Congregational Meeting - There will be a Special Congregational Meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 and continuing Sunday, December 11, 2016 following the worship services in the Sanctuary for the purpose to consider the following:

To allow the Getchell Family to rent the parsonage as soon as possible. Details will be presented at a forum on Wed., Nov. 30, 2016 in the Parlor and Sun., Dec. 4, 2016 in the Social Hall. A 2/3 vote of members present is required to approve the recommendation.

December Food Collection - During the month of December we will collect food donations of Whole Kernel Corn and canned peas.. A grocery cart is parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Thank you for your November donations of brown sugar and cinnamon that also went to the Food Shelf.

Harmony Junction Christmas Concert - Dec. 18th, 3:00 p.m. at the Untied Methodist Church and 7:00 p.m. at St. Theodore Church, both in Albert Lea. Also featuring the Albert Lea Community Band, women's chorus, and Faith Tones.