



# Welcome to Good Shepherd

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

December 10, 2017

Today's Worship

*God's Presence Brings Life - Dry Bones: New Life, New Hope* Today we hear from yet another prophet who comes to promise God's deliverance for the people of God. How much longer can the people of God put up with their struggles? Ezekiel has a vision to provide hope for the people who were desperate for life-giving breath.

Prelude. . . . . Seeking Him

## Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath . . . . . "Light One Candle" vs 1 & 2. . . . . ELW 240  
(Family: Ryan, Amy, Aiden, & Jase Crabtree)

A Candle is Burning. . . . . Seeking Him

\*Gathering . . . . . "He Came Down". . . . . ELW 253

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: We gather for worship in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God comes to the help of the people, turning us from sin to live for God. God gifts us with power through the Holy Spirit to confess our sins, to receive forgiveness and to grow into faithful servants. Let us confess our sins . . .

## Pause for silence and reflection

P: Gracious Lord God,

C: **Forgive us for continually missing the mark. We look for your beauty and grandeur, God, but miss the humble and quiet ways that you choose to make yourself known to us. We strive for status and success, and fail to see the ways you use us in failure or weakness. We wish we were more popular, forgetting that you call us to love the unlovable and reach out to the forgotten, despised and voiceless people. Forgive us and restore us again to your grace.**

P: The Lord our God is quick to forgive and eager to grant second and third chances. Take comfort that God is merciful, and never failing in compassion. You are forgiven. Rejoice and live in that forgiveness for the sake of Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

Kyrie. . . . . page 184

## Prayer of the Day

C: **God of promise, we give you thanks that you have never abandoned us. Strengthen our faith when we face despair and breathe new life into us so that we may live passionately for you. Amen.**

## Children's Message

Anthem. . . . . Seeking Him

Psalm 63 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

<sup>2</sup>So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

<sup>3</sup>Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

<sup>4</sup>So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

<sup>5</sup>My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

<sup>6</sup>when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

<sup>7</sup>for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

<sup>8</sup>My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

<sup>9</sup>But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth;

<sup>10</sup>they shall be given over to the power of the sword, they shall be prey for jackals.

<sup>11</sup>But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by him shall exult, for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

## \*Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of Ezekiel chapter 37.

C: Praise to you, O Lord.

Bible Story . . . Ezekiel 37:1-14

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." <sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. <sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the Lord, <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Sermon

Hymn . . . . . "My Life Flows On in Endless Song". . . . . ELW 763

Sacrament of Holy Baptism. . . . . Printed

## \*Sharing the Peace

## Offering

Offertory Response. . . . . "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" . . . . . ELW 276

## Prayers of the Church

## The Lord's Prayer

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Song** . . . . "Joy to the World" . . . . . ELW 267

**\*Dismissal**

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

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**Church Phone: 507-553-3513**

**Web site: <http://www.goodshepherdwells.org> E-mail: [shepherd@bevcomm.net](mailto:shepherd@bevcomm.net)**

**Broadcast Cable Bevcomm TV Channel 7 Tuesday at 10:15 am & Wednesday at 7:30 pm**

**Welcome to Worship at Good Shepherd!** It is our mission to Grow, Serve, Love, Care and Worship. It is our prayer and our hope that you will sense the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the midst of worship.

**Presiding & Preaching:** Rev. Mary Iverson

**Scripture Reader:** Christ Tatge

**Sunday School Teacher:** Lana Wegner

**Pianist:** Mike Schrader

**Birthdays** -Dec 10-19 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

10-Ardene Breikreutz	11-Cayden Stern	14-Tina Lutteke	Brian Vedders
Jill Jacobsen	12-Dennis Lutteke	15-Albert Quade	16-Jackie Ramaker
Blake Rucker	Jayde Ratcliff	Lisa Ulferts	Dave Tatge

**Looking ahead to Christmas Eve** - Good Shepherd will host a 9am worship on Sunday, December 24, 2017 for the 4th Sunday in Advent. There will be two Christmas Eve worship services at 5pm and 7pm on the evening of December 24.

**Good Shepherd Christmas Program** - "A Very Whirl Christmas presents Liam's Runaway Pageant" Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 6:15 p.m.

**Holy Baptism** - Everly Jean Christensen, daughter of Tanya Carlson and Loren Christensen, born August 11, 2017. Her Christian sponsors are Kaylee Carlson, Austin Carlson, Jorelan Polkow, Jason & Tana Christensen.

**Bible Study with Pastor Mary** - Sunday, December 17, 2018 10:15am. Pastor Mary will lead a Bible Study on Matthew chapter one. What does Matthew write before he tells the story of the birth of Jesus? Grab some coffee and gather at a table near the stage in the basement Social Hall. Pastor Mary will have a print out of the scripture passages and will lead the study. *Please note: when Pastor Mary leads Bible Study, you won't be required to speak but can come, listen and learn..*

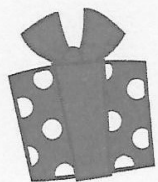
**December Food Collection** - During the month of December we will collect food donations of Whole Kernel Corn and canned Green Beans. A grocery cart is parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf.

**Grades Kindergarten – 3 Youth Event** - Fun, Fun, Fun at the Church, *Sunday, January 7, 2018 11am – noon*. Gather together in the Good Shepherd Kitchenette (down the hall from the church offices) where we will learn more about the 3 Wise Men and make a cool craft. We will also play some fun games together and have a small snack. The cost is free but we do ask you to sign up on the church office door by Wednesday, January 3, 2018.

**Grades 4-7 Youth Event** - Ultimate Game Night, *Saturday, January 13, 2018 6pm – 9pm*. Meet in the Good Shepherd basement Social Hall for a great evening of new games (Human Clue) and old favorites (Sardines). There is no cost for this event and you are welcome to bring a friend. The deadline to sign up on the church office door is Wednesday, January 10. Please come with a full stomach as a snack but not a meal is being served.

**Grades 8-12 Youth Event** - *Saturday, January 6, 2018 5pm – 10pm*. Meet in the Good Shepherd basement Social Hall for a great evening of new games (Human Clue) and old favorites (Sardines and Race to 100). There is no cost for this event and you are welcome to bring a friend. A pizza dinner will be served. The deadline to sign up on the church office door is Wednesday, January 3.

**Cutoff for Financial giving for 2017** will be 9:00 am Fri., Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>. 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. Thanks for doing your part.



# Angel Treat Boxes



Available for order now through December 10<sup>th</sup>  
\$10 per box

Angel Treat Boxes available for pick up before or after church on:  
**Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

Place your order below and return it to the Church office. You may also order by contacting the church office at 553-3513 or emailing Taylor Allis at [taylorjeanallis@gmail.com](mailto:taylorjeanallis@gmail.com)

Angel Treat Boxes are a wonderful assortment of homemade cookies, bars, and other treats. Purchase for yourself or as a gift for a loved one this holiday season!

Proceeds go to the youth attending the  
National Youth Gathering in Houston next summer.

Please make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

## Angel Treat Boxes Order Form

Return by Dec. 10th

Number of Boxes \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:

I will pick up my order at the church

I would like my order delivered to the address below



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wells, MN 56097

## THE BAPTISM OF

**Everly Jean Christensen**

Sunday, December 10, 2017

(L: Pastor; P: Parents; S: Sponsors; C: Congregation)

### *God's Promises in Baptism*

L: Baptism is a gift from God. In the waters of Baptism, we are reborn children of God and given eternal life. Baptism frees us from sin and death by joining us to Jesus Christ.

S: **We present Everly Jean Christensen to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.**

L: You have presented Everly Jean Christensen, for Baptism. Will you share Christ's love with her by your words and actions? Will you treasure her as a special gift from God and care for her with the love of Christ? Will you pray for her, that God's presence fills her life?

P/S: **We will.**

L: Will you teach her how much Jesus loves her? Will you teach her that she is a child of God forever? Will you bring her to the gathering of God's people so that she grows up worshiping and praising God? Will you teach her to pray, introduce her to the Scriptures, and see that she is given every opportunity to grow in Christ?

P/S: **We will.**

L: I ask you to publicly take a stand for Jesus Christ. Do you renounce the forces of evil, the devil and his empty promises?

P/S: **I do.**

L: Do you believe in God, our Creator, Savior, and Counselor?

All: **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.**

*Baptism*

L: Everly Jean Christensen, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*Prayers of Thanksgiving and Dedication*

L: God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Everly Jean Christensen; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

**C: Amen.**

*The Sign of the Cross*

L: Everly Jean Christensen child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

*Baptismal Banner*

L: “But now, this is what the Lord says, he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.”

*Baptismal Candle*

L: “Let your Light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

*Prayer*

L: O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the and Loren and Tanya. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their child. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

L: Members of Good Shepherd, you have witnessed the Baptism of Everly Jean Christensen. Will you pray for her and share your faith with her? Will you remind her that she belongs to Christ and that as Christ’s people we all belong to each other?

**C: We will.**

L: Please, welcome your new sister in the name of Jesus.

**C: Everly Jean, you are a child of God with us. Together we belong to Christ and together we are called to praise and serve him. We welcome you into the Lord’s family, into Good Shepherd’s congregation, and into our hearts and lives.**

