

The Church of the Good Shepherd



Epiphany Sunday

January 4, 2026

We Welcome Our Guests

The Good Shepherd faith community welcomes those who are visitors. Your presence and participation in our worship service is a blessing to us all. All are welcome, whoever you are, just as you are!

At The Church of the Good Shepherd, we do not pass a collection plate during our Services. Please place your pledge payments or donations, in support of the ministries of the church, in the offering boxes located at the entrances of the Church. You may do this either before or after the Service. Thank you for your financial support, which allows the message of God's love and acceptance to shine forth through the ministries and services of our Good Shepherd community.

Good Shepherd's Sunday School

Sunday School is held during the first half of our 10am Sunday Service, on the first and third Sunday of the month. All Sunday School volunteers have undergone CORI background checks and received training, including the Safe Church training required by the Episcopal Church for all those who work with children.

Good Shepherd's Sunday Nursery

Children of all ages are always welcome at our Sunday Services. Good Shepherd operates a nursery on Sunday from 9:50 –11:10am for infants and children through kindergarten (age 5-6) for those who wish to use it. The nursery is staffed by two adults who have completed Safe Church Training and a CORI background check.

For more information about our Good Shepherd Community please go to our website at www.goodshepherdwareham.org or scan the QR Code here.



Again, thank you for blessing us with your presence and participation this morning!

ASSISTING MINISTERS			
January 4, 2026		January 11, 2026	
8AM	10AM	8AM	10AM
<u>READERS:</u> JOELLA CRUZ	<u>READERS:</u> SCOOTER HOLCOMBE S.G. PRESTON	<u>READERS:</u> CHUCK MCCULLOUGH	<u>READERS:</u> JUDY GOVON JAN BARTON
<u>HOSPITALITY MINISTER:</u> CHUCK MCCULLOUGH	<u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> PAT PROBERT & SCOOTER HOLCOMBE	<u>HOSPITALITY MINISTER:</u> MIKE ALFOSNO	<u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> DANANNA & BECKY HANSEN
<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> CHERYL DENTON	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> SHERYL FACCHETTI	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> JOELLA CRUZ	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> KATHY DOYLE
	<u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> ALLY PRESTON & JOELLA CRUZ		<u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> DANANNA & BECKY HANSEN
	<u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S):</u> SCOOTER HOLCOMBE & KAREN CLARK		<u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S):</u> LINDA MATONDI & KERRI GALLAGHER THEEDEAU



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Gathering Song *(10am Service)*

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”
(please stand as you are able)

(see page 10)

The Opening Acclamation

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.**

The Service Introduction

The Confession

People:

**Most merciful God,
we confess of the ways we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**For the times we have not loved you with our whole heart;
and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

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.*

Absolution

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you 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. ***Amen.***

The Opening Prayer

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Together, let us pray.

**O God our redeemer,
you created light that we might live,
and you illumine our world with your beloved Son.
By your Spirit comfort us in all darkness,
and turn us toward the light of Jesus Christ our Savior,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. *Amen.***

(please be seated)

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Reader: Let us recite Psalm 72 responsively by half verse

- ¹ Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- ² That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- ³ That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- ⁴ He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- ⁵ He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- ⁶ He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- ¹⁰ The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- ¹¹ All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
- ¹² For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- ¹³ He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- ¹⁴ He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

REFRAIN *(please stand as you are able)*

You are the light of the world! You are the light of the world!
 world! Let your light shine for all to see!
 You are the light of the world! _____

Paul A. Tate
 Text and music © 1997, WLP

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
 are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
 for from you shall come a ruler
 who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Gospel Acclamation (10AM Service)

Repeat Gospel Acclamation Refrain once (page 4)

The Message (please be seated)

The Prayers of the People (please stand as you are able)

Leader: God in your love for us.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Let us take a moment to turn and share a sign of peace with those around us. If you do not wish to shake hands, simply fold your hands in front of you and say, "Peace be with you." We will then pray together the Prayer of St. Francis.

The Prayer of St. Francis

Presider and People:

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Announcements *(please be seated)*

Our Sunday Offerings:

At The Church of the Good Shepherd, we do not pass a collection plate during our Sunday Services. You may place your pledge payment or donation, in support of the ministries of the church, in the offering boxes located at the entrances of the Church. You may do this either before or after the Service. There are offering envelopes in the book racks at the center of each pew, if you prefer to use an envelope. Thank you for your financial support, which allows the message of God's love and acceptance to shine forth through the ministries and services of our Good Shepherd community.

The Offertory Anthem:
(10AM Service)

"Home By Another Way"

WORSHIPcast License #15291
James Taylor



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

(please stand as you are able)

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

The Words of Praise

Presider and People:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

The Memorial Acclamation

Presider & People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider and 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

Presider: We who break this bread, share in the Body of Christ.

People: **We who are many are one body in Christ.**

Communion

All are invited to receive communion, no exceptions. Please come to the front of the church as directed by the hospitality minister. To receive the communion bread, please extend your hands, one on top of the other, with your palms up. To receive from the communion cup you may dip the communion wafer into the wine in the cup or take the cup into your hands and drink from it. The response to receiving communion is "Amen". If you need to have communion brought to you, please inform the hospitality minister. Gluten free wafers are available. If you would like a gluten free wafer, please inform the priest when you come up for communion.

(please be seated after receiving communion)

Communion Song:

"In The Bleak Midwinter"

(see page 11)

(10AM Service)

The Prayer after Communion

(please stand as you are able)

Presider: Together let us pray.

Presider and People:

**God of unbounded love and compassion,
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
May this time of worship transform our hearts,
as we go forth to proclaim in word and deed
your message of love;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Dismissal

People's Response: **Thanks be to God.**

The Concluding Song:

"The First Noel"

(see page 9)

(10AM Service)

"The First Noel"

One License #A-711854

Verses



1. The first No - well, the an - gel did say,
2. They look - ed up and saw ___ a star
3. And by the light of that ___ same star



1. Was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
2. Shin - ing in ___ the east, ___ be - yond ___ them far;
3. Three ___ wise ___ men came ___ from coun - try far;



1. In fields where _ they lay keep - ing their sheep,
2. And to the ___ earth it gave ___ great light,
3. To seek for a king was their ___ in - tent,



1. On a cold win - ter's night ___ that was ___ so deep.
2. And ___ so it con - tin - ued both day ___ and night.
3. And to fol - low the star ___ wher - ev - er it went.

Refrain



No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,



Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: Irregular with refrain; trad. English Carol, 17th cent.; verse 6, alt. Music: Trad. English Carol, 17th cent.



1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2. Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch-ing o'er your
3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, Bright-er vi - sions



1. all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
2. flocks by night, God on earth is now re - sid - ing;
3. beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of Na - tions,



1. Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 2. Yon - der shines the in - fant light:
 3. Ye have seen his na - tal star:
- } Come and wor-ship,



- 1-3. come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text: 87 87 87; verses 1–3, James Montgomery, 1771–1854; verse 4, *Christmas Box*, 1825;
verse 5, *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857. Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879.

"In The Bleak Midwinter"

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1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, Frost - y wind made moan,
2. Our God, heav'n can - not hold him, Nor earth sus - tain;
3. An - gels and arch - an - gels May have gath - ered there,
4. What can I give him, Poor as I am?



Earth stood hard as i - ron, Wa - ter like a stone;
 Heav'n and earth shall flee a - way When he comes to reign;
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim Thronged the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;



Snow had fall - en, snow on snow, Snow on snow,
 In the bleak mid - win - ter A sta - ble place suf - ficed The
 But his moth - er on - ly, In her maid - en bliss,
 If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet



In the bleak mid - win - ter, Long a - go.
 Lord God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
 Wor-shipped the be - lov - ed With a kiss.
 what I can I give him— Give my heart.

Text: Christina Rossetti, 1830–1894, alt.

Tune: CRANHAM, Irregular; Gustav T. Holst, 1874–1934



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