



GOOD SHEPHERD
CHRISTMAS
EVE

The Nativity of our Lord *Christmas Eve*

December 24, 2025

5:00 & 7:30 p.m.

GATHERING

Pre-Service Music

Christmas Carol

“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him Born the king of angels:

Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God . . . in . . . the . . . highest:

Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born on earth to save us;
Jesus, to thee . . . be . . . glo-ry giv'n!
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing:

Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn of the Angels “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

*Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.*

*Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.*

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light.

Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Time

Anthem

“Rejoice and be Merry”

Rutter

“African Noel”

Thomas

WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Carol

“What Child is This”

*What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!*

*Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary!*

Gospel Reading

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. **⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.**

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”

¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Carol

"What Child is This"

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!*

Sermon

Carol

*Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Sharing of the Peace *(Please remember to fill out an attendance sheet)*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Offering Prayer

God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow.

Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

Blessing at the Table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us.
Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Distribution of Holy Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's Table! Non-communing children are invited to come forward for a blessing.
Reception of Bread: please cup your hands to receive bread in your palm. Please request gluten free bread.
Wine is served by intinction (dipping bread into cup) Grape juice is available in front of each section.

Carol

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

*Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing,
bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!*

*Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!*

Carol

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

*O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.*

*For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all the earth!*

*How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
but, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.*

*O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Immanuel!*

Communion Blessing and Prayer

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.

May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. Amen.

Candle Lighting

Receive the candlelight from the ushers. Never tip a lighted candle.

Tip only the unlit candle to be lit. Please use extra care with our young worshipers.

Christmas Carol

"Silent Night, Holy Night!"

*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!*

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*

Blessing

Sending Carol

“Joy to the World”

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its 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.*

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

*No more let sin and sorrow grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow, Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.*

*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.*

Sending

As people of the Good Shepherd ...

We are a Christian community rooted in grace, connected through inclusive worship and fellowship.

Together

We embrace and value all people and serve our broader community with compassion.

Go in peace. Share the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

Post-Service Music



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS
OF GOOD SHEPHERD WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS. TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES



Mark Anderson
Pam Baldasaro
The Bechard Family
Glenn & Joanne Becker
Jeff Breeden & Renee Janack
The Cehowski Family
Barbara Cervasio
Kathy Christiano
Bill and Sherry Clasen
The Croshaw Family
Larry & Kathy Cusma
John & Angie Deorio
The Donohue Family
The Duncan Family
The Ewing Family
Carol Felczak
The Gauthier Family
Nick & Whetherly Gharzouzi
Tamara Guerrero
Bob Hatt
Jon & Liz Hedman
The Herron Family
Pam Howell
Lorraine Janack
Dave & Cindy Jennings

Debbie Johnson
Martha Juhren
Peter Klotz
Jennifer Langlais
Sue Larsen
John & Peg Mackey
The Miller Family
Craig & Janet Palmer
Pastor Deron Milleville
Judy Peck
The Schwarting Family
Ed & Linda Sharrow
Ray & Marge Smith
The Soule Family
Ken & Gayle Stankiewicz
Dick & AnnaMae Stewart
Walter & Cathy Stoeckl
The Tallman Family
Andy Tomko
The Weiler Family
The Wilber Family
The Willett Family
Davis & Carolyn Willoughby
The Woods Family
The Zebrowski Family



Would you like to know more about Good Shepherd and be kept up to date with church events? Sign up for our weekly e-news by filling out your attendance sheet or by emailing the Church Office: gsglenvilleoffice@gmail.com

December Mission of the Month
The Midwife Project – The Giving Circle, Inc.

A volunteer organization which focuses on providing healthcare in Uganda by establishing clinics, supporting medical staff, and delivering medical care.

Blessing Box *No glass jars during winter months

Please consider donating: pasta/pasta sauce (no glass), laundry detergent, baby supplies/formula, boxed milk, tea/coffee, pancakes, microwave meals, shampoo/conditioner, toilet paper, feminine care, tooth care, hand/dish soap.

Thank you to all who helped/participated in the Cookie Walk.
We raised over \$1500 for the Schenectady City Mission!



Adult Education 2026

Starting January 11th at 8:30am. Let's take a journey through the overarching story of the Bible. We will look at the key themes as they point to Jesus - how he was at then and how he is at work in our lives. Six weeks together as we journey and see through the Scriptures together.

Good Shepherd Book Club

On Friday, January 9th, the GS Book Club will meet 6:30pm, at the home of Patty and Alan Skinner, for an Epiphany Potluck get-together.

The book for January is The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank. This edition is updated for the 75th Anniversary of the Diary's first publication. We will meet to discuss the book on Tuesday January 27, 2026 at 7pm.

Youth News

Children's Sunday School resumes on January 11th at 8:45am.
Youth Group (Grades 7-12) resumes on January 11th at 5:00pm.

• MONDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 7 -8 PM

BROS, BIBLES & BEER EVENT

PIZZA WORKS
720 SARATOGA RD.
BURNT HILLS



Guys are invited to this casual bible event discussion over your favorite beer or soft drink.



Thank you to the many hearts, hands, and voices that prepared for or assisted in tonight's worship. We also thank our altar guild, musicians, ushers, assisting ministers, acolytes, readers, and our property team for their tireless work.



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