



*The Evangelical Lutheran Church
Of the Good Shepherd
501 Fairfield Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601*

November 30, 2014

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
**A congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

*"We are a caring family of God nourished by the Word, guided by the Holy Spirit to share
the love of Jesus Christ."*

The Rev. Frank S. Podolinski, Jr., Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone -- 724-858-7816

Pastor's e-mail -- preacherpod@comcast.net

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday: 9:30 am. – 1:30 pm.

Church Phone -- 724-834-1940

Church's e-mail -- Shepherd501@yahoo.com

Church website – www.goodshepherdgbg.org

Rocking Horse Preschool – www.rockinghorsepreschool.com

Parish Secretary -- Jenny Luffy

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 am. to 2:00 pm.

Music Director

Nancy Flinner

Organist

Jean Brunot

We welcome all visitors with us and ask that you sign our guest register. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider the Good Shepherd family.

ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Children may come forward for a blessing. During communion, we offer wine and grape juice, if you would like to receive grape juice do not bring a cup, it will be provided by the Worship Assistant.

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips gifted lay people to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian Care to individuals in our congregation who are experiencing difficulties in their lives and extends the care that Pastor Frank continues to provide.

If you could benefit from the confidential, one-to-one care and support of a Stephen Minister, please speak to Pastor Frank. Or you may refer to the Stephen Ministry flyers and cards available in the pew racks.

Please take a moment to fill out a yellow RCR card located in the pews. Please place completed cards in the offering plate.

When you see the following symbol "+", please stand.

Service of the Word and Sacrament
November 30, 2014
First Sunday of Advent
8:30 & 10:30 am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE (Silent Meditation Time)

“COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS” M. BURKHARDT

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
Who shapes the whole creation, who comes with might and mercy, who fills the hungry with good things.

Amen.

Let us approach the throne of grace with repentant hearts.

Faithful God,

We confess that we have been unfaithful to you. Like dry leaves and withered grass, our lives are blown about by our sins and the powers of evil around us. Restore us, O God; let the light of your face shine on us, and we shall be saved.

Amen

Is patient, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I bring you this good news: You are free from all that imprisons you; your sins are forgiven; God heals your broken heart. Live in peace and harmony as you wait for the day of God.

Amen.

+ GATHERING HYMN

“MY LORD WHAT A MORNING”

ELW 438

+ APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.

+ LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

(THE VERSE WILL BE SUNG BEFORE THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE AND THEN AGAIN AFTER THE ADVENT PRAYER)

“O COME, O COME EMMANUEL”

ELW 257 VERSE 1

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ’s advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Amen.

+ KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1–9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence —

²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil —
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.\

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.**

³Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD | God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray? R**

⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself. R**

¹⁸And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3–9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

The holy gospel according to St. _____, the _____ chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

²⁴But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.

³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"SOON AND VERY SOON"

ELW 439

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With longing and hopeful expectation, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Come, long-expected one. Awaken your church to be alert for signs of your coming in unexpected people and places. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Come, Savior of the nations. Let your justice and righteousness dwell among all the peoples of the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Come, Creator of all. Amidst the shortness of life, teach us to wonder at the sun, moon, stars, mountains, oceans, and all creatures great and small. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Come, Love divine. Enfold with your mercy all who watch and wait for hope in the midst of suffering, hardship, poverty, unemployment, illness, or grief (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Come, giver of grace. Turn this community toward the light of your forgiveness and mercy as we wait for the advent of Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Come, creative Spirit. Inspire us by the faith of (*the apostle Andrew and*) those who have gone before us as we trust in your promise to bring all things to fulfillment in Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers, faithful God, as we watch and wait for your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8:30) "AWAKE, AWAKE TO LOVE AND WORK" W. HELD

ANTHEM "AN ADVENT AWAKENING" SENIOR CHOIR

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of abundance,
C we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

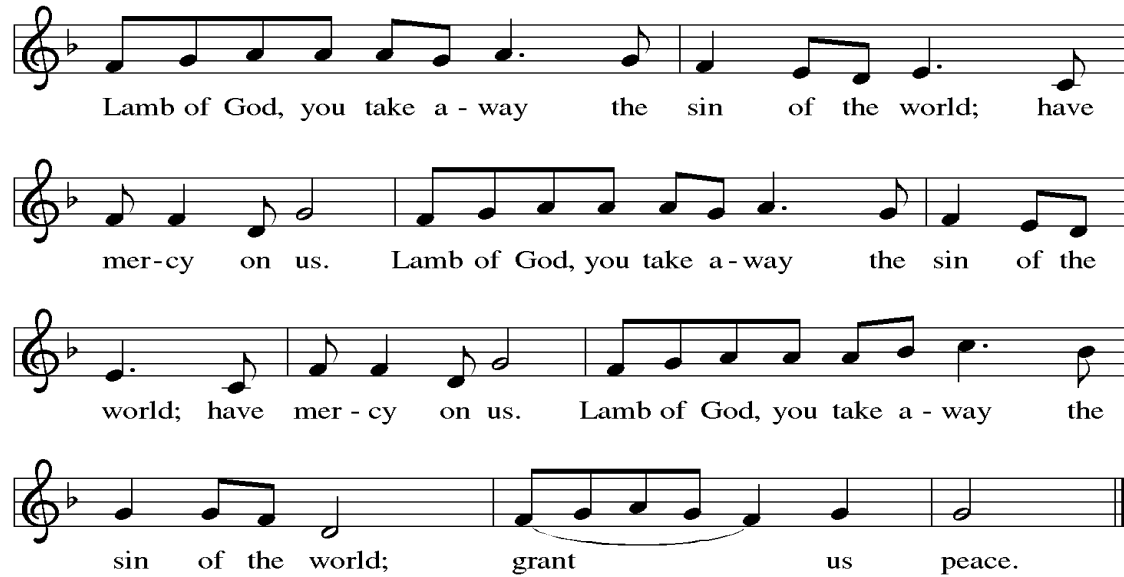
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to Christ, who comes to us in this holy supper.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

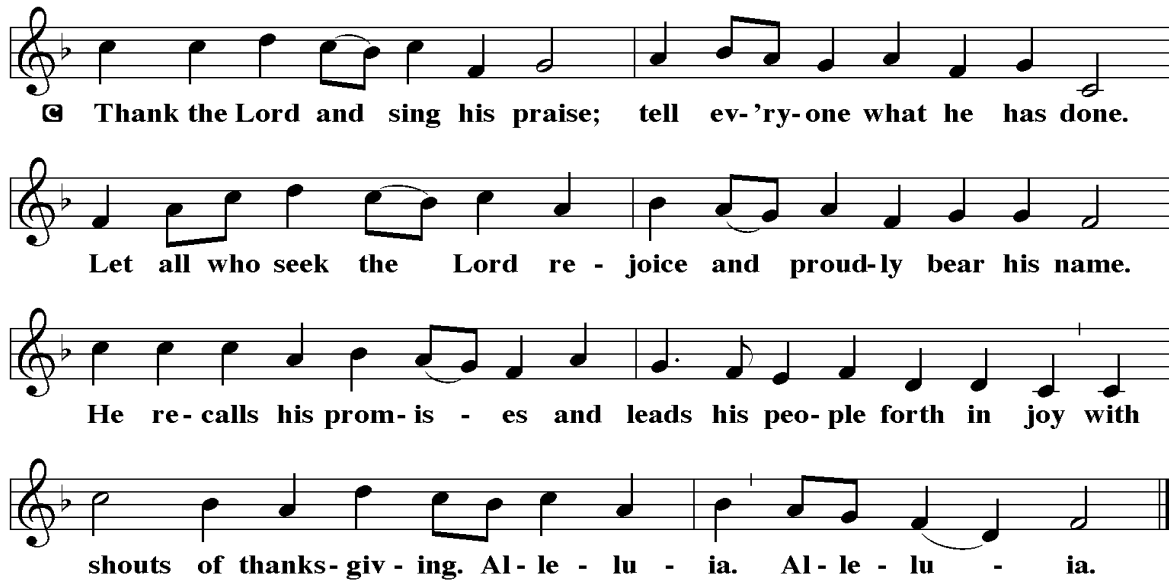
During the distribution the congregation and choir shall join in singing *Lamb of God*



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.

Please continue singing during distribution of communion the following hymns: ELW 481, 262, 254, 826.

+ POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God, we give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort to those in need, and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+ BENEDICTION

God most high, God with us, God poured out on us, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“O GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST”

ELW 632

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS COME”

P. MANZ

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the honor and glory of God.

A **LIVING GIFT** has been designated by Harry & Linda Harbaugh to Rocking Horse Preschool in honor of their grandchildren, Mason, Maura, Macklin and Meenah Harbaugh and also in honor of their 45th wedding anniversary.

SERVING TODAY:	8:30	10:30
Worship Assistant	Open	Open
Lector	Rich Welsh	Shelley Cottrill
Acolyte	Open	Open
Crucifer	XXX	Open
Torchbearers	XXX	XXX
Greeters	Open	Don & Dana Park
Ushers	Open	Roger Sullenberger & George Billig
Altar Guild	Mina Rutter	Lisa Hook
Counters		Jenny Luffy & Carole Bridges

Please be considerate to those around you and observe silence during the prelude and service. This time is designed for personal meditation.

There is a sign up sheet in the commons area for the **ADVENT DINNER**. Don't forget to sign up.

ALTAR FLOWERS/LIVING GIFTS - A new sign-up sheet has been posted in the hall. Please sign up for those dates that may have special meaning to you.

The sign up sheet to purchase a poinsettia is posted in the commons area. The cost is \$5.00.

The Youth still have coupons books available to purchase. The books are good until March 31, 2015 and are being sold at the discounted price of \$5.00. (Coupons for Subway, Dick's, Rizzo's, The Boulevard, Ground Round, Meadows just to name a few). Books available in the office.

Our annual mitten tree is up. We are collecting mittens, gloves, hats, scarves and even socks for all ages. Our collection will run until December 15th. All items will then be taken to the Salvation Army.



CHRISTMAS WISH LISTS

We still have names for the Christmas Wish List programs. We are participating in the Trinity, North Side and Glade Run programs again this year. The information is available in the office. Please make sure that you sign your name and note the deadline is December 7th to have the gifts back in the office.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

As of November 24th, we have received 68 Estimate of Giving cards totaling \$101,110.00. Thank you to everyone that participated over Consecration Weekend and would like to encourage those who were unable to return their card to return them to the basket in the office to help the Finance Committee prepare the budget for 2015. If you need an Estimate of Giving Card, they are available on the counter in the office.

The Advent and Christmas seasons are very busy times for Altar Guild and extra help is needed. If you are able to help, contact Mina Rutter (724)832-1285. If you are attending a service and it looks like someone could use a helping hand, that helping hand would be much appreciated.

Important Dates

December 7
December 13
December 14
December 24
December 28

Advent Dinner 5:00 pm.
Craft Bazaar
Christmas Concert - 10:30 service
Services at 4:00, 7:30 & 10:00 pm
Lessons & Carols – 10:30 service

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF November 30 – December 7, 2014

Sunday	8:30 am.	Holy Communion
		NO Sunday School
	10:30 am.	Holy Communion
	7:00 pm.	Bell Practice
Monday		Office Closed
	9:00 am.	New Neighbors
Tuesday	9:00 am. – 12:00 pm.	Brunot in Sanctuary
	10:00 am. – 1:30 pm.	Chat-n-Sew
	3:00 pm.	Kindermusik
	7:00 pm.	Mutual Ministry
Wednesday	9:30 am.	Kindermusik
	6:45 pm.	Troop 416
	7:00 pm.	Bible Study
Thursday	7:00 pm.	Christmas Choir
	7:45 pm.	Senior Choir
Friday	10:00 pm. – 3:00 pm.	Bridge Club
Saturday	5:30 pm.	Holy Communion
Sunday	8:30 am.	Holy Communion
	9:30 am.	Sunday School
	9:30 am.	Fellowship Coffee
	10:30 am.	Holy Communion
	5:00 pm.	Advent Dinner
	5:00 pm.	Troop 416 Patrol Mtg.
	6:00 pm.	Pack 416 Committee Mtg.
	7:00 pm.	Troop 416 Committee Mtg.
	7:00 pm.	Bell Practice

Today, we welcome through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Claire Catherine-Jean Gettemy, daughter of Matthew Robert and Alida Lynn Gettemy.