



Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church – ELCA

1st Sunday after Christmas

God with the World

December 29, 2024, 10 am

**“Encouraging faith and proclaiming God’s love by
Gathering, Growing, Giving.”**

Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreement to be on our live broadcast. Bold text indicates the worshippers’ spoken parts and * means please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to worship, trusting that God's help is here.

We come with joy to this celebration of God's love!

We are a community that embodies God's help for each other.

**Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your love. We waited for and have received the
"consolation of Israel."**

The Holy Spirit will guide us to recognize Jesus when we see him at work in our world.

Like Simeon, God is working in us making us "righteous and devout."

GATHERING

***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** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

LBW 55

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, †one God, live in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through †Christ Jesus, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

The First Noel

LBW 56

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Creator God, **we thank you for this day. Teach us your way, illuminate our heart, guide us into all truth. May you align our thoughts to your thoughts so that our lives may honor you. Thank you for your promise to us, that one day we will see Jesus and be made like him. All this we pray in his name. Amen.**

GROWING

Psalm 148

Please join in reading Psalm 148 responsively.

1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

**2 Praise the Lord, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

3 Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

4 Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created,

6 who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

8 fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;

9 mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

10 wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;

11 sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

12 young men and maidens, old and young together.

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

14 The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!

GOSPEL Luke 2:25-35

The Holy Gospel according to the second chapter of Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 2:25-35

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

29 "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

30 for my eyes have seen your salvation,

31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed 35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O, Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

God with the World

Lay Minister Keith Lee

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

LBW 60

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

***GREETING OF PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share God's peace saying, "Peace be with you" or similar words.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

For those who teach and those who learn, we pray. Bless the education ministries of your church. Guide Sunday school teachers, college and seminary professors, and Bible study leaders in our ongoing faith formation and curiosity. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the thriving of creation, we pray. Protect the habitats of pangolins and porcupines, penguins and parrots, and all wild animals and creeping things. Increase our knowledge of the natural world and the care of its inhabitants. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise up rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Let your peace rule in their hearts and in all lands. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the well-being of your people, we pray. Keep watch over all who travel this holiday season. Accompany those who are alone or ill (*especially*). Console parents and children whose relationships are strained or severed. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the ministry of this place, we pray. Let the word of Christ dwell among us. In times of conflict, clothe us in love and move us to forgiveness. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For your holy, beloved, and chosen ones of every time and place, we give thanks. Draw us all into everlasting praise and joy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

OFFERING *The OFFERING PLATE is located at the entrance of the church sanctuary. Your generous giving supports God's mission and ministry at Shepherd of the Hill.*

***OFFERING HYMN** "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

LBW page 96

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

God of the Journey,

We so quickly forget the warmth of the Christmas season. It seems, too often after we have blown out our Christmas Eve candles and unwrapped our Christmas gifts, we forget the joy and peace of the season. Help us not to forget the lessons we have learned. Strengthen us to be the light in the darkness for all your beloved children. May our gifts this morning be the sparks that light up our community and world so all will know the warmth of your loving presence. **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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

***BLESSING**

God of endings and beginnings, God in
the darkness and the light, God, our
hope for the journey,

✠bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***SENDING HYMN** Cold December Flies Away

LBW 53

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God.

Presiding Ministry: Lay Minister Keith Lee

Guitarist: Lorin Divine

Usher: Tim Jenson, Gordy Sessions Video: Billy Heltne

Reader: Emma Carothers Acolyte: Brandy Carothers

Advent Christmas Series Source: "God With Us Advent 2021 | Embracing the Story of Jesus," United Methodists of Greater New Jersey.

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Giving questions contact: Barb Vadnais barbvadnais1@gmail.com



THIS WEEK AT CHURCH AND BEYOND OUR DOORS

SUNDAY	12/29	10 am	- 1 st Sunday of Christmas
MONDAY	12/30	5-9 pm	- Confirmation Class to Action City
		7 pm	- AA Meeting
TUESDAY	12/31		- NO Food Pantry
WEDNESDAY	1/1		- Happy New Years Day!
			- Secretary in the Office
FRIDAY	1/3	10-Noon	- Food Pantry
SUNDAY	1/5	8:45 am	- Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
		10 am	- 2 nd Sunday of Christmas, Communion, Carol Sing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Assistance Needed

Ushers, readers, communion assistants and livestream helpers are needed. Helping to lead worship is a very rewarding way to use your talents and gifts. Training and support are offered for all positions. To volunteer please reach out to Tim Jenson for ushering, Kris Jenson, the church secretary, or a member of the worship committee for reading and communion assisting, and to Billy Heltne or Tim Jenson for live streaming. Thank you for prayerfully considering these forms of discipleship.

Mailing Addresses of folks to send words of care, cheer, or sympathy.

Please, let the secretary know if you would like to be added or know someone who might.

- Kari Brockmeier: 400 N Holly Ave., Elk Mound, WI 54739
- Olivia Kenefick: PO Box 102, Elk Mound, WI 54739
- Dave Blicher: N6956 938th St. Elk Mound, WI 54739
- Audrey Bracher: Colfax Health & Rehab, Room 310 110 Park Dr. Colfax, WI 54730

Giving Through our Website

Our website now provides us the opportunity to give donations on-line at any time without banking information. Most people are using credit cards today and not writing checks and now this includes the option of supporting the continuing work of Christ here at Shepherd of the Hill. Even if you only watch our streaming of worship services, you will now have the flexibility to make offerings from your home!

~ Please also consider monetary donations for the Food Pantry and/or Moulder Meals ~

New Feed My People Truck delivery schedule: Beginning in the New Year, instead of twice a month Truck deliveries of our food orders from the Eau Claire Food Bank, we will now be getting weekly deliveries on Thursdays!

The first delivery will be Thursday, January 2nd. The time will be 9:45 AM. This means we won't have to send volunteers to pick up 1000-pound orders in their truck or van. ***We welcome any help to unload food from the pallet and/or shelve food in our pantry.***

Consider volunteering for the Food Pantry or Moulder Meals in the New Year!