

Offering and Receiving the Christmas Joy Offering

Call for the Offering

Offertory

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

Refrain
♩ = 55

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.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Closing Hymn #9 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response refrain of O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel,

Shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Postlude

Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall following worship for fellowship.

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PASTOR: Rev. Bill Davis

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Becky Carlisle

LAY READER: Joan Moore

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Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

Northglenn, Colorado

A Service of Word

December 20, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.

4th Sunday of Advent

Gathering Around the Word

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

Introit

***Call to Worship**

One: My soul magnifies the Lord;

All: my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

One: The Might One has done great things.

All: Holy is God's name!

***Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Paul and Patty Steward

***Advent Response – #2090 Advent Song, verse 4**

***Opening Hymn** Mary Gladly Told Her Cousin (Tune: Once in Royal David's City)

Mary gladly told her cousin, "Praise the Lord! My spirit sings!"

Young and humble, she'd been chosen! God was surely changing things!

God of love, her words ring true As we sing her prayer to you:

"Now my soul is gladly singing At the greatness of the Lord.

I rejoice, for God is bringing His salvation to the world.

All who live will say I'm blest Even in my lowliness.

"God is mighty, just and holy, And he's done great things for me.
Those who fear him know the mercy That God gives us endlessly.
Mighty ones are brought down low; Lowly ones find blessings flow.

"God has filled the poor and hungry, And he's sent the rich away.
God is active here in history, In a real and wondrous way.
God has promised, and I'm blessed, For I know God's faithfulness."
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***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Silent Prayers

One: God our Savior,

All: we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard Mary's song, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. 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

Prayer of Illumination (sung)

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 Micah 5:2-5
Luke 1:39-55

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.

Time With the Children

Pastor Bill

(Children are invited to come sit at the table at the front of the sanctuary.)

Anthem

Sermon

A Quiet Emmanuel

Rev. Bill Davis

Responding to the Word

***Hymn #5** Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

***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

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.

CALENDAR

TODAY **4th Sunday of Advent – Christmas Joy Offering**
Caroling at Sunny Acres with Youth Group **Following Worship**
 Shepherds’ Hall Rental 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.
 Shepherds’ Hall Rental (Barnard) 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
 Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall Rental 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
 NO Youth Group

WEDNESDAY No Bible Study – resumes January 6
 NO Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY **Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion** **6:00 p.m.**

FRIDAY **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**
 Fellowship Hall Rental (Classroom) 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
 Shepherds’ Hall Rental 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY Shepherds’ Hall Rental (SDA Church) 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY **Lessons and Carols**
 Adult Sunday School Classes (downstairs and in Shepherds’ Hall) 8:30 a.m.
 Shepherds’ Hall Rental (Tice) 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.
 Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall Rental 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
 NO Youth Group

UPCOMING EVENTS:
Office & Food Bank closed December 25 & December 28 – January 1

Visit us on on-line to learn more about upcoming worship and fellowship events at thegoodshepherd.org.

Bill can be reached on the church office phone at 303-452-5478 or on his church cell phone at 720-626-6428. His e-mail is bill@thegoodshepherd.org.

THE WEEKLY NEWS
December 20, 2015



WELCOME friends, new and old! May God’s presence bring warmth, enlightenment and joy as we worship together. We invite everyone to join us downstairs following worship for light refreshments and fellowship.

A nursery is provided downstairs for children ages birth to 5 years.

We have two arrangements of flowers this morning. The first is in celebration of Angelle Myers’ 1st birthday and the second is in honor of Dorothy Bennett’s 13th birthday.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available in the Narthex.

THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE SHEPHERD’S CROOK is available on your e-mail and on the website (thegoodshepherd.org). For those without internet access, copies are available in the Narthex.



PROMISES MADE, PROMISES KEPT – CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

During Advent we reflect on God’s promise of salvation, fulfilled with the birth of His Son, Jesus. We Presbyterians respond to the needs of many retired church workers and to racial ethnic students through our promise to help them through challenging times in their lives. The annual Christmas Joy offering will be received during the month of December. If you have a box of 2015 pledge envelopes you’ll find a special envelope for this offering. If not, envelopes are available in the pews or you can 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 today, 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.



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.

A NEW MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE PRESBYTERY OF ZIMBABWE APPROVED – This year has marked the tenth anniversary of the Presbytery of Denver's partnership with Zimbabwe Presbytery. One of the primary purposes of delegation visits this year has been to reconsider and revise the Memorandum that has guided our relationship for more than a decade. At the last meetings of both Presbyteries this revision was approved. You can read the full document on the Presbytery website. As we begin this new moment we ask for a renewed commitment from each congregation and all our members to this extraordinary partnership. In this Advent Season, please pray that the words of this document might come alive in our times together, our joint mission and ministry as we work together to serve Christ.

Flock Notes

Birthdays December 20 to December 28

Dec. 20	Powell Warner	Dec. 25	Pee Wee Holland
Dec. 22	Anna Bond	Dec. 27	Jerry Wetsel
Dec. 23	Dorothy Bennett	Dec. 28	Tania Wirz

Here's What's Happening---Please keep in your thoughts and prayers---**Kyle & Betty Feusner and Family** on the death of Kyle's mother, **Mary Margaret Feusner**, on December 5th---**Tom McConnell**, as he begins a new chemo treatment soon---**Maxine Chappell**, having health problems--- **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**---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: **First Presbyterian Church, Leadville; North West Region of the Presbytery of Zimbabwe; Pray that the celebration of Christ's birth may bring renewal to all our churches and the whole world**---Let us know what's happening....drop off your news in the Church Office or call/e-mail it to us.

GINGERSNAP Don't think you're on the right road just because it's a well-beaten path.