

# The Church of the Good Shepherd



The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas

December 28, 2025



## 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. ***The Sunday Nursery will be closed on December 21 & 28, due to the Christmas holiday.***

For more information about our Good Shepherd Community please go to our website at [www.goodshepherdwareham.org](http://www.goodshepherdwareham.org) or scan the QR Code here.



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

ASSISTING MINISTERS			
December 28, 2025		January 4, 2026	
8AM	10AM	8AM	10AM
<u>READERS:</u> KAREN CLARK  <u>HOSPITALITY MINISTER:</u> RICH SOUZA  <u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> MICHELLE MURRAY	<u>READERS:</u> RICHELIS JEANNIMAN  <u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> JUDY GOVON & RICHEL BALANCA  <u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> DALE WINTERS  <u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> NO NURSERY  <u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S):</u> JAN BARTON	<u>READERS:</u> JOELLA CRUZ  <u>HOSPITALITY MINISTER:</u> CHUCK MCCULLOUGH  <u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> CHERYL DENTON	<u>READERS:</u> SCOOTER HOLCOMBEE S.G. PRESTON  <u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> PAT PROBERT & SCOOTER HOLCOMBEE  <u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> SHERYL FACCHETTI  <u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> ALLEY PRESTON & JOELLA CRUZ  <u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S):</u> TED



## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**The Gathering Song**  
*(10am Service)*

**“Hark The Herald Angels Sing”**  
*(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 Lord God,  
you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers.  
As you protected the infant Jesus,  
so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, Now and forever. *Amen.***

*(please be seated)*

## First Reading: Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 147:1-21

*Reader:* Let us recite Psalm 147 responsively by half verse

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*

**how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!**

<sup>2</sup> The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; \*

**he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

<sup>3</sup> He heals the brokenhearted \*

**and binds up their wounds.**

- 4 He counts the number of the stars \*  
**and calls them all by their names.**
- 5 Great is our LORD and mighty in power; \*  
**there is no limit to his wisdom.**
- 6 The LORD lifts up the lowly, \*  
**but casts the wicked to the ground.**
- 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; \*  
**make music to our God upon the harp.**
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds \*  
**and prepares rain for the earth;**
- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
**and green plants to serve mankind.**
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds \*  
**and for the young ravens when they cry.**
- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
**he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;**
- 12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, \*  
**in those who await his gracious favor.**
- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \*  
**praise your God, O Zion;**
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
**he has blessed your children within you.**
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
**he satisfies you with the finest wheat.**
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
**and his word runs very swiftly.**
- 17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
**he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.**
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
**who can stand against his cold?**
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
**he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.**
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
**his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
**to them he has not revealed his judgments.**  
**Hallelujah!**

## The Gospel Acclamation:

"Christmastime Alleluia"

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*(please stand as you are able)*



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## The Holy Gospel: John 1:1-18

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me

because he was before me."") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*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 Song:**                      "Christ Our Light Has Come"                      *(see page 11)*  
*(10AM Service)*



# **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: (10AM Service)**

"Jesus, Be Born In Us"

*(see page 12)*

"Good King Wenceslas"

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traditional, arr. Kingsmore

## **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: "Go Tell It On The Mountain"** *(10AM Service)*

*(see page 9)*

One License #A-711854

Text: 76 76 with refrain; John W. Work, Jr., 1872–1925, alt.; from *American Negro Songs and Spirituals*, 1940.  
Music: Spiritual.

# "Hark The Herald Angels Sing"

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1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing,  
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored;  
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace!



"Glo - ry to the new - born King! Peace on earth and  
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Late in time be -  
Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness! Light and life to



mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no



of the skies; with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim,  
De - i - ty, pleased as man with us to dwell,  
more may die, born to raise us from the earth,



"Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!" Hark! The her - ald  
Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el. Hark! The her - ald  
born to give us sec - ond birth. Hark! The her - ald



an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"  
an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"  
an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

# "Christ Our Light Has Come"

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Verses

1. Still, come be still; let us hear the proph-ets call - ing.
2. Peace, there is peace; for new hope to - day is dawn - ing.
3. Here in this place let us stand in awe and won - der.



1. Still, come be still; let us hear the an - gels sing. For true
2. Peace, there is peace; come be-hold the face of God. In a
3. Here in this place we be-hold the mys-ter - y. For the



1. light has ar-rived to il - lu-mine our lives so of - ten be-
2. prom-ise ful-filled now his love is re-vealed; all heav-en and
3. mes-sage goes out; there is no room for doubt: the child now



1. set by the dark - ness. We find who we are in the
2. earth are re-joic - ing. Put a way all your fear for our
3. laid in a man - ger; true God and true man, now re -



1. light of the star on the way to our jour-ney's end.
2. path now is clear on the way to our jour-ney's end.
3. veal-ing the plan, 7 the way to our jour-ney's end.



Refrain

Cast a-side all your fear and dread, come fol-low the light to



Beth - le-hem. The way of sal-va-tion re-vealed to all:



Christ our light has come, Christ our light has come.

# "Jesus, Be Born In Us"

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## Verses



1. Come to the man - ger; come see the Ho - ly One.
2. Je - sus, we fol - low you, fol - low the star that shines.
3. Je - sus, be born in us, born in our hearts, we pray.



1. Here is our Sav - ior, sleep - ing in Ma - ry's arms.
2. We will not fear the dark; you are the light from light.
3. We have made room for you; love has pre - pared the way.

## Refrain



Wel - come, O Lamb of God, the child to show us the way.

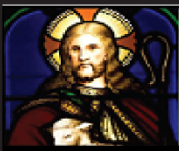


Sav - ior and gift of love, be born in us to - day;



be born in us to - day.

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**Wed. 9AM – 1PM Thurs. 9AM – 1PM**



Church of the Good Shepherd Wareham