

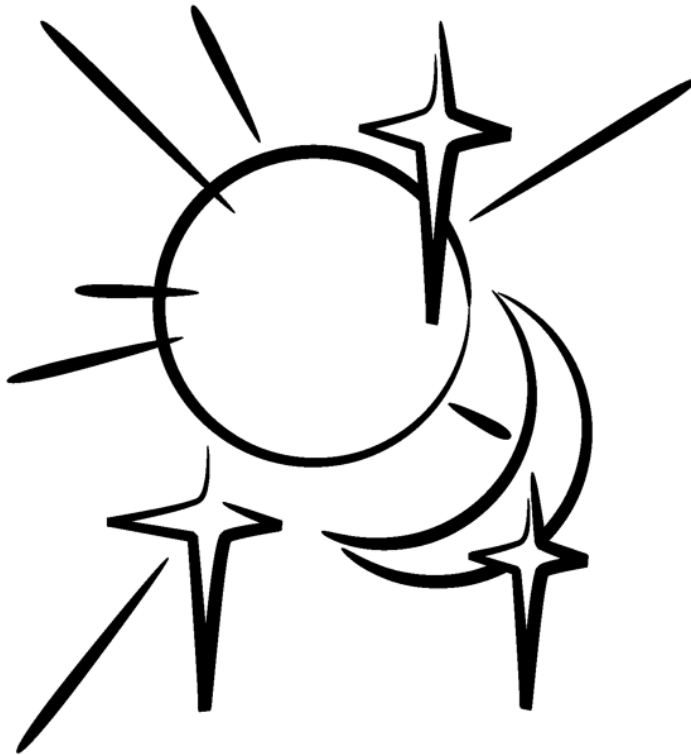


GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A Mission & Ministry of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod that is...
Proclaiming Christ's Word through Truth, Innovation & Fellowship.*

Celebrating The First Sunday in Advent

December 1st, 2024



"Peace in Heaven and Glory in the Highest!"

-From Luke 19:38



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

2450 West 9th Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54904

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Pastor Greg Koepsell: Office 920-231-0530 or Cell 763-913-8445

or pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Web Site: www.goodshepherdinoshkosh.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/oshkoshgoodshepherd

E-Mail Address: church@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org

Worship Services (*During Advent*): **Wednesday** 10:30 am & 6:30 pm;

Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 am

Sunday Bible study/Sunday School for all ages 9:15-10:15

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 8:00-1:00 pm

(Pastor always available via cell! Call or text!...763-913-8445)

As We Gather...

Greetings and welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. It's our honor and privilege to worship with you on this first Sunday in Advent and this new day of salvation! Thank you for joining us to worship the True God; Father, Son & Holy Spirit, and receive the gifts of forgiveness and grace our God loves to give...and even more, to celebrate the life we have on account of our Good Shepherd, Jesus. Please make yourself at home, you are among family.

"Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation." (Zech 9:9) The One who is coming in glory, might, and power is the One who came by the humility of the Virgin, the manger, the donkey, and the cross. And He is the One who comes to us here and now, hidden and sublimely "with us," present in water, Word, bread and wine, to prepare, to forgive, to strengthen, and to keep us. That's the very heart and core of the season of Advent. "Behold, your King comes to you, righteous and having salvation."

Service Notes...

In preparation for worship: Please take some time to greet the people you are worshipping with! The order of worship for today is Divine Service *Setting One* found on **page 151** in the Lutheran Service Book (*LSB*). To avoid having to flip back and forth between this bulletin and the *LSB*, some of the liturgy and the scripture readings are printed for you below. Please take a few minutes to look over the order of worship before we begin. In addition, you may want to mark the songs: **331, 357, 353, 348 & 341** in the *LSB* as you prepare for worship (even if you "don't sing," please read along! Lutheran hymnody carries some deep Theological messages!).

Reminder: If you have a smart phone, and you're on Facebook, remember to check in at *Good Shepherd* Lutheran Church...then turn the sound off! May God seriously bless your worship this day...a new day of salvation!

To Stand or Sit: There are certain parts of the service where you will be invited to stand. Sometimes, “wrestling” with kids, or a personal health condition makes standing uncomfortable... please know: **It is okay to either stand or sit. Both are appropriate!** So please, make yourself comfortable, receive the gifts God loves to give and **BOLDLY** sing His praises!

Children: We are blessed to have a lot of young families and young children here at *Good Shepherd*. We take Jesus' words very seriously when He says, “Let the little children come to me...” We also know how difficult it can be to keep children sitting quietly for any period of time, much less an hour long church service! For your convenience, “Quiet Bags” have been provided for young worshippers. They are located in the narthex to your right (on the “Noah’s Ark” wall mounting, next to the big bulletin board) when exiting the sanctuary. Also, for your convenience, a “Quiet Room” is located at the back of the sanctuary for use during those “difficult” times. Also, please keep in mind that everyone here loves to have the children here and will help you in any way they can! **Please note:** *Non-communion services may have a children’s message which could be recorded via Facebook live. If you have any issues with your child being seen at church on the World Wide Web just listen from the pew!*

Guests, Visitors & The Offering: If you are our guest today, you are **not** expected to contribute monetarily to God’s work at *Good Shepherd* ... you are our guest! Please take this service as our gift to you! But please do take a minute to check in at one of our kiosks in the atrium and sign the guestbook so we can thank you for your visit...and come soon to see us again! If you choose to give an offering, know this: **The gifts we give back to God are used by His church to transform lives.** (*The offering plate is located at the sanctuary entrance.*)

The Lord’s Supper: (Sunday at 8 am) *Good Shepherd* joyfully celebrates the Lord’s Supper, and we do that in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another *Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*. **Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes** *Matthew 5:23; 18:15-35*. Because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm *1 Corinthians 11:27-29* and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession *Matthew 10:32* differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. Because Scripture says we ought to “examine ourselves” before receiving the Holy Meal *1 Corinthians 11:28*, it is recommended that we review the “*Christian Questions with Their Answers*” section of the *LSB* before communion (**page 329 of the *LSB***), please take a few moments before the service or during the offering to do so. Thank you! **Please note:** *There are two or three cups at the center of each tray that are non-alcoholic wine for those who prefer such for personal or medical reasons (The wine containing alcohol is white, the non-alcohol is red/pink).*

Pre-Service Meditation...

*Please check out some of the pre-service prayers in the front of the *LSB* and/or meditate on one or more of the Psalms printed in the *LSB* (specifically **Psalm 25** today).*

Prelude...

Words of Welcome...

The Opening Hymn: "The Advent of Our King"
(LSB pg. 331...please stand for verse six)

Divine Service Setting One (Page 151)

Confession & Absolution (Page 151)...

Entrance Verses (Jeremiah 33:14-15 & Luke 21:27,33, adapt.)

Pastor: The LORD says, "I will fulfill the promise I made to the houses of Israel and Judah."

All: We thank You, O Lord!

Pastor: The LORD says, "My righteous Branch will cause justice and righteousness to spring up."

All: We adore You, O Lord!

Pastor: The LORD says, "You will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory."

All: We praise You, O Lord!

Pastor: The LORD says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away."

All: We worship You, O Lord!

(Silence is kept for meditation and reflection...while the first Advent candle on the wreath is lit)

Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy (pg. 152)

Hymn of Praise: "This is the Feast" (pg. 155)

The Salutation & Collect of the Day (pg. 156)

+ We Hear God's Word +

The Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16 (The Lord promises that the days are coming when He will raise up a righteous Branch to execute righteousness and justice in the land.)

"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. ¹⁵ "In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah

(Continued...)

will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it^c will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.’ ... This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

The Gradual ~ (A response from the bible that follows the Old Testament Reading)

Pastor: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

All: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Pastor: Behold, your king is coming to you;

All: righteous and having salvation. *Zechariah 9:9*

Pastor: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: From the house of the Lord we bless you. *From Psalm 118*

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13 (Paul reminds us that God can cause us to abound in love for one another as we await the coming of the Lord.)

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. ¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

... This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

We Stand & Sing The Alleluia & Verse: (pg. 156 bottom)

The Gospel Reading Luke 19:28-40 (Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

All: (sung; pg. 157 middle) Glory to You, O Lord.

After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ tell him, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They replied, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

All: ³⁸ “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”^a “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

⁴⁰ “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.” ... This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ!

We Sing: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(LSB pg. 357...with help from the Good Shepherd Bell Choir!)

The Message: “Enter... The Savior of the World”

Sermon Application...

What did God teach you in His Law today (*What you should do, or have failed to do for God*)?

What did God teach you in His Gospel today (*What God has done for you through Christ*)?

What is the main thing you’re taking home from this message today?

*Have a comment or question about today's message? Have **any** questions about any of this Jesus/Christian stuff? Text the Pastor at 763-913-8445 or email him at pastor@oshkoshgoodshepherd.org. If you'd like to hear Sunday's message, or share it with a friend, it posts on our Facebook page and/or Website by 10 am on Monday...*



The Nicene Creed (LSB pg. 158)

The Prayer of the Church [1 Timothy 2:1-4]

(The Pastor will conclude each short petition with the words, “Lord in Your mercy.”

Please respond with, “Hear our prayer.”)

We Sing the Offertory (pg. 159 bottom)

Sunday at 10:30 the service continues with the Lord's Prayer, the blessing and the closing Hymn.

Sunday at 8:00 am the service continues as follows...

The Service of the Sacrament (pg. 160)

The Preface

The Proper Preface

The Sanctus ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (pg. 162 top/right column)

The Words of our Lord

Pax Domini ~ The Peace of the Lord (pg. 163 middle)

The Agnus Dei ~ Lamb of God (pg. 163 bottom)

The Distribution

We come forward to receive the Body & Blood of Christ in, with and under the bread and wine for remembrance; for forgiveness; for the strengthening of our faith. You may sit and sing while you wait for the Holy meal. The ushers will assist you.

During the distribution...

The Good Shepherd Bell Choir plays: "Savior of the Nations Come"

We Sing: "Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring" (LSB pg. 353)

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"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns" (LSB pg. 348)

(After Communion...)

Post-Communion Canticle: "Thank the Lord" (pg. 164 bottom)

Post-Communion Collect (pg. 166 top)...

The Benediction

The Closing Song: "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (LSB pg. 341)

Thank you for worshiping with us!...It's SO MUCH better with you here!

Please stick around for fellowship as long as you desire.

If you are leaving an offering today, please do so in the collection plate at the entrance to the sanctuary...And please know that the gifts we give back to God are used to transform lives!

Sunday School for ALL AGES is on Sunday Mornings, 9:15 – 10:15

To God Alone the Glory Goes!

Questions about the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod? Check out www.lcms.org

Postlude...

**Altar flowers are sponsored by Sean Harlow
In memory of Richard Rickus**

Next Week's Texts: Mal. 3:1-7b; Phil. 1:2-11; Luke 33:1-14

Search the Scriptures! (John 5:39)

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 1	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service with Communion
	9:15 A.M.	Education Hour
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service
Monday, December 2	5:30 P.M.	Bell Choir
	6:00 P.M.	Fellowship Meeting
	6:30 P.M.	Adult Choir
Tuesday, December 3	6:30 P.M.	Elders Meeting
Wednesday, December 4	10:30 A.M.	Advent Worship Service
	5:15 P.M.	Confirmation Class
	5:30 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	Advent Mission Meal
	6:30 P.M.	Advent Worship Service
Saturday, December 7	7:00 A.M.	Men's Group
	8:30 A.M.	Women's Group
Sunday, December 8	8:00 A.M.	Worship Service
	9:15 A.M.	Education Hour
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service with Communion

Serving Us Today

Pastor & Celebrant.....Pastor Koepsell
Organist.....Cam Bedroske
Choir.....(8:00) Bell Choir
Elder.....Todd Klauer & Tim Hoversten
Ushers.....Richard Tritt, Howard Danula, Mike Phillips, Craig & Jodie Skadahll

DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH: The work of salvation is finished in Jesus! 1517.org is a nonprofit organization that exists to declare and defend the Good News that you are forgiven and free on account of Christ alone. 1517 provides resources such as articles, podcasts, videos, and many more to help support not only individuals that have never heard the word of God, but those need to hear it again on their journey to understanding of sola gratia, sola fide, sola Scriptura. Solus Christus!

CHRISTMAS EVE MUSIC TRADITION: Before each service on Christmas Eve, there is 20 minutes of member led music. If you have a musical talent and want to be involved, please talk to Cam, 920-379-2037. School Band/Choir/Piano students please consider this. If you don't have specific ideas or a song in mind, Cam can help find music for you. This is an ASAP request because it takes time to pair the music and musician with time left to practice. Thanks so much. Each year, this tradition is a huge blessing to the people worshipping on Christmas Eve.

NEW BIBLE STUDY: Sunday morning Adult Bible study for the first three weeks in December will be on the book of Philemon. This letter to Philemon was written during one of Paul's many imprisonments. It's the shortest letter he ever wrote, but don't let its size trick you. This is actually one of the most explosive things Paul ever composed. The study will also incorporate many of Paul's epistles into the discussion and will be led by Jon Mielke.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS: Christmas is right around the corner and the Sunday School kids are working very hard to get ready for their Christmas Program. Parents, please do you your best to make sure your kids are here every Sunday so that they can rehearse for the program. Thank you for your support!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Here is a gift that you can give to our church family. Each year, members travel to our homebound and share in the ministry of 'presence'. We get to visit, sing and pray with our members. Come along (all are invited!) and have your heart filled with "Tidings of Comfort and Joy". If you are interested in being a part of this special event, please meet in the church parking lot Sunday, Dec 15th at 1:00pm and carpool with others or drive separately. Feel free to stay until you need to leave the group.

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY (DCM): Good Shepherd has been blessed with a growing congregation and as such, has voted to call a DCM. There is a call committee working on a job description and other matters related to this position. As of their last meeting, the following job responsibilities for a DCM has been devolved. Here are a few of the broad expectations: Assist Pastor with church faith development, work with Pastor to develop a congregational growth plan, lead children and youth ministries, and ensure that missional communities are formed around age, stage, and interests. The full DCM position description will be available in tomorrow's weekly email.

ADVENT DEVOTIONS: "His Gospel is Peace" is the Advent devotion we are using this December. There are copies available in the atrium or if you prefer a digital copy, you can download a copy at <https://learn.1517.org/his-gospel-is-peace-advent-devo#sign-up> We hope to see you at our mid-week worship services which will explore this theme and are different than Sunday services. Consider joining us on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:15 pm for Midweek Mission Meals – Feed your belly, then feed you soul!

THIS WEEK ON KFUE.ORG: Sharper Iron airs a new series called "The Fifth Evangelist" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), going through the book of Isaiah. On Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), we enter into Holy Week, taking a look at chapters 12-14 in John's Gospel. Join us live on Sunday and Wednesday (1:00 and 7:00 p.m. CT) as we bring back a special 100th anniversary edition of JOY!, a one-hour program of sacred music for the Advent season. Find the full program schedule at kfuo.org/joy.

Last Week at Good Shepherd...

Attendance: Thursday: 40 Sunday 8:00: 91 Sunday 10:30: 93 Weekly Total: 224

Offerings For Week of 11/24:

- General Fund: \$20,850.00
- Missions: \$48.00
- Strategic Fund: \$30.00
- Craft Fair: \$14,092.00

Total Offerings: \$35,020.00

Weekly Budget Needs at Good Shepherd: \$7,381.00

("...So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.") -1 Corinthians 14:1

Please remember in your prayers:

Church Members:

Sherri Groskreutz, Don Borgen, JoAnn Haskins, Tom Dunham, Bill Zorr, Jim & Sharron Ziemer, Ed Huebner, Louise Gabert, and Brenda Hawig.

Friends & Relatives of Church Members:

Magdalene Steinke's, Aunt Carrie; Linda Brehmer's friend, Deanne Schubring; Marie; Lee Paris' son, Andy; Pastor Koepsell's mother, Lorraine; Jan Peterson's sisters & niece & son, Scot and daughter, Paula; Ron & Chris Feutz's grandson, Logan Feutz; Kim & Keith Reetz's grandbaby, Tobias; Janet Weier's son, Adam & family; Gene & Donna Gohlke's nephews, Kirk and Michael, & granddaughter, Karley; and Doug Flouro's brother, Allan.

Those Who Want to Worship with Us But Aren't Currently Able:

Shirley & Wes Radloff, Jane Nowicki, Manette Flouro, Pastor & JoAnn Meier, Bill & Louise Gabert, Jim Ziemer, Muriel Guy, Lee Paris, Emily Brunner, Edward Huebner, Jean Stauber, Vicki Beck, Bill Zorr, Marge Bolding & Milt & JoAnn Haskins.

Military/Overseas Members & Their Families:

*Malayna Brehmer (granddaughter of Barry & Linda Brehmer),
Ryan Weber (son of Tim & Liz Hoversten), Chris Hibben, Alycia Mueller, and Jared Rivera*

**Please let Lynn Paulus, our Prayer Chain Coordinator, know when we can take you or your loved one off the prayer list
lynn@travellleaders.com*

Midweek Advent Services

*Wednesday, December 4 - 10:30 am & 6:30 pm**

*Wednesday, December 11 - 10:30 am & 6:30 pm**

*Wednesday, December 18 - 10:30 am & 6:30 pm**

**Advent Mission Meals are served Wednesday evening from 5:30-6:15 pm*

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Worship - 10:30 am, 4:00 & 6:30 pm

Christmas Day - 9:00 am