



GOOD SHEPHERD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

DECEMBER 31, 2023

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

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

Preparatory Thought.....

For that which He has not assumed He has not healed; but that which is united to His Godhead is also saved. If only half Adam fell, then that which Christ assumes and saves may he half also; but if the whole of his nature fell, it must be united to the whole nature of Him that was begotten, and so be saved as a whole. - Gregory Nazianzus

Prelude.....

Welcome and Announcements.....

Praise

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.

Call to Worship*.....Psalm 111:1-3; 9-10

Leader: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name! The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

Prayer of Adoration*.....

Hymn #53*.....*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

*Please stand if able

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de -
 4. Praise to the Lord, who with mar - vel - ous wis - dom hath
 5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so
 • fend thee! Sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy here
 made thee, decked thee with health, and with lov - ing hand
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his
 • gent - ly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -
 dai - ly at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 guid - ed and stayed thee. How oft in grief hath not he
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near, join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 • sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y will do, if with his love he be - friend thee.
 brought thee re - lief, spread - ing his wings to o'er - shade thee!
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for - e'er we a - dore him.

Renewal

Corporate Confession of Faith.....Apostle's Creed

Congregation: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Corporate Prayer of Confession.....

Assurance of Pardon.....1 Timothy 1:15-16

Leader: The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

Offering/Hymn #402.....*Abide with Me: Fast Falls the Eventide*

Congregational Prayer.....

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.

Abide with Me: Fast Falls the Eventide

1. A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide; the dark - ness
2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day; earth's joys grow
3. I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour; what but thy
4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless: ills have no
5. Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes; shine through the

deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide: when oth - er help - ers fail, and
dim, its glo - ries pass a - way; change and de - cay in all a -
• grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r? Who like thy - self my guide and
weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness. Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy
gloom, and point me to the skies: heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain

com - forts flee, help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
round I see; O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
• stay can be? Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
vic - to - ry? I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
shad - ows flee: in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Amazing Grace!

Musical notation for the first system, featuring a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. Chord symbols above the staff include G, D7, Em, C, G, and D7.

1. A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that saved a wretch like me!
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears re - lieved;
3. Thro' man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al - read - y come;
4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his Word my hope se - cures;

Musical notation for the second system, featuring a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature. The bass line is written on a single staff. Chord symbols above the staff include C, G, and G.

Musical notation for the third system, featuring a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. Chord symbols above the staff include Em, G, D7, and G.

- I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 how pre - cious did that grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 he will my shield and por - tion be, as long as life en - dures.

Musical notation for the fourth system, featuring a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature. The bass line is written on a single staff. Chord symbols above the staff include D7 and G.

5. And when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
a life of joy and peace.
6. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.

St. 1–5, John Newton, 1779
 St. 6, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790
 CCLI#11365106

AMAZING GRACE C.M.
 Traditional American melody
 Arr. by Edwin O. Excell, 1900

*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 #460* *Amazing Grace!*

Prayer for Illumination.....

Sermon.....Evan Cruse

"Elect Exiles"

1 Peter 1:1-2 (p. 1014)

Response

Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

Hymn #32* *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Benediction*

Postlude.....

**To allow full participation for all members, the Lord's Supper is served with gluten free bread.

Sermon Outline

"Elect Exiles"

1 Peter 1:1-2 (p. 1014)

Big Idea— *He tells them who they are, which sets the stage throughout the book for telling them how to live.*

Introduction: Three Realities for the elect exiles

Reality 1: Placed There for a Reason

Reality 2: Kept by God

Reality 3: Grace and Peace is multiplied to them

Sermon Notes

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

D
G
A⁷
Dsus D
G

1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter and spring-time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear

D
A⁷
D
E
B⁷
E⁷
A
A⁷
D

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove, join with all na - ture in
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide, strength for to - day and bright

Em
D
Gmaj⁷
Em⁷
Bdim
D
A⁷
D

pas - sions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

REFRAIN

A
D
B⁷
Em
A⁷

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by

D
Bdim
A
E⁷
A
A⁷
D
Em
D

morn - ing new mer - cies I see: all I have need - ed thy hand hath pro -

G
Bdim
D
A⁷
D

vid - ed — Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Contact Us

Senior Pastor: Neil Quinn
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Associate Pastor: Ryan Potter
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Admin Assistant: Courtney Webb
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Nursery: Stephanie Webb

Fellowship Hour: Laura
Van Hofwegen

Custodial Needs: Jacob Webb

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

- Our choir is asking congregants to **consider joining the choir** for the spring semester (January through June). Anyone with questions may contact Luann.
- Our next **men's breakfast** will be held on **1/20** from **8-9:30am**.
- This spring semester, the **women's bible study** will be studying the book of Jude. Meetings will be held on alternate Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 or alternate Friday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30. Childcare will be available for the Friday morning study. Meetings begin on **January 25 & 26**.
- Our next congregational meeting will be held on **2/4** after the morning service.
- Presbytery-wide **retreats** for our **middle and high school students** will be held in **February**. More details and registration instructions will be announced when available. Please contact Pastor Ryan if you are interested in more information.

Financials

- Total Giving through Nov 2023 (\$284,617)
- Total Expenses through Nov 2023 (\$278,044)
- Welcome Home Fund (\$49,019)

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 regularly. Contact Pastor Ryan if you are interested in joining a group.
- **Seniors** meet in the fellowship hall on the first Friday of each month from 12pm-2pm. Contact Larry Warner if you have any questions.
- **Young Adults** meet every Wednesday for fellowship and a sermon discussion.
- **Men's Bible Study** groups meet weekly in the morning and evening.
- **Women's Bible Study** meets on alternating Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 pm and on alternating Friday mornings from 9:30-11:30 in the church Fellowship Hall.
- **The choir** meets every Tuesday evening from 7-8pm.