



# CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

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GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN  
CHAPEL

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

DECEMBER 21, 2025

10:30AM

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

**SILENCE** *to prepare our hearts*

**ADVENT WREATH: LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF FAITH**

**P:** Isaiah 9:6-7 "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He shall reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

**C:** **Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, in whom we have faith. We who live in discord and strife Believe in the promise of eternal life, through Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN: "O Come, Little Children"**

O come, little children, O come, one and all,  
To Bethlehem haste to the manger so small.  
God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night  
To be your Redeemer, your Joy, and Delight.

He's born in a stable for you and for me;  
Draw near by the bright, gleaming starlight to see,  
In swaddling lying, so meek and so mild,  
And purer than angels, the heavenly child.

See Mary and Joseph, with love-beaming eyes,  
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies;  
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love,  
While angels sing loud alleluias above.

## INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Arise, O Christian people! Prepare yourselves today;  
**C** Prepare to greet the Savior, Who takes your sins away.  
**P** To us by grace alone  
**C** The truth and light were given;  
**P** The promised Lord from heaven  
**C** To all the world is shown.

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

**C: But 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: Most merciful God,

**C: 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.**

## GOD'S WORD OF FORGIVENESS

P: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned." (John 3:16-18a). Therefore, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## HYMN OF PRAISE: "O Come, Little Children"

**Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today,  
Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they;  
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,  
And join in the song of the heavenly host.**

Text: German carol. Public domain

## THE MESSAGE PRESENTED BY THE CHILDREN

### + EVERGREENS+

#### READINGS

ACTION RHYME: *"Mary Saw An Angel"*

CHILDREN'S SONG: "Little Baby Jesus" (*Sing & Wonder*, p. 34)

#### HYMN: "The Holly and the Ivy"

The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown,  
Of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown.

*Refrain:* Oh, the rising of the sun and the running of the deer.  
The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a berry as red as any blood,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good. *Refrain*

The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown.  
Of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown. *Refrain*

### + CHRISTMAS LIGHTS +

#### READINGS

#### HYMN *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

(LSB 411)

I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus. *Refrain*

ref In Him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus. (*cont on next page*)

**I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain**

**+ CRÈCHE +**

## **READINGS**

### **HYMN: “*Away In A Manger*”**

*(Children Only)*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

***(Congregation)* The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.**

Text: *Little Children's Book*, Philadelphia, 1885, sts. 1–2; *Vineyard Songs*, Louisville, 1892, st. 3, alt. Public domain

**+ CHRISTMAS CAROLS +**

## **READINGS**

### **HYMN: “*Angels We Have Heard On High*”**

**Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.**

***Refrain:***

**Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo. (*cont on next page*)**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain***

**Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain***

Text: French; tr. *The Crown of Jesus, Part 2*, London, 1862, alt. Public domain

**+ GIFTS +**

## **READINGS**

**HYMN: “*People, Look East*”**

**People, look east. The time is near.  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

**Angels announce with shouts of mirth  
Him who brings new life to earth.  
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming  
With the Word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965. Public domain

## **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.*

**MESSAGE: *Immanuel***

**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:*

***“Once in Royal David’s City”***

**LSB 376**

**Once in royal David’s city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child. *(cont on next page)***

He came down to earth from heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

For He is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day like us He grew;  
He was little, weak, and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us He knew;  
And He feels for all our sadness,  
And He shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
Through His own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heav'n above;  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor, lowly stable  
With the oxen standing by  
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high.  
Then like stars His children, crowned,  
All in white, His praise will sound!

Text: Public domain

## **INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION**

***“Jesus! Name of Wonderful Love”***

***LSB 900***

Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Name all other names above,  
Unto which must ev'ry knee  
Bow in deep humility.

Jesus! Name decreed of old,  
To the maiden mother told,  
Kneeling in her lowly cell,  
By the angel Gabriel. *(cont on next page)*



**Jesus! Name of priceless worth  
To the fallen of the earth  
For the promise that it gave,  
“Jesus shall His people save.”**

**Jesus! Name of mercy mild,  
Given to the holy Child  
When the cup of human woe  
First He tasted here below.**

**Jesus! Only name that’s giv’n  
Under all the mighty heav’n  
Whereby those to sin enslaved  
Burst their fetters and are saved.**

**Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee  
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.**

Text: 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: “Joy to the World”**

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room  
And heav’n and nature sing,  
And heav’n and nature sing,  
And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing. *(cont on next page)***

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
 Let men their songs employ,  
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 Repeat the sounding joy,  
 Repeat the sounding joy,  
 Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace  
 And makes the nations prove  
 The glories of His righteousness  
 And wonders of His love,  
 And wonders of His love,  
 And wonders, wonders of His love.

Text: Public domain

## Serving In His Worship

<b>Sunday 12/21/25</b>	<b>8:00 worship</b>	<b>10:30 worship</b>
<b>Deacon</b>	David Cameron	Dale Clarke
<b>Musicians</b>	Joyce Macke	Diane Long
<b>Greeters</b>	Donna Magwitz	Lynne Cairns
<b>Readers</b>	Blaine Strong	
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Caitlyn Cameron	Dru Hasz
<b>A/V Tech</b>	John freeze	Ryan Payne
<b>Live Stream Tech</b>	Zack Kuehn	n/a
<b>Ushers</b>	Randy Carter Ben Judkins	Zach Schneider Aaron Geis



## CHURCH OFFICE

**Phone: 573-335-3974**

**Fax: 573-332-8015**

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

## STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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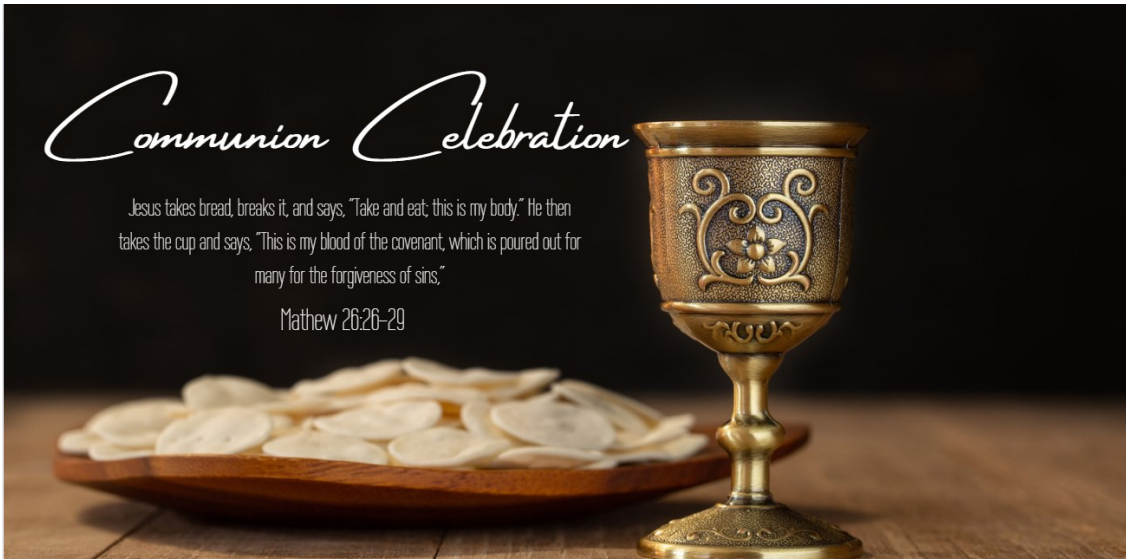
E-mail: [music@gsllccape.org](mailto:music@gsllccape.org)



# 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