

**GATHERING MUSIC** Aaron Lack and the VibeTet.

# CALL TO WORSHIP...3rd Candle Advent Candle Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Family: Christ our Light,

We light the Candle of Expectation today to remember the gift of Mary who was

expecting your Son.

Lead us to live in expectant joy this season.

All: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

**CANDLE SONG** Aaron Lack and the VibeTet *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* 

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**OPENING SONG #264** vv 1, 3 & 4 *Prepare the Royal Highway* 

### **WELCOME/LIFE IN COMMUNITY**

Advent Mid-Week, Poinsettias, Christmas Eve

**SCRIPTURE SONG** v 1 *Messiah* 

### SCRIPTURE READING...Isaiah 35:1-10 NRSV

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus

it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

### **HOLY GOSPEL...Luke 1:46-55** NRSV

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**SCRIPTURE SONG** v 3 *Messiah* 

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

8:15 Katie Eckermann

### Sermon Intro

MESSAGE Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner Expect the Unexpected

What are you expecting from God this season? What do you feel God is expecting from you?

### MESSAGE SONG #266 All Earth Is Hopeful

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR ADVENT**

written by Nathan Nettleton, and posted on his Laughingbird website

We believe in God, creator and lover of the earth, origin and destiny of us all.

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We believe in Jesus the Christ: God coming to us in the fragile promise of a baby yet unborn; who emerges as the herald of hope, God's laughter in the face of despair;

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he broke free the captives, and is leading the way to the land of promise where justice and peace will flourish.

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We believe in the Holy Spirit; who implants the seed of truth, brings us to birth as the body of Christ, and empowers us to confront and transform hate into love.

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We believe in the coming reign of God: announced by John the Baptist, it has drawn near to us in Jesus, and shouting from the desert that God is doing a new thing! Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THANK OFFERING

- To make a gift online to the mission and ministry of Shepherd of the Hills, use this link: shephills.org/give.
- By mail, send to 3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin, TX 78746
- Scan the QR Code with your camera phone to give now.
- Drop in secure offing boxes located by main Sanctuary doors.

**GENEROSITY IMPACT** Greetings from Malcolm Henderson

**OFFERING MUSIC** Aaron Lack and the VibeTet

**PRAYER OF THANKS** 

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION** 

### **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; 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.

### **COMMUNION INVITATION**

As we celebrate this sacrament, all are invited to receive the Risen presence of Jesus.

God is really present—in bread and wine—forgiving sins and promising new life.

Bread/wafer— "The body of Christ given for you"; Wine/Grape Juice— "The blood of Christ shed for you."

**COMMUNION MUSIC** Aaron Lack and the VibeTet

**POST - COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER** 

**BENEDICTION** 

**COMMISSIONING SONG #523 He Came Down** 

### **COMMISSIONING**

Leader: We wait and anticipate our Lord Jesus, who comes at

unexpected times, in unexpected ways, and always in God's perfect time! We go out in faith, to share the gifts of hope,

peace, joy, and love with the world.

All: Thanks be to God...and We Will!

**POSTLUDE** Aaron Lack and the VibeTet

### **PRAYERS**

We pray for Rodney Varner and Callie Ray Bell.

We pray for family and friends of Shepherd members:

DeeAnna Frounfelter, mother of Amanda Forsberg. Adryana Aldeen, Director of Advancement at Mariposa.

Sheila Pharis, Director of Mariposa Family Learning Center.

The family of Jim Ernst on his death.

We pray for the people of Ukraine caught in the middle of war and violence. Our hearts break when women and children are displaced and families torn apart by the evil actions of others. May you break open hearts so that swords may be beat into plowshares, spears into pruning hooks.

We pray for our global ministry partners: Rev. Karen Castillo in Guatemala; Iglesia Luterana Augustina Virgen del Rosario, Aurora 8 de Octubre, Guatemala. We pray for Malcolm and Joy Henderson and the ministry of CHARIS in Haiti.

We pray for our local ministries: Mariposa Family Learning Center, Bread For All and Upbring Ministries.

We pray for our faith community, that we may be a church without walls and live out loud...faithfully!

\*Prayers for family and friends are listed for 2 weeks, unless we are notified otherwise.

### **WORSHIP TEAM**

Pr. Tom Grevlos, Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner

**Director of Worship/Arts** Kevin McClure

**Musicians** Aaron Lack, Jacob Lampe, Nicholas Davis and Pablo Ranlett-Lopez

Acolyte (8:15) Sawyer Dertien; (10:45) Lillian Murray

Advent Candle (8:15) Leila and Jane Tackett

Altar Steward (8:15) Kitt Richter; (10:45) Mary Allison

Assisting Minister (8:15) Nancy Etzler; (10:45) Peter Miller

AV Bill Dawson, Dave Wegner, Jonathan Wolff, Vince and Jake Yokubaitis, Pete Forsberg, Karen and Bril Flint

**Bread** Kitt Richter

**Communion Servers** (8:15) Nancy Etzler, Sawyer and Dana Dertien; (10:45) Peter Miller and Lillian Murray

**Flowers** Given by Dabney Gomes in loving memory of Dick Staub, Jr. and Tom Moore, Jr.

**Hosts** (8:15) Terrie Thomas; (10:45) The Robertson family and Jeri Porter

Tellers Melissa Robertson and Jeri Porter

Admin Ministry Coordinator Amanda Forsberg

Campus OperationsDave WegnerCommunications DirectorDabney GomesStudent Ministry CoordinatorJoel TimmonsExecutive DirectorBill DawsonFinance ControllerKevin Marlow

## HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran 3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin TX +1 512-327-3370

# Advent Mid-Week

This Wednesday, December 14 7:00 p.m. | Butterfly Center Chapel

Lift up your voices!
Come sing and study our favorite Christmas carols





# Christmas Eve Worship

"God Immanuel in Bethlehem, Austin, Buda, EVERYWHERE!"
Saturday, December 24

Courtyard Worship: 4pm + 10pm Sanctuary Worship: 6pm + 8pm

Livestream: 6pm

Details @ ShepHills.org/Christmas-Worship

# Come As You Are! Sunday, December 25 9:30am Activity Center: Breakfast + Fellowship 10:45am Sanctuary: Christmas Worship 10:45am Online: Rebroadcast of Christmas Eve