

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Weekly Update



*Our mission is to be more visible, to become more connected,
and to draw closer, with Christ as our center.*



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.



Wednesday, November 18, 2020



I am amazed. I am amazed by the people of this congregation. I am awed by the servant/leaders who work so hard to keep us together as church. Our world has been turned upside down by Covid and pandemic but we as a little flock have not been beaten! Our creativity, our joy and our willingness to try new (even weird!) things has kept us celebrating Eucharist and living as the followers of Jesus in community. Thank you!

Drive In Church. Now when I first heard this I'll admit I was doubtful. Also kind of cynically amused. (I kept this to myself) Didn't see how or even if this could ever work. Yet on Sunday, it was fun, heartwarming and well...awesome. The pieces I worried excessively over fell into place! The altar pavilion built by the Jackson's (referred to as the Popemobile), worked beautifully, yet another cross made by Dave Wang, the positive and detailed mind of Donna Duessel, the FM transmitter and tech worked on so hard by Charlie Simon, the flexibility shown by Vic and Kaylie, the game and joyful attitude of Sue Chin and all those members who came and flashed lights and honked horns - gee it was great!

Strong, mature faith does not disconnect from the faith community when the going gets tough. A mature faith sees that in hard times when things CAN'T be what you've always known, that is exactly the time that the church most needs you to support our values and our Mission! It's all too important to be all about you.

A mature faith in Christ sees it's all about a Power and a vision bigger than you! I am so grateful for the mature faith present here at Good Shepherd.

When I showed the pictures of **Drive In Worship** to a friend, they said, "happy, joyful, inspiring!" And this person does not attend a church.

We are witnesses and the joy and hope has NOT been stomped from our hearts! To quote a saying "and that for us this day is the gospel, the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ!"

LV,
PD

To join us for Worship online:

There are several options for you to join us for online worship:

- 1) go to the Good Shepherd website www.gslc-ct.org. Click on youtube on the menu under News & Events to be directed to our church's YouTube page.
- 2) go to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Good-Shepherd-Lutheran-Church-220717937953573/>. Scroll down until you see the post with the current "Church Service (date)" click on this to be directed to our church's YouTube page.
- 3) To find us directly on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/> enter Good Shepherd Monroe CT in the search field and you will be directed to our page, then select the worship video you would like to see. Subscribe to our channel to make it even easier.

To join us for Worship in person: This Sunday, November 22nd at 10:00 am. We will have Drive In Church. This is how it works:

Pastor Doug will be on a platform at the rear (east edge) of the large, main parking area.

Cars should park facing that direction (east – towards the wooded area) with taller vehicles closer to the main road. This will allow shorter vehicles visibility by parking in front of the taller ones.

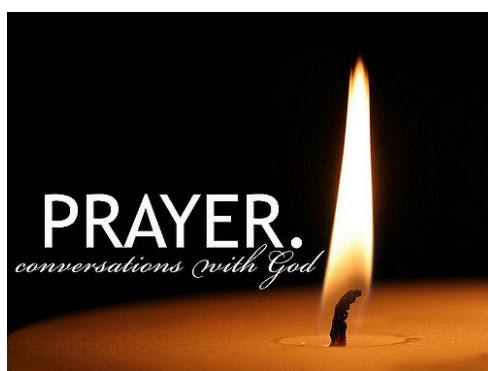
The radio frequency of the broadcast is **FM 94.9**. Please tune your car radio to that station to hear the worship service.

You should stay in your vehicle and keep your windows closed.

Bring your own bread (as you did for Outdoor Worship) for communion.

You must wear a mask if you exit your vehicle.

Other recommendations of social distancing apply when you are outside your vehicle.



A Community of Prayer

For those in need of healing and comfort:

Members and Friends of the Congregation: Ray, Tim, Joan, Marie, Audrey, Elizabeth, Gordon, Sarah, Miriam, Scarlet, Jason, Brian, David, Tricia, Cate, Cecilio.

Military (on active duty), Fire fighters, and Police: Ryan, Teddy, Tyler, Ben, Kenny, Brian, Bill, Ken, John, Glen, and Vic.

Front Line workers in the COVID-19 pandemic: Diane, Alicia, Brittany, Loretta, Jay, Alyssa, Monica, Rachel, June.

Pour out your Spirit on all people living with illness, as well as their loved ones and caregivers. Help them to know that you claim them as your own and deliver them from fear and pain; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalm 147 vs. 3

Do you wonder how to put a loved one, friend, neighbor, or yourself on the prayer list?
Simply email the church office at office@gslc-ct.org. If you would like a prayer card sent to your loved one, friend or neighbor, please include the full name and address. Prayer requests may also be made by phone (203-268-7596) and will be included by the church office.
For privacy, only the first name of each individual will be listed.

Do you have something you would like to discuss with Pastor Doug?
Should you be in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Doug Ryniewicz by cell phone (860-595-9560—text if you like!) or by his email (dearynos@gmail.com).



Poinsettia and Christmas Window Decoration Update

Given the pandemic and the uncertainty of indoor worship, we will not collect donations for individual poinsettia plants or gather together for an evening of making Christmas Window Decorations. In its place, the Worship & Music Committee will decorate the church with poinsettia plants, candles, and the creche.



Upcoming Events

Advent Lighting



We will meet together via ZOOM at 5:00 pm on Sunday afternoons to light our Advent wreaths beginning on **Sunday, November 29th**. Now is the time to buy new candles for your home Advent wreath, gather supplies and make an Advent wreath, buy an Advent wreath, find four candlesticks that can be put together to create an Advent wreath or pull your Advent wreath out of storage. The weekly wreath lighting meetings will be less than 10 minutes.

Here is the Zoom invite and password.
Topic: Good Shepherd Advent
Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84654520497?pwd=YVdkcEZRWdwU1hXRHILZEg3enA0QT09>

Meeting ID: 846 5452 0497

Passcode: GSLAdvent

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,84654520497#,,,,,0#,,476037716# US (Washington D.C)

+13126266799,,84654520497#,,,,,0#,,476037716# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 846 5452 0497

Passcode: 476037716

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kd3PY1Desa>



The Book Club is meeting on December 1st at **1:00 p.m.** we will discuss "The Secrets We Kept" by Lara Prescott. We will either meet indoors if the new air handling system is installed or via Zoom if it's not ready yet or outdoors if the weather permits. We welcome new members!





Sunday, December 13 - Annual Congregational Meeting - details on attending will be forthcoming.

Reaching Out, Serving Others:

Covenant to Care Christmas Gifts



Thanks to everyone who contributed Stop 'n Shop gift cards for Thanksgiving meals. For Christmas, we'll have a plastic bin out in front of the church in which you are invited to deposit unwrapped toys that will then be distributed according to need. Deadline for gifts is December 13.

The bin will be available Monday through Thursday from 9 am to noon, Saturday from 10 am to noon, and Sunday morning during worship. Here are some suggested items:

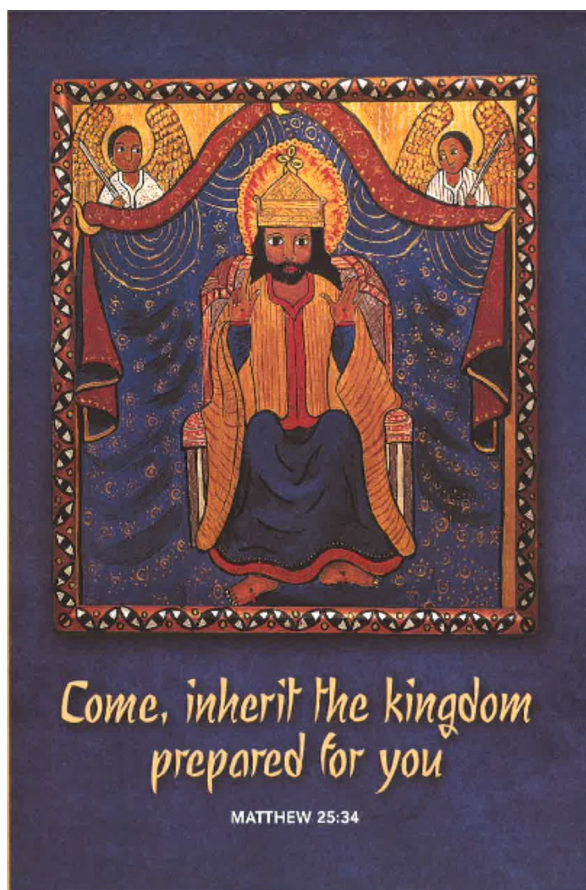
- Books (fiction and non-fiction)
- Card games
- Board games and electronic games
- Puzzles
- Journal sets
- Art, jewelry, nail, and craft kits
- Science kits
- Building sets and Legos
- Kid/family DVDs
- Ear headphones/headsets
- Remote control cars
- Action figures and Transformers
- Bath products/toys
- Barbie dolls/baby dolls (no stuffed animals)
- Gift cards



Thank you for your generosity in continuing these outreach efforts, especially under the current circumstances. Blessings for a happy and healthy holiday season to all!

Jane Fieberts

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Readings for Sunday, November 22, 2020

Christ the King Sunday

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalms 95:1-7a

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."