

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of South Hills

*December 22, 2024 / 10:15 am Worship Service*

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*The mission of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is to know and praise Christ, to grow in Christ and to share Christ with others.*

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<https://goodshepherdpittsburgh.org/>

Pastor Salinas, Guest Preacher  
Regina Kettering, Worship Facilitator  
Regina Kettering, Organist

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**~PRESERVICE MUSIC**

**As we gather together for worship, take a few moments to reflect on this prayer...**

*Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you and lead me along the path of everlasting life.*

**~WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*\*Please stand\**

**✠ PREPARATION ✠**

**~OPENING PRAYER**

**All: Alone with none but thee, my God, I journey on my way. What need I fear,  
when thou art near O king of night and day? More safe am I within thy hand  
Than if a host did round me stand. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

**~OPENING HYMN**

***O Come, O Come Emmanuel***

**LSB 357**  
Verses 1, 5-7

**~CALL TO WORSHIP: THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND THE CANDLE OF LOVE**

**P: We light this candle as a witness to the love of our Father**

**C: We light this candle as a witness that we love because he first loved us.**

**All: Hope, Peace, Joy & Love – These are the gifts of light that we receive from  
Jesus. Amen.**

*\*Please be seated\**

**~ONE NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM**

Presented by the Sunday School Children and Youth

“It Finally Happened” – Children

**Song: Away in a Manger**

**LSB 364**

“On that special night” – Children

**Song: One Night in Bethlehem**

**Verse 1 On a starry night  
On a peaceful night,  
Shepherds kept their flocks in view.  
To this humble crowd  
Heaven's host came down**

**And announced the joyful news:  
“There’s a Savior born to you!”**

**Chorus**   **Come and see  
The newborn king,  
A manger for his bed.  
Come and gaze,  
And you’ll never be the same,  
After this holy night,  
After one night in Bethlehem.**

**Verse 2**   **Worship him with gold.  
Honor him with myrrh.  
Come adore with frankincense.  
Lift a song so clear  
That the world will hear,  
How he came to be our friend,  
How we’re raised to life again!**

**Chorus**   **Come and see  
The newborn king,  
A manger for his bed.  
Come and gaze,  
And you’ll never be the same,  
After this holy night,  
After one night in Bethlehem.**

**Bridge**   **One day soon the blind will see.  
He’ll restore the poor and weak.  
By his power everything will change.**

**Verse 3**   **On that starry night  
Heaven gave us light  
Shining in a baby boy.  
Let his hope shine through,  
Hope for me and you.  
Can you feel his love and joy?  
Will you come and lift your voice? (Chorus)**

✠ WORD ✠

~ OLD TESTAMENT READING Micah 5:2-5

<sup>[a]</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
whose coming forth is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has given birth;  
then the rest of his brothers shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord,  
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.  
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth.

<sup>5</sup> And he shall be their peace.  
When the Assyrian comes into our land  
and treads in our palaces,  
then we will raise against him seven shepherds  
and eight princes of men;

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*\*Please stand\**

~ HOLY GOSPEL Luke 1:39-45 (Mary Visits Elizabeth)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, 40 and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, 42 and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be[a] a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.:*

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

*\*Please be seated\**

~ HYMN OF THE DAY

**Angels We have Heard on High**

LSB 368

~MESSAGE

*“The Miracle of Christmas”*

*Luke 1:39-45*

~OFFERING

*\*Please stand\**

~PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

All: We beseech thee, Master, to be our helper and protector.

Save the afflicted among us; have mercy on the lowly;

raise up the fallen; appear to the needy; heal the ungodly;

restore the wanderers of thy people; feed the hungry; ransom our prisoners;

raise up the sick; comfort the faint-hearted. Lord, hear our prayer.

~PRAYERS

~LORD’S PRAYER

LSB Back Cover

~BENEDICTION

~CLOSING SONG

**Adore**

**Adore**

Verse 1    You stepped down from heaven  
              Humbly You came  
              God of all creation  
              Here with us  
              In a starlit manger    Emmanuel  
              Light of the world here to save

Chorus     Adore  
              Come let us adore  
              O come let us adore Him

The Lord  
Worship Christ the Lord  
Let all that is within us adore

Verse 2    Wise men bring their treasures  
              Shepherds bow low  
              Angel voices sing  
              Of peace on earth  
              What have I to offer to heaven's King  
              I will bring my life my love my all. (Chorus)

Bridge     Angels sing praises ring  
              To the newborn King  
              Peace on earth here with us  
              Joy awakening  
              At Your feet we fall. (repeat)

(Chorus)

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Graham Kendrick | Martin Chalk  
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