



Welcome to Good Shepherd

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

Today's Worship

January 8, 2017

Who is Jesus? The Son of Man is Revealed ~ John the Baptist baptizes Jesus. When Jesus was baptized by John, the heavens opened up and the Holy Spirit descended like a dove. The barrier that separated God and humans was removed and the Kingdom of God began here on earth. To this day, the bringing about of God's kingdom here depends on the lives of the baptized - our thoughts, actions and words. Through us, the world is made well slowly, one right move at a time. How do you live out your baptism?

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn "I Will Enter His Gates" PW 168
"This Is the Day" PW 236

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: All of us have sinned and fallen short of what God expects of us. We are in need of God's forgiveness. Let us take a moment to confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection

P: Gracious God, you are the Light of the world,

C: Your patience with us is never ending. You have shown us wonders but so often we close our eyes to all your blessings. You have showered us with mercy, yet we withhold that same forgiveness to others. We focus too often on our selfish demands. Forgive us, God. You know our hearts; please forgive us and make us whole again.

P: The words of forgiveness from Jesus are trustworthy and true: your faith has made you well. May our hearts overflow with gratitude at the gift of God's mercy and may we also be forgiving to others, as well. In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day:

C: Gracious God, with joy and thanksgiving we praise you for claiming us as your beloved children and for pouring your Holy Spirit upon us. Help us live out our baptism, that your light may shine forth in all we say and do. Amen.

Children's Message

Choir Anthem "When Jesus Came to Jordan" Adult Choir

Psalm 51:10-17 (read responsively)

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

¹¹**Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.**

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

¹³**Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.**

¹⁴Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

¹⁵**O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.**

¹⁶For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

¹⁷**The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

*Announcement of Scripture Reading:

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

C: Praise to you, O Lord

Bible Story Luke 3:1-3; 10-18; 21-22

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." ¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. ²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Song "Who Is This Man?" Printed

Sermon

Hymn "Borning Cry" ELW 732

Sacrament of Baptism. Printed

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offertory Response "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized" vs 1 & 4. . . . ELW 304

Prayers of the Church

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying. Adult Choir

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song "This Little Light of Mine" ELW 677

Dismissal

P: Go in peace.

C: Serve the Lord.

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

Birthdays-Jan 8-14 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

8-Marvel Huper	10-Walter Stenzel	Shelley Tibodeau	Dave Jacobson
Amy Schroeder	11-Danielle Johannsen	12-Erin Eckwright	13-Dennis Morgan
Steve Schultz	Chad Malwitz		

Holy Baptism - Holden Alan Richardson, son of Cole & Lesley Richardson, born October 13, 2016. His Christian sponsors are Lyssa & Jade Warmka, Ashley & Adam Grunzke, Chantel & Matt Storby and Jeremy Richardson.

January Food Collection - During the month of January we will collect food donations of chocolate, yellow, white or spice cake mixes (please no Jiffy cake mixes). A grocery cart is parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Thank you for your December donations of Whole Kernel Corn and canned peas that also went to the Food Shelf.

Good Shepherd Greatest Chef Cooking Challenge - Good Shepherd Kitchen and Social Hall. Sunday, January 15. Grades 3-6: 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Grades 7-12: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Ever see any of the cooking challenge shows on TV, like Chopped? Come and be a part of a team and compete against others to prepare tasty food combinations that will impress judges and help you win this cooking challenge. No cooking skills are needed – if you like to eat, you will love this event. Sign up is required and you may bring one friend. Sign up on the church office door sign up no later than January 11. The cost is free. Please note: no supper is being served with this event.

Dinner Connect Group - The dinner group will have a potluck at the church on Sunday, January 8 at 5:30 p.m. in the social hall. Anyone interested in this group should bring a dish to pass.

Game Connect Group - The game group will meet in the church social hall on Sunday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m. Bring a game that you would like to play.

Cooking Connect Group - The cooking group will meet Monday, January 16 at 6:00 p.m. in the Social hall. Amy Anderson will demonstrate how to cook with Essential Oils.

Annual Reports - will be available for the Congregation on January 20, 2017. Forums to discuss the report will be held on Sun., Jan. 22nd and Wed., Jan. 25th following the worship. A reminder to all ministry teams and organizations a 2016 report of your activities is due to the church office on or before Jan. 13, 2017.

Annual Congregation Meeting - January 29, 2017 following the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary. *Elections-Reports-2017 Budget*

Looking ahead to next week: *Jesus Preaches in His Hometown (Luke 4: 14- 30)* At first, Jesus was warmly welcomed. But when Jesus preached that God comes to let the captives free, it stunned the people, who thought the love of God came alone to the 'faithful worshipers.' How do we respond when we realize how wide God's love reaches?

Senior Saints - Want to know about the new business in town called "The Bean". Patricia Schuster will join us on January 18 at 11:00 a.m. at the Broadway Apartments to give us information about how "The Bean" got started and what they are offering people in the Wells community. Everyone 55 and older is invited to share in the fellowship and the meal that is provided by the January service group.

THE BAPTISM OF

Holden Alan Richardson

January 8, 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 Holden Alan Richardson to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

L: You have presented Holden, 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: Holden Alan Richardson, 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 Holden; 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: Holden Alan Richardson 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 Cole and Lesley, parents 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 Holden. 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: Holden Alan, 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.

Retirement Party for Pastor Meg Sander. Jan. 15, 2017 at First Lutheran Church, 3315 G Ave, Kearney NE from 2-4:00 p.m. For a memory book photos and fond memories of Pastor Meg can be sent to the church or email to Jen Puls at juplus@region3.net

Five Sisters Project in Wells invites the community to a free movie. It will show on Jan. 26th at 6:30 p.m. at the Flame Theater. The movie is "Nefarious: Merchant of Souls" and is a documentary about the sexual exploitation/sex industry in the U.S. Jennifer Benson of Albert Lea will be there to discuss the impact that sexual exploitation has in our community and county. Please note: This documentary is not suitable for those under the age of 18. However, after this film, parents should be able to go home and talk to their youth regarding the dangers of sexual exploitation.

