

THE WORD OF GOD

G. Reeves

Hymnal 117

OPENING SALUTATION

People: And blessed be his kingdom;

People: There is one hope in God's call to us;

People: One God and Father of all.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*

The people sit

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 31:7-14

Reader: **A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah**

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and
those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

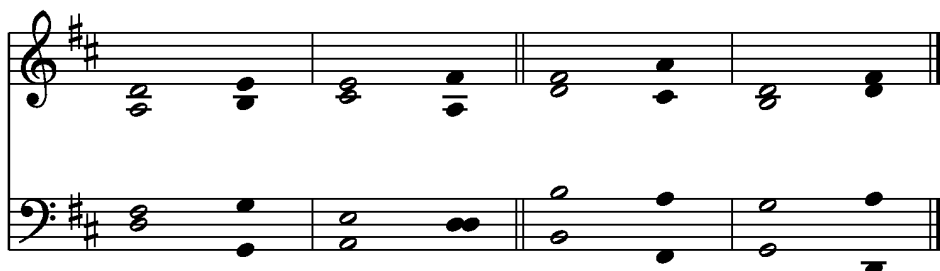
says the LORD.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84 Quam dilecta!

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



Choir:

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.

All:

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *

they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, *

and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *

hearken, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God; *

and look upon the face of your Anointed.

9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *

and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God

than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *

he will give grace and glory;

11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *

from those who walk with integrity.

12 O LORD of hosts, *

happy are they who put their trust in you!

Choir:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son;

And to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now,

And will be forever. A-men.

THE EPISTLE LESSON: EPHESIANS 1:3-6, 15-19a

Reader: **A reading from Paul to the Ephesians**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according

to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Unto Us a Boy is Born!

Hymnal 98

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, a reading according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had

been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

FR. JOHN WARFEL

After the sermon, the people remain seated and observe a brief time of silent reflection on the message.

THE HOLY BAPTISM

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Presider: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsors: I present Olonso to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Presider: Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate: I do.

Then the Presider asks the following questions of the person:

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

The Presider addresses the congregation, saying:

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *this person* in *his* life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Let us join with *Olonso* who is committing *himself* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Presider: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread and in the prayers?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATE

Let us now pray for *this person* who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Deliver *him*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open his heart to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill *him* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep *him* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach *him* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send *him* into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Lord, hear our prayer.

The Presider says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Presider: The Lord be with you.

*People: **And also with you.***

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.***

Presider:

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BAPTISM

Olonso, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *this* your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *him* to the new life of grace. Sustain *him*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *him* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Olonso, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Presider and People

All: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE PEACE

All stand, as able

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

People: And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The presider says:

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ding Dong! Merrily on High!

PRESENTATION HYMN

(Sung by the people, standing while offerings are presented and placed on the altar.)

Thomas Ken, 1709

Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Cologne, 1623

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low: Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a-bove ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly

Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

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CIX-07704-000

Eucharistic Prayer B

SURSUM CORDA (BCP. 367)

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Hymnal S 130

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people may stand or kneel as able.

Presider: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**People: We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: AMEN

All:

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia

Hymnal S-164

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to receive Communion

Hymnal 115

People kneel or stand, as able

Presider: Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presider:

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. Amen.

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. Amen.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

As with Gladness Men of Old

Hymnal 119

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

Carillon for a Joyful Day

D. McKay



Birthdays

January

7 – Christine Putoff
8 – Brenda Greco
Brendan Hillock
Marcia Matthews
Paul Marshall
9 – Desiree Hudson
MaryAnn Medhurst

Anniversaries

January

10 – Katherine & John Riherd

January 4 - 10, 2026 Good Shepherd Welcomes All! We're glad you're here!

If you are new, we invite you to fill out a WELCOME CARD found in the back of the hymnal and at the WELCOME DESK in the entry. Cards may be placed in the offering plate or given to an usher.



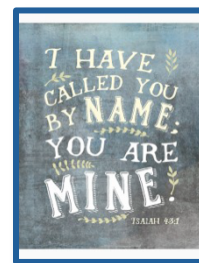
If you are a first-time visitor to Good Shepherd, we welcome you! At announcement time, if you are comfortable, we invite you to introduce yourselves.

We also invite you to join us at coffee hour immediately after our 10 a.m. service. Please sit at our Visitor table and our Hospitality team will serve you coffee and goodies and then spend some time getting to know you.

Would you like to be listed in our Good Shepherd Parish Directory?

If so, please complete the yellow Directory Sign Up card that is located at our Connections Center near the garden doors at the back of our Parish Hall.

See Nancy Fees to have a photo taken for the directory



Name Tags

If you would like a Good Shepherd name tag, please put your name on the list at the Connections Center. Your completed tag will be available at the table near the Welcome Desk the next Sunday.

PRAYERS - January 4 - 10, 2026

We pray for those on our ongoing prayer list: Gary, Richard, Esty, Sally, Brian, Allie, Ashley, Herbie, John, Brittany, Pam, Becky, Barbara, Steven, Jane, Terri, Patrick, Karli, Christopher, Elaine, Celeste, Doreen, Maggie, Francis, Anita and Paul, Pat, Dee, Cathy and Jeff, Holly, Sue, Margo and Family, Peter, George and Samatha, Lorelei, George, Brian, Sherry, Wayne, Jeff and Jan, Rich, June and Dan, Heather M., Sean, Hillary, Martin, Jeffrey, Jessica and family.

SERVING OR LIVING IN HARM'S WAY: Robert Matern, Kevin Sweet, Max Wilson, Matthew Stricker, Sam Blair, Mason Roush, Chris Hoffman, Joseph Sharpe, James Kilroe, and Matthew Kilroe.

FOR OUR DIOCESE AND COMPANION DIOCESES:

The Diocese of Southwest Florida— The Rt. Rev. Douglas F. Scharf , Our Companion Diocese of the Dominican Republic, Companion Diocese of Georgia, Companion Diocese of South Carolina, Companion Diocese of Western Louisiana.

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: Resurrection Episcopal, Largo; St. Stephen's, New Port Richey; St. Alfred's, Palm Harbor; Holy Spirit, Safety Harbor; St. Andrew's, Spring Hill, and All Saints', Tarpon Springs.

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the Glory of Almighty God in thanksgiving for their anniversary by John and Katherine Riherd. The Sanctuary Candle is given to the Glory of Almighty God by the Good Shepherd Family.

Sign up for flower or candle dedications in the white binder located at the CONNECTIONS CENTER near the garden doors in the Parish Hall.

Weekly Email Blast - If you do not receive the weekly email blast & would like to be added, please contact Nancy Fees at communication@goodshepherdvenicefl.org or call the church office 941-497-7286.

The Parish Office is open Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

When the office is closed, you may leave a voice message by telephone or email us. The office phone number is 941-497-7286. The email address - office@goodshepherdvenicefl.org.

If you are calling with a pastoral care emergency after hours, please leave a message on the church office voicemails. Voicemails are monitored overnight and on weekends. OR, you may call any of our Clergy directly at the numbers below if you need assistance, support, and prayer.

Fr. Joe Hudson at (573) 450-9059

Fr. John Warfel at (845) 548-9064

Archdeacon Michael Kitt at (847) 525-5546

Deacon Rich Wilson at (407) 461-2109

Deacon John Riherd at (503) 753-5115

Serving in Ministry at Good Shepherd**The Second Sunday After Christmas – January 4, 2025**

	Rite II – 8 a.m.	Rite II – 10 a.m.
Presider Preaching	Fr. John Warfel Fr. John Warfel	Fr. Joe Hudson Fr. John Warfel
Assisting	Deacon Michael Kitt	Deacon Michael Kitt
Server Acolyte Crucifer Acolyte	Elaine Hedrick	Carol Mitchell Jean Smithies
1st Lesson 2nd Lesson Prayers of the People	John Pearson Elaine Hedrick Deacon Michael Kitt	John Mitchell Carolyn Hinton Larry Fees
Prayer Team		EK Beall/Liz Bosch
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1
Greeters		Katie Wolfe & Brenda Greco
Ushers	Fran Holt	Degen & Dave Sayer
Tech Team	Sound – Bob Sawyer	Cameras – Bob Sawyer CamCorder – Peter Walker/Paul Altimier Sound – Bill FLack Director – Nancy Fees
Secure Building		Megarie van Sickle

This Week at Good Shepherd
The Second Sunday After Christmas

SUNDAY

01/04

The Second Sunday After Christmas

Holy Eucharist Rite I – 8 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II – 10 a.m. – Men's Breakfast Following

Men's AA Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

MONDAY

01/05

Morning Prayer with Fr. Joe – 9:00 a.m.

Parish Care Meeting – 11:30 a.m.

TUESDAY

01/06

Morning Prayer with Fr. Joe – 9:00 a.m.

Executive Committee – 10 a.m.

Women's AA – 4:30 p.m.

Vestry Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

01/07

All Faiths Food Bank – 10 a.m.

Core Curriculum – Sacred Rhythms – 1:00 p.m.

Centering Prayer – 3:00 p.m.

Community Dinner Committee Meeting – 3:00 p.m.

Community Dinner Volunteer Meeting – 4:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

01/08

Memorial Garden Crew – 8 a.m.

Morning Prayer in Church – Fr. Joe – 9:00 a.m.

Morning Prayer Live Streamed with Deacon Rich – 9:15 a.m.

Women's Bible Study – 10 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal – 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY

01/09

Creative Design Outreach Resumes - 9:30 a.m.

SATURDAY

01/10

Altar Guild & Flower Guild – 9:30 a.m.

Saturday Afternoon Holy Eucharist – 5:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pasta Night – Saturday, January 17 - 5:00 p.m. - Tickets Available at Coffee Hour

Announcement of Annual Meeting in January

In accordance with the By-laws of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, the Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2026. The meeting will be called to order at the beginning of the 10 a.m. service. Following the regular church service, Fr. Joe Hudson will reconvene the meeting in the parish hall.

Please watch for further information in a future Good Shepherd EBlasT.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Jarvis, Clerk of the Vestry