**Shape

Description automatically generated with low confidenceGood Shepherd Lutheran Church**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pastor: Rev. Katie Anderson | Music Director: Rev. Lois Swanson |
| Pastor’s Cell: (715) 245-1943 | Office Phone: (715) 387-2731 |
| Pastor Email: gslcwi.pastor@gmail.com | Office Email: gslcwi.office@gmail.com |
| Website: GoodShepherdMarshfield.org |  |

**Christmas Eve**

**December 24, 2024, 7:00 pm**

***Introduction to the day…***

******In winter’s deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus’ birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

**GATHERING SONG Hark! The Herald Angels Sing ELW 270**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

whose steadfast love is everlasting.

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God-with-us,

**we confess that we have turned away** **those seeking shelter,**

**claiming there is no room when we have plenty.**

**We have made power and wealth our idols,**

**while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.**

**We have overlooked the shepherds,**

**expecting good news in prettier packaging.**

**Too often, we have valued violence** **instead of your peace.**

**Turn us from our ways to your ways.**

**Grant us the grace to begin again.**

**Free us from all that keeps us bound,**

**and forgive our sin,**

**through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.**

**Amen.**

Hear the good news and rejoice!

You are God’s chosen ones,

holy and beloved,

☩ forgiven in Christ,

and freed to respond in joy.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus’ presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MUSIC Away in a Manager ELW 277**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**FIRST READING:** **Isaiah 9:2-7**

A picture containing text, sign

Description automatically generated2The people who walked in darkness  
  have seen a great light;  
 those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
  on them light has shined.  
 3You have multiplied the nation,  
  you have increased its joy;  
 they rejoice before you  
  as with joy at the harvest,  
  as people exult when dividing plunder.  
 4For the yoke of their burden,  
  and the bar across their shoulders,  
  the rod of their oppressor,  
  you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
 5For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
  and all the garments rolled in blood  
  shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
 6For a child has been born for us,  
  a son given to us;  
 authority rests upon his shoulders;  
  and he is named  
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
  Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
 7His authority shall grow continually,  
  and there shall be endless peace  
 for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
  He will establish and uphold it  
 with justice and with righteousness  
  from this time onward and forevermore.  
 The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 96**

1Sing to the Lord a new song;  
  sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
 2**Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;**  
  **proclaim God’s salvation from day to day.**  
 3Declare God’s glory among the nations  
  and God’s wonders among all peoples.  
 4**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,**  
  **more to be feared than all gods.**  
 5As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;  
  but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.  
 6**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;**  
  **power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**  
 7Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples,  
  ascribe to the Lord honor and power.  
 8**Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;**  
  **bring offerings and enter the courts | of the Lord.**  
 9Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
  tremble before the Lord, all the earth.  
 10**Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is king!**  
  **The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity.”**  
 11Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
  let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.  
 12**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord,**  
  **for you come to judge the earth.**  
 13You will judge the world with righteousness  
  and the peoples with your truth.

**SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14**

11The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, 12training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, 13while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 14He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL HYMN Where Shepherds Lately Knelt ACS 909**

**CHRISTMAS GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]**

1In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3All went to their own towns to be registered. 4Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.  
 8In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,  
 14“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
  and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”  
[15When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

A picture containing person, ground, outdoor

Description automatically generatedThe gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

…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.**

**PEACE**

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

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**OFFERING***In addition to our normal offering, a* ***Special Benevolence in December*** *(collected in a special*

*envelope) will be the* ***ELCA Good Gifts Program****. This is being done in conjunction with the Sunday School.*

**OFFERING SONG Born in the Night, Mary’s Child**

|  |
| --- |
| **1** Born in the night, Mary's child, a long way from your home: coming in need, Mary's child, in a borrowed room. |
| **2** Clear shining light, Mary's child, your face lights up our way: light of the world, Mary's child, dawn on our darkened day. |
| **3** Truth of our life, Mary's child, you tell us God is good: prove it is true, Mary's child. Go to your cross of wood. |
| **4** Hope of the world, Mary's child, you're coming soon to reign: king of the earth, Mary's child, walk in our streets again.  Author: Geoffrey Ainger; 1964 Stainer & Bell Ltd. (Admin. By Hope Publishing Co |

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of heaven and earth,

from the beginning, you have called forth life,

in which you take delight.

The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.

Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,

that we may join the chorus of creation

to tell of your salvation from day to day.

**Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**COMMUNION SONG All Is Ready Now**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** Quietly into the stable where the Savior sleeping lies,  we can go, for all are welcome: shepherd, angel, poor, and wise. What we have we bring and offer earthly gifts for Child divine,  giving that which we were given, fruits of harvest, bread and wine. |  |
| **2** ‘Cross the threshold of creation, Jesus comes to dwell with us, as he was in the beginning ever more God’s gift of love. Now he calls us to the table, gift of love to bleed and die: manger here becomes an altar stable Lamb is sacrificed. |  |
| **3** Now enthroned as king of heaven blazing glory like the sun:  In his hands are pow’r and justice, on his lips are peace and love.  As our gifts are turned to ashes, falling down in awe we bow,  empty handed we adore him. “Come for all is ready now.” | Text & Music:  1999 Jay Beech |

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets’ hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary’s openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,

full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**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** *- Certified gluten-free crackers are in the bowl on the communion plate.*

A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.

Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

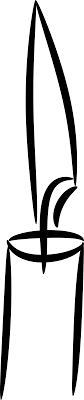
*As you return from communion,* *please pick up a candle from*

*the front pew*

*We will light the candles*

*and sing “Silent Night” after*

*the Communion Prayer.*



**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Merciful God,

we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

Strengthened by this goodness,

send us forth to announce your peace,

comfort the afflicted,

and share the good news of great joy.

**Amen.**

**SONG Silent Night, Holy Night ELW 281**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 Silent night, holy night!  All is calm, all is bright  round yon virgin mother and child.  Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  sleep in heavenly peace,  sleep in heavenly peace. | 3 Silent night, holy night!  Son of God, love's pure light  radiant beams from your holy face,  with the dawn of redeeming grace,  Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  Jesus, Lord, at your birth. |
| 2 Silent night, holy night!  Shepherds quake at the sight;  glories stream from heaven afar,  heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!  Christ, the Savior, is born!  Christ, the Savior, is born! |  |

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The God of love,

Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

lavish you with grace,

illumine your path,

and increase your joy,

today and always.

**Amen.**

**SONG Joy to the World ELW 267**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

**Thanks be to God.**

******

***Donations of Poinsettias that***

***Beautify the Altar for Christmas***

**Margo & Matt Berrier**

In Memory of Elizabeth Fuscone, Luke Dernovsek Jr., Joseph Berrier Jr.

**Dennis & Deb Janz**

In Memory of Carol Janz and Robert Baneck

**Jewell Family**

In Memory of those we have lost: Dan and Moices

**Dan & Pam Mundt**

In Memory of Christopher Mundt

**Jim & Sharon Schiszik**

In Memory of Parents Earl and Iris Schiszik, Ervin and Maybelle Kollmansberger

In Memory of Son Corey Griepentrog, Sister Kimberly Tate, Brother Dennis

**Chuck & Mary Schlafke**

In Memory of The Loved Ones We Have Lost

****

**Dave & Shelly Schneider**

In Memory of Art Feldman, Phyllis and Les Schneider

In Celebration of Our Children



**Dave & Sue Schraeder**

In Memory of Our Parents

In celebration of Travis, Junko, Kaio, Toma and Leona

**Lois Swanson, Norlyn Freese & Matthew Freese**

In Memory of Wallace and Agnes Swanson

In Memory of Jim and Maxine Freese

**John & Jane Wagner**

In Memory of Christopher Wagner

**Jeff & Julie Will**

In Celebration of the Holidays