

GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

JANUARY 21, 2024

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 embarassing 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 livestream 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.....

The flesh is not merely weak with respect to the power of rebirth. It is utterly impotent. It has no power whatever to effect rebirth. It cannot aid or enhance the Spirit's work. All that the flesh yields is more flesh. It cannot yield an ounce of Spirit. The nothing is not a little something. - R.C. Sproul

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*.....Colossians 1:11-14

Leader: [May you be] strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you[<u>e</u>] to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Prayer of Adoration*.....

Hymn #92*..... A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



Based on Psalm 46 Martin Luther, 1529 Tr. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1853 EIN' FESTE BURG 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7. Martin Luther, 1529 CCLI#11365106 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......Mark 4:21-33 (p. 839)

Corporate Prayer of Confession.....

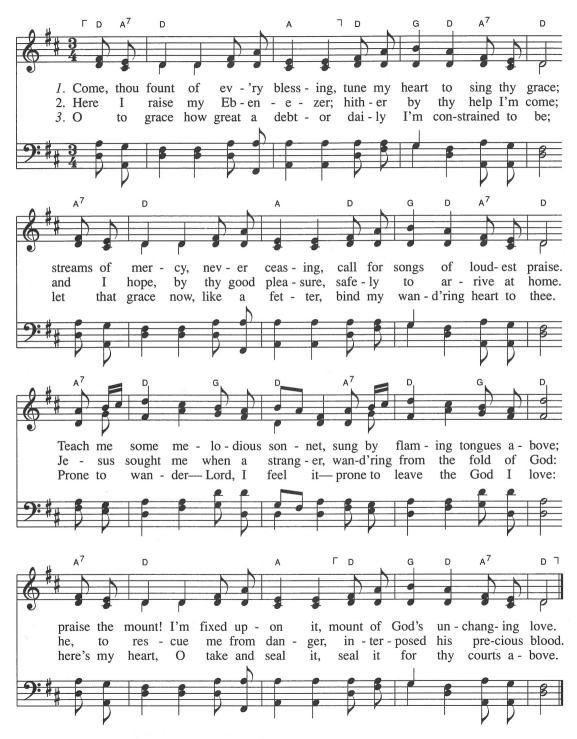
Assurance of Pardon.....Romans 8:31-34

Leader: What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Offering/Hymn #457.....Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Congregational Prayer.....

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



Robert Robinson, 1758 CCLI# 11365106 NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D. Asahel Nettleton, 1825

Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me



Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson

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Each week, we preach, verse by verse through books of the Bible so that we are	Song*Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me
instructed by the full counsel of God, rather than whatever the preacher deems most important.	Prayer for Illumination
	SermonRev. Neil Quinn
	"What Should I Do? – Be Baptized!" Acts 2:37–41 (p. 910)
	Response
We celebrate the Lord's Supper every week trusting that our Lord is truly,	Celebration of the Lord's Supper**
spiritually present nourishing His people. If you are a member of a local church, have been baptized, and	Song*Come to the Waters
believe that you are saved by grace through faith, then we welcome you to participate	Benediction*
with us.	Postlude

Proclamation

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

Sermon Outline

"What Should I Do? - Be Baptized!"

Acts 2:37-41 (p. 910)

<u>Big Idea</u>— Baptism is an act of obedience that confirms God's grace.

Introduction: The Second Answer

Four Questions:

1. What is baptism?

2. Why should we be baptized?

3. How should we be baptized?

4. Who should be baptized?

Conclusion: A Celebration of Christ's Triumph

Sermon Notes

Come to the Waters



MUSIC: Paul S. Jones, 2000 CCLI#11365106

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Contact Us

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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

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.
- 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 Dec 2023 (\$330,000)
- Total Expenses through Dec 2023 (\$329,632)
- Welcome Home Fund (\$44,206)

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 at 7pm.