



# GOOD SHEPHERD

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

DECEMBER 25, 2022

# Welcome to Good Shepherd

Thank you for joining us for worship today. If this is your first time with us, we are especially glad you are here. Please don't hesitate to ask one of our greeters regarding the location of the nursery, restrooms, or just a cup of coffee!

We realize that the flow and order of our worship may be unfamiliar, so there are notes in the margins that will offer some explanations and hopefully help you participate. Our service is designed to be both biblical and Christ centered as we cycle through the wonderful truths of the Gospel each week. We gather not for a lecture, conference, or concert, but for an encounter and covenant renewal with God. Therefore, our service follows the pattern God gave his people thousands of years ago: God speaks and we respond.

We also hope that you will join us after the service. Downstairs in the fellowship hall you will find plenty of refreshments and snacks as well as a warm welcome from our church family. If you have any questions from the sermon you can return to the sanctuary about 15 minutes after the service for our *Ask the Pastor* time. This is a great place to process the wonderful truths of the Gospel that we proclaim.

Lastly, we would love to know that you were here this morning. In the backs of the pews there is an info sheet that you can fill out and put in the offering basket during the service. Don't worry, we won't bombard you with endless emails. We just want an opportunity to say hello. If there is any way that we can pray for you, or if you have questions about the church, you can write those on the back as well.

Wherever you are this morning, our hope is that God would attend to the ministry of His Word, and that you would know the love of your blessed Savior.



## A Word to Parents with Young Children

First, we want you to know that we are delighted to have your children in worship with us this morning. There is nothing better that we can give our children than the opportunity to know and worship their Heavenly Father. Any noises that they may make are not an embarrassing distraction, but a beautiful reminder that they are participating in God's means of grace.

We do understand, however, that it is sometimes helpful to have other means of serving our children and families. Through the back doors of the sanctuary you will find a **cry room** if you have little ones that are getting fussy or who need to nurse. We also have an **overflow room** with a live-stream of the service in the downstairs fellowship hall.

Lastly, we have a **nursery** downstairs for children ages 0-3. Staff in the nursery are background checked and trained.

# Order of Worship

## Preparation

Preparatory Thought.....

*“The Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as this truth of the Incarnation.” -J.I. Packer*

Prelude.....

Welcome and Announcements.....

## Praise

Call to Worship\*.....Luke 2:10-14

**Leader:** And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

**Congregation: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”**

Prayer of Adoration\*.....

Hymn #195\*.....*Joy to the World! The Lord is Come*

\*please stand if able

*We invite you to take a few moments this morning to prayerfully prepare to meet with and worship the living God.*

*God's people come because he first calls them. We open our services this way as a reminder that it is God himself who is calling us into his presence this morning.*

# Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

F
D
A'
D
G
A

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her  
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -  
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the  
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

D
7

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

A

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 and heav'n and na - ture sing,

F
D
D/A
A7
and
D 7

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

*The Word of God is always sufficient to do the work of God. Therefore, each week we continue the practice of God's people listening to the public reading of scripture.*

*While it is right for us to confess our sins in light of God's holiness, our forgiveness is not merited through this act or the absolution of a priest. Rather, it is Christ who saves and speaks through His Word to assure us that our sin has been pardoned.*

*If you are visiting with us there is no expectation for you to contribute to this morning's offering. For those who are giving we remember that we are called to joyful worship of the God who continues to give us all that we need in Christ.*

## Renewal

Corporate Reading of Scripture.....*Isaiah 53:1-3 (p. 613)*

Corporate Prayer of Confession.....

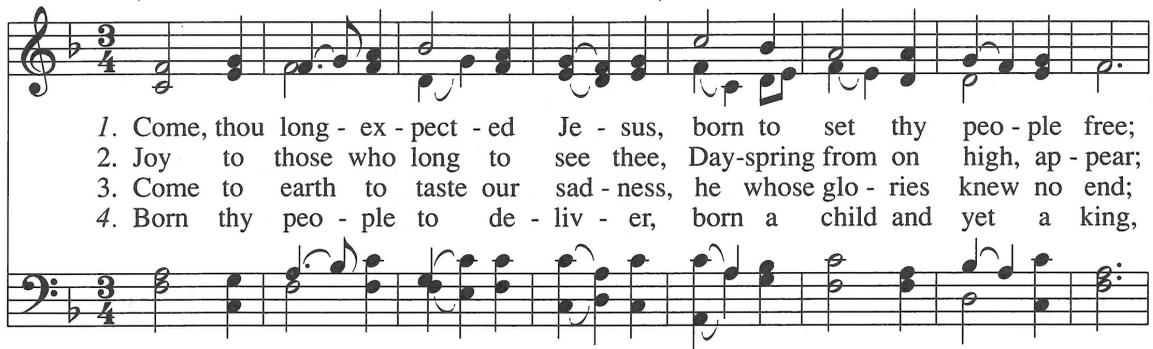
Assurance of Pardon.....*Isaiah 53:4-6*

**Leader:** Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Offering/Hymn #196.....*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Congregational Prayer.....

# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap - pear;  
3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end;  
4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!  
by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth:  
Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a cat - tle stall;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
"Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."  
this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

*Each week, we preach, verse  
by verse through books of the  
Bible so that we are  
instructed by the full counsel  
of God, rather than whatever  
the preacher deems most  
important.*

*We celebrate the Lord's  
Supper every week trusting  
that our Lord is truly,  
spiritually present  
nourishing His people. If you  
are a member of a local  
church, have been baptized,  
and believe that you are  
saved by grace through faith,  
then we welcome you to  
participate with us.*

## Proclamation

Hymn #691\* ..... *It Is Well with My Soul*

Prayer for Illumination.....

Sermon.....Rev. Neil Quinn

*"Simeon's Nunc Dimittis"  
Luke 2:29-32 (p. 857)*

## Response

Celebration of the Lord's Supper.....

Hymn #218\* ..... *Angels From the Realms of Glory*

Benediction\* .....

Postlude.....

# It Is Well with My Soul

1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like  
2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let this blest as -  
3. My sin— O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought!—my sin, not in  
4. O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled

sea bil - lows roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
sur - ance con - trol, that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate,  
part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;  
back as a scroll, the trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de - scend,

“It is well, it is well with my soul.”  
and has shed his own blood for my soul. It is well  
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is well  
“E - ven so”— it is well with my soul.

with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.  
with my soul;

# Sermon Outline

"Simeon's *Nunc Dimittis*"

*Luke 2:29-32 (p. 857)*

## **Introduction: Don't Get Cute this Christmas**

### **Five Lessons:**

- 1. Christmas points you to God's promise.*
- 2. Christmas reminds you to wait by walking according to the word.*
- 3. Christmas proclaims new birth.*
- 4. Christmas prepares you for death.*
- 5. Christmas gives you comfort only as it gives you Christ.*

## **Conclusion: Will You Rise or Fall?**

# Sermon Notes

# Angels From the Realms of Glory



1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2. Shep- herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,
5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with man is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant Light:  
• seek the great De - sire of na - tions; ye have seen his na - tal star:  
sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to th'e - ter - nal Three in One:



## REFRAIN



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.



# Contact Us

**Senior Pastor:** Neil Quinn  
Neil@gskalamazoo.org

**Associate Pastor:** Ryan Potter  
Ryan@gskalamazoo.org

**Admin Assistant:** Courtney Webb  
Admin@gskalamazoo.org

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**Nursery:** Stephanie Webb

**Fellowship Hour:** Laura  
Van Hofwegen

**Custodial Needs:** Heather Strefling

**Women's Ministry:** Leandra Quinn

**Men's Ministry:** Ryan Potter

**Campus Outreach:** Chase Smith

**Choir:** Luann LaRoy

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**Elders:**  
Greg Vanden Heuvel  
Nathan Van Hofwegen  
Steve DeVries

**Deacons:**  
Jacob Webb  
Rex Webb  
Sean O'Brien  
Deacons@gskalamazoo.org

## Announcements

- There will be a **congregational meeting** after the morning service on **1/29/23**.
- **Presbytery middle school retreat** on 1/13-15 and **high school** on 2/3-5, will be held at Cran Hill Ranch. Contact Ryan Potter for more information if interested.

## Financials

- Total Giving through Nov. (\$238,611)
- Total Expenses through Nov. (\$255,124)
- Welcome Home Contributions (\$38,721)

## Get Involved

- Join us after the service for our **Ask the Pastor** time where you can follow up on the sermon or ask other Bible and faith questions you may have.
- **Fellowship groups** meet every other week. Please contact Pastor Ryan if interested.
- **Senior and Junior High** students are invited to attend our weekly catechism class after service in the upstairs classrooms.
- **Young Adults** meet every Wednesday for fellowship and a sermon discussion.
- **Men's Bible Study** groups meet weekly in the morning and evening time slots.
- **Women's Bible Study** meets on alternating Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 pm in the church Fellowship Hall.
- **The choir** practices every Tuesday at 7pm.