

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**120 West Gano Chance Road**  
**Centralia, Missouri 65240**  
**First Sunday in Advent**  
**November 30, 2025**  
**Theme: Who Is This Man?**

**AS WE GATHER**

Today is not only the First Sunday in Advent but also the commemoration of St. Andrew, whose day governs the start of Advent. In this way, Andrew continues to point to Christ as we begin a new Church Year. How odd it is, then, that the Gospel for the First Sunday in Advent is the same as the Gospel for Palm Sunday! This reminds us that Jesus came for the cross and empty tomb, and this is the only Gospel that can save us from sin and death. In order to enjoy the fruits of His redeeming work, we must be able to answer “Who is this?” (Matthew 21:10). This question of the crowd also becomes a question for us as we enter into Advent and a new Church Year. We marvel at this man, also true God, who is born among us in flesh and blood, who suffers and dies to win salvation for us, and who will come in His glory to bring all things to their perfect consummation and bliss.

**WELCOME**

**Pastor James Lanning**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN – “Hark the Glad Sound”**

**LSB 349**

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**      *Romans 13:12; Philippians 1:6*

Pastor: The night is far gone; the day is at hand.

**People: So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.**

*Silence for self-examination.*

Pastor: Holy and gracious God,

**People: I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

**People: Amen.**

**INTROIT**

*Psalm 118:25-28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b*

Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he,

**humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

Save us, we pray, O LORD!

**O LORD, we pray, give us success!**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

**We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

The LORD is God,

**and he has made his light to shine upon us.**

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,

**up to the horns of the altar!**

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

**you are my God; I will extol you.**

Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he,

**humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

## **KYRIE**

Pastor: Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

**People: Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

Pastor: For peace in our hearts, for peace in the church, and for peace in the world, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

Pastor: For mercy to forgive all our sins, for mercy to forgive the sins of one another, and for mercy for all those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

Pastor: For grace to rule our unruly wills, for grace to prepare to receive the Lord in His Word and Supper, and for grace to be found faithful when He comes at the end of all time, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

Pastor: For hope to preserve us from despair, for hope to bear cheerful witness to Christ before the world, and for hope to sustain us in the hour of trial, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

## **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Isaiah 2:1–5*

Lector: Curt Nadler

(“Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.”)

**2** The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. <sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

Psalm 122; antiphon: v. 6

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

**“May they be secure who love you!**

I was glad when they said to me,

**“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”**

<sup>2</sup> Our feet have been standing

**within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

<sup>3</sup> Jerusalem—built as a city

**that is bound firmly together,**

<sup>4</sup> to which the tribes go up,

**the tribes of the LORD,**

as was decreed for Israel,

**to give thanks to the name of the LORD.**

<sup>5</sup> There thrones for judgment were set,

**the thrones of the house of David.**

<sup>6</sup> Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

**“May they be secure who love you!**

<sup>7</sup> Peace be within your walls

**and security within your towers!”**

<sup>8</sup> For my brothers and companions' sake

**I will say, “Peace be within you!”**

<sup>9</sup> For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,

**I will seek your good.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

**“May they be secure who love you!**

**EPISTLE READING – Romans 13:(8-10) 11-14**

**Lector: Curt Nadler**

**(“Put on the armor of light.”)**

<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup> Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE *Psalm 24:7***

Pastor: Alleluia.

**People: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

Pastor: Alleluia.

## **HOLY GOSPEL**                      *Matthew 21:1-11*

(Rejoice, Jerusalem, for Your Lord comes to You.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty first chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

21 Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me.” <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, <sup>5</sup>“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’” <sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. <sup>7</sup>They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” <sup>10</sup>And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup>And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. The third he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

**SERMON HYMN – “Savior of the Nations, Come”**

**LSB 332**

**MESSAGE – “Hope is Kindled”**

**Pastor James Lanning**

**OFFERING HYMN “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”**

**LSB 348**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray on behalf of the world, those with special need, and for all the faithful.

*Silence for prayer and meditation.*

Pastor: That we may depart from the ways of the wicked and manifest in word and deed our faith in His Word and our delight in His will, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: That we may resist the temptation to despair in time of trouble and manifest a joyful heart and hope in all circumstances of this mortal life, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: That we may enjoy the gift of good government, wise and faithful leaders, and peace among the nations, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: That those who suffer in any want or need—the sick, grieving, and those troubled in mind

or soul—may be granted healing and comfort, [*especially . . .*], and that all may be preserved in faith and holiness to the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: That we may be united in doctrine and life and that in the unity of this Table all who here receive the Sacrament may be granted discernment of Christ's body and blood and faith to receive this communion to their benefit, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Additional petitions may be inserted here.*

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**LORD'S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9-13*

**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 forever and ever. Amen.**

## **BENEDICAMUS**

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN – “Jerusalem, My Happy Home”**

**LSB 673**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1.

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## **NEXT SUNDAY**

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. **“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”** led by Pastor Lanning

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

**BIRTHDAYS – Curt Nadler** - November 30<sup>th</sup>; **Brittany Gorczyca** – December 1<sup>st</sup>;

**Martha Sydow** – December 3; **Barbara Fischer** – December 5th

**ANNIVERSARIES – No anniversaries this next week**

## **DECEMBER EVENTS**

**12.02 Elders Meeting-7 pm**

**12.03 Advent Midweek 1 Dinner-6/Service-7 pm**

**12.08 Angel Tree gifts due**

**12.09 Heritage Hall-10 am**

**12.10 Advent Midweek 2 Dinner-6/Service-7 pm**

**12.13 Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal**

**12.14 Children's Christmas Program**

**12.14 Women's Guild Turkey Dinner**

**12.16 Worship Committee-4:30 pm**

**12.17 Advent Midweek 3 Dinner-6 /Service-7 pm**

**12.24 Christmas Eve Dinner-5:30 pm**

**12.24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service-7 pm**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Looking for 1-3 men to assist with the lay reader schedule. Please see Catherine if you will help with this.**

**CENTRALIA CHAMBER ANGEL TREE** – items are due **December 8<sup>th</sup>** for delivery to the Chamber on December 9<sup>th</sup>. This is earlier than previous years as certain participants wanted to shop during Black Friday for their family.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** – will be **December 14<sup>th</sup>** during the worship service. Kim Rainey or Donna Hoek will advise of rehearsal dates and times.

**The Women's Guild** will host a turkey dinner in the fellowship hall following the Children's Christmas Program. **Turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, and rolls will be provided.** Requested additions to the meal are *vegetables, salads, and desserts.*

**CHRISTMAS TREAT BAGS** – donations for the children's Christmas Treat bags can be put in the offering plate or given to Donna, Jon, or Katie Hoek. If you put it in the offering plate, please mark the envelope Christmas Treat Bags.

**The Midweek Advent Dinners will be"**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> with Seider Family hosting and the menu will be Chicken Nuggets**

**December 10<sup>th</sup> with Hoek Family hosting and the menu will be Lasagna**

**December 17<sup>th</sup> with Pastor and Hannah hosting and the menu will be Ziti Bake**

*Please bring side dishes, salads, and/or desserts to share with the above meals.*

**On December 24<sup>th</sup> Randy and Catherine will host "Fuel Your Body, Feed Your Soul" – food service will start at 5:30 pm. Pizza or Beefy Queso Dip with tortilla chips will be served. If you know of any in the community who will be alone on Christmas Eve, please invite them to come and share a meal with us. (Serving will end at 6:15 to allow ample time for clean-up and preparation for the candlelight service)**

**LUTHERAN FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES TREE** – will remain in the narthex until January 2026.

**The Nominating Committee** – is seeking individuals to be considered for the following offices: Elder, President, Trustee, Recording Secretary and Financial Secretary. Please consider serving the church by running for one of these offices. If you have questions or are interested please contact Jeff Jaeger, Ann Seider or Randy Simmons.

**Service Opportunities** - At our recent voters meeting, a sign-up sheet was shared in which church members could volunteer to lead (or work at) one of the numerous service opportunities supported by Good Shepherd during the year. Some people signed up to volunteer, and that paper is posted on the narthex bulletin board. There are still several events needing help and leadership. Please consider if you can help with one of these events or assist with one of the other events that people have volunteered to lead.

## SAVE THE DATE

**Trivia Night** is scheduled for January 24, 2026. Doors open at 5, games will start at 6 p.m. The proceeds will be used to provide "Summer Lunch at the City Square" for the children in Centralia.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

**Christina Gronefeld and her family** – Christina will be starting her internship in January 2026 and will be quite a distance from home; **Those facing changes in living circumstances** - moving to an extended care facility; **Vivian Diener**–recovering from surgery; **Patti Martinez**–breast cancer; **Dan Keil** (Norma Keil’s son)–burns to hands and face; **Prayers for those with health issues; prayers for caretakers; Bob Maseman**–thyroid cancer treatment (Judy’s brother in law and Steve’s uncle); **Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan**–recovering; **Cammie Cunningham (Olivia Hoek’s mother)**–cancer treatments; **Christ Lutheran School, Perry, GA**–facing financial challenges; **Those affected by the flooding in Texas; Lynn Lake and the other communities affected by the wildfires in Canada; Skip Elkin**–health issues; **Reverend Tim and Erin Schulte**; those grieving recent loss of family or friends; **Terry Plank**–undergoing chemo treatments; **Mike Hyde**–recovering from hip fracture; **Tammy Morgan**–(Sherry Morse’s daughter) – health issues; **Christina DeJesus**–health issues; **Brenda Belt** (Henry Rainey’s sister) –Stage IV Cancer; **Grace**–health issues (friend of Hannah Lanning); **Steve Buckert**–recovering; **Jenni Murray**–Margaret Parker’s daughter–recovering; **Ron Borgman; Dick St. John**–Brenda Moss’s father–health issues; **Kim & Terry Decker**–health issues; **Ed & Ernestine Ramsey; Judy Mahieu; Kyle Lutz**–recovering from kidney/pancreas transplant; **Bonnie Berthelsen; Mark Ramsey; Calvin Stemme**–treatment for cancer; **Julia Rainey; Jane St. John; Dennis & Jackie Nadler; Susan Harris; Wayne Nolan**–stepfather of Jeff Jaeger; **Michelle Smith**–daughter of Jane St John; **Arla Benskin**–daughter of Mary Brechler.

### **Missionaries - MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term)**

**Community Prayers: Father Mike Coleman; Evie Ross**–infant needs heart transplant; **David**–health issues; **Bernie Ryan** – health issues; **Charlene**–esophageal cancer; **Shelley R.**–melanoma; **Geri Ward**–health issues; **Gerry Southard**–health issues, **Kim Smith**–health issues.

**ARMED FORCES: Veterans of Armed Services** – especially those suffering from PTSD and anxiety; **Christopher Thompson**, U. S. Navy – cousin of Hannah Lanning; **Brandon Lowery**, U.S. Navy–brother of Rachel Rojas; **Donevin Leonard**, U.S. Marine Corps–grandson of Russell & Jacki Stelzer; **Chris Chism**, U.S. Navy–son of Vickie & Eric Chism; grandson of Barbara Fischer; **Brittany Macklin**–great-niece of Ernestine Ramsey; Community: **Ray Finlay**, U.S. Army

## Welcome and Prayer Request Cards

Please place any prayer request cards in the offering plate when it comes around. The ushers will give them to the pastor. Please complete the welcome card and leave it at the end of your pew. Thank you.

### **Church Directory**

**Pastor James Lanning** (512) 968-4587,

**Email:** [pastorlanning@goodshepherdcentralia.org](mailto:pastorlanning@goodshepherdcentralia.org)

**Church office:** (573) 682-3941,

hours: 8am-1pm M & Th; 11 am – 4 pm T-W

**Email:** [office@goodshepherdcentralia.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdcentralia.org)

**Church Updates:** [www.goodshepherd.churchupdates.org](http://www.goodshepherd.churchupdates.org)

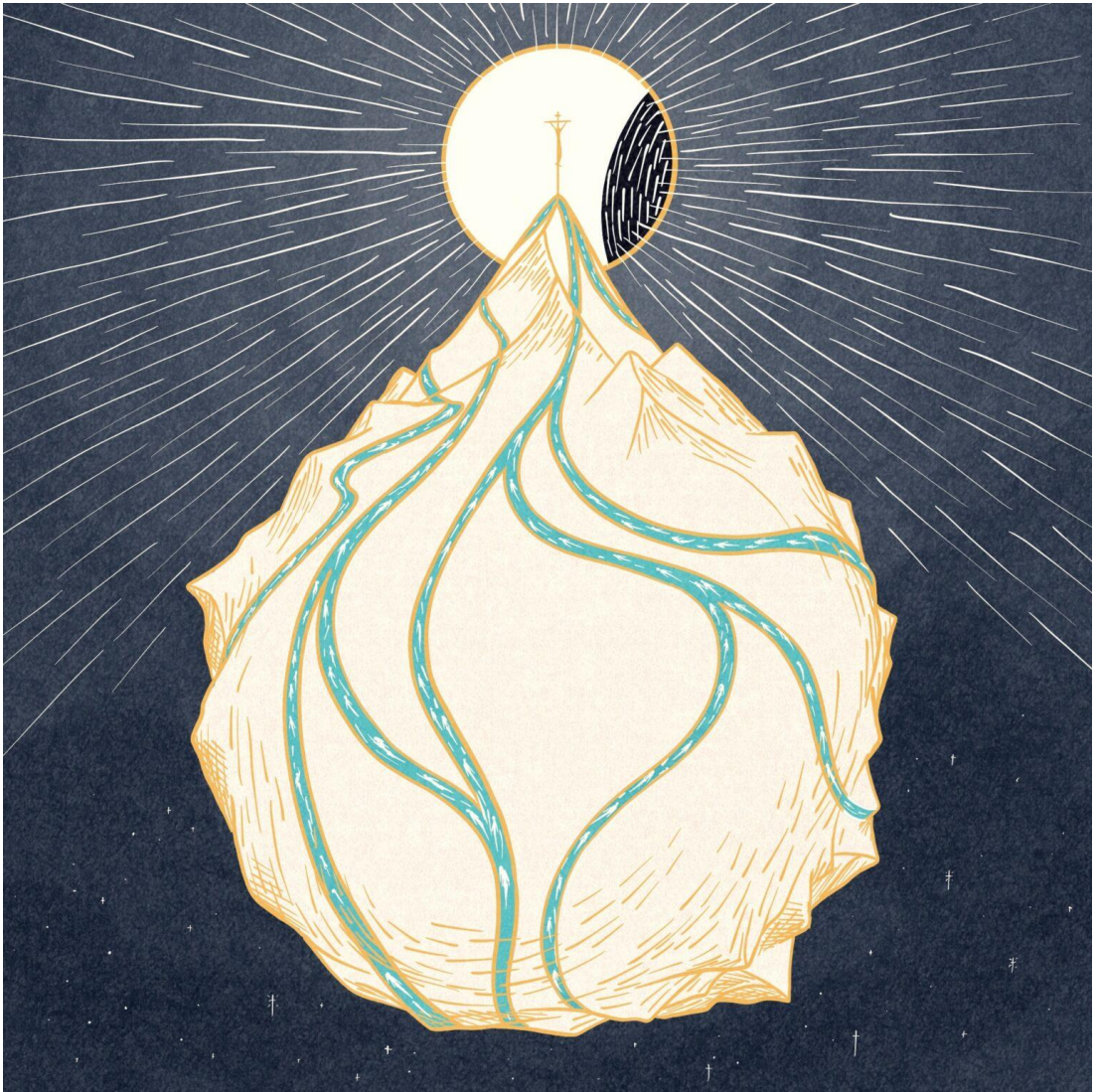
**Website:** [www.goodshepherdcentralia.org](http://www.goodshepherdcentralia.org)

### **Elders:**

Jeff Jaeger (573) 682-0902

Gary Seider (573) 489-6629

Mark Nygren (763) 274-4308



*Isaiah 2:2, "It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of YHWH shall be established as the highest of the mountains...and the nations shall flow to it."*