



# SHEPHERD *of the* LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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114 E. Blue Earth Ave.

Fairmont, MN 56031

Sunday Worship: 9:30am

Sunday School and Bible Class: 11:00am

[www.shepherdofthelakes.net](http://www.shepherdofthelakes.net)

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**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 5, 2021**

## *Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes*

We're here to shepherd Christ's flock and seek the lost sheep by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with all. Come, let us worship!

### *For Your Convenience...*

A room for any parents with children in need of a quiet place is located just outside of the back of the sanctuary. Restrooms are located in the hallway toward the front of the sanctuary. Please ask if you have any further questions or concerns.

### *Prayer before worship*

Heavenly Father, as I worship you today, curb my wandering thoughts. Speak to my heart. Encourage me with your Word, that my faith is strengthened, my confidence and hope renewed, and I am recommitted to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' name, amen.



# DIVINE SERVICE I



**STAND**

## INVOCATION

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

## CONFESSION OF SINS AND ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

**M:** When God created the world, he made the crown of his creation—the human race—in his image. Perfect people lived in a perfect world in a perfect relationship with God.

**C:** **But mankind rebelled against God, bringing sin into the world and death to all. God declared the wages of sin to be death. We too are guilty, and we confess our sinful thoughts, words, and actions.**

**M:** However, God—who is Love—did not want to be separated from his children forever. He promised a Savior who would bear the punishment for sin, defeat the devil, and break the bonds of death. *Genesis 1:26; Romans 6:23*

**ALL:**

O, come, O, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

M: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt; your sins are forgiven. In view of God’s mercy, today we light the *peace* candle. Jesus tells us, “*Peace* I leave with you; my *peace* I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be afraid.”

C: **Since we have been justified by faith, we have *peace* with God through our lord Jesus Christ.** *Galatians 4:4,5; John 14:27; Romans 5:1*

ALL:

M: In the peace of God we go to the world—to our friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors. We regard no one from a worldly point of view. If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

C: **God has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. Jesus, who had no sin, became sin for us; in him we have become the righteousness of God.** *2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

ALL:

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**M:** Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**BE SEATED**

## **GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY**

### **FIRST LESSON: Malachi 3:1-7b**

<sup>1</sup>"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty.

<sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap.<sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness,<sup>4</sup>and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

<sup>5</sup>"So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me," says the LORD Almighty.

<sup>6</sup>"I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.<sup>7</sup>Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them.

Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty.

**PSALM OF THE DAY: CW Psalm 130** (*page 114 in the front part of the hymnal*)

## **SECOND LESSON: Philippians 1:3-11**

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you. <sup>4</sup>In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup>being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. <sup>8</sup>God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, <sup>10</sup>so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

### **VERSE OF THE DAY:**

Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. And all people will see God's salvation. Alleluia. (Luke 3:4,6)

### **STAND**

### **THE GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6**

**M:** The Gospel according to Luke chapter 3.

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of the following notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The notes are grouped into measures: G4 A4 B4 C5 | B4 A4 G4 F4 | E4 D4 C4. The lyrics are written below the staff, with a square box containing the letter 'C' under the first note. The lyrics are: Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—<sup>2</sup>during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup>As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.  
<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill made low.  
The crooked roads shall become straight,  
the rough ways smooth.  
<sup>6</sup>And all people will see God’s salvation.’ ”

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH: 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

**BE SEATED**

SERMON

STAND

SERMON RESPONSE—*Create in Me*



Cre - ate in me a



pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -



in me. Do not cast me a - way from your



pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from



me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -



hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## **OFFERING**

*Offerings can be placed in the offering plate in the back of our sanctuary. They can also be mailed to our church office at **114 E. Blue Earth Avenue, Fairmont, MN 56031** or made on our website under the “Donate” tab at the top of the homepage or taken to Profinium Bank in Fairmont.*

***To our visitors:*** *Our offering is not a debt we owe God, but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation, but love for God. The members of Shepherd of the Lakes have joined together to spread God’s message both in this community and around the world. As our guest, please do not feel obligated to contribute. We’re happy that you’re with us to hear about God’s love for you.*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 SACRAMENT**

### **PREFACE**

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**M:** Lift up your hearts.

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

**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C:** **It is good and right so to do.**

**m:** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY—*Sanctus*

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,  
God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -  
ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est. (8)

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** Amen.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD—*Agnus Dei*

**C** O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O  
Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O  
Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us your peace. A -  
men. A - men.

### DISTRIBUTION

**To our visitors:** Scripture teaches us that those who commune together are expressing a unity in faith and all of Scripture's teachings. This is called close communion. Therefore, if you are not a member of Shepherd of the Lakes, the Wisconsin Synod, or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, you will want to wait to commune with us until you've had the opportunity to learn more about what we believe and teach and then publicly express that unity at your confirmation. This is not a judgment in any way on your faith. Rather, we want you to be sure you agree with us before you express that unity at the Lord's Table. If you are interested in learning more about what we believe and teach or if you have any questions, please talk with our Pastor.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: CW 312vv1,4,7,8 .....Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

STAND

THANKSGIVING

SONG OF SIMEON—*Nunc Dimittis*



In peace, Lord, you let your  
ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my  
eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for  
ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the  
glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. E thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**THE BLESSING**

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

***BE SEATED***

**CLOSING HYMN: CW 14.....***Arise, O Christian People*



Find and like us on Facebook at *Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church (WELS) of Fairmont, MN*

