

Good Shepherd

Evangelical
Lutheran Church



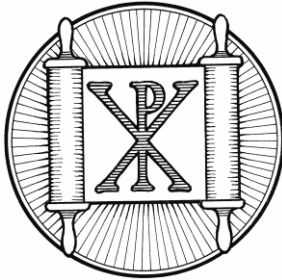
Advent Vespers



AD 2020, December 16

*Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Good Shepherd is a member of the WELS (www.wels.net)*

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



We have gathered to meditate at Vespers. Vespers is an evening service, coming from one of the daily offices at which the Church meets to meditate upon God's Word. Our particular order is called Evening Prayer. In this service, our Triune God is pleased to serve us with his promises and mercy. Advent Vespers focus on the coming of the Messiah to forgive sins and to bring us into his eternal kingdom.

If you are visiting with us this evening, we ask you to sign our guest book by the church entrance. If you would like to learn more about the Evangelical Lutheran Church – its confession or its practice, please speak to the pastor. We hope you will join us again soon.

EVENING PRAYER – PAGE 54

It is a laudable custom to make the sign of the cross on yourself where you see the sign of the cross (+) in the order of service.

The congregation shall stand after the bell toll.

The Hymns

Chief Hymn 21 -- Hosanna to the Coming Lord
<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/20>
After the Lord's Prayer 262 -- All Glory Be to God Alone
<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/262>
Closing Hymn 28 -- Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord
<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWLH1993/28>

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 96 (CW, page 102)

Psalm Prayer

M: Lord Jesus Christ, eternal Word of the Father, when you became flesh and made your home among us, the heavens were glad and the earth rejoiced. In hope and love we await your return. Help us to proclaim your glory to those who do not know you, until the whole earth sings a new song to you.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Reading and the Seasonal Response have been printed on the next page.

The Sermon Luke 2:14

Sermon Text The *Gloria in Excelsis* – Song of angels.

Intercessions

Intercessions that are requested prior to the bulletin's printing will be included in the bulletin. Requests may be made prior to the service as well.

LUKE 1:1-25

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, but his mother answered, "No; he shall be called John." And they said to her, "None of your relatives is called by this name." And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And they all wondered. And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him.

And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

"And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

Scripture readings are from the English Standard Version.

Seasonal Response

Cantor: *The Lord will come again in glory. The Spirit and the Church cry out:*

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Preacher— Pastor Thomas E. Schroeder
Organist — Jeanette Schneider

OFFERING -- The total of our offerings for Thanksgiving and mid-week Advent Vespers services has been designated for Huron Valley Lutheran High School, up to \$2,000.

Christmas Schedule



**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service**

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**Thursday,
December 24, 7 PM**

**Christmas Day
Festival Service**

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**Friday, December 25,
10:00 AM**

