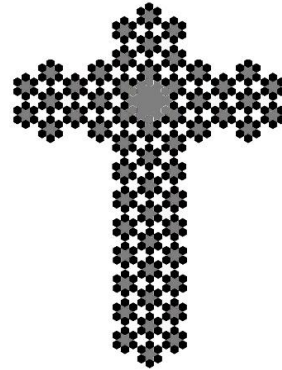


FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 31, 2023

9:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite II



639 Edgewater Drive • Dunedin, FL 34698
(727) 733-4125 • Pastoral Care Number: (727) 275-0257
www.COGSDunedin.com
E-Mail the church office: info@cogsdunedin.com

Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 6 PM

Our Sunday 10 AM service is livestreamed

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

Restrooms: Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

We have gluten-free wafers available: Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

Standing, sitting, and kneeling: Throughout the bulletin, there are invitations to stand, sit or kneel, as you choose. You are free to be seated at any time when that is best for you.

All music is reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense account #A-711594.

A gentle Reminder: Please enter the Nave quietly and reverently and silence your phones.

Most of the sung music is found in the blue hymnal, *The Hymnal, 1982*. In the bulletin, an "H" indicates the hymn section of the book; an "S" indicates it's from the service music section in the front of the book.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

The Old Year Now Has Passed Away

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

[During the Voluntary, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.]

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTRANCE HYMN H-109

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

(stanzas 1-5)

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. (Refrain)

This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. (Refrain)

Then entered in those wise men three full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. (Refrain)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

All Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you
no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of
your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your
holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(stanzas 1,3)

**Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
come and worship, come and worship worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star:
come and worship, come and worship worship Christ, the newborn King.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray... Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

The people sit.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Lector *The First Reading is taken from Isaiah chapter 61...*

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

(all singing)

**Wor-ship the Lord, Je-ru-salem, praise God, O Is-ra-el;
The Lord has made your gates se-cure and blest your child-ren well.**

**Up-on your bor-ders, God makes peace, the wheat fields give us flour;
You, Lord, send your com-mand on earth, your word speeds forth with power.**

**Who can with-stand the freez-ing cold, the hoar frost, hail and snow?
Yet when you send your word and wind they melt and waters flow.**

**You give to Is-ra-el your word, your just de-crees, but yet
You have not shown to oth-er lands your law, Al-le-lu-ia!**

THE SECOND READING

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Lector *The Second Reading is taken from Galatians chapters 3 & 4....*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Lector *The Word of the Lord.*

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION H-109

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

(stanza 6)

**Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord;
That hath made heav'n and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath
bought.**

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

THE GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Deacon In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON *The people sit.*

The Rev. Kathleen Walter

NICENE CREED *All stand as able.*

People

**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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.

Deacon

Let us pray for all humanity, all creation, and all times and places.

Lector

God of everlasting light, you have brought together the hopes and fears of all the years in Jesus, the Word made flesh. May his grace and truth resound in us and through us. O come to us, abide with us,

People

our Lord Emmanuel.

Lector

Angels proclaimed the peace of your unconquered Son of righteousness. Strengthen all who work for peace and justice. O come to us, abide with us,

People

our Lord Emmanuel.

Lector

You came to us in a child cradled in a borrowed bed of straw as there was no room in the inn. Open our hearts to the needs of the homeless and the hungry. O come to us, abide with us,

People

our Lord Emmanuel.

Lector Shepherds and outcasts heard your good news. Give us grace to spread your gospel of joy and liberation to all people, even those who differ from us. O come to us, abide with us,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector We rejoice in this season of family, renewal, and reconciliation. Be with those who travel, enrich our rejoicing, and strengthen the bonds between us. O come to us, abide with us,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector Christians throughout the world are celebrating your birth. Unite us in one family, that we may shine with the one light that scatters all our darkness. O come to us, abide with us,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector Shed your light on all who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. We pray especially for [*read names from notebook.*] Give strength and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. I invite you to name those for whom you pray, either aloud or in the silence of your heart. [*Leave time for names.*] O come to us, abide with us,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector Your grace lets us inherit the hope of eternal life. Fulfill in your love all who have gone before us in the faith, especially [*read names from notebook.*] I invite you to lift up the names of those whose absence you particularly feel at this time. [*Leave time for names.*] May we, like them, live in your eternal light. O come to us, abide with us,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector Hear these prayers we bring to you, and impart to our hearts the blessings of your heaven.

People **Amen.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION:

Please kneel or stand as able.

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (*Silence is kept.*)

People **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. AMEN.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY

The Angel Gabriel

Basque carol

(the text appears at #265 in *The Hymnal, 1982*)

Judy Warner, Soloist

THE PRESENTATION

All stand as able.

Deacon We gladly present the fruits of our lives to the God who creates us, redeems us and sustains us. May we have the grace to use them to heal God's world.

PRESENTATION HYMN H-82 Of the Father's Love Begotten DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
(stanza 4)

**Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be;
honor, glory and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore!**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is My Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
People **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, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM S-154

David Hurd

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to receive the Sacrament. If you would like to receive wine you may do so by sipping from the Chalice or allowing the Eucharistic Minister to intinct (dip) the wafer for you.

If you desire a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION

In dulci jubilo

Marcel Dupré
(1886-1971)

COMMUNION HYMN H-115

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

**What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray...

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE SENDING HYMN H-100

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Joy to the World

Wilbur Held
(1914-2015)

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Kathleen Walter
Deacon	The Rev. Cindy Roehl
Organist/Choirmaster	Tom Huffman
Crucifer/Server	Pat Cates
Torch/Chalicists	Carolyn Hughes & Gerry Boone
Lectors	Gail Griffin & Sally Miller
Prayers of the People	Carolyn Hughes
Ushers	Bob DeStefano & Ed Steponaitis
Building & Grounds	Pat Cates
Welcome Table	John & Sheila Scott

Prayers are requested for:

The Week of Dec 24 – The Fincher Family, Nancy & Jim D, Jim W, Bill GW, Elliot T, Lou F, Colette S, Vanessa E, Diana S, Marylynne J, Stacy J, David R, Beth P, Milly L, Bob S, Olena & family, Jo & Tom, Brenda, Mike, Mason & family, Jeff M, Kathy D, John H, Lou W, Scott, Diane, Deborah, Mike, Helen, Butch, John & Brenna, Ray, Olivia, David, Liz, Carol, Debra, Gerry, Chleo.

Celebrations this week: Birthdays – Deborah Bouvier, Gerard Boone, Scott Hood, and Matthew Davis.

Anniversaries - Larry Wilbur & Kristie Hazel-Wilbur.

Announcements

We welcome our guest organist today, Dr. Linda Pointer, a DM graduate of Indiana University, is retired from full-time church work and enjoys serving as a substitute musician throughout the Tampa Bay area. Dr. Pointer is active in the American Guild of Organists and Greater Pinellas Music Teachers' Association, and maintains a private teaching studio. She is happy to make music with Good Shepherd today.

Furniture Thrift Store Annual Meeting: Please join us after the 10 AM service on Jan 14 for the FTS annual meeting in Kirk Hall.

Philadelphia Eleven Film Screening: Limited release documentary screening at Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd on Saturday, February 24, 2024, at 1 PM. Screening is free, but advanced registration is required. Visit <https://www.cogsdunedin.com/phil11> to register.

2024 Giving Envelopes: are located in Kirk Hall. Please stop by to pick yours up if you requested them.

Patio Paver Order: We will be accepting orders for patio pavers through March. If you would like to leave your legacy at COGS by purchasing an engraved commemorative paver, please check our website for details and order forms or contact the church office.