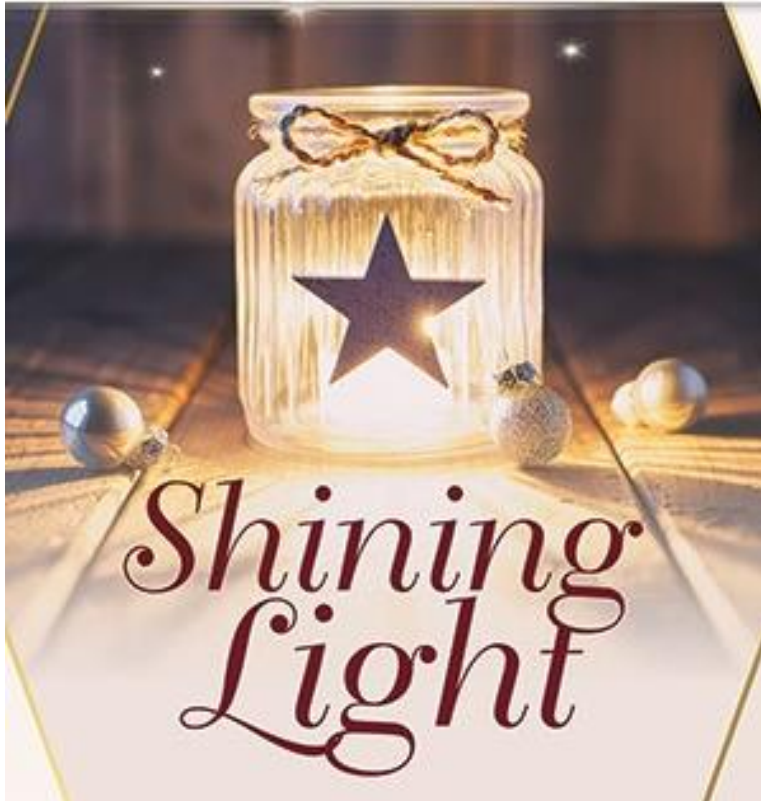


Welcome in the Name of Christ

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

439 E. Norvell Bryant Hwy
Hernando, FL 34442



Christmas Day Worship

December 25, 2021

10:00 AM

The Reverend Dennis W. Koch, Pastor

Reverend William Barrett, Visitation Pastor

Renate Williams, Director of Music, Organist & Pianist

Roger Johnson, Choir Conductor

Christmas Day Worship Service

Shining Light

Invocation & Call to Worship

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

Amen.

Arise, shine, for your light has come!

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

The light shines in the darkness,

But the darkness has not overcome it.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

We proclaim the praises of him,

Who called us out of darkness — **Into his marvelous light!**

Silence is kept for reflection.

The Christmas Proclamation

Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ELW 283



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2
 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

Confession and Absolution

Lord Jesus, we are thankful for this opportunity to celebrate your birth. Yet we must confess that much of the newness has worn off. The angels' message has grown old in our hearts, and your birth has become more of a sentimental tradition for us to observe rather than the life-changing reality in which you invite us to participate.

Lord, we are hurting because of it. Our hearts feel empty and alone. Our spirits remain restless and unsatisfied. Our souls are weighed down by nagging guilt and haunting fears. Lord, we need the assurance of your love. We need to know your forgiveness. Savior, we need to experience your peace, power and joy.

God has heard our confession and answers with these words: “For God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” Believe and receive the good news of Christ’s full and forever forgiveness—flowing to you from the manger, the cross and the empty tomb. Arise, shine, for your light has come!

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

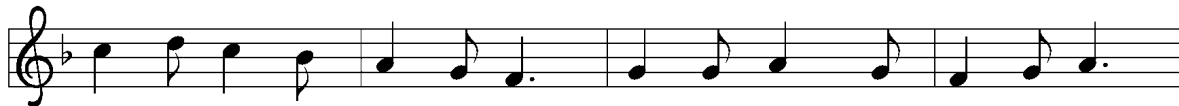
Hymn

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

ELW #288



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866

Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading: John 1:1-14

In 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Gospel Acclamation “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” ELW 270



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav’n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



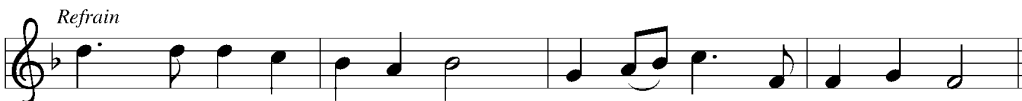
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled.”
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin’s womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king!”

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

Sermon

Hymn

"What Child Is This?"

ELW 296



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Prayers

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Father in heaven, with great joy and humble awe we acknowledge the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh. Keep us in true faith and in fervent love for one another. Let the light of our Savior shine in us.

Let there be light!

Gracious Lord, the great mystery of the incarnation was first believed and proclaimed by common men and women—Mary and Joseph and the shepherds. Give us confidence to tell the joyful message of our Savior's birth, his life, his death and his resurrection, that your Holy Spirit may work the miracle of faith as he wills. Let the light of our Savior shine in us.

Let there be light!

Father, you sent Jesus to serve the poor and forgotten before the wealthy and powerful. Keep us from false confidence in the earthly blessings you bestow and fill our hearts with generous love toward the destitute and the suffering, that they may see Christ's love in us. Visit and relieve the sick and the injured. Empower them to trust in your Word. Let the light of our Savior shine in us.

Let there be light!

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Musical Offering

“The Bells of Christmas” – Soloist, Roger Johnson

Preface and Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
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:

HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

ELW 289 (Vs. 1)



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Holy One, the beginning and the end...

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

...We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

...Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

...one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 Commune

Come to the banquet,
for all is now ready

The assembly may be seated.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond: **Amen.***

We invite all those who are Baptized, regardless of denomination, to join us for Communion. Please come forward using the center aisle. The pastor will meet you in the center with the bread. Gluten-free wafers are available for those who need them. A person will be located to the left and right of the pastor. They will have the wine. Grape Juice is available for those who wish to refrain from the use of alcohol. If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and communion will be brought to you.

Prayer After Communion

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Benediction

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

Hymn

“Joy to the World”

ELW 267



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his rich - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Dismissal

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

Thanks be to God.

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WELCOME VISITORS. We extend a warm welcome to all who are visiting and hope you will return to worship with us again.

WE ARE EQUIPPED WITH A HEARING LOOP Assistive Listening System. Please switch your hearing aid or cochlear implant to “T” during worship. Additional hearing devices are available from the Media Center.

TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS

Deacon Bob Bonomo,, and Shelly Fortin. Our Sincere thanks to all!

FLOWERS in the sanctuary today given to the glory of God

MUSICAL OFFERINGS TODAY

“Jesus, What A Wonderful Child” –
Duet by Lynn Bechdolt and Linda Koch

KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Stephanie Adams, Kent Meltesen, Pat Bentley, Harv Johnson, Carolyn Wall, Bob Moll, Sauny Williams, Tom Fowler, Caiden Fowler, Frank Wheatley, Gerri Fallanca, Dorothy Mensing, Jeremy Page-Wood, Michael Koch, Ilse Miles, Maria Thomas, Ray & Maxine Whitcomb, Dawn Clark, Isabelle Amundsen, Dave Boerger, Margaret Hehn, Bill Graham, Mireya Vera, Luna Bradford, Tommy & Rita Sillen, Karl Hertel, Joseph Dorwart, Alejandra Vukelich, Harper Wood, Heidi Rothmeyer, Steve Serafin, Adisynn Vincent, Tom Rice, Donna Brockschmidt, Billie Jean Chester, Nancy & Mike Kamm, Luna Jade Gonzalez, Nikki Robinette, Charlotte Clarke, Sandy Day, Arlene Mainster, Nancy O’Malley, Elisabeth Britt Busler, Steve Busler and Debi Wilson.

Attendance last Sunday

Total:In-Person, Facebook Live, You Tube: 175

THIS WEEK AT GSLC

SATURDAY

10:00 a.m. – Christmas Day
Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDER TO ALL – As you enter the sanctuary, please lower your voices so as not to disturb those who are meditating and praying in preparation for worship.

TODAY’S MUSICAL OFFERING is a duet - “Jesus, What a Wonderful Child” - sung by Lynn Bechdolt and Linda Koch.

LESSONS AND CAROLS SUNDAY Join us in worship tomorrow, December 26 for our Lessons and Carols worship service.

