

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

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THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2017

10:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

VOLUNTARY: Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen (*Lo, how a rose up-springing*)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

(Please stand at the ringing of the bell)

OPENING HYMN: Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

Hymnal 59

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

People **For behold, darkness covers the land, and deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.**

Celebrant But over you the Lord will rise, and his glory will appear upon you.

People **Nations will stream to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawning.**

Celebrant The Lord will be your everlasting light.

People **And your God will be your glory.**

Celebrant O God, by whose Word all things are sanctified and who gave light to all creation: Grant that this wreath and the light that comes from its candles may serve as a reminder to us of our need to prepare ourselves in heart and mind for the coming of Christ, and that by his indwelling presence our lives might be transformed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

[The service begins on page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer]

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: Will all of those going to Sunday school please come forward?

The Celebrant and Congregation continue in unison: **Children of God, go forth to receive God's Word. May it light your way, fill your hearts with love, and your lives with hope and joy. Amen.**

Those going to Sunday school will now follow the cross on the way.

KYRIE Lord, have mercy upon us.

Hymnal S-91

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSON: Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13 (*sung by the choir*)

Anglican Chant: Walford Davies (1869-1941)

1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, * you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people * and blotted out all their sins.

8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *

for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, * that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth have met together; * righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, * and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, * and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him, * and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

THE EPISTLE: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN: **On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry**

Hymnal 76

THE GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON:

The Rev. Dr. Nancee Martin

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, p. 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM IV)

BCP, p. 388

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP, p. 360

THE PEACE

BCP, p. 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stewardship sharing by Vestry Treasurer, Maureen Ely

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: There is no Rose

John Joubert (b. 1927)

There is no rose of such virtue
as is the rose that bare Jesu: Alleluia.

For in this rose contained was
heaven and earth in little space: Res miranda.

By that rose we may well see
there be one God in persons three: Pares forma.

Then leave we all this worldly mirth
and follow we this joyous birth: Transeamus.

Words anonymous, 15th

PRESENTATION HYMN: O come, O come, Emmanuel

Hymnal 56 (vv. 3 and 4)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP, p. 367

PROPER PREFACE: Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Hymnal S-125

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 364

FRACTION ANTHEM: Lamb of God

Hymnal S-161

COMMUNION HYMN: O holy city, seen of John

Hymnal 583

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER:

BCP, p. 365

ADVENT BLESSING: May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Celbrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

VOLUNTARY: Improvisation on "Bereden väg för Herran"

SPECIAL PRAYERS

We pray for peace throughout the world.

We pray for our companion dioceses of Cuba and Peru, and especially for our companion parish,
The Church of the Anunciacion in Florida, Cuba.

We pray for those who are ill, especially

Wilson, Dorothea, Dennis, Vladimir, George, Jaquelyn, Betty, Jack, Geoff, Skye, Leona, Courtney

We pray for strength and guidance for

Emma, Jen, Rachel, Jeff

We pray for those who have died.

May their souls, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

We pray for all who are serving in our Armed Forces and the Intelligence Services,
both at home and abroad, especially for

Zachary, Brooker, Derek, Carrie, Lawrence, Bennett

We give thanks for birthdays being celebrated this week.

James Garrison 12/12

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Tom Ross
by Linda Ross.

The attendance on December 3, 2017
8:00 am: 16 10:00 am: 93
2017 Budgeted Offerings: \$395,000
Year to Date Actual Offerings through December 3 2017: \$344,371
Needed Each Week: \$7,596
Received December 3, 2017: \$15,542

Announcements

- Welcome to The Church of the Good Shepherd – Good morning! We are pleased that you are worshipping with us and we invite you to fully participate in our services. This leaflet outlines the service from the red Book of Common Prayer, including page numbers for the services, hymn numbers from the blue hymnal, scripture readings and further directions related to our services. Following both the 8:00 and 10:00 am services we invite everyone for coffee and conversation in Craig Lounge. We hope you will join us weekly at the service of your choice. Peace and blessings!

WELCOME To Parents of Young Children: RELAX! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house.

- Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. They may tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the priests, musicians, and leaders.
- Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by mimicking you.
- If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but PLEASE come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

Remember the way that we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know they are at home in this house of worship.

TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH: The presence of children is a gift to the Church and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing. Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

- Nursery – Our nursery is staffed every Sunday by Miss Seida and Miss Anela from 8:30 am until 11:30 am. The nursery is located in the Toddler room of the school wing. If you need assistance, please speak to an usher who can direct you to the nursery.
- Children’s Worship Activity Bags – We welcome all children during our worship services. Activity bags are provided with age-appropriate items so that children can be engaged during the service. Please don’t hesitate to speak to an usher at any time during the service for these special additions provided for your children.
- Sunday School – Children ages 4 -10 are invited to attend Sunday School, which takes place during the 10 am service. The children will process out after the Collect for Purity and return for communion with their families. Thank you to everyone who has offered to teach. If you would like to be a teacher or classroom assistant for Sunday School, please speak with Susannah Sands.
- Shepherd's Tree – The Shepherd's Tree is up and decorated with tags for gift wishes from children in our community. Please take a tag or two and return the WRAPPED gift with the tag attached to the church office no later than Sunday, **December 17th**. Thank you for your participation in this Outreach for our community.
- Wednesday Eucharist and Adult Formation – Our weekly Wednesday Eucharist has resumed at 5:30 pm on Wednesdays in the chapel. Following the service, we will meet in Craig Lounge for light refreshments and discussion. Please join us!
- Pledge Ingathering 2018 – Stewardship letters and pledge cards for 2018 were mailed and emailed to parishioners last week. We hope that you have read the letter and prayerfully considered how you might become involved - or stay involved - in the life and work of the Good Shepherd parish, with your commitment of time, talent, and treasure. Pledge ingathering will take place today during a special potluck lunch. Please plan to attend, and bring your pledge of commitment with you to be blessed at the luncheon.
- 2017 Pledges and End of Year Donations – If you would like to get caught up on your 2017 pledge or if you would like to take advantage of additional tax deductions for this year, the parish office will accept end of year donations through Thursday, December 28th. Thank you for your support and generosity.

- Greening the Church – Next Sunday, December 17th, following the 10:00 am service we will decorate the church in preparation for Christmas. Please have a cup of coffee in Craig Lounge and then, if you can, join us in the church as we assist the Flower and Altar Guilds in greening the church. We appreciate everyone’s help.
- Christmas Services – Please help us spread the word and welcome everyone for our Christmas services. Sunday, December 24th is the fourth Sunday of Advent as well as Christmas Eve. We will have the regular services in the morning at 8 and 10:00 am. At 5:00 pm Christmas Eve we will have a Family Service with the Chancel Choir, organ and Cherub Choir. At 10:40 pm there will be an extended prelude preceding the service of Holy Eucharist featuring strings, choir and soloists. The 11:00 pm service will be a festive Eucharist with choir, organ and strings. **Incense will be used at this service.** On Christmas morning we continue with the Feast of the Nativity service of Holy Eucharist at 9:00 am. We hope you will join us as we hear and proclaim the message: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace goodwill to all men!”
- Vestry Nominations – The Nominating Committee will begin meeting soon to propose a slate of candidates for the vestry and Diocesan Convention at our Annual Meeting. If you would like to suggest a name, please speak to Nancee. The Annual Meeting will take place February 11th during the Potluck lunch.
- Riverside Avondale Luminaria – Good Shepherd will participate in the neighborhood Luminaria on Sunday, December 17th. We need volunteers following the 10:00 am service that day to help prepare the bags and place them on the sidewalks around the church. We will also need some volunteers to come at 5:00 pm to light the candles in the bags and some volunteers to pick up the bags the following Monday morning. We appreciate your help as we join others in support of our neighborhood.
- Christmas Flowers and Music – Envelopes are available in the pew racks and in the narthex for making special gifts in thanksgiving or in memory of someone this Christmas. These donations will benefit our Christmas music and flower funds. **The music ministry is especially in need of funds due to the addition of professional musicians that are used to highlight the glorious music at the midnight service.** Envelopes should be returned by **December 20th** in order for names to be printed in the Christmas bulletins.

- Altar Flowers 2018 - The altar flower chart for next year is in the narthex. If you would like to provide flowers in thanksgiving or in memory of someone, please sign your name by the date you would like to sponsor. The cost for flowers each week is \$75. Acknowledgements will be included in the Sunday bulletin on the week designated by the donor.
- Good Shepherd Christmas Cards - This year's Christmas cards featuring the artwork of fellow parishioner Ivonne Gomez can be purchased following church services in Craig Lounge or during the week in the church office. Christmas cards from previous years are also available. Proceeds from the card sales help to support the arts at Good Shepherd. Cards may also be purchased from our online store - <https://squareup.com/market/the-episcopal-church-of-the-good-shepherd>. Many thanks to Kate Medill for all her work in coordinating this special project.
- Donations to St. Catherine's Food Pantry - This week we are suggesting canned soups, stews and chili. Please note that all non perishable items are accepted and sincerely appreciated. Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry.
- Blessing Box - Our blessing box at the Forbes Street entrance is in need of donations of non-perishable food items, especially those in pop-top cans. We have added a basket in the narthex to receive donated items for our neighborhood ministry. Please be as generous as you can.

Christmas Services

Sunday, December 24 - 5:00 pm - Family Service with Chancel Choir, Cherub Choir and Organ

Sunday, December 24 - 10:40 pm - Prelude of Strings and Voices

Sunday, December 24 - 11:00 pm - Festive Eucharist with Choir, Organ and Strings
Incense will be used.

Monday, December 25 - 9:00 am - Feast of the Nativity service of Holy Eucharist

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, December 11th

5:00 pm Children's Chapel and
Cherub Choir (Chapel)

Wednesday, December 13th

4:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Craig)
5:30 pm Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
6:10 pm. Adult Formation (Craig)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir room)

Sunday, December 17th

The Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite I)
9:00 am Coffee and Conversation (Craig)
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
11:30 am. Greening the Church
Preparation of Luminaria Bags

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Florida

The Right Reverend Samuel Johnson Howard, *Bishop*

The Right Reverend Charles L. Keyser, *Assisting Bishop*

The Right Reverend Dorsey Henderson, *Assisting Bishop*

The Rev. Dr. Nancee Martin - Interim Rector	nmartin@GSJax.church
Donald McCullough, Organist - Choirmaster	dmccullough@GSJax.church
Linda Ross, Outreach and Pastoral Minister	lross@GSJax.church
Linda England, Bookkeeper	lengland@GSJax.church
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Dave Callen, Pool Director	pool@GSJax.church
Robert Hyde, Facility Manager	rhyde@GSJax.church

The Vestry

Sr Warden - Homer Bliss

Jr Warden - Stan Bullock

Treasurer - Maureen Ely

Chancellor of the Vestry - Matt Wolfe

Clerk of the Vestry - Linda Ross

Adele Griffin
Raymond Mason
Susan Merrett

Susannah Sands
Mark Simons