



Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

Northglenn, Colorado

A Service of Word

December 6, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.

2nd Sunday of Advent

Gathering Around the Word

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Closing Hymn** “Behold,” Said God, “I’m Sending One”
Tune: “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

"Behold," said God, "I'm sending one who shall prepare my way.
My messenger will make me known, But who can bear that day?"

For when he comes, old ways will die; We'll change what we have been.
Like fire or soap he'll purify And cleanse us from our sin.

We wonder, Lord: what needs to change? What sins do we hold dear?
What values should we rearrange? What judgments should we hear?

May we be open to the ways You cleanse and make us new;
And may we in these Advent days Be glad to welcome you.

Biblical Reference: Malachi 3:1-4 Tune: Este’s *Psalmes*, 1592
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***Charge and Benediction**

***Benediction Response** refrain of O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel,
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

***Postlude**

*Those who are able please stand

*Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall following worship for a potluck lunch
and a time of fellowship.*

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PASTOR: Rev. Bill Davis
LAY READER: Kyle Feusner

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Becky Carlisle

Prelude and Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Visitors, we are glad you are worshiping with us today and appreciate your filling out the visitor's card found in the pew rack. Please place it in the offering plate. Prayer request cards are in the pew racks if you wish to use them; bring them to the Communion Table during the Passing the Peace.

Moment for Mission

Christmas Joy Offering

Mary Ann Gines

Introit

Invitation to Worship

Choir

***Call to Worship**

One: The Lord is coming to his temple.

All: We watch and wait for his coming.

One: Prepare the way of the Lord!

***Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Brad, Rachelle, Jackson & Marley Gabbard

***Advent Response – #2090 Advent Song, verse 2**

***Opening Hymn #8** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Silent Prayers

One: Refining God,

All: you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Sung Response #2152** Change My Heart, O God

***Assurance of Grace**

***Passing of the Peace**

One: As a forgiven and reconciled people, let us share with one another signs of peace. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Hearing the Word

Christmas Letters by Gail Gaymer Martin Children's Christmas Pageant

(Produced by special arrangement with Christian Publishers)

Prayer of Illumination (sung) – Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken

Listen to the word that God has spoken,
listen to the One who is close at hand;
listen to the voice that began creation;
listen even if you don't understand.

Readings Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 3:1-6

One: For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "A Christmas Tapestry" (P. Drennan)

Choir

Sermon *The Hard Word*

Rev. Bill Davis

Responding to the Word

***Hymn #3** Comfort You, Comfort You My People

***Affirmation of Faith** – *adopted from the Confession of Belhar*

We believe that God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation
in and through Jesus Christ.
We believe that the church is called
to be the salt of the earth
and the light of the world.

We believe that the church is called blessed
because it is a peacemaker.

We believe that the church is witness
both by word and by deed
to the new heaven and the new earth
in which righteousness dwells.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (...in your mercy, **Lord, save us.**)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

Invitation to Give

Offertory

***Sung Response – Spirit, Open My Heart** (refrain)

The musical score is for a refrain in 6/8 time, marked with a tempo of quarter note = 55. It is written in B-flat major. The lyrics are: "Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart." The score consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. Chord symbols are provided above the vocal line: F, Bb/C, F, Bb, C, F, Bb, C, Dm, Bb, F/A, Gm7, Bb/C, F, Bb/F, F.

simply note "Joy offering" on the memo part of your check. Or, you can follow directions for online giving on the bulletin inserts that you'll receive on Dec. 6 and Dec. 20. Thank you for your prayerful gifts!!

LET'S GO CAROLING! The Youth Group will be blessing the residents of Sunny Acres. They will be caroling on Sunday December 20 immediately following the church service. Will you please join us? You can say hello to some friends and maybe meet a new one. This will be such a joy to the residents of Sunny Acres. We will meet at Sunny Acres at 11:30 and sing for about thirty minutes. Then we will head over to 3 Margaritas for lunch. We would LOVE your company. This is a will be a great way to get to know youth and their families. Please give Diana Bennett a courtesy call or email if you can make it.

WE ARE ONCE AGAIN ADOPTING A FAMILY FROM GROWING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS! There is an insert in the bulletin listing the family members & ages and their gift suggestions. If you buy a particular gift listed on the insert, please let the church office know so that we can scratch it off the list. All gifts need to be returned to the church office by **December 10th for delivery to Growing Home on December 11th.**



WARMING TREE Please join GSPC Christian Education to collect children's gloves, mittens, hats and socks for our Warming Tree located in the Narthex. We will be collecting these items from December 1-23, 2015 and all items will be donated to Growing Home. Please help us fill up our Warming Tree to help those keep warm during the winter months. Please place your donated items on the tree.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD FOOD BANK IS IN NEED OF A FEW PEOPLE to work in the food bank on a regular basis. There are several days that will be available in January. This entails working 2 hours one day (10 a.m. – 12 noon) every other week. If you are interested in helping and volunteering, please call Sue Holland - 303-457-8766.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE FOOD BANK FOR DECEMBER: Holiday food items such as canned yams, instant mashed potatoes, green beans, stuffing mix, etc. Please place items in the bench in the Narthex or bring to the Food Bank. Thank you! During November the Food Bank gave out 199 orders to 148 households serving 523 people, including 214 children. Thank you for your continued support of this important mission.

Note: Food Bank will be closed Dec. 25 and Dec. 29 - Jan. 1.

OUR "HANGING OF THE GREENS" GATHERING last week was attended by more than 20 people. Thanks so much for taking part in this annual decorating of the church. Thanks to The Gabbard family, the Brizzolara-Dove family, Ruth Vazquez, Anna Bond and family, Fred Finke, Diana Bennett, David Blount, Harley Brown, Luitgart Ramsey, Sara Tyburczy, Mary Archuleta, Judy Ezzell, and Jim McCarron. We appreciate your time and dedication for this endeavor.

NOTES OF THANKS

Connie van der Vegt and the family of Harmen van der Vegt would like to extend a very special thank you for your extremely gracious efforts in helping our family prepare the sanctuary and reception hall to pay tribute to Harmen, husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather and treasured friend to so many. Your time and love are very much appreciated.

PASSING PLATES – DECENTLY AND IN ORDER? Our congregation tends to sit near the aisles rather than in the center of the pews. In order to simplify passing the offering plates and communion plates, please return the plate back to the aisle when there are only a few people in the row. If the row is full, the plates should go to the other side. Thank you for trying this method to avoid confusion in the pews.

Flock Notes

Birthdays December 6 to December 14

Dec. 6	Gretchen Caudill	Dec. 14	Angela Caudill
Dec. 11	Betty Harvell		Myrna Criswell
Dec. 13	Julie Klahn		Alexis Watson
	Estephen Greenwich		

Here's What's Happening---Please keep in your thoughts and prayers---**Connie van der Vegt and family** as they grieve the loss of Harmen---**Tom McConnell**, as he begins a new chemo treatment soon---**Maxine Chappell**, having health problems and undergoing testing---**Howard Atkinson**, Dawna Schneider's father, briefly hospitalized this week---**Jerry & Jacque Noland**, as Jerry continues his struggle with health issues---All those fighting cancer: **Luann Anderson, Debbie Brown, Daniel Leieritz, Lori Boesl, Sue Coleman, Tom McConnell, Betty Casady**---Congratulations to **Bob Mitchell** who will retire (for the second and last time!) on December 10th!---Each week we include a request for prayers for one of our church's mission projects: This week pray for clients & volunteers of **our Food Bank**---As a member of Denver Presbytery, let us pray for: **Green Mountain Presbyterian Church, Harare East Region of the Presbytery of Zimbabwe, and Colorado Council of Churches**---Let us know what's happening....drop off your news in the Church Office or call/e-mail it to us.

GINGERSNAP Angels do not harp at one another; they are in a chord.