



*The Evangelical Lutheran Church
Of the Good Shepherd
501 Fairfield Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601*

THE REV. FRANK S. PODOLINSKI, JR., PASTOR
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**A congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

*"We are a caring family of God nourished by the Word, guided by the Holy Spirit to
share the love of Jesus Christ."*

Service of the Word and Sacrament
January 5, 2020 – 8:30 & 10:30 am.
“Second Sunday of Christmas”

Please be considerate to those around you and observe silence during the prelude and service. This time is designed for personal meditation.

When you see the following symbol “+”, please stand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE (Silent Meditation Time)

“WALK IN THE LIGHT ”

E. BROUGHTON

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, Love from the beginning, Word made flesh, Breath of heaven. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

Merciful God,

We confess that we are not perfect. We have said and done things we regret. We have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have revisited your call to be your voice in the world. Forgive us, loving God. Give us your righteousness, the strength to put aside our failures, and the courage to try again. Amen

Dear people of God, hear the good news: Christ the Savior is born! You are loved and forgiven in the name of † Jesus, who has come among us. You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved, because God's love is given to you as the most precious gift of all. Rejoice in this love and share it with the world. **Amen.**

+ **GATHERING HYMN** **“SON OF GOD, ETERNAL SAVIOR”** **ELW 655**

+ **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

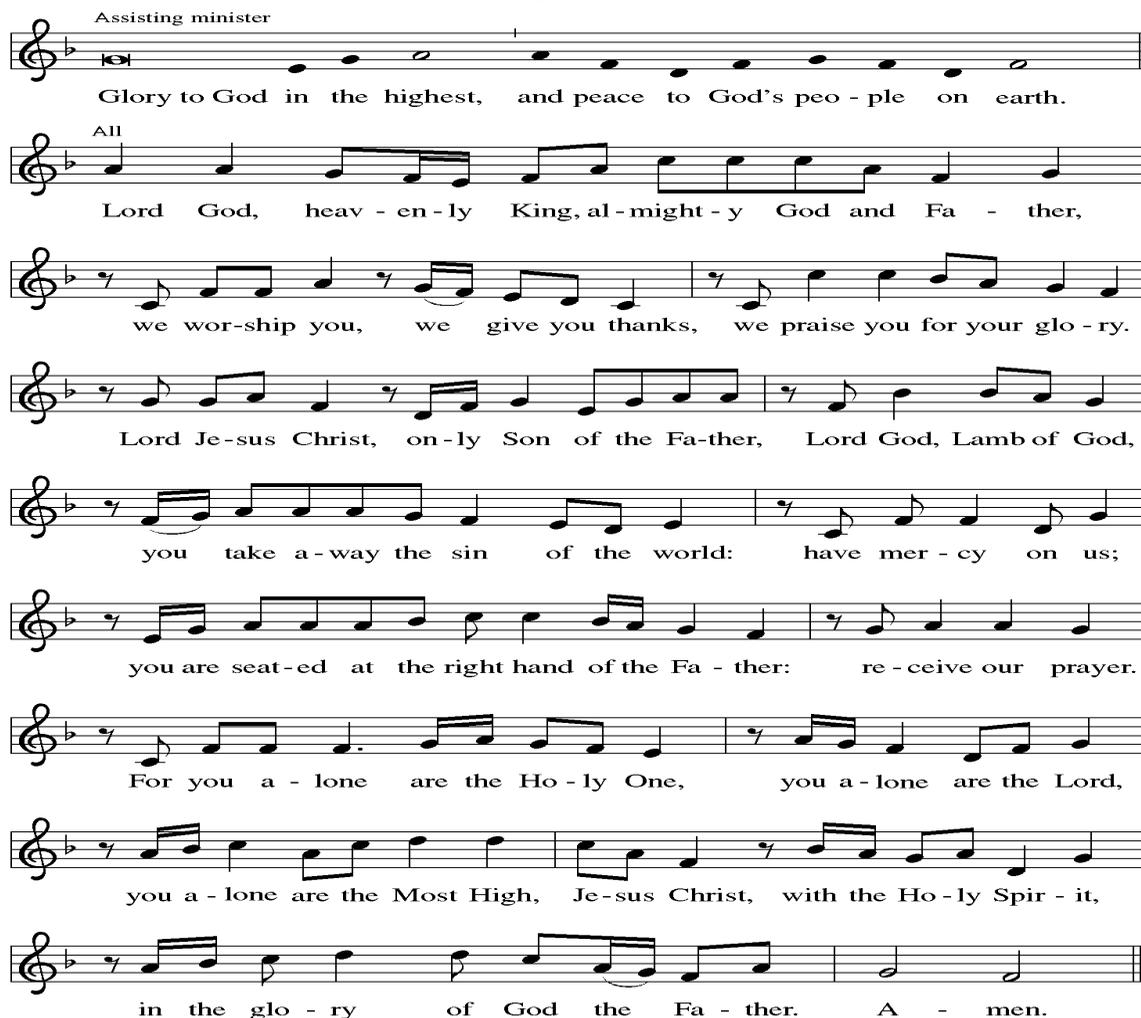
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

+ **HYMN OF PRAISE**

Glory to God

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

The holy gospel according to St. _____, the _____ chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

“THY STRONG WORD”

ELW 511
VS. 1 & 5

+NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

+PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered with all who seek the Christ child, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you make your presence known to the church in every land. Give to us a desire and will to support the diverse work of the church throughout the world (*ministries of the church around the world may be named*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Generous Creator, in you all things came into being and without you not one thing exists. We praise you for the snow and rain that water the earth. Move us to care for the well-being of the work of your hands. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Savior of the nations, you gather in your care people of every age and ability, from lands near and far. Inspire the leaders of the nations to work for peace within their countries and in all the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Saving God, provide for your people who begin this new year in need. Grant shelter to those who are homeless, comfort to all who are lonely, and a strong sense of your presence to those who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Word of truth, your good news of salvation is proclaimed among us. Bless all who proclaim your word in this community, especially teachers, pastors, deacons, musicians, and lectors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Gracious One, your light shines in the darkness and it is not overcome. We thank you for the witnesses who have testified to your light (*especially*). May their lives continue to inspire us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8:30)

“REFLECTIONS”

F. HILL

ANTHEM (10:30)

SENIOR CHOIR

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

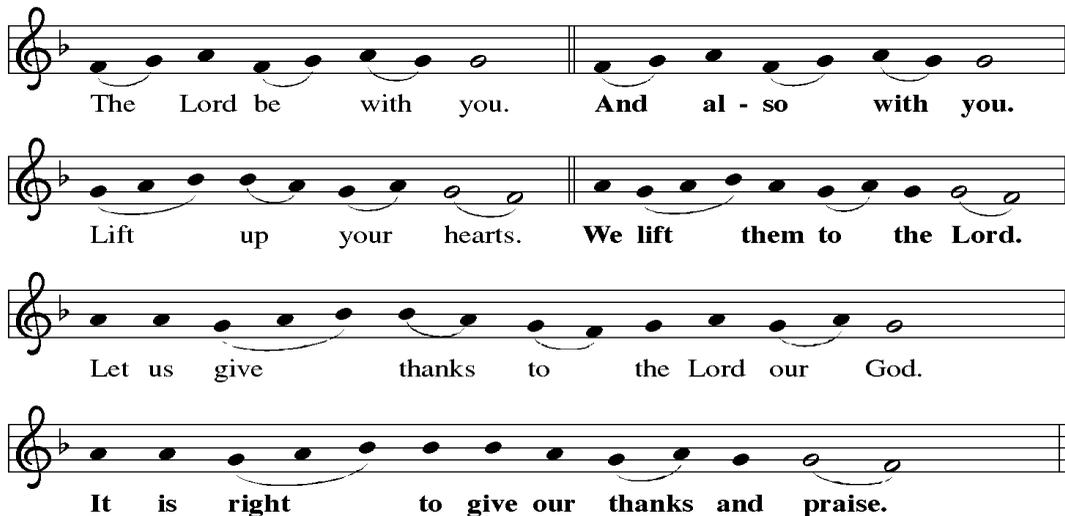
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Generous God,

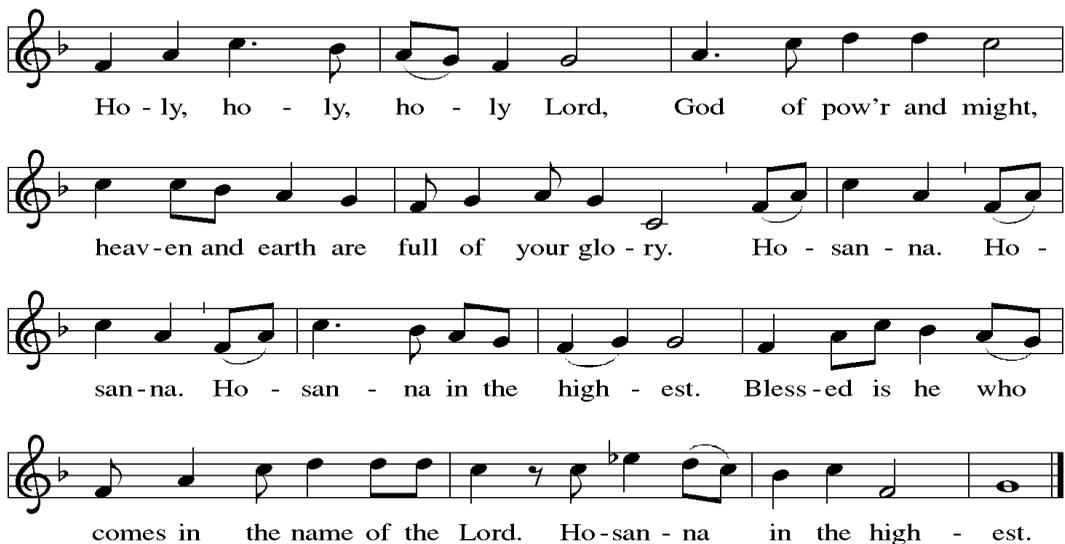
C you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord.

+GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

+THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup

we remember your Word dwelling among us,

full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

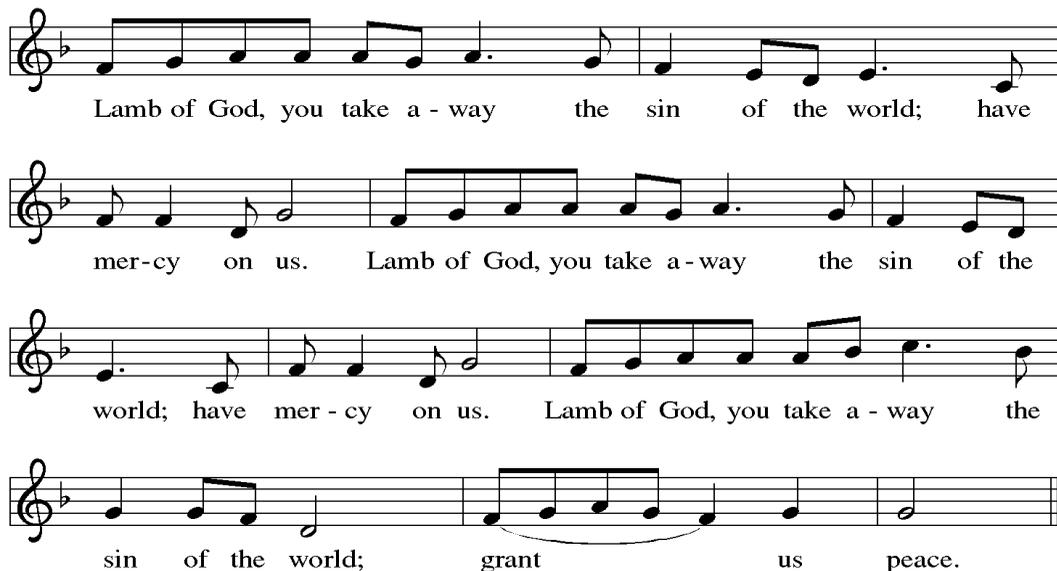
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, Share in the feast of salvation.

ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Children may come forward for a blessing. During communion, we offer wine and grape juice, if you would like to receive grape juice do not bring a cup, it will be provided by the Worship Assistant.

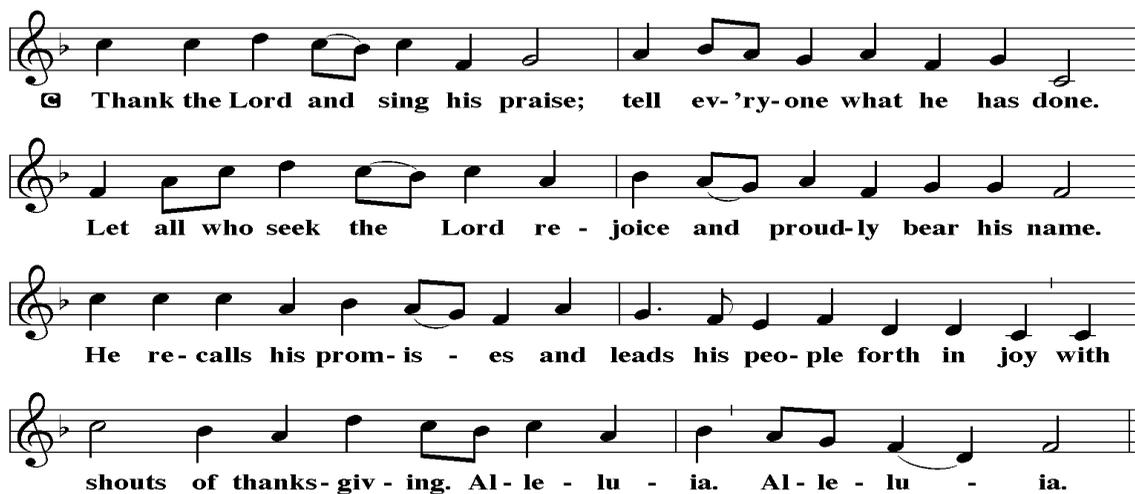
DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please continue singing during distribution of communion the following hymns: ELW 278, 296 (Vs. 1 & 3), 510.

+ POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



**☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.**

+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Emmanuel, God with us, you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all. **Amen.**

+ **BENEDICTION**

Grace from God's own heart, peace from the † Child in the manger, and strength from the Spirit of life be blessings for you today and forever. **Amen.**

+ **SENDING HYMN**

“GOOD CHRISTIN FRIENDS, REJOICE”

ELW 288

DISMISSAL

Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

***“THY STRONG WORD DID CLEAVE
THE DARKNESS”***

P. MANZ

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SERVING TODAY:

	8:30	10:30
Worship Assistant	Open	Open
Lector	Open	Mark Gesalman
Acolyte	Cody Barnard	Nicholas Cuda
Crucifer	XXX	Dominic Cuda
Greeters	Open	Jean & John Mathers
Ushers		Rob & Josh Lipko
Altar Guild	Jackie Sheleheda	Doris Wood
Counters		Jim Stewart & Harry Harbaugh

We welcome all visitors with us and ask that you sign our guest register.

If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider the Good Shepherd family.

Council Openings

There are Five (5) openings on council this year. Four (3) year terms and One (1) year term. Candidates must be communing and contributing members of the congregation. Why not take a more active role in the Congregation. These are very important positions to fill. The requirements include attending a monthly meeting and being a representative for a committee at the council meetings. If you are interested in running, please contact Pastor Frank, a Council member listed on the inside front cover of the newsletter or the church office.

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF January 5 - 12, 2020

Sunday	8:30 am.	Holy Communion
	9:30 am.	Sunday Club
	9:30 am.	Fellowship Meeting
	9:30 am.	Coffee Hour
	10:30 am.	Holy Communion
	2:00 pm.	Epiphany Tea
	6:00 pm.	7 th Grade Confirmation
	7:00 pm.	8 th Grade Confirmation
	7:00 pm.	Troop 416 Committee Meeting
Monday		Rocking Horse Resumes
	6:00 pm.	Brownies
Tuesday	9:00 am.	Brunot – Sanctuary
	9:00 am.	Unity Quilters
	10:00 am. – 2:00 pm.	Chat-n-Sew
	6:00 pm.	Bears
Wednesday	7:00 pm.	Troop 416
Friday	9:00 am. – 3:00 pm.	Bridge Club
Saturday	10:00 am.	Pack 416 Committee Meeting
	11:00 am.	Pinewood Derby Fun Day
	5:30 pm.	Holy Communion
	6:30 pm.	Trivia Night
Sunday	8:30 am.	Holy Communion
	9:30 am.	Sunday Club
	9:30 am.	Coffee Hour
	10:30 am.	Holy Communion



WELCA will celebrate Epiphany with our annual Tea TODAY being held at Donna Sheridan's home from 2 to 4.

January 11, 2019 – Following 5:30 service.
See the Commons Area for specific details!



Don't forget to pick up an apple for the Backpack lunch program. Items are due back on January 12th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like to include something in the bulletin, please have it to the church office by Wednesday before 12:00 pm. The bulletin is run Wednesday afternoons and folded first thing Thursday Morning. Thank you.

Every three years the Churchwide Assembly meets and mandated changes to the constitution result. If you would like to see the changes, copies are available in the office. The changes will also be on the Annual Meeting agenda.

2020 Offering Envelopes are available for pick up. Please note that your number may be different for the 2020 year. We are renumbering in alphabetical order.

2019 Giving Statements will be emailed as soon as they are available after the first of the year. If the church does not have your email address, please provide it to the office. If an email address is not available to us, paper copies will be on the table in the commons area until the end of January after which they will be mailed.

LIVING GIFTS – A new sign-up sheet is posted in the hall. Please sign up for those dates that may have special meaning to you. Please note: When signing up for a Living Gift, please make sure that you make the check out to Good Shepherd. The treasurer will then send a check to the designated recipient. Good Shepherd is unable to deposit checks made out to other institutions and if the check does not go through the treasurer it is hard to keep track of for giving statements

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Do you have a head for numbers? Good Shepherd is in need of a Treasurer. After many years, Shelley Cottrill is stepping down. Please notify the office if you are interested. Thank you Shelley.

Do you want to help from home? We have a spot for you. After many many years, Donna Ruble is giving up her duties securing food for funeral dinners. All the information is provided for you. We just need a friendly voice on the other end of the line. Contact the office if you are interested.

UNDECORATING WILL TAKE PLACE ON JANUARY 11TH. SEE JACK GESALMAN FOR DETAILS.



JANUARY 19, 2020 - Following the 10:30 am. Service.
Packets will be available for pick up in January.