



Welcome to Good Shepherd

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

December 3, 2017

Today's Worship

God's Presence Brings Life - God's Presence in the Fiery Furnace Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego have a hot dilemma before them: worship a worldly king and denounce God, or face a fiery furnace and certain death? Fortunately for them, King Nebuchadnezzar has no idea who he's dealing with. But God did an unexpected thing ...God sent an angel into the furnace and protected the three from certain death. The three lived to see another day. God did another unexpected thing - and I'm not sure this is any less miraculous-God turned the heart of a cold and ruthless ruler so that anyone in the kingdom that desired to worship the one true God could do so.

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath "Light One Candle" vs 1. ELW 240
(Family: Cody, Laura, Brody, Bryce, Brantley Winstead)

A Candle is Burning..... Adult Choir

***Gathering** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"..... ELW 254
(Sung to the tune of *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*)

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

P: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship as we confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection

P: Faithful God,

C: Too often we have put other things before you. We have let our fears and resentments guide us. We have neglected the needs of others. Forgive us for all we have thought, done and said. Forgive us for what we have failed to do or say. Restore us to a right relationship with you.

P: Our God deserves our full attention. God loves and forgives. Receive this day the entire forgiveness of all your sins, given as a gift, in the name of Jesus Christ our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

C: God, we give you thanks that you are above all others. Even the fiercest fire could not destroy your servants when they called on you in faith. Give us faith to withstand our struggles that sway us from following you. Amen.

Children's Message

Choir Anthem "Proclaim the Joyful Message. Adult Choir

Psalms 81:1-10 (read responsively)

¹Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

²**Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.**

³Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.

⁴**For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.**

⁵He made it a decree in Joseph, when he went out over the land of Egypt. I hear a voice I had not known:

⁶**"I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket.**

⁷In distress you called, and I rescued you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder; I tested you at the waters of Meribah.

⁸**Hear, O my people, while I admonish you; O Israel, if you would but listen to me!**

⁹There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god.

¹⁰**I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.**

*Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of Daniel chapter 3.

C: Praise to you, O Lord.

Bible Story . . . Daniel 3:13-18

¹³Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in; so they brought those men before the king. ¹⁴Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? ¹⁵Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble to fall down and worship the statue that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?" ¹⁶Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. ¹⁷If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. ¹⁸But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up."

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Hymn "We Walk by Faith" ELW 635

Sacrament of Holy Baptism..... Printed

*Sharing the Peace

Offering

Offertory Response . . . "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" ELW 697

Prayers of the Church

Words of Institution/The Lord's Prayer

Communion

Choir Anthem "Communion Carol". Adult Choir

Communion Blessing

*Benediction

***Sending Song** . . . "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" ELW 860

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Church Phone: 507-553-3513

Web site: <http://www.goodshepherdwells.org> E-mail: 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: Lauren Mutschler

Sunday School Teacher: Sara Theede

Pianist: Jean Carlson

Communion Helpers: Judy Harpestad, Dennis Lutteke, Mariah Lutteke

Birthdays -Dec 3-9 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

4-Daryl Kruger	Stacy Magnuson	Jean Kruger	Jason Huper
Skylar Niebuhr	6-Elaine Grunzke	8-Deb Colvin	Mary Ovrebo
5-Shane Buendorf	John Vee	Mark Goldman	Amber Roessler
	7-Trevor Foley		

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.

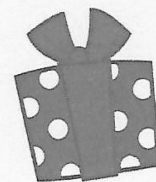
Good Shepherd Christmas Program - "A Very Whirl Christmas presents Liam's Runaway Pageant" Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 6:15 p.m.

Holy Baptism - Dexter James Stern, son of Chris Stern & Kaylee Bramstedt, born July 20, 2013. His Christian sponsors are Leo Schmidt and Elise Marshall.

In memory Ronald Melby, Jon Melby's brother, memorials have been received towards the Choir fund.

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.



Angel Treat Boxes



Available for order now through December 10th
\$10 per box

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

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

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

Dexter James Stern

Sunday, December 3, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

(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 Dexter James Stern to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

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

P/S: We will.

L: Will you teach him how much Jesus loves him? Will you teach him that he is a child of God forever? Will you bring him to the gathering of God's people so that he grows up worshiping and praising God? Will you teach him to pray, introduce him to the Scriptures, and see that he 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: Dexter James, 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 Dexter James; 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: Dexter James 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 Kaylee and Chris of this child. 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 Dexter James. Will you pray for him and share your faith with him? Will you remind him that he belongs to Christ and that as Christ's people we all belong to each other?

C: We will.

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

C: Dexter James, 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.

