

THIRD SUNDAY

Of Advent

 **GOOD
SHEPHERD**
LUTHERAN CHAPEL
Know Christ + Make Him Known



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN
CHAPEL

1904 WEST CAPE ROCK DRIVE
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI
(573) 335-3974

DEC 14, 2025

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHAPEL
Know Christ...Make Him Known
Rev. Weston Wildauer, Pastor: 270-6925
Church Office: 335-3974
Website: www.gslccape.org

WELCOME...to all who worship with us this morning, especially our guests. What a joy it is to worship Jesus as members of His Family! Please separate the attendance/prayer request slip and pass any prayer requests to the center aisles where the ushers will collect them.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

WELCOME

SILENCE *to prepare our hearts*

THE ADVENT WREATH - LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY

Pastor: Today is the third Sunday of Advent. Every week, we will light another candle. Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World came to earth in the human form of the baby Jesus, and that one day He will come again.

Let us pray together:

C: Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world.

P: Isaiah 60:2-3 tells us, "See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn."

C: We who have sat in darkness have seen a great light, the light of Jesus Christ, our salvation. O God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: "Hark the Glad Sound"

LSB 349

**Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.**

**He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield. (cont on next page)**

He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

A TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for personal reflection and confession of sin)

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

DECLARATION OF GRACE

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

C: **Amen.**

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev’ry nation,
Joy of ev’ry longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Public domain

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

Bible page(s) 1111-1112

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.”

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness. The unclean will not journey on it; it will be for those who walk in the Way; wicked fools will not go about on it.

No lion will be there, nor any ferocious beast get up on it; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, and the ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

EPISTLE: James 5:7-11

Bible page(s) 1885

Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-15

Bible page(s) 1512-1513

When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?"

Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me."

As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: " 'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing and forceful men lay hold of it. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. He who has ears, let them hear.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian* Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Christian:* the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/PRAYER

HYMN OF THE DAY: "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

LSB 334

O Lord, how shall I meet You,
How welcome You aright?
Your people long to greet You,
My hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy,
Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please You best

Your Zion strews before You
Green boughs and fairest palms;
And I too will adore You
With joyous songs and psalms.
My heart shall bloom forever
For You with praises new
And from Your name shall never
Withhold the honor due.

I lay in fetters, groaning;
You came to set me free.
I stood, my shame bemoaning;
You came to honor me.
A glorious crown You give me,
A treasure safe on high
That will not fail or leave me
As earthly riches fly.

Love caused Your incarnation;
Love brought You down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation
Procured my liberty.
Oh, love beyond all telling,
That led You to embrace
In love, all love excelling,
Our lost and fallen race.

Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
Cannot His love erase;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon
And cover by His grace.
He comes, for you procuring
The peace of sin forgiv'n,
His children thus securing
Eternal life in heav'n. (cont on next page)

He comes to judge the nations,
A terror to His foes,
A light of consolations
And blessed hope to those
Who love the Lord's appearing.
O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering,
And guide us safely home.

MESSAGE: *With Vengeance*

OFFERING: *(As the offering is received, take this time to meditate on today's message and how God would have you apply it to your life and respond to it.)*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

+ The Lord's Supper +

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION: *As we celebrate Holy Communion, we will sing the following hymns:*

"My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord"

LSB 934

My soul now magnifies the Lord;
My spirit leaps for joy in Him.
He keeps me in His kind regard,
And I am blest for time to come.

For He alone who shows such might
Has done amazing things to me.
His mercy flows; His name like light
Remains in time perpetually. (cont on next page)

**His arm is strong; His strength is great.
He scatters those of proud intent
And casts them down from high estate,
Then gives the low His nourishment.**

**He feeds the hungry as His own;
The wealthy leave with empty hands.
He gives His help to Israel;
His gracious promise always stands.**

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INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION

“Once He Came In Blessing”

LSB 333

**Once He came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly,
Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us;
Hope and freedom gave us.**

**Now He gently leads us;
With Himself He feeds us
Precious food from heaven,
Pledge of peace here given,
Manna that will nourish
Souls that they may flourish.**

**Soon will come that hour
When with mighty power
Christ will come in splendor
And will judgment render,
With the faithful sharing
Joy beyond comparing.**

**Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing,
That we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess You
Till in heav'n we bless You.**

Text (sts. 1, 4): Public domain

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with His favor and give you peace.
C: (sing) Amen. Amen. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed!"

LSB 398 VS. 1,3,4

**Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.**

**He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.
Before Him on the mountains
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.**

**Kings shall fall down before Him
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all people sing.
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.**

Serving In His Worship

Sunday 12/14/25	8:00 worship	10:30 worship
Deacon	Brian Kirn	Joel Allison
Musicians	Diane Long	Diane Long
Greeters	Jeanine Boxdorfer	Lynne Cairns
Readers	Robin Cole	Tom Hasz
Communion Prep	Joyce Macke	Teri Wilson
A/V Tech	Zack Kuehn	Charlie Pancoast
Live Stream Tech	HW Meyr	n/a
Ushers	Mark Hurt Dale Bremmer	T.L Nussbaum Lisa Nussbaum





CHURCH OFFICE

Phone: 573-335-3974

Fax: 573-332-8015

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 10:00 am—3:00 pm

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Weston Wildauer, *Pastor*

Phone: 573-270-6925

E-mail: wwildauer@gslccape.org

Tamara Holt, *Secretary*

E-mail: secretary@gslccape.org

Jackson Sprague, *Ministry Administrator*

Phone: 618-925-3486

Email: jsprague@gslccape.org

Diane Long, *Worship Musician Coordinator*

Phone: 573-200-5037

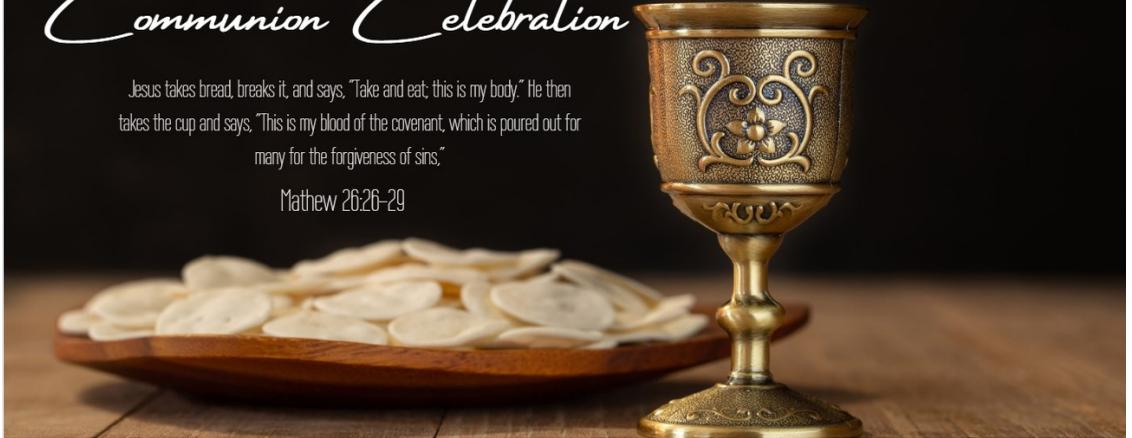
E-mail: music@gslccape.org



Communion Celebration

Jesus takes bread, breaks it, and says, "Take and eat; this is my body." He then takes the cup and says, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

Matthew 26:26-29



TO ALL WHO DESIRE TO RECEIVE COMMUNION

When Jesus said – “*This is My Body...this is My Blood*” – He really meant it. We believe in the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament, not merely in a figurative or symbolic sense. Jesus is present with His Body and Blood, given to us in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins. It is an act of His love, which we don't deserve, we cannot explain, nor even understand. It is the request of our congregation that anyone who wishes to commune with us share our faith. As we participate, we follow Scripture's instruction to – “examine yourself,” using the questions below. We also believe Scripture's instruction to be in unity with our brother.

- Do I believe that I have come short of God's expectations, and am I sorry for my sins?
- Do I believe that Jesus, my Savior and Lord, forgives me?
- Will I, with a grateful heart, and in loving obedience, allow God's Holy Spirit to improve my attitudes, and empower me to live for Him?
- Do I share the confession and therefore unity with this congregation?

If you answer “No” to any question or if it is your first time at Good Shepherd or if you have any additional questions, please speak with the Pastor.

If you wish to commune, please check the box next to your name on the attendance card and place it in the offering plates.

When you are ushered to the front for communion, you are welcome to either kneel or stand. Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available to those that for health