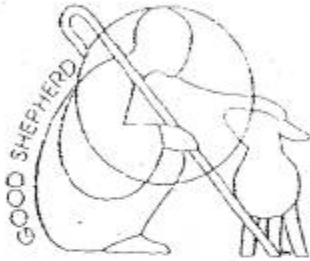


**GOOD SHEPHERD  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AND SCHOOL**

10611 Highway 13 South  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494  
(715) 325-3355

A member of the  
Wisconsin Lutheran Synod

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
9:00 a.m.



*"The Virgin  
will be with  
child and will  
give birth to a  
son, and they  
will call him*

*Immanuel" -which means  
"God with us." Matthew 1:23*

**WELCOME!**

We're glad you joined us today to praise our Good Shepherd, Jesus, and to hear His Word. If this is your first time here, we're honored that you chose to worship with us! If you have visited us before, welcome back! It's great to see you again! I pray that your worship with us will be meaningful and worthwhile. A Nursery is available for parents who may be struggling with a little one during worship. Please ask an usher for assistance. If you have questions about our congregation, please ask. And please come back soon! We value your friendship and the opportunity to share the love of Jesus together with you.

Again – **WELCOME!**



# *Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and School*

## **Welcoming Song:**

Hear the angels sing their praise  
as the Lord gave all He made  
To the people He had framed  
from the dust to praise His Name.  
But they chose to follow Satan  
as they listened to his lies.  
They rebelled against their Father  
and they fell from Paradise!



But amazing Love had planned  
to rescue fallen man.  
So He promised He would come  
and defeat the Evil One.  
And through centuries of waiting  
God's people held to His Word.  
'Till one night in Bethlehem's quiet  
the angel's voice was heard:

*Oh! Today is born the Savior  
in the village of the king;  
Yes! In David's town, in a manger,  
is the Lord - His birth we sing!*  
Jesus came to earth as a baby;  
He would pay for every wrong;  
He would suffer, die, be buried  
and arise at Easter's dawn.



*"Glory be to God in the highest!"  
Hear the angels' voices praise.  
"God has kept His gracious promise.  
Jesus Christ is born today!"  
"Glory be to God in the highest!"  
Hear the angels' voices praise.  
"God has kept His gracious promise.  
Jesus Christ is born today!"*

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

**And also with you.**

### *Confession of Sins*

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. **But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment.** Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy. **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful by nature. In countless ways I have sinned against You. I don't deserve to be called Your child. Cleanse me from my sin. Please, have mercy on me for Jesus sake, according to Your unfailing love.**

Our heavenly Father has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, all your guilt has been removed. God chooses to call you His own dear Child. Go in His peace and sin no more.

Let's sing to the tune of "Away in the Manger"

To God be the glory, great things He has done!  
He so loved the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

With heartfelt thanksgiving, "Hosanna!" we cry  
To Him who in God's saving name now draws nigh.  
As heaven and earth overflow with God's praise,  
With heartfelt thanksgiving hosannas we raise.

# Bible Readings

1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;

And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some ti - dings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

*Refrain*

Glo ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo

- 4 -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

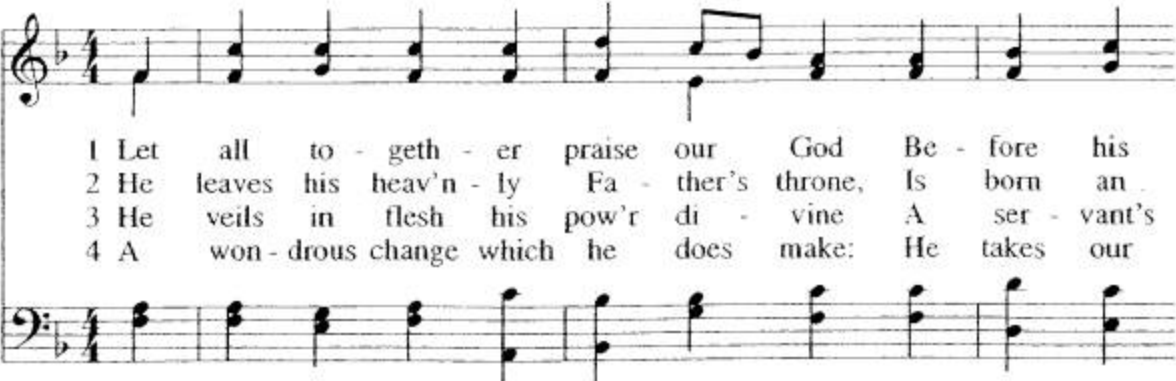
**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

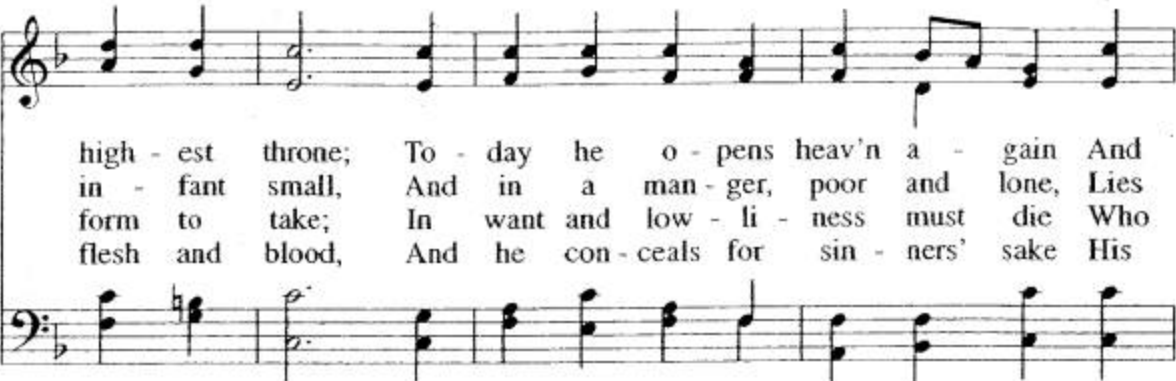
**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

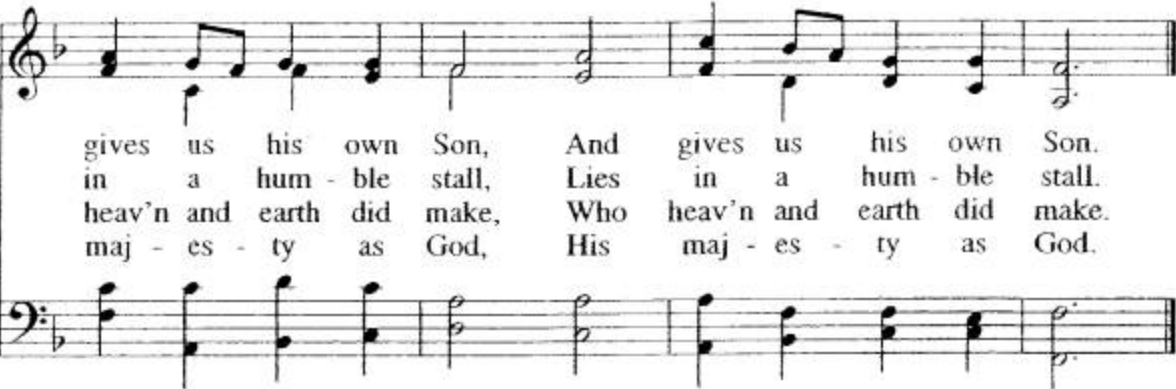
Pre-sermon hymn:



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore his  
 2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an -  
 3 He veils in flesh his pow'r di - vine A ser - vant's  
 4 A won - drous change which he does make: He takes our



high - est throne; To - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain And  
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies  
 form to take; In want and low - li - ness must die Who  
 flesh and blood, And he con - ceals for sin - ners' sake His



gives us his own Son, And gives us his own Son.  
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.  
 heav'n and earth did make, Who heav'n and earth did make.  
 maj - es - ty as God, His maj - es - ty as God.

5 He serves that I a lord may be —  
 A great exchange indeed!  
 Could Jesus' love do more for me  
 To help me in my need?  
 To help me in my need?

6 For us he opens wide the door  
 Of paradise today.  
 The angel guards the gate no more;  
 To God our thanks we pay,  
 To God our thanks we pay.

## *Instruction in the Word of the Living God*

Let's sing: We thank You, our Father, for grace ever-new,  
For all those who saw how your Word had come true,  
For patriarchs, prophets, empow'ed by Your Word  
Who boldly awaited Christ's coming as LORD.

With praise and thanksgiving our gifts we now bring  
To God ever-living, our Savior and King,  
By Whom we are showered with mercy so great.  
With voices uplifted, Your coming we wait.



## *Return to the Lord our Offering of Thanks and Praise*

*DEAR VISITORS AND GUESTS:* Every week at Good Shepherd we return a portion of our livelihood as freewill offerings to the Lord for our local and worldwide ministries. Please do not feel that you have to participate in this act of our worship. We do appreciate each gift of support and are thankful the Lord Jesus brought you to be with us today. We invite you to come again.

Prayers

Oh, send now Your Spirit upon us, we pray,  
O LORD, Jesus Christ, be with us here today.  
For now we have heard once again faithfully  
Your promised salvation! Eternally free!

Let's sing the closing doxology:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
In ev'ry generation!  
Praise Him all creatures here below!  
He gives to us salvation!  
Praise Him above, angelic host!  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
Let all creation praise the Lord  
With love and adoration.**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
In ev'ry generation!  
Praise Him all creatures here below!  
He gives to us salvation!  
Praise Jesus Christ, the LORD of heaven,  
Who died and rose to life again  
All sins are gone! God has forgiven!  
He gave His Son – Salvation!**

METER: 87 87 88 87  
TUNE: O TANNENBAUM

*O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.*

*Psalm 43:3*

The tiny lighthouse sat out upon the rocky shore. Without fail, its bright beacon pierced the night, and its bellowing horn echoed from the rocks, warning ships of dangers and perils. Countless boats strayed off course in dense fog, to be steered from danger by the tiny lighthouse.

True light, sent out through the clouds and darkness, can save lives. A voice speaking the truth of Christ has real power behind it; the power of salvation. Be proud of who you are and all that Christ has done for you. It matters little whether you are big, strong, smart, or powerful. What matters is that you have the truth of Christ to share, and there is no greater force in all creation.

*PRAYER: May my light shine in the darkness until all darkness ceases to be. Let me reflect Your divine light, Lord, clearing away the fog and helping others come into the safety of Your love. Amen.*

## **This Week at Good Shepherd:**

**Today:** Bible Time @ 10:15 a.m.  
Sunday School @ 10:15 a.m.  
Jubilate Choir 11:15 a.m.

**Monday** Fellowship Committee 6:00 p.m.  
Church Council 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Care Committee 10:00 a.m.  
School Board 5:30 p.m.  
Bread And Bible 6:30 p.m.  
Confirmation Instruction 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday 5:15 p.m. Italian supper**  
provided by Bread & Bible group  
**Advent Service 7:00p.m.**

Thursday If you would like to watch today's service again,  
or know of someone who missed it, have them check out Channel 3  
on Charter and Solarus Cable TV at 6:00pm.

**Sunday, December 16 Church 9:00a.m.**  
**Bible Time @ 10:15 a.m.**  
**Jubilate Choir 11:15 a.m.**

# WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

There are many ways to join our growing family of faith: 1) through transfer from a sister WELS or ELS congregation; 2) by declaring unity with us after coming from a church outside our fellowship, and 3) there's a Bible study that addresses the six basic teachings of God's Word, after which you are able to ascertain membership or not based on what God reveals in His Bible.

**Our mission is simple and bold: We seek to grow in faith and knowledge of our Savior Jesus; we want to make Him known to others so they, too, might share in the joy which Jesus won for them.**

*We look forward to helping people find a spiritual home and family.*

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## CURRENT MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Bruce Mohns  
Vice-President: Tom Thiele  
Recording Secretary: Ron Fregien  
Treasurer: Dr. Kevin Miller  
Financial Secretary: Dr. Roger Newman  
Chairman of Board of Elders: Eric Carlson  
Chairman of Board of Education: Jim Timmermann  
Chairman of Board of Church Property: Allan Rozelle

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### WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 9:00 AM  
Thursdays 7:00 PM

Pastor Paul Tullberg and Pastor Robert Hartman  
Donna Tullberg, Educator

**Come & See! Go & Tell!**  
**Good Shepherd Lutheran**  
**Church & School – WELS**

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(Just South of the intersection with  
Hwy. 73)

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Wiel

# *Our Bible Study*

# Matthew 3:1-12

## John the Baptist prepares the way

### Look

- Verse 2      *"The kingdom of heaven is near."* The word *near* might be better translated "at hand." That is, it is "here" in the person of Jesus Christ. That is John's point. Jesus, the Son of David, has come. He has begun to establish his kingdom.
- Verse 11     *"Baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire"*—By John the Baptist's admission, Jesus was "more powerful" than he was. There was no difference between what their baptisms accomplished. Both baptisms bestowed the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' baptism, however, was accompanied by the Holy Spirit in an unprecedented way. The fire of the Spirit would purify the hearts of many, and the Spirit would spread the kingdom throughout the world.

### Discuss

1. What is the kingdom of God? Read one or more of the following verses from the Old Testament. These verses were well known to the people in Jesus' day who were yearning for the time when God would restore the kingdom of Israel.
  - Daniel 2:31-45
  - Psalm 29
  - Zephaniah 3:14-17
2. Why did John live as he did?
3. What success did John see? What resistance did he experience?
4. How did John deal with those who resisted him?

### Apply

5. How does this section help us understand our serving God and our serving others?

*John the Baptist minced no words in pointing out sin and sinfulness. He also spoke the gospel and baptized the people, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins.*