



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church & School is a welcoming, Christ-centered family, dedicated to sharing our love and faith.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

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GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL

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12.21.25



DECEMBER 21, 2025, 9:15 AM

LORD'S SUPPER - As Lutherans, in joyful obedience to the clear teaching of our Lord Jesus, we invite to His table at Good Shepherd those who trust His Word, repent of their sins, and set aside refusal to forgive and love just as we have been loved and forgiven by God. If you are unsure about whether you should commune or not, speak to an usher prior to the service. Thank you and welcome!

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" LSB 357

THE SERVICE OF CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THIS WEEK'S THEME... God's Word Is Fulfilled for Us in the Flesh and Blood of Christ Jesus, the Son of Mary

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM **Jesus, Name Above All Names - Naida Hearn**

EPISTLE **Romans 1:1-7**

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus

Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED LSB 206

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy

Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN’S CHAPEL

HYMN OF THE DAY “O Little Town of Bethlehem” LSB 361

SERMON Psalm 24:1-10; “Tell Me Something I Don’t Know”

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each prayer petition concludes:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

THE OFFERING

While we gather the offering today you are invited to fill out the red “Record of Fellowship” forms located at the end of the pew. If you would, please pass the red pad down the pew so everyone can complete the record. Thanks!

PREFACE

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

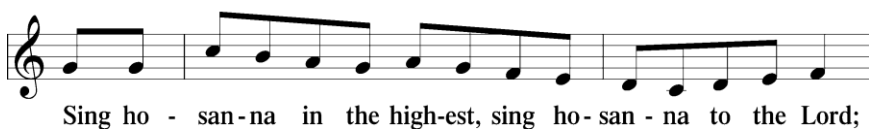
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising
You and saying:

SANCTUS LSB 208



LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 209

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

LSB 209

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI



THE DISTRIBUTION

As Lutherans, in joyful obedience to the clear teaching of Lord Jesus, we now invite to His table those who trust His Word, repent of their sins, and set aside refusal to forgive and love just as we have been loved and forgiven by God. You will receive the host and then will have a choice of either the individual cups or the common cup. If you would like the common cup, place your hands **FLAT** on the rail while the individual cups are offered. This way Pastor will know that you desire the common cup. If for medical or other reasons you would prefer a non-alcoholic individual cup, they are located in the center of each tray. If you would like to receive communion in the pew, please inform an Usher and what your preference would be – either common or individual cup. Thank you.

HYMNS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

“What Child Is This”	LSB 370
“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”	LSB 366
“Away in a Manger”	LSB 364
“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”	LSB 374
“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”	LSB 358



NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant, De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN “Joy to the World” LSB 387

POSTLUDE

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DECEMBER

22-Elders Meeting 6 PM

24- Christmas Eve Service 7 PM

JANUARY

19- Church Council Meeting 6 PM

Good Shepherd Needs You!

**Good Shepherd warmly invites you to join
our Lectors and Ushers ministries!**

**This is a wonderful opportunity to share
your gifts and serve our parish community. If
you feel called to help, we would love to
welcome you. Interested, please see Gary
Schroeder.**

Week of December 13-14, 2025

Tithes & Offering: \$ 6983

Attendance: Advent Wednesday 12/10: 41

Saturday 12/13: 18 Sunday 12/14: 77

Notary Service Available – see Sue in the office or
call 941-921-3673

What is FELLOWSHIP?

- 1) Friendliness
- 2) Community of interest, feeling
- 3) Communion between members of the same church

Fellowship is the heart and soul of our homes, our friendships, and our church. *And effective January 1, 2026, it is time for a new Fellowship Ministry to begin at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.*

Per our Church's **constitution**, the Fellowship Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and two other members appointed by the Chair. The committee has two main responsibilities:

- 1) Provide settings and opportunities for
Congregation gatherings, and
- 2) Continually assess the fellowship needs of the
Congregation.

If God has blessed you with the **spiritual gifts** of friendliness, compassion, joy in interacting with people of all ages, good organizational skills, and the ability to plan and implement events, please consider serving on the Fellowship Committee. Any questions? Please contact Bill Dermody, Council President

Share the Gospel with Young People!

Do you have 2 hours to share the Gospel with young people? Good Shepherd is partnering with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) to launch a Good News Club at Ashton Elementary! We are looking for 10 volunteers to serve one day a week (Tuesdays) from 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM.

Our goal is to begin in January 2026. If you're interested, please contact Diane Gonzalez at 941-270-0469.

DECEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

Lynne Gore	12/03
Kathi King	12/04
Steve Tuogati	12/05
Muriel Fredriksson	12/07
David Diefenbach	12/17
Stephanie Dinkel	12/17
Corey Rhinehart	12/19
Russell Behnke	12/19
Wanda Bartholomew	12/22
Charles Baxa	12/28

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Carl & Nancy Bayne	12/19 22 years
Ernest & Stephanie Dinkel	12/30 60 years
Jeremy & Angela Hartje	12/31 26 years

ROLL OVER YOUR IRA FOR GOOD

By taking a distribution from your IRA this year, you will likely pay more in taxes and may even reach a higher tax bracket. Rolling over part of your IRA's "required minimum distribution" or RMD to charity like ours can help reduce your tax bill while supporting our cause. If you are 70 ½ or older, you can make a gift of up to \$108,000 this year from your IRA to help further our mission. Contact your IRA administrator to get started with your gift. While you will not receive an income tax deduction, you will not pay taxes on any distributions made to us.

🌸 Altar Flowers

This week, our altar blossoms with love and gratitude! We give thanks for the beautiful flowers generously provided by **Bob & Linda Barnes**. May these blooms remind us that love rooted in faith grows stronger with time—flourishing for a lifetime and beyond. ✨

The need in our community is great, and your generosity can truly change lives. You can help by:

- Donating pantry items in the narthex
- Using the postage-paid envelopes for monetary gifts

Every contribution matters. Thank you for your kindness, and may God bless your giving.

Next week's Readings

Isaiah 63:7–14, Psalm 111, Galatians 4:4–7, Matthew 2:13–23