

# THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 2025

WITH HOLY COMMUNION

10:00 AM



SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
PARK CITY, UTAH



## SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS

LUTHERAN CHURCH – PARK CITY, UTAH

### **WHEN WE SAY ALL ARE WELCOME, WE REALLY MEAN IT!**

As all people are created in the image of God, we embrace diversity in our congregation and community, and we affirm the dignity and worth of every person.

We honor the guiding principle that discrimination is incompatible with Christ's unconditional love and we are committed to racial equity.

We boldly embrace, love, celebrate and welcome persons of all faith backgrounds, races, ethnicities, cultures, ages, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.

Everyone has a place here.

**All are Welcome!**

*We encourage the participation of children in our worship. Drawing materials and children's bulletins are available at the back of the sanctuary above the basket of crayons. There are spaces available among the chairs for children who need to move!*

*Hearing Assistant Devices are available in the narthex.  
Please ask an usher if you need one.*

***Please take a moment and silence your cell phones***

# CALL TO WORSHIP

## PRELUDE and WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Family of faith, God is at work!

**God is healing and creating,**

redeeming and dreaming,

**calling and sending,**

listening and loving.

**Yes, indeed, God is at work!**

So may we worship our God who never gives up.

**May we worship our God who holds onto hope. Amen.**

### CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY | PEACE

In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of peace?

**We see glimmers of peace in the quiet of early mornings,  
when people shake hands, when loved ones say they're  
sorry, and when the church sings together.**

You are right. Even in a fearful world,  
peace is all around us.

Today we light the candle of peace as a reminder of this  
good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that  
even in a fearful world, peace is present.

We only have to look for it.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

*ELW 257*

*vv 1-2*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Near the end of his ministry, John the Baptist...

Let us pray:

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**On-the-move God,**

**we have every reason to hold onto hope.**

**We have every reason to believe that spring will come,  
that flowers will bloom, that the sun will rise.**

**And yet, too often hope slips through our fingers.**

**With anxious hearts we cry out to you,**

**“Will change ever come? Will things ever get better?  
will I ever make a difference?”**

**Soothe our wandering hearts and show us the places  
where the sun is shining.**

**Show us the places where you are on the move.**

**With open hearts we pray,**

**Amen.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith,

in our honesty,

**we are heard.**

In our worries,

**we are held.**

In our failings,

**we are forgiven.**

In our fear,

**we are not alone.**

Friends, this is the good news of the gospel!

**When we're running out of hope, God is still at work.**

Thanks be to God!

**Amen.**

## **GATHERING SONG**

**"Soon and Very Soon"**

**ELW 439**

## **PRAYERS FOR ILLUMINATION**

Merciful God,

we need bread and we need laughter.

We need music and we need a hand to hold.

We need a chair to sit in and we need work to do.

But maybe more than anything,

we need your Word and a reason to hope.

So move through this space today

and speak to us as only you can.

Speak a word of hope deep into our weary bones.

For we need bread and we need laughter,

but most of all, we need you.

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

## **READING**

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to Mathew the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the Gospel is read,*  
The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“All Earth is Hopeful”**

**ELW 266**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We have seen the valley.  
We have seen a sky without stars.  
We have seen the longest night,  
and still we believe.**

**We believe in a with-us God.  
We believe in the hope of tomorrow.  
We believe that good news is louder than fear.  
We believe this good news is for all people.**

**So even when our knees shake,  
even when our voice trembles,  
even when fear is all around us,  
we will hold onto that good news.**

**We will reach for each other.  
We will look for God in our midst.  
We will sing songs of joy.**

**We will proclaim:  
Unto us, love is born.**

**We have seen the longest night,  
and we have seen unimaginable love.  
So still, we believe.  
Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*The assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer, saying,*  
In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer,  
O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the  
nations, and the whole creation.

*After each portion of the prayers, the following is said:*  
God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*  
Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom  
we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ,  
Emmanuel.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you!**

# MEAL

## OFFERING

*The offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

***Cash, check and online donations are all welcome  
Thank you for your generosity!***



Scan to donate online via Tithe.ly

## OFFERTORY

## BLESSING OF BREAD AND WINE

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**



## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All are welcome to come forward for Holy Communion.  
You do not need to be Lutheran, you do not need to be a  
member of Shepherd of the Mountains, and you do not need to  
worry about whether you commune in your own church. Gluten  
free wafers are available.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:*

*The body of Christ, given for you.*

*The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

*and each person may respond:*

*✠ Amen.*

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

*The Pastor offers a blessing for the congregation.*

*The people respond:*

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving God,

In a world racked with fear,

You gather us together.

You set the table.

You meet us here.

You nourish our bodies

as you nourish our spirits.

You remind us that this is a joyful feast,

and that fear cannot win every time.

So with renewed courage,

with renewed hope,

with renewed conviction,

send us out into the world.

Help us to feed others as you have fed us.

With gratitude we pray,

**Amen.**

# **SENDING**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

In a fearful world,  
may you look for God's spirit.  
May you reach for each other's hands.  
May you choose courage whenever you can.  
And in all things, may you remember  
that good news is louder than fear.  
In the name of the one who calls,  
the one who sends,  
and the one who journeys with-  
go in peace and  
be not afraid.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING SONG**

**"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"**

**ELW 288**

### **SENDING**

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**





## **Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church**

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Friday, 9am - 12pm

Contact Pastor Derek Fossey: [pastor@sompc.org](mailto:pastor@sompc.org)

### **SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS MISSION STATEMENT**

“With open doors, minds, and hearts, we invite all to experience the joy of God's love through worship, community, and service.”



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