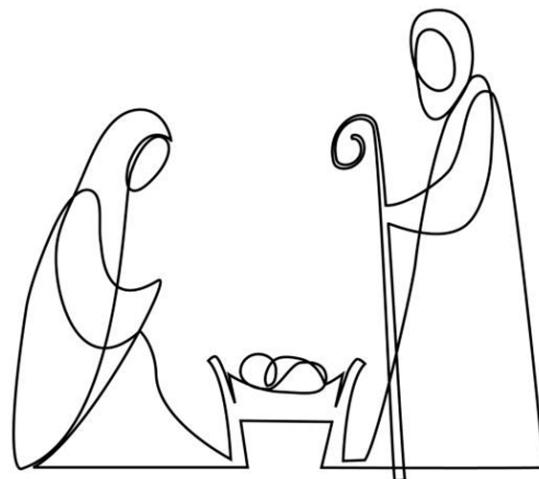


THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

December 28, 2025

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.



Virtual Worship Bulletins

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Three Christmas Carols

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
What Child Is This?

Organ and Brass

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTRANCE HYMN H-87

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings, Light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

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.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray... We remember today, O God, the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod. Receive, we pray, into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims; and by your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:15-17

Lector *The First Reading is taken from Jeremiah chapter 31...*

Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.

Thus says the Lord: Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears; for there is a reward for your work, says the Lord: they shall come back from the land of the enemy; there is hope for your future, says the Lord: your children shall come back to their own country.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

**Worship the Lord, Jerusalem, praise God, O Israel;
The Lord has made your gates secure and blessed your children well.**

**Upon your borders, God makes peace, the wheat fields give us flour;
You, Lord, send your command on earth, your word speeds forth with power.**

**Who can withstand the freezing cold, the hoarfrost, hail, and snow?
Yet when you send your word and wind they melt and waters flow.**

**You give to Israel your word, your just decrees, but yet
You have not shown to other lands your law. Alleluia!**

THE SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-7

Lector *The Second Reading is taken from Revelation chapters 21....*

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able.

GOSPEL HYMN H-83

ADESTE FIDELES

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13-18

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Celebrant When the wise men had departed, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON *Please be seated.* The Rev. Kathy 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.

Celebrant 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.

People Strengthen all who work for peace and justice. O come to us, abide with us, **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 thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially the flowers given today to the Glory of God, and for the birthdays this week for Bob DeStefano and Gerard Boone, and the anniversary of Terry Kirk and Mei Hsiang, and Larry Wilbur and Kristie Hazel-Wilbur. 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 those on our parish prayer list and those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts: [you are invited to say names out loud or in silence]. Give strength and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit

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. We lift up the names of those whose absence we particularly feel at this time: [you are invited to say names out loud or in silence]. May we, like them, live in your eternal light. O come to us, abide with us, **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.

Celebrant 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

In the Bleak Midwinter
Ethan Sheets, Trumpet

Gustav Holst
(1874-1934)

PRESENTATION HYMN

THE FIRST NOWELL

D Bm A A⁷ D/F# G D A⁷ D A⁷
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all

7 D G A⁷ D A⁷ D A⁷ Bm A A⁷
crea - tures here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye

12 D/F# G D A⁷ D A⁷ D G A⁷ D A⁷ D
heaven - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

18 A⁷ D Bm F#m D G A⁷ D A
No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el,

22 Bm D/A G D A⁷/E D/F# D/A A⁷ D
born is the King of Is - ra - el.

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:

SANCTUS All

GLORIA

Intro (first time only)

All

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
Bles - sed is the one who came,

God of hosts, all praise be given!
All your glo - ry fills the earth;
bring - ing love and light di - vine.
Bles - sed is the king who comes

all your pow - cr fills the heavens.
Glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

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

Gently [In One]

The St. James Christmas Service

O Lamb of God, O Holy Child, who takes the sin of the world a-way; Have mer-cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the son of Ma-ry. This, this is your bo-dy giv'n, Your pre-cious blood, the gift of heav'n. Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the son of Ma-ry.

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

O Little Town of Bethlehem

David Cherwien

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
and warring humankind hears not the tidings which they bring;
O hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

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

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.

Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with you is now residing; yonder shines the infant Light:
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.

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship worship Christ, the newborn King.

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Joy to the World

G.F. Handel
(1685-1759)

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Kathy Walter
Organist/Choirmaster	Tom Huffman
Trumpet	Ethan Sheets
Trumpet	Jules Cunard
Trombone	Jacob Caldwell
Trombone	Sebastian Cabrera
Crucifer/Server	Pat Cates
Torch/Chalicists	Dan Depies and Andrea Zahn
Lector	Alan Mackay
Prayers of the People	Ryan Stollenmaier
Ushers	Steve and Caroline Maisel
Building & Grounds	Gidget DiRienz and Alan Mackay
Welcome Table	Cheryl Sharpe
	Shirl Ahrens and Noel Powell

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR

Lexi Belote Marston and family, Vaska, Deni, and Bob, Ada H, Charles H, Carl V, Blair B, Alice S, Allie F, Charline F, Jocelyn F, Kara M, Hope and Dave, Gloria S, Blair B, Stacy H, Dan and Gloria S, Mandeville P, Mavis S, Enez P, Michael W, Andrew L, Glenn R, Mike P, Lou F, Colette S, Heather S, Linda, The Keelers, Carol C, Tony B, the people of Jamaica in the wake of Hurricane Melissa, Millicent L, Lynne H, Butch N, Mary Ann W, Mara S and family, Maureen B, Helen Marie, Bonnie S, Bill G, Priscilla B, Indra E, the people of Ukraine, Jim T, Mark and Maryellen, and Kam M.

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays - Bob DeStefano and Gerard Boone

Anniversaries - Terry Kirk and Mei Hsiang, Larry Wilbur and Kristie Hazel-Wilbur



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office Closure - Please note that the parish office will be closed from Wednesday, December 24th until Thursday, January 1st.

Good Shepherd History - The authors have completed their writing of “The Legacy Continues, the Church of the Good Shepherd since 1886” and are now offering it for pre-sale in Kirk Hall following each worship service. Price for the book has been set at \$35.00 during the pre-sale and will be \$40.00 after January 18, 2026. Cash, check or credit card are accepted.

Sacred Ground - The Sacred Ground Program at COGS is beginning January 13. If there is anyone who was not able to attend the information meetings, but who would still like to participate in the program, please contact the parish office.

Regular Meetings

Game Night – will meet on Friday, January 9th at 6 PM in the Patio Room.

Book Club – is going to meet other month. The book for Feb 11th is going to be *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi.

Youth Group meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month; January 11th at 11:30 AM in the Youth Room.

Cursillo meeting - after both services on the 3rd Sunday of the month, January 18.