

LUTHERAN WORSHIP

The Church Year

Good Shepherd follows the Western Rite. One distinguishing feature of the Western Rite is the observance of a Church Year. The Church Year focuses on the life of Jesus Christ. The order of the Church Year follows this basic outline:

THE TIME OF CHRISTMAS

- Advent
- Christmas
- Epiphany

THE TIME OF EASTER

- Gesima Sundays (for the Historic Lectionary)
- Lent
- Holy Week / The Triduum
- Easter
- Ascension Day

THE TIME OF THE CHURCH

- Pentecost
- Sundays after Pentecost
- End Times
- Minor Festivals

Within these seasons, we observe various church festivals, some ranking higher than others. The Church Year serves us, keeping our focus on all that Jesus said and did for our redemption.

The Divine Service

On Sunday mornings, the Common Service is the most common order that is observed at Good Shepherd. To understand the flow, the rationale, and the biblical roots of the Common Service, click here: <http://www.goodshepherd.nb.ca/liturgy/>

Please note that the order described at this web site may vary somewhat with the Common Service that is used in our hymnal, *Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal*, © 1993.

Vespers

Vespers is an evening prayer service. It is a quieter service, usually with one reading, a sermon, and prayers. At Good Shepherd, we offer vespers during the seasons of Advent and Lent and on other occasions.