

## SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY

Rev. Lester Wolfgram, Pastor

Rev. Justin Woodside, Pastor

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 24, 2023

Divine Service Setting One	LSB 151
Opening Hymn “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”	LSB 338
Hymn of the Day: “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”	LSB 358
Distribution: “Savior of The Nations, Come”	LSB 332
“What Child Is This”	LSB 370
Closing Hymn: “Joy to The World”	LSB 387

**WELCOME!!** We are glad that you have joined us this morning as we lift up our hearts and voices in response to God’s great gift of forgiveness and life in Christ Jesus. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book and introduce yourself to Pastor Les Wolfgram and Pastor Justin Woodside.

### **AT SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH,**

we celebrate the Lord’s Supper in the confidence that we receive, along with the bread and wine, our Savior’s true body and blood “through and in which we obtain the forgiveness of sins.” Besides individually receiving Christ’s free gift of forgiveness in this sacrament, all those who commune make a confession of the faith that we believe and teach in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. To commune at this altar is to accept the doctrinal position of this congregation. Because of that common confession, we invite those who are members at sister Missouri Synod Churches to join us at the Lord’s Table. If you would like more information on our understanding of the Lord’s Supper, please visit with Pastor Wolfgram or Pastor Woodside.

### **Introit**

*Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5–6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b*

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down  
| righteousness;\*

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may  
| bear fruit.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above  
proclaims his | handiwork.\*

In them he has set a tent | for the sun,  
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,\*  
and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the  
| end of them,\*

and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down  
| righteousness;\*

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may  
| bear fruit.

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by  
Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be  
quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and  
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now  
and forever.

**Amen.**



Shepherd of the Valley will host the Banquet at the Dream Center on Sunday, January 14. We will serve lunch from 11:45-1:00. We will also share Christ as we lead a worship service over the lunch hour for the roughly three hundred individuals as they enjoy the meal.

#WEGETTOSERVE The Dream Center is The Human Care Committee's 4th Quarter focus.

The Board of Elders is looking forward to meeting with the members of their group in January. You have been assigned an elder whose responsibility it is to assist Pastor Wolfgram and Pastor Woodside in caring for you. We will be offering three elder group visit evenings to present current ministry goals and opportunities and to address any questions or concerns that you may have. The meetings will be held January 10, 16, and 17 starting at 7:15. We plan to meet for less than an hour. You will receive an invitation from your elder in the coming weeks.



*Building Healthy Families: How has the fact that Jesus was born over 2000 years ago changed your life today? How would your life be different today if Jesus hadn't come? As a family, take time to read aloud the Christmas story (Luke 2) and engage them all in a discussion around these two questions. From the silly answer of a preschooler, to the shoulder shrug of a teenager, to the wise words shared by an older person, it will be interesting to see how each individual family member answers. Remember, even those who don't answer are still listening, and may remember this conversation for years to come! Extra points for anyone who has a Bible verse to support their answer! (...think John 12:46; John 18:37; 1 Timothy 1:15...) A Blessed Celebration of Jesus' Birth from your friends at Lutheran Family Service! [www.LutheranFamilyService.org](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org)*



Christmas Worship Schedule:

December 24 Morning Divine Service: 9:00 am  
 Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm  
 Christmas Day Service 9:00 am.

The 2024 ND District Men's Retreat is scheduled to take place January 12-13 at Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads. Rev. Dr. Heath Trampe, pastor at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Minot, will lead the conference based on Dr. Brad Alles' book, "Life's Big Questions, God's Big Answers."

The cost for the retreat is \$100.00 and includes three meals and sleeping accommodations at the camp.



MAIN STREET LIVING—LCMS TV Program—

Sunday Mornings @ 10 AM

KBMY Xtra / Bismarck Channel 17.3 Midco Channel 594

10:00 AM: worship service led by area pastors 10:30 AM:

"This Is The Life" program To watch these programs at any time and see upcoming schedules go to [www.mainstreetliving.com/north](http://www.mainstreetliving.com/north).

**Dec 24: Rev. Matthew Harrison**, President of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, presents the Christmas message. More information at [www.MainStreetLiving.com](http://www.MainStreetLiving.com). "This Is the Life" program: "Christmas on Main Street" - The Christmas message at a mission brings a grandson and his grandfather together.

**Dec 31: Rev. Philip Beyersdorf**, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Minot, ND, presents the message: "Impatient Assumptions" based on Luke 2:22-40. "This Is the Life" program: "Burden Made Light" - The housekeeper helps a family through the struggle of an increasingly sick child.



Soul 57 Youth Grief Support will be the focus for the Human Care for the first quarter of 2024 as one percent of our offerings will support them. A representative from Soul 57 will be present during the education hour on January 7 to tell us all about the care they provide for our community. Go to [www.soul57.org](http://www.soul57.org) to learn more.

We will take down the Christmas tree on Saturday, January 6, at 9:30.



A congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
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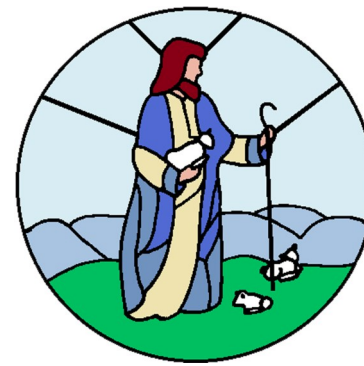


# Dec. 24- Jan. 6

Sunday      Mon      Tue      Wednesday      Thu      Fri      Saturday

24 <u>9:00am</u> Divine Service <u>6:00pm</u> Christmas Eve Service	25 <u>9:00am</u> Christmas Day Service	26	27 <u>6:00pm</u> Worship	28	29	30
31 <u>9:00am</u> Divine Service <u>10:30am</u> Education Hour	1	2	3 <u>6:00pm</u> Worship	4	5	6 <u>9:30am</u> Take down Christmas Tree

Shepherd of the Valley will offer AED training on Saturday, January 13 at 10:30 am. You are welcome to join us for this special training. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Sign up today.



Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

“A church family that shares, nurtures, and lives our faith in Christ”

Fourth Sunday in Advent  
December 24, 2023

THE WEEKLY FYI

**THOSE SERVING TODAY**

Preacher: Pastor Les Wolfgram  
 Liturgist: Pastor Les Wolfgram  
 Elder: Dick Dever  
 Accompanist: Denise Wolfgram  
 Acolyte: Olivia D.

**Worship Times**  
**6:00 PM Every Wednesday**  
**9:00 am Sunday Divine Service (livestream)**  
**10:30 am Education Hour**

**Stewardship Thought**

Luke 2:12 – “And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” Truly, as St. Paul said, He who was rich for our sakes became poor. The King was laid in a manger, no crib for His bed! There in the manger is the very picture of self-giving generosity.

Luke 2:10-12

<sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."



Sun: Is. 60:1-22; Luke 1:39-56  
 Mon: Is. 61:1-11; Luke 1:57-80  
 Tue: Is. 62:1-12; Luke 2:1-20  
 Wed: Is. 63:1-14; Luke 2:21-40  
 Thu: Is. 63:15-65:2; Luke 2:41-52  
 Fri: Is. 65:8-25; Luke 3:1-20  
 Sat: Is. 66:1-20; Luke 3:21-38

