

SAINT MARK-GOOD SHEPHERD
WORSHIP SERVICES

ADVENT: A SEASON OF STARGAZING

**“Do not be Afraid....God is with us!”
(from Matthew 1:20, 23)**



IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICE

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Florham Park, NJ



Saint Mark Lutheran Church
Morristown, NJ



IN-PERSON WORSHIP GUIDELINES APPROVED BY THE JOINT GOOD SHEPHERD-SAINT MARK COUNCIL - 6/15/21

- **Social Distancing** - Seating every other pew.
- **Masks** - To allow singing within the Service and help protect those who are unvaccinated, extra disposable masks provided at entry by Usher for those who may have forgotten to bring theirs.
- **Offering** – Will be collected at back of church in offering plate before/after service

We thank you for your cooperation!

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Benediction

God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Song - ELW #253 "He Has Come Down"

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
 he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.
 he came down that we may have peace;
 he came down that we may have joy;

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again.
 You fasten righteousness around your waist
 and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire.
 Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames,
 and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare.
 We ask that peace abound,
 until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.
Amen.

ELW # 257 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" vss.1-4
 Procession of Elements & Offerings



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

MEAL

Offertory Prayer

Eternal God,
 you make the desert bloom
 and send springs of water to thirsty ground.
 Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,
 and make us messengers of your mercy and love
 for all in need of your healing and justice.
 We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

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, And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy Holy Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

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.

The 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

Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God, who has come to save you.

Lamb of God



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, grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion

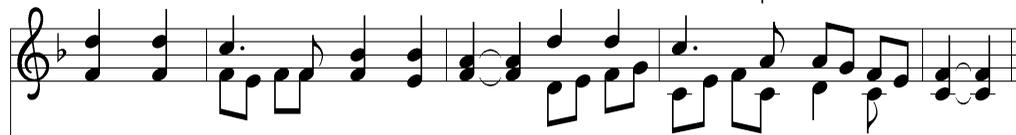
Communion Hymn: ELW #269 "Once in Royal David's City"



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,
 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
 4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth-er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
 and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
 we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth-er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 with the poor and meek and low-ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
 there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.



Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Faithful God,
 in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
 bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.
 As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
 sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.
 Guide us toward your promised future,
 coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

God, in your mercy,
 hear our prayer.

WORD

Gospel Acclamation: ELW #247 - "Come Now, O Prince of Peace"
Verse 2



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm
 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 1st chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about^[a]: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet^[b] did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,^[c] because he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”^[d] (which means “God with us”).

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reading: Genesis 37:1-11

¹ Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan.

² This is the account of Jacob’s family line.

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father’s wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them.

³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate^[a] robe for him. ⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

⁵ Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. ⁶ He said to them, “Listen to this dream I had: ⁷ We were binding

sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it.”

⁸ His brothers said to him, “Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?” And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

⁹ Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. “Listen,” he said, “I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.”

¹⁰ When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, “What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?” ¹¹ His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

Psalmody: Isaiah 35:1-10

¹ The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, ² it will burst into bloom;
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.

³ Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;

⁴ say to those with fearful hearts,
“Be strong, do not fear;

your God will come,
he will come with vengeance;

with divine retribution
he will come to save you.”

⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer,

and the mute tongue shout for joy.
Water will gush forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert.

⁷The burning sand will become a pool,
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.
In the haunts where jackals once lay,
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

⁸And a highway will be there;
it will be called the Way of Holiness;
it will be for those who walk on that Way.
The unclean will not journey on it;
wicked fools will not go about on it.

⁹No lion will be there,
nor any ravenous beast;
they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there,
¹⁰ and those the LORD has rescued will return.

They will enter Zion with singing;
everlasting joy will crown their heads.
Gladness and joy will overtake them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Children's Sermon

Sermon: Pastor Beau D. Nelson

Hymn of the Day: ELW #259 "Fling Wide the Door"

1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
 2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
 3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
 4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen

comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
 gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
 king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
 wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -

Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
 scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
 hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
 on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly

to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
 to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
 Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
 Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We

praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
 wor - ship him with song, for sav - ing us from wrong.
 a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
 praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Praise Reports

_____ *Sending* _____

Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



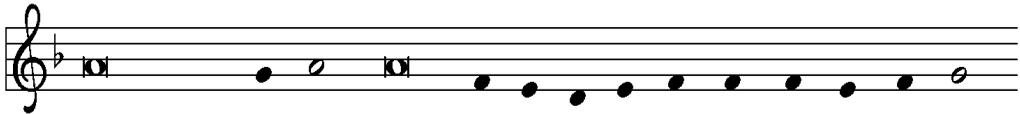
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



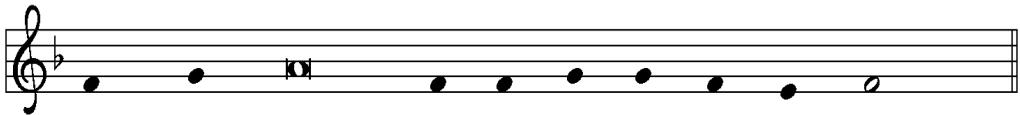
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,
we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace.

We dishonor one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire

and set us again on your way of love,

that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,

and welcome your coming among us.

Amen.

People of God,
a new thing is growing in our midst,
a tender branch,
a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on + Christ,

and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

Amen.

Announcements

Sending Song: ELW #266 “All Earth is Hopeful”



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra_al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y_el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task; this, the
 “A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el”; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, “God with us,” our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

- 2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:* 3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*
“De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel,” *nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.*
será “Dios con nosotros,” hermano será, *Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo_a encontrar,*
con él la esperanza al mundo volverá. *y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.*

- 4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*
pero en el mundo está presente hoy.
Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;
y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Beau D. Nelson

Organist: Ralph Petersen

Media Tech: Tara Kevorkian

SAINT MARK

Lector: Paul Dodenhoff

Worship Asst.: Paul Dodenhoff

Usher: Donna Mertz Burkhardt

Bob Burkhardt

Altar Guild: Judy Geller

GOOD SHEPHERD

John Sullivan

Andrea Sullivan

John Sullivan

Good Shepherd Volunteers for Dec. 11th

Lector: John Cigolini

Worship Asst.: Nancy Cigolini

Usher: Andrea Sullivan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Collections to Fight Hunger:

Please feel free to mail a check to your congregation with either of the food pantries indicated below on the memo line. Let's see how much we can give collectively to help feed people locally.

- Interfaith Food Pantry of Morris County
- Holy Family Food Pantry of Florham Park

Church Offerings: Thank you to everyone who continues to make contributions to support our mission. Online giving is available for both congregations. Envelopes that are mailed to the church continue to be deposited. For those attending in person, there are offering plates located in the back of the sanctuary.

PRAYER LISTS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 4th
(Note: New entries appear in Bold Font)

GOOD SHEPHERD: Dick Zeien; Ron and Irene Nagle; Kathy Briedis

Friends and Family: Lucy Barrires; ; Bob Newhouse; Paul Mantone; Bill Jardine; Peter Rinaldi; Wendy Estes; Ed Denton; Vince Bober; Doris Felmore; Melissa Kelly; Herbert Holly; Ralph Swinburne; Joe Mihalko; Joe Caparo; Cathy Caparo; Ginna Zukswert; Gene & Al Clelland; Ruth Moolin; Bob Swanson; Nancy and Jeff Martin; John Holl; Joy Griffith; Leslie Spohn; Pauline Morris; Wendy Wyll; Winnie A. Maroney; Lina Petrullo; Janice Bitondo; Charles Tobias; Eileen & Dave Word; John West; Brian Goldrich & Barbara Gemma; and Robert Zeien

Family Of: Terry Scullin; Russell White; Glenn Jones; Robin Pluciniak

SAINT MARK:

Our Church Family: Carla & Wolf Bauer; Patty Chadwick

Friends and Family: Rhiannon Langowski (Paul Dodenhoff's son-in law's niece); Sara Neidig (Paul Dodenhoff's sister); Mary Sigley (Granddaughter of a college friend of Cookie Davidsen); Rev. Sidney Williams and Family: Evelyn Stock (Sister of Henry Stock); Jim Topor (Friend of Judy Geller); Rev. Paul Strockbine; Larry Lane (friend of Judy Geller); Geri Monetti (Former Member); Patty Barnes & Family (Daughter of Carla & Wolf Bauer); Bonny and Bob Caridad (Bob Burkhardt's Sister and Husband); Janet (Friend of Carla Bauer); June Mueller (Cousin of Donna Mertz-Burkhardt); Stanley Nagy (Brother of Carla Bauer); Brian Vohs (Nephew of Gail Glennon)

Family of: Deanna Rene Reese Hansen; Harriett Nahrstedt (mother of Sheri Anderson); Peter Bauer (brother of Wolf Bauer)

IN THE WORLD:

The People of Ukraine; All who are suffering from the Coronavirus Pandemic

NOTE: If you have any announcements or prayer requests to add or delete, please call 973-538-3939 or email: **secretary@saint-mark-lutheran-church.org**

