

Sunday, December 28, 2025 - 1st Sunday of Christmas

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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers today are in loving memory of Bill & Shirley Bogenschultz for their 70th Wedding Anniversary from their six children and their families.

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

CONFESS 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 292 Love Has Come

GREETING

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

GLORY TO GOD

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

alone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God,

you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:7-9

...
P: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

CHOIR *Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes* Joel Raney (2009 Hope Publishing Co.)

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18

...
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: Matthew 2:13-23

C: Glory to you, O Lord

...
P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

HYMN 287 Let All Together Praise Our God

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.

God of grace, you show us mercy not according to our worthiness, but according to the abundance of your steadfast love. Grant us the courage to go into the world and do likewise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of abundance, the sun and moon praise you and the shining stars sing of your love. Where we have desecrated your creation, make us into a healing balm for what we have broken. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of righteousness, when leaders fail to fulfill their calls to enact justice, you suffer alongside us. Propel those in power to see you reflected in the faces of all they serve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of life, you claim us as your own and care for us as Christ's siblings. Pour out your compassion in every place your people suffer, and protect them in the palm of your hand. We remember especially those whom we name aloud... **Marie Becker, Carole Bergner, Dave Boock, Rita Brandt, Joan Carlson, Angela Foster, Chris Hecht, Hanna Michalsen, Careenna 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.

God of compassion, you nurture children as the apple of your eye. As you sheltered your son Jesus from Herod's grasp, shelter all children in danger. As you comforted Rachel, comfort all who have lost children to violence. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of love, you console those who weep for lost beloved ones (especially). Even as we mourn, we offer thanks for those who have gone before us, trusting in your comfort and protection. 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

Lo! How a Rose E'er blooming

Johannes Brahms

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.

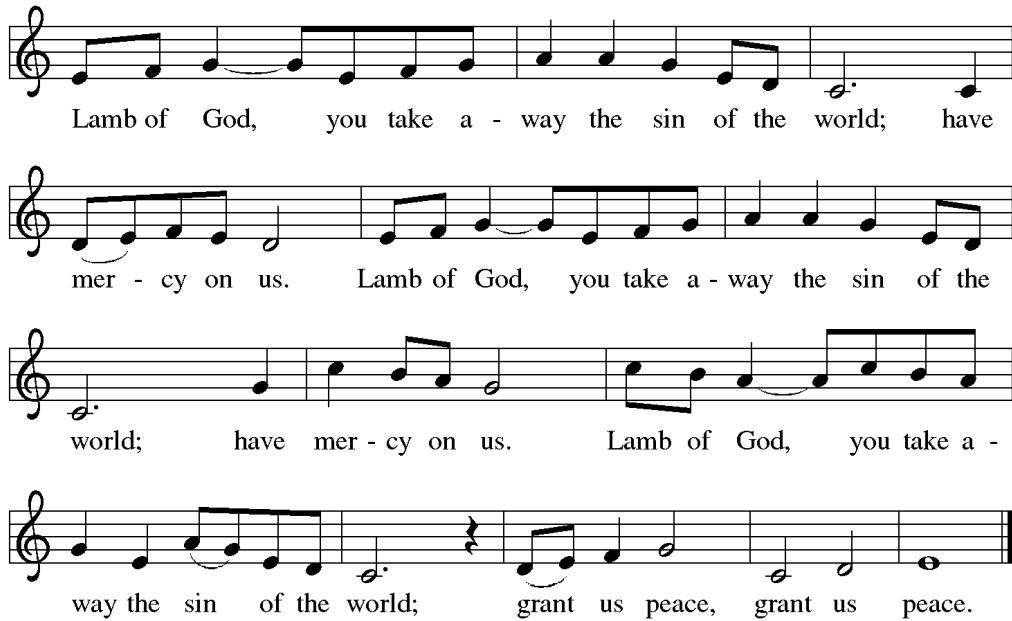
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

HYMN 289 Angels We Have Heard on High

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 288 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

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.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare on Joy to the World

Genre Hancock (Oxford University Press, 1995)

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