

+THE DIVINE SERVICE+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

DAY OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST + 27 DECEMBER 2020



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgslcms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive”

- ❖ The Rev. Bruce J. von Hindenburg, Pastor (mobile) 559.285.8972
 - ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
 - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
 - ❖ Mr. Matthew Meilner, Congregational President

Welcome to our Divine Service!

We are pleased that you are with us.

+Worship Notes+

The entire service, including the rubrics of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.

Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church! We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. **If you are looking for a church home** and would like to know about our beliefs and practice, please see the pastor. He will be happy to visit with you at your convenience.

Please see our statement on Holy Communion on p. 13

Please see more notes on the Service and for the facility below and on pgs 22ff

PLEASE: Upon entering the nave, **silence** should be observed in order to allow all to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the LORD and the reception of His gifts.

Stay Home when Sick

If you are sick or are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, please stay home. If you start to experience symptoms while in attendance at a service or out anywhere else, please go home immediately, exiting down the side aisle, if possible. If at a service, notify an Usher on your way out so we may direct our cleaning and communication efforts.

Facility and Service Modifications

Until Further Notice Include. But Are Not Limited to:

Narthex: Do not congregate here at any time

Masks: to be worn at all times in the presence of others

Distancing: Please maintain six feet of separation unless in same household.

No food or drink served after the service.

No Sunday Adult Bible Class or Sunday School.

Bulletin: Pick one up for each individual upon entry, maintaining physical distancing from others in front of you.

Hymns and liturgy are complete in the bulletin.

Seating: In any open (non-taped) pew on either side of the center aisle.

No Tuesday Matins or Bible Class.

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

384 Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
 4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
 Δ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
 Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
 And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be -
 And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

A - men.

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the **✝** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution

LSB 185

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **✝** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 92:1-5; antiphon: John 20:31

These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the | Son of God,*

and that by believing you may have life | in his name.

It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, | O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the | morning,*
and your faithful- | ness by night,
to the music of the lute | and the harp,*
to the melody | of the lyre.*

For you, O LORD, have made me glad | by your work;
at the works of your hands I | sing for joy.
How great are your works, | O LORD!*
Your thoughts are | very deep!*



Gloria Patri

LSB 186



C Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



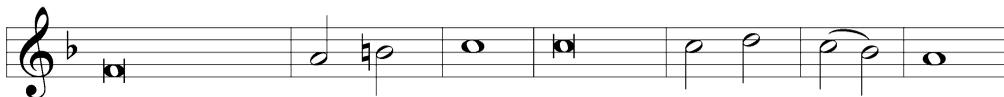
P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



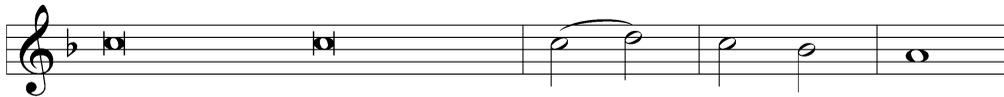
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



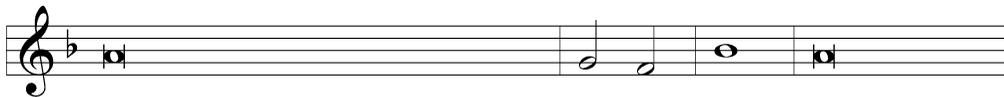
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

P Merciful Lord, cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed in the doctrine of Your blessed apostle and evangelist John, may come to the light of everlasting life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Sit

First Reading

Revelation 1:1-6

¹The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ²who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. ³Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 119:105, 103; 45:1a, c

Your word is a lamp | to my feet
and a light | to my path.*

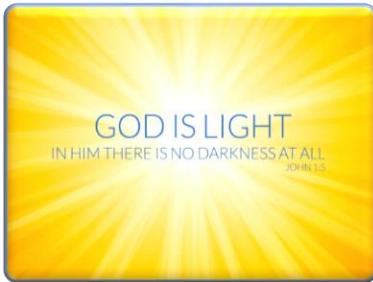
How sweet are your words | to my taste,
sweeter than honey | to my mouth!*

My heart overflows with a | pleasing theme;
my tongue is like the pen of a | ready scribe.*

Epistle

1 John 1:1—2:2

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.



⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 21:20-25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

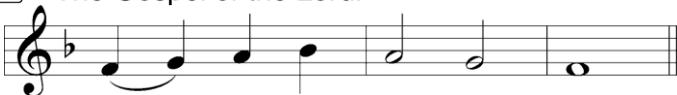
²⁰Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who had been reclining at table close to him and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" ²¹When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" ²²Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!" ²³So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?"

²⁴This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

²⁵Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.



P The Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit



Hymn of the Day

523 O Word of God Incarnate



1 O Word of God in - car-nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
2 The Church from You, dear Mas-ter, Re-ceived the gift di - vine;
3 O make Your Church, dear Sav-ior, A lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
And still that light is lift - ed O'er all the earth to shine.
To bear be - fore the na - tions Your true light as of old!



We praise You for the ra - diance That from the hal - lowed page,
It is the chart and com - pass That, all life's voy - age through,
O teach Your wan - d'ring pil - grims By this their path to trace



A lan - tern to our foot - steps, Shines on from age to age.
Mid mists and rocks and quick - sands Still guides, O Christ, to You.
Till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, They see You face to face!

Tune and text: Public domain

Sermon

Pr von Hindenburg

Votum

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

Offering *Collected in the Narthex after service.*

Stand



Offertory

LSB 192



C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

Response to petitions is, "Lord, have mercy".

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

Brief silence

- P** In thanksgiving for the Word of life, who was with the eternal Father in the beginning and has been made manifest to us; in thanksgiving for the fellowship with the Father and His Son that has been given to us; and that God would keep us in His truth, confessing Jesus Christ, the righteous One, who is the propitiation for our sins, even the sins of the whole world, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** In thanksgiving for St. John, the holy evangelist, who testified faithfully to the Church about Christ, our Lord; for the Church in our time, that God would send faithful pastors to bear witness to the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ; and for the Church's continual preservation, that loved and freed from all sins by Christ's blood, we would remain steadfast as a kingdom, priests to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus, let us pray to the Lord:

- P** For our nation, that God would direct and defend all who make, administer and judge our laws; for our soldiers, police and all those who work to keep our communities safe; that God would keep us from violence, discord and confusion, pride and arrogance, and every evil course of action; and that He would teach us to grow in virtue, living at peace with everyone, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For the needy, sorrowful, sick and all those facing adversity *especially Abai, April, Charles, Charlotte, Cynthia, Dalton, David, Debra, Faith, Irmgard, James, Jamesetta, Jod, Johnathan, Karen, Katheryn, Lucy, Lynette, Marie, Marion and her family, Martin, Rex, Rodgers, Royce, Susan, and Susie*, that God would hold them in His almighty hands and bring them consolation; that He would give us grace to accept and bear our crosses with faith in Christ; and that He would prepare us to depart this life in faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For all who receive the Lord's Supper this day, that they would do so in true repentance and faith; for aid in making a good confession of the truth united in this congregation; and for the revelation of God's glory to us here by faith to bind us together with the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, until He gathers us around His throne on the Last Day, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** O almighty and everlasting God, through Your only begotten Son, You will sanctify all Your elect and beloved people. Give us grace to follow the example of Your saints in faith, love and hope, that together with them we may obtain eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

PASTORAL CARE AND HOLY COMMUNION: At The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, we celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Altar every Lord's Day. In this Sacrament, we joyfully receive Christ's true Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins.

As we celebrate the Sacrament, we also give public confession of our unity in the Christian faith (1 Cor. 10). Members of this congregation and those others in good standing of congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and congregations in which the LCMS is in Altar/Pulpit fellowship are asked to announce themselves to the pastor prior to midnight the eve of the service. All others are invited to speak with the pastor regarding preparation for communion fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Those who are baptized but not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, kneeling with arms crossed at your heart.

Please be assured that we do so not out of spiritual arrogance, but rather in a sincere desire to be faithful to our Lord's command and the apostles' teaching. For more information, please take one of the trifold brochures in the Narthex entitled, "Why?" Sacraments and Closed Communion. For scriptural reference regarding our Communion practice, please see the laminated cards located in the hymnal/Bible holder on the back of the pew.

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 194

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196



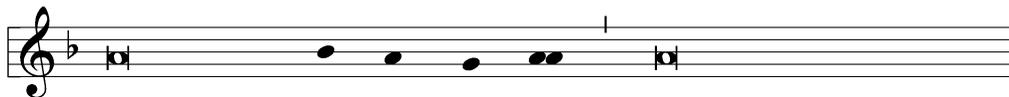
P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it



is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who



tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to

temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,

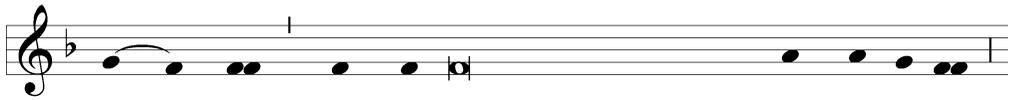
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the

dis - ci - ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My bod - y, which is giv - en for you.

This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so

He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it

to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



My † blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.



This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me.”

Pax Domini

LSB 197



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

Please approach the altar from the center aisle, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Please keep your mask on and remove only for the moments to receive the Sacrament.

Responses when receiving the true body and very blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and when your table is dismissed are:

LSB 199

Amen, Amen and Amen.

When all have communed, you will be invited to stand, and the following is said:

The Dismissal

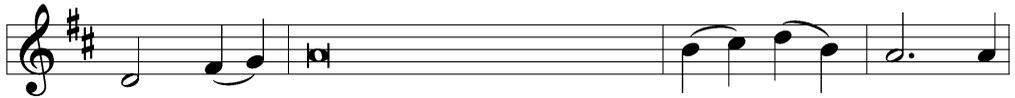
LSB 199

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart **✝** in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



A Bless we the Lord.

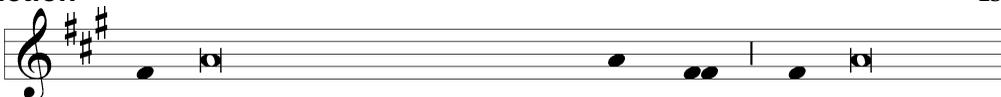


C Thanks be to God.

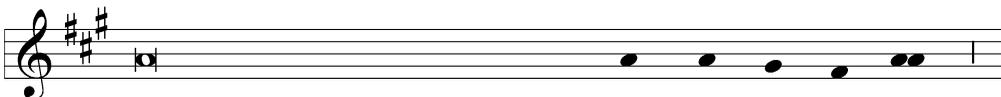


Benediction

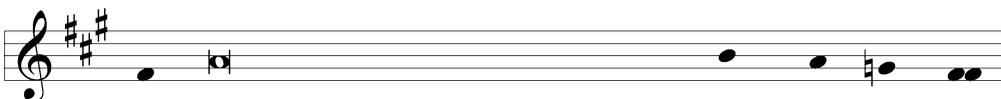
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Hymn to Depart

856 O Christ, Who Called the Twelve



1 O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and fol - low You, For -
 2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve The truth for a - ges sealed, Whose
 3 O Christ, who led the Twelve A - mong the des - o - late And
 4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve On roads they'd nev - er trod To
 5 O Christ, the a - pos - tles' Lord, The mar - tyrs' strength and song, The



sak - ing old, fa - mil - iar ways For ven - tures bold and new:
 words and works a - wak - ened faith, The ways of God re - vealed:
 broke as bread of life for all Your love com - pas - sion - ate:
 serve, to suf - fer, teach, pro - claim The near - er reign of God:
 cru - ci - fied and ris - en King To whom the saints be - long:



Grant us to hear Your call To risk se - cu - ri - ty And,
 In - struct us now, we pray, By Your em - pow'r - ing Word. True
 Lead us a - long the ways Where hope has near - ly died And
 Send us on ways where faith Tran - scends ti - mid - i - ty, Where
 Though gen - er - a - tions pass, Our trib - ute still we bring, Our



bound in heart and will to You, Find per - fect lib - er - ty.
 teach - er, be for all who seek Their light, their life, their Lord.
 help us climb the lone - ly hills Where love is cru - ci - fied.
 love in - forms and hope sus - tains Both life and min - is - try.
 hymns a sac - ri - fice of praise, Our lives an of - fer - ing.

Tune: Public domain

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As the postlude is played, you will be ushered from your pew.

So that this may be done orderly, please wait in your pew until approached.

Please do not congregate in the Narthex, and please wait until you are outside the building for conversations.

Fugue in A Minor

Johann Ernst Eberlin (1702-1762)

AMANI YA BWANA NA MUNGU AKUBARIKI!

[Swahili for] The peace of the LORD and God Bless you!

Acknowledgments

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✠ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✠

Today is Pastor von Hindenburg's last service at The Good Shepherd. Make sure to greet and thank him and his wife, Karina, after service for all the work and dedication they have given to our congregation.

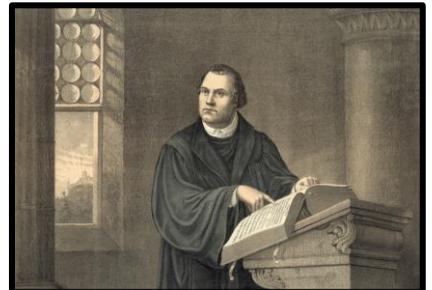
Pastor Edward Killian has accepted the call to serve here, at The Good Shepherd, and will begin January 4th.

And Excerpt from Luther on the Day of St John the Evangelist

Here Christ works and speaks against this very thing. Peter is a type of such wild wanderers; when Christ had commanded him at once to follow him, he turns about and looks after another, worries as to where he is going whom Jesus had loved. Just so these persons do, they let drop what has been commanded them, and look after the lives and works of those God loved, namely his saints, therefore Christ reproves Peter, and says: *What is that to thee, where he is wandering? Follow thou me, I will attend to him; how, if I wish him to tarry, wilt thou also tarry? Do you imagine I wish the same from you as from him? No, not so; you attend to your duties. I desire to have many kinds of servants, but not all to be at the same work.*

Alas, many persons are found, who like Peter do everything except what is commanded them. Many a one hears that certain saints made pilgrimages, for which they are praised; then he like a fool starts off, leaves wife and children sitting, who are entrusted to him by God, and trots to St. Jacob, or here and there, not knowing that his calling and mission are quite different from that of the saint he is imitating. In the same way they do with their bequests, fastings, clothing, holidays, priestcraft, monasteries and cloisters. All that is nothing but looking around to the saints Christ loved, and turning their backs to the commission and calling to follow Christ. Then they boast they did well, in that they followed the saints...

Therefore let us well grasp the words: "Follow thou me." Thou, thou; let others attend to their affairs, you attend to yours, they will indeed come. For it is not in vain that there is added in this Gospel, that the disciple whom Peter saw, was also following; but he was following without Peter's looking. This whole gospel lesson has been written for the sake of these words and their teaching; for it does not contain much on the doctrine of faith, but on the following and the works of faith. In the person of Peter Christ here lectures all spiritual prelates and instructs them in their office; of this the whole Gospel ought to be made to treat, but these prelates wish perhaps to be untaught by us. Therefore we must pass it by, and stick to our own duties.



A Prayer for the Week

O almighty and everlasting God, mercifully direct our ways that we may walk in Your Law, and be made to abound in good works; through the same, Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

Why We Observe the Saints

And when we do speak about the saints, the focus is still on Jesus. The Apology to the Augsburg Confession (XXI) mentions three particular ways that we remember the saints:



Thanksgiving– When we remember the blessing that these people have been to the church and the world, all thanks and glory goes to God alone.

Examples of Mercy– In the saints we see how God used sinners just like us as His servants. Moses, David, Peter, Paul and the rest were forgiven for their many failings, and that gives us hope, too.

Examples of Faithfulness– God gives us examples to follow through the faith shown by the saints and by their acts of service.



Thank You for Your Offerings - Ways to Give

In Person: Drop in Plate in Narthex on Sundays

By Mail: Send to Church Office

Online: [Here](https://tgsclcms.org/community-outreach/donate/) / <https://tgsclcms.org/community-outreach/donate/> PW: donate

Around the Word Devotion for the Week

May be found [here](#)

