

**December 21, 2025**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

4120 Cleveland Ave NW      Canton, Ohio 44709

330.492.2743

*[www.goodshepherdcanton.org](http://www.goodshepherdcanton.org)*

*Our Mission: Created, saved and strengthened through God's grace,  
we give, share, love and care for all people.*



# Gathering

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prelude

*Please stand as able*

### Confession and forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Long-expected God, **we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**

### Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel  
Verses 1, 4, 5, 6, 7

ELW 257

### 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 of Praise and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

### Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.  
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.  
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.  
4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune  
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Prayer of the Day

Response: **Amen.**

## Word

*Please be seated*

### First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

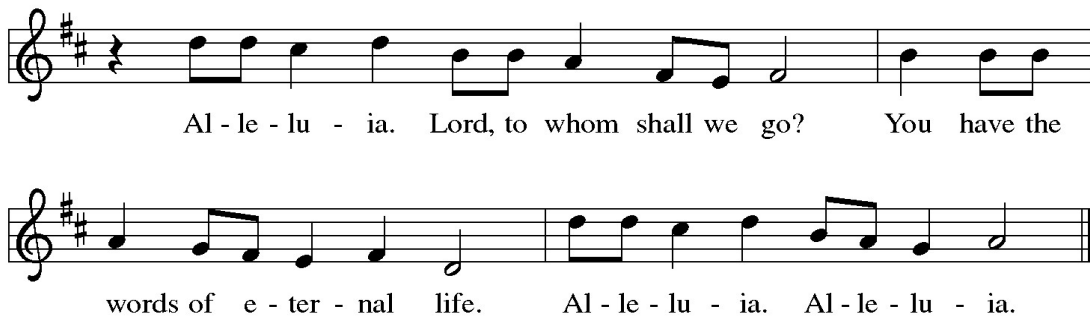
Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand if able at the introduction*

## Gospel Acclamation



## Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 1st chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and

they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

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

*Please be seated through the Offering*

## **Homily**

# **Response to the Word**

**Hymn of the Day**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

ELW 254

## **Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*In our waiting and watching we come to you, ..God of grace, **hear our prayer.**  
...through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. **Amen.***

## Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
*Greet those near you.*

## Offering

*Please stand as able through the Holy, Holy*

## Offering Response



We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord from thee.

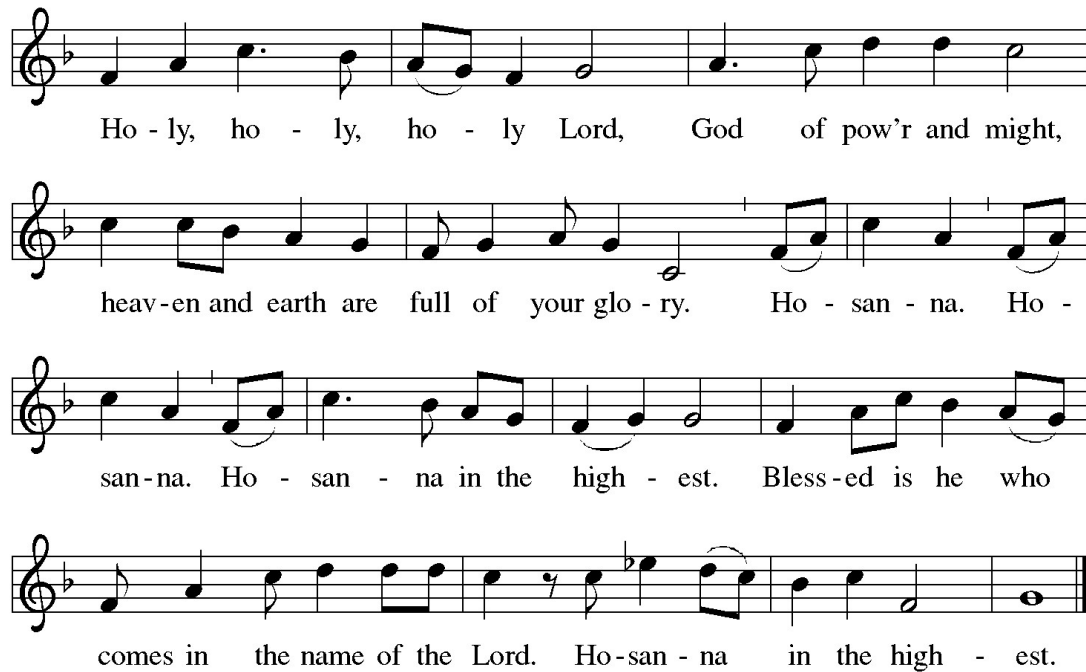
## Offering Prayer

# Meal

## 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.**

**Preface** *join their unending hymn... (4 measure intro)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

*Please be seated*

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

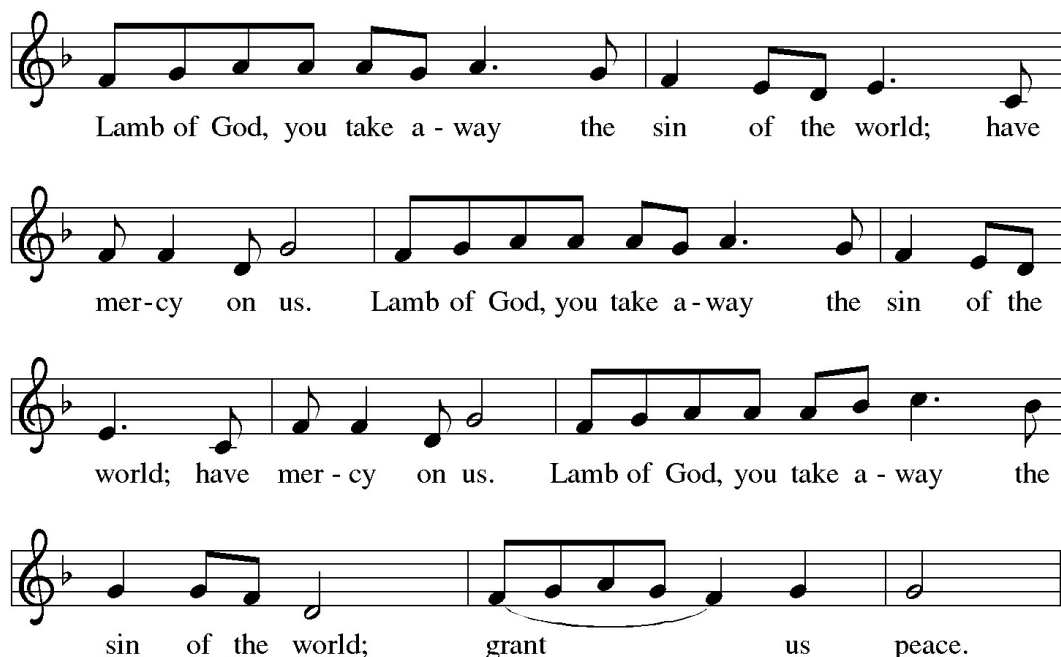
**Lord's Prayer**

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

Here is life. God is with us. **Come receive what God has promised.**

## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## Communion

### Communion is being served at the altar rail.

*Ushers will direct you to come forward **after** the Lamb of God to receive communion at the altar rail. You may kneel or stand to receive. When receiving the host, place hands on top of each other, **palms up**, and Pastor will place a host in your open palm. If you are gluten intolerant, please let Pastor know; we have gluten free host. After you have received the host, the communion assistant will offer you the cup (wine or white grape juice). We practice open communion, therefore anyone who is baptized and believes in Jesus as Savior is welcome to communion.*

## Prayer after Communion

*Response: Amen*



# Sending

## Blessing

Response: *Amen.*

## Hymn

Joy to the World

ELW 267

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

### WELCOME BACK, FRANCESCA!!

Today we welcome back Francesca Indorf who will share her beautiful harp music with us. Thank you, Francesca, for sharing your amazing talent with Good Shepherd!



### Worship Assistants

#### **Celebrant**

*Rev. Eli Klingensmith*

#### **Lector**

*Neil Carlson*

#### **Greeter**

*Karen Pressler*

#### **Ushers**

*Judy & Wil Baum*

#### **Main Camera/Production**

*Carl & Anne Fahrner*

#### **Piano**

*Maira Liliestedt*



*Today's altar flowers are given  
by Jan & Neil Carlson to the  
glory of God and for peace and  
joy in this season of light.*

**December Concern of the Month**  
**Monetary Donations for Christmas**  
**gift cards**



During December, we will collect monetary donations for grocery gift cards. These gift cards will be distributed to those in need so that they, too, can enjoy a Christmas dinner.



**The 2026 Altar Flower Sign Up Sheet is in the Gathering Space**

The sign up sheet is now available for 2026 altar flowers. The cost is still \$50 for two vases. Members and non members are welcome to sign up! Please fill out a blue dedication sheet when you sign up and put it in the offering plate or in the church office.

**Save the Date!**  
**Sunday, January 11th**  
**Program and Catered Hot Lunch**



Join us for a program about The Camino de Santiago and enjoy a catered hot lunch. Watch for more details soon!



**Join us for Christmas Eve**  
**Candlelight Service**  
**Wednesday, December 24th 7pm**

***Please turn mobile phones off or put them in the vibrate mode.***

***CCLI# 20019340 One License# A-719717 Augsburg# SAS003313***

# Worship


# Assistants



Date	Usher	Lector	Greeter	Flower Wrapper	Pew Racks	Opening
12/21	Judy & Wil Baum	Neil Carlson	Karen Pressler	Kathy Schmidt	Donna Jakmides	Robinson
12/24	Nancy & TJ Miller	Anne Fahrner	Bill Toy	None	Donna Jakmides	Hoffman
12/28	Linda & Gary Miller	Pat Long	Linda Lautenschlager	Linda Lautenschlager	Donna Jakmides	Davenport
1/4	Karen & Chuck Pressler	Jan Carlson	Gay Rankin	Linda Lautenschlager	Pat Long	Miller
1/11	Jill & Bill Toy	Jen Lowry	Sandi Self	Gay Rankin	Pat Long	Burgess
1/18	Judy Flading/Rod Swartz	Gale Nagel	Linda Miller	Gay Rankin	Pat Long	Robinson
1/25	Lorelei & Rod Lopick	Judy Flading	Gloria Kohl	Karen Pressler	Pat Long	Davenport
2/1	Judy & Wil Baum	Gary Miller	Chuck Pressler	Karen Pressler	Linda Burgess	Miller
2/8	Jan & Neil Carlson	Rod Swartz	Pat Long	Judy Flading	Linda Burgess	Burgess
2/15	Pat Hoffman/Pat Long	Judy Flading	Howard Leasure	Judy Flading	Linda Burgess	Robinson
2/18 AW	Annick Schrader/Linda Burgess	Gale Nagel	Donna Jakmides	None	Linda Burgess	Hoffman
2/22	Cindy & Howard Leasure	Pat Hoffman	Judy Baum	Jill & Bill Toy	Linda Burgess	Davenport

# December 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Advent Book Study 6:30p	3 AA 7p	4 Yoga 10a	5 Quilting 10a	6
7 Lei Worship 9:15a S. School 10:30	8	9 Advent Book Study 6:30p	10 AA 7p Council 7p	11 Yoga 10a	12 Crafts & Con- versation 10a	13
14 Pastor Eli Worship 9:15a	15	16 Advent Book Study 6:30p	17 AA 7p	18 Yoga 10a	19	20
21 Pastor Eli Worship 9:15a	22	23	24 Lei Christmas Eve Service 7p	25 	26	27
28 Pastor Eli Worship 9:15a	29	30	31 AA 7p			