

**GATHERING MUSIC** Christmas video by Tommy Grevlos

## **CALL TO WORSHIP...JOHN 1:1-5, 14-16** (NRSV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

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All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being

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in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ")

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From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION Pr. Tom Grevlos TOUCHDOWN

#### **CHRISTMAS PRAYER**

## CHRISTMAS CAROL #283 O Come, All Ye Faithful

WELCOME/LIFE IN COMMUNITY

**SPECIAL READING ON THE CHRISTMAS ANGELS** 

#### **CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-A-LONG**

**Hear the Angels** 

#289 vv 1 & 3 Angels We Have Heard on High

## **CHRISTMAS GOSPEL...MATTHEW 2:1-12 (NRSV)**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

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When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

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They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

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Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

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When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of

them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

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On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

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And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## **CHRISTMAS REFLECTION** *Gifts*

# CHRISTMAS CAROL RESPONSE #275 vv 1 & 3 Angels, from The Realms of Glory

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### THANK OFFERING

- To make a gift online to the mission and ministry of Shepherd of the Hills, use this link: <u>shephills.org/</u> give.
- · Scan the QR Code with your camera phone to give now.
- · By mail, send to 3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin, TX 78746



#### OFFERING MUSIC

#### **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— "The blood of Christ shed for you."

COMMUNION MUSIC #300 The First Noel

**POST - COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER** 

**BENEDICTION** 

CHRISTMAS SENDING CAROL #290

Go Tell it on the Mountain

#### **CHRISTMAS COMMISSIONING**

Pastor: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

All: Praise God, all creatures here below!

Pastor: You are the shepherds telling the story.

All: We tell it in the streets and across the land.

Pastor: You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

All: We worship with gifts of song and service,

talents and treasures.

Pastor: You are the angels announcing peace.

All: We live with joy and go now in peace.

Pastor: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God and we will!

#### **POSTLUDE**

## **PRAYERS**

We pray for Rodney Varner and Callie Ray Bell.

**We pray** for family and friends of Shepherd members: Adryana Aldeen, Director of Advancement at Mariposa.

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**

**Pastors** Pr. Tom Grevlos, Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner

**Director of Worship/Arts** Kevin McClure **Assisting Minister** Jennifer Arndt

**AV** Dave Wegner and Pete Forsberg

Admin Ministry Coordinator Amanda Forsberg
Creative Media Dabney Gomes
Director of Digital Media Arts
Director of Youth Ministry

Amanda Forsberg
Dabney Gomes
Dave Wegner
Joel Timmons

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran 3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin TX www.shephills.org