

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

December 8, 2024 8:15 & 10:45 AM

GATHERING MUSIC O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Gerald Near

CALL TO WORSHIP O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #257 vv. 3 & 4

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: God of mercy,

All: We confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

Pastor: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

All: Amen.

SONG Wait for the Lord #262

ADVENT WREATH

Leader: We are a people who seek peace.

All: We know that God has told us to turn our weapons of war into instruments that benefit all humanity.

Leader: In the name of that Child who was born long ago to become the Prince of Peace, we now light the Candle of Peace.

Written by Rev. Jolene Cadenbach

SONG Wait for the Lord #262

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Assist: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Assist: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

WELCOME/LIFE IN COMMUNITY

Guestbooks

Announcements: Advent Mid-Week, Holden Trip, Christmas Eve

Website: shephills.org/EVENTS

10:45 WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SCRIPTURE READING

Malachi 3:1-4

Reader: See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Advent Alleluia

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:1-6

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor: In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Advent Alleluia

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Joel Timmons

MESSAGE

Joel Timmons

MESSAGE SONG

Fling Wide the Door

#259 vv. 1-2, 4

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each petition... Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

GENEROSITY IMPACT

Quarterly Generosity Update

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.

Passing of the plates.

OFFERING MUSIC

8:15

For He Hath Regarded

J. S. Bach

Sandra Dager, soloist

10:45

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

John Ferguson

Choir

OFFERING SONG

Joy to the World

#267 v. 1

OFFERING PRAYER

Assist: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW Setting 4

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Setting 4

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION INVITATION

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Hear these words: "The body of Christ given for you" and "The blood of Christ shed for you." Prayer Station: As you leave the communion table, a prayer minister is available to offer prayers of thanksgiving or healing prayers for the burdens and ills you carry.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW Setting 4

COMMUNION MUSIC

8:15

And My Spirit Hath Rejoiced

J. S. Bach

Sandra Dager, soloist

10:45

Laudation

Brenda Austin

Bell Ensemble

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

Assist: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. Strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

Prepare the Royal Highway

#264 vv. 1-4

COMMISSIONING

Assist: In hope and expectation, we go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God, and WE WILL!**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP TEAM & STAFF

Senior Pastor	Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner
Associate Pastor	Pr. Ryan Dockery
Director of Worship & Arts	Kevin McClure
Assisting Minister	8:15 – Larry Wikelius 10:45 – Carole Morgan
Reader	8:15 – Sara Enochs 10:45 – Peter Miller
Altar Steward	8:15 – Sandy Wikelius 10:45 – Dawn Buffington
Communion Bread	Paula Disbrow
Communion Servers	8:15 – Larry and Sandy Wikelius, Sara Enochs 10:45 – Carole Morgan, Peter Miller, Dawn Buffington
Food For Fellowship	Ann & Micheal Watt, Mark & Naomi Tate
Hosts/Tellers	8:15 – Kitt Richter, Terrie Thomas 10:45 – Virginia Bosman, Connie Astrachan
Prayer Ministry	10:45 – Rebecca Grengruich
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry	Joel Timmons
Children's Ministry Coordinator	Megan Getman
Accompanist	Andrei Zimbalist
Admin & Community Life Coordinator	Amanda Forsberg
Executive Director	Bill Dawson
Finance Officer	Hilary Russell
Communications Director	Dabney Gomes
Campus Superintendent	Philip Perry
Digital Media & IT	Dave Wegner
Sound & Video	Pete Forsberg, Jamie Nichols, Devin Schueppert, Vince Yokubaitis, Will Coulson, Bjorn Martinsson

PRAYERS

We pray for:

- Marie Fortune
- Hunter Clark
- Lydia Perkunas
- Carmen Adams-Schulz

We pray for family and friends of Shepherd members:

- Drew Officer and Kate Sheeran, friends of Kathleen Macaulay
- Emma Katherine Phillips, sister of Hilary Russell
- Linda Maidment Meyers, daughter of Helen and David Maidment
- James Dunn Russell, Sr., grandfather of Hilary Russell
- Winnie and Brad Nelson, sister and nephew of Mary Macaulay
- Taylor Schobey, daughter of Deanna Schobey

God of love, we give you thanks for the marriage of Vicki Matava and Eric Raschke. Bless their life together, as they witness to your love and faithfulness.

God of joy, we thank you for the gift of community and the opportunity to gather at Camp Chrysalis for the Advent Family Retreat. Bless all who attend, that they may experience rest, renewal, and joy in this holy season. May this time together deepen their faith, strengthen their relationships, and prepare their hearts to welcome Christ anew.

O God, we thank you for the ministries of Upbring, especially BeReal and New Life, as they seek to support and care for young people. Bless their efforts in all they do, and keep us connected in showing your love and mercy to all people in need.

God, we give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us in faith and now rest in eternal life. We commend them to your never-ending love as we trust in the promise of resurrection life in Christ.

**To add a prayer request, email sheep@shephills.org. Prayers for family and friends are listed for 2 weeks, unless we are notified otherwise.*

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