

Sunday, December 25, 2025 - Christmas Day

Welcome to worship at Shepherd of the Bay. If you are visiting today, Hello! We are so glad you are here. We hope that you will find this community to be a warm and welcoming spiritual home. If you have questions, please ask. If you are interested in a more formal affiliation with Shepherd of the Bay, contact Pastor Honig at sotbpastor@gmail.com.

PRELUDE *Wexford Carol* Trad. Irish Carol, arr. Mark Hayes (2006 Lorenz Publishing)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Congregation recites **bold** print responses.)*

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.
Amen.

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

**we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair.
We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love;
we have not always recognized your presence among us;
we have not always embraced your message of peace.**

**We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear.
We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent
systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news.**

**Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.
Amen.**

God's grace upon grace flows over you. ✚ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.
Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

HYMN 269 Once in Royal David's City

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Christ Jesus, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God,

you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Lamb* Michael Burkhardt (2005 Birnamwood Publications)
Cheryl Becht, Sharon Johnson, Mary Perdue

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10

...

P: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

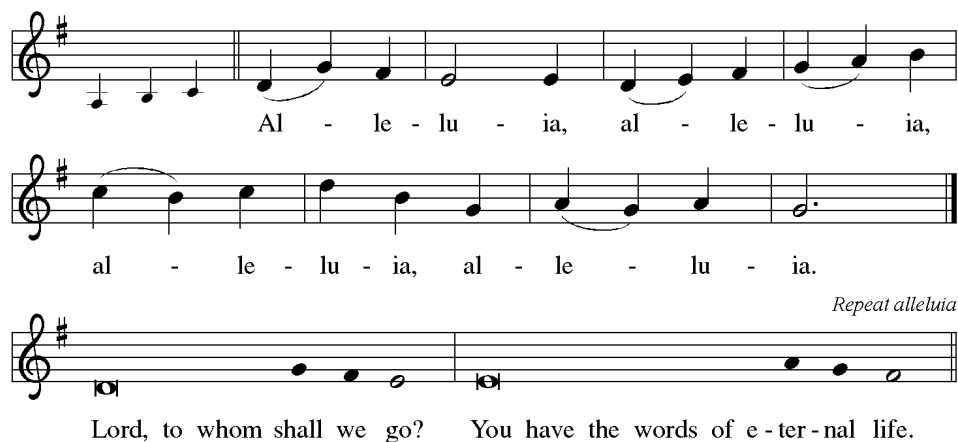
SPECIAL MUSIC *Lovely Child, Holy Child* BETHLEHEM, arr. David N. Johnson
Cheryl Becht, Sharon Johnson, Mary Perdue, Scott Henry

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4

...

P: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: John 1:1-14

C: Glory to you, O Lord

...

P: The Gospel of the Lord **C: Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

HYMN 295 Of the Father's Love Begotten

The assembly stands.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true
God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things
were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy
Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was
crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose
again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his
kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and
glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the Forgiveness of sins. We look for the
resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Congregational response to

P. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

The Word becomes flesh and dwells among us, bringing life, love, and joy to a weary world. Gracious God, use our lips and our lives to proclaim the good news of your coming. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The earth rejoices and the coastlands are glad on the day of your birth. Bring life to barren wastelands, healing where we have caused harm, and bold hearts to respond to creation's call for justice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Righteousness and justice are your foundation, O Holy One. Fill world leaders with your zeal for righteousness and your love for any who are marginalized and oppressed (especially). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The heavens proclaim your glory and announce that we have been made your own people. Keep watch over all who are spending this holy day alone, alienated, or ill. We remember especially those whom we name aloud... **Marie** Becker, **Carole** Bergner, **Dave** Boock, **Rita** Brandt, **Joan** Carlson, **Angela** Foster, **Chris** Hecht, **Hanna** Michalsen, **Carenna** Reisen, **Braden** Sitte, **Barbara** Zilavy, and all whom we remember in our hearts and lift before you...
(*silence for reflection*) ... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Light dawns for the righteous and joy visits the upright in heart. Fortify us with your grace and fill us with zeal to proclaim the news of your birth to those who long for love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

From the nurturing darkness of the womb to the tender night of the tomb, you enfold us in your love. We remember with affection those who have died and now rest in your eternal embrace (especially). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Judy*

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 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

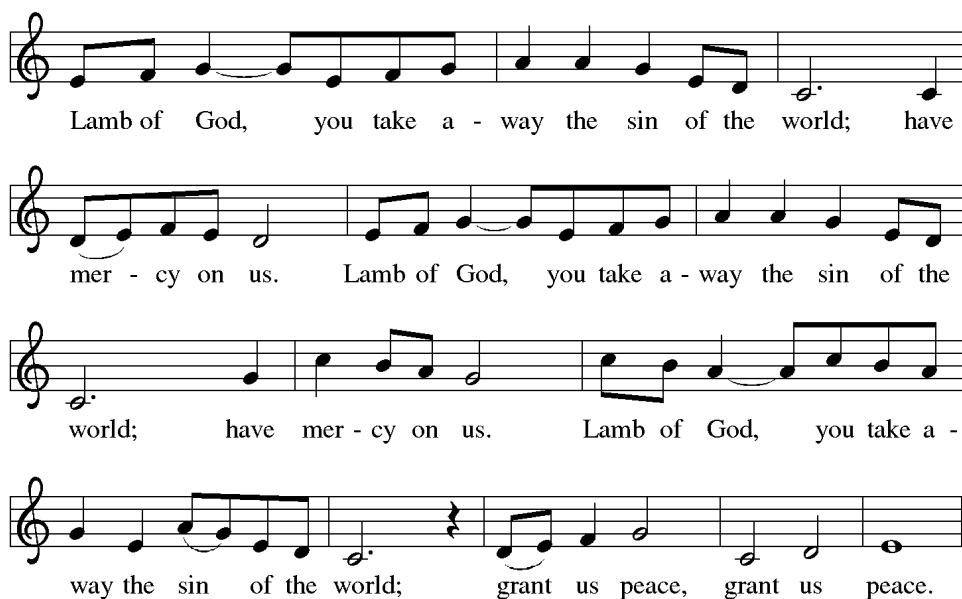
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

About Communion: This is Christ's table and meal of grace! All are welcome! Ushers will guide you forward. Receive the bread (gluten free available); wine or white grape juice is received from a cup from the gold tray. If you have difficulty coming forward for the distribution, please let one of the ushers know and they will ask the pastor to bring you communion in the pew. Children may come forward for a blessing

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMN

HYMN 294 In The Bleak Midwinter

The assembly stands.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

BLESSING

The triune God,
glorious Mystery,
holy Incarnate One,
abiding Comforter,
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

HYMN 296 What Child is This

DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God's people on earth!

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

Thanks be to God.

DEPART TO SERVE

POSTLUDE

Judith Jackson, piano

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