



**December 22, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.**

## **The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd**

108 West Broad Ave + Berlin, NJ 08009

*A Mission in the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey.*

***Where Love Abounds and Hope is Found!***

**Our Vision:** *To be a faithful and growing Church that connects people to Jesus Christ.*

**Our Mission:** *To know Christ more fully,  
To love and serve Him more faithfully,  
To make Him better known to others.*

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Please silence or turn off your cell phones for the duration of the service and prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

## **THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

**Processional Hymn** (1982 Hymnal #56, Verse 7) “*O Come,  
O Come,  
Emmanuel*”

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **ADVENT WREATH LITURGY**

*Celebrant* Come and save us, O God of hosts.

***People* Come and save us, O God of hosts.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Holy God, whose Word was incarnate in Mary, and whose message was proclaimed by John, give us grace to know and follow our Savior, that we may throw off the works of darkness and seek the justice, mercy, and peace of that holy light; teach us to know Christ and to help all people to follow the Light of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A Woman* When all was in darkness and the people of God were in expectation, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

***People* To noise and strife – the Word came.**

**To darkness and evil – the Light came.**

**To hate and hurt – Love Incarnated came.**

**In fulfillment and glory – Christ will come again.**

*The woman lights the four candles for the Fourth Sunday of Advent.*

*A Woman* And so shall Christ come again in power and great glory, a light to disclose all hidden things to open the secrets of all hearts.

**People**            **The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Hymn** (1982 Hymnal #56 – Verse 8)            *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

**Opening Acclamation**            *Please remain standing as you are able.*



Bless the            Lord who for - gives all our sins.



His mer - cy en-dures for ev - er.

### **Collect for Purity**

*The Celebrant may say:*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant:*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

***Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.***

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, 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**

*Celebrant:*

Almighty God have mercy on you, ✠ forgive you all 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.**

**Kyrie** (*sung together, all standing as you are able*)

**Lord Have Mercy**  
(Songs For Worship No. 3)

JOHN MICHAEL TALBOT

Slowly

Am Am/G F G Am Am/G

Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have

F G Am Am/G F E

mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.

F G A(sus) A F G A(sus) A

Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.

F G E Am E Am Am/G

Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have

F G Am Am/G F G (no 3rd) Am

mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Have mer - cy.

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## **The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*          **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the readings.*

**The First Lesson** (Micah 5:2-5)

Kaydiann Sangster

*A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah.*

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
    who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
    one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
    from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
    when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
    to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of  
    the LORD,

    in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
    to the ends of the earth;

and he shall be the one of peace.

*Reader*          The Word of the Lord.

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

**Canticle 15** (The Song of Mary) *(read responsively by verse)*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices  
in God my Savior; \* for he has looked with favor on his  
lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed: \* the  
Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his  
Name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him \* in every generation.

**He has shown the strength of his arm, \* he has scattered  
the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \* and has  
lifted up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things, \* and the rich he  
has sent away empty.**

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \* for he has  
remembered his promise of mercy,

**The promise he made to our fathers, \* to Abraham and his  
children for ever.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as  
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for  
ever. *Amen.*

**The Second Lesson** (Hebrews 10:5-10)

Denise King

*A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.*

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;  
in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will,  
O God'  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

### The Advent Gospel Acclamation

David Haas

*Please stand as you are able.*

Refrain: 1st time: Cantor, All repeat; thereafter: All

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

\*Verse 1  
Cantor 3

1. You are the joy of ev-'ry hu-man heart,  
1. king of all the na-tions. Lord Je-sus, come!

### The Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39-55

*Deacon*            The ☩ Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
                         according to *Luke*.

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his  
servant.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call  
me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of  
their hearts.  
He has brought down the powerful from their  
thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;  
he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.  
He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

*Deacon*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Homily**

Fr. Russell A. Griffin, SSC



**The Nicene Creed**     *(Please stand as you are able: all say together)*

***We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.***

***Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.***

***For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.***

***We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection ☩ of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.***

**Prayers of the People**

Dcn. Bruce Cecchini

*The Celebrant says:*

*For the salvation of the world, Christ came to do His Father's will. In her trust in God, Our Blessed Lady conformed herself to that same will. Let us unite in prayer accepting the will of our Father as we pray, Lord, have mercy.*

*Deacon and people read responsively:*

That Christ, obedient to His Father, may guide all members of the Church to trust in God's promises.

*Silence*

Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

That Christ our peace may silence the thunder of strife and war at this time.

*Silence*

Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

That Christ, who lived so humbly among us, may draw us closer to the poor, the lonely and the neglected at this upcoming Christmas season.

*Silence*

Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

That Christ, blessed fruit of the Virgin's womb, may teach us to love and honor His Mother in our homes and at work.

*Silence*

Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

That the prayers of this our community may reach to heaven as we pray for, especially:

- Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Sally, our Bishop; Francis, the Bishop of Rome; Bartholomew, the Patriarch of Constantinople.
- Joe, our President; Donald, our President-elect; Phil, our Governor; and Rick, our Mayor.
- All Missionaries throughout the world.
- The persecuted Church throughout the world.
- Our troops serving at home and abroad.
- All expectant mothers and their unborn children.
- All those who are sick and suffering, *especially Brandon Neives, James Wright, Richard and William Luebberman.*
- The victims of crime in our communities.

- The victims of natural and environmental disasters, *especially those of the Vanuatu Earthquake.*
- Those nations engaged in wars and suffering from the devastation in the wake of conflicts.
- Our family and friends celebrating birthdays, *especially George Gainer, III, Carol Abrams, Daysia McCaully, Jack Gainer, and Paige Gainer.*
- For our absent brothers and sisters.

*The people are invited to add their own intercessions either silently or aloud.*

*- Silence -*

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

That Christ the Shepherd of His people may bring the departed into His Kingdom, *especially [N].*

*Silence*

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy**

*Let us pray together for the Good Shepherd Church Family:*

**Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for the Church family of Good Shepherd. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant:*

*Almighty God, whom the heavens cannot contain, you have chosen as your tabernacle the womb of Mary, the Virgin of Nazareth. May our prayers extend His Kingdom of mercy, peace and justice. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### **General Prayer for Comfort and Healing**

*(please come forward to the altar rail if you are interested).*

**The Peace**      *Please stand as you are able.*

*Celebrant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**

### **Announcements**

- **Upcoming Services:**
  - **Christmas Eve**, Tuesday, December 24 at 5 p.m.
  - **Christmas Day**, Wednesday, December 25 at 9 a.m. (no music)
  - **The Holy Name**, Wednesday, January 1 at 9 a.m. (no music)
  - **The Epiphany**, Monday, January 6, at 9a.m. (no music)
- **Christmas Party Potluck, today immediately after service**, in the Fellowship Hall. **Polo shirts** will be distributed today.
- **Nomination Forms** available in the back for the open positions on the Mission Committee to be filled at our Annual Meeting in January. **Deadline** to submit completed forms is **next Sunday**.
- We are looking for someone with **Finance/Accounting Background**. If you are or know someone, please see me (Kevin), or e-mail (warden@goodshepherdberlin.com), or text or call me at 856.313.4607.
- **Sunday School** goes off on break until January 12, 2025.
- **Lay Readers and Presenters of the Elements Sign-up sheets** are in the back.
- **Fundraisers:**
  - Congratulations to our **2024 Christmas Raffle** winners and thank you to everyone who helped with this fundraiser.
  - **Wawa Hoagie Coupons** are available at \$5 each. Please see Lillian if you are interested.

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST

**Offertory Hymn** (1982 Hymnal #265)

*“The Angel  
Gabriel from  
Heaven Came”*

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **The Offering of the Bread**

*The Celebrant takes the bread to be consecrated and places it on the corporal. The following may be said:*

*Celebrant*      Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have this bread to  
offer, which earth has given and human hands  
have made. It will become for us the Bread of  
Life.

*People*            **Blessed be God for ever.**

### **The Offering of the Wine**

*The Celebrant takes the wine to be consecrated and places it on the corporal. The following may be said:*

*Celebrant*      Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have this wine to  
offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us our spiritual drink.

*People*            **Blessed be God for ever.**

*The Celebrant may address the community with these words.*

*Celebrant:*      Pray, brothers and sisters, that my Sacrifice and  
yours may be acceptable to God the Father  
Almighty.

*People:*            **May the Lord receive the Sacrifice at your  
hands, to the praise and glory of His Name,  
both to our benefit, and that of all His holy  
Church.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer B*

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

***People***        **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Lift up your hearts.

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

*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People***        **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant proceeds:*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.*

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Sanctus and Benedictus (Martin Haugen – *Mass of Creation*)

*(sung together, all remain standing as you are able)*

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly      Lord God of hosts.      Heav-en and  
earth are full of your glo-ry.      Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.      Ho-  
san-na in the high-est.      Ho-san-na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel. Celebrant continues:*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." ✠

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." ✠

*Celebrant*  
There - fore, ac - cord - ing to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,  
*Celebrant and People*  
We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -  
rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

*Celebrant continues:*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and

his Blood of the New Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being ✠ sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, the Virgin Mother of God; Joseph her spouse, with the apostles, martyrs; all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.



### The Lord's Prayer

*And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing:*

***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.***

### Breaking of The Bread     *[Fraction Anthem]*     (sung together)

#### LAMB OF GOD

*Gently, with some rubato* (♩ = 63–69)

*mp* (a tempo)     *poco rit.*     *mf* a tempo

*mp* (a tempo)     *poco rit.*     *mf* a tempo

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the



1, 2 *mp* world, have mer - cy on us. 2 *poco rit.*

*mp* world, grant us peace. 2 *poco rit.*

Final world, grant us peace. 2

Music: *Mass of Creation*; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, © 1984, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.  
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*Celebrant:*

✠ Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [**Amen.**]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [**Amen.**]

**Communion Hymn** (1982 Hymnal #268) “*Ye Who Claim the Faith of Jesus*”

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and people:*

***Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

## **The Advent Blessing**

*Celebrant blesses the congregation:*

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of His blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May He whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at His second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

May our blessed Lady, blessed Joseph, and all the saints pray for you. And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## **The Dismissal**

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Deacon*            Let us go forth into the world,  
                         Rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

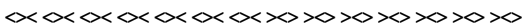
**Recessional Hymn** (CWTL #42)

*“Sing of Mary”*

**After Worship Prayer**

*BCP #68, Page 835*

Grant, we beseech *thee*, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through *thy* grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of *thy* Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



***Please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for our  
Christmas Brunch immediately following the service.***

# The Ministers of the Liturgy

The Rev. Fr. Russell A. Griffin, SSC  
*Celebrant and Homilist*

The Rev. Bruce Cecchini  
*Deacon*

Andrew Listman  
*Eucharistic Minister*

Louis Durham  
*Music Minister*

Denise King  
Kaydiann Sangster  
*Lay Readers*

Jerry & April Mae Rugletic  
*Element Presenters*

## **FREE Wi-Fi (Internet)**

Network: **19150226**

Password: **church4108**

**A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!** You may be new to us, but you are known and loved by God. Please fill out the visitor's card found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate. We look forward to meeting you and having you worship with us again soon.

# Prayer List (please let us know when your loved one should be removed).

## Current Military Service:

Aiden Borden	Jonathan DeMaria
Andrew Miller	Joseph Hodges
Carter Smyth	Keith Taylor
Charles Devoll	Mason Smiley
Dalton Anders	Roman Mealey
David Daniels	Ted Chavis
Dave Niglio	
Dominique Trappey	
Felix Perez	
Francois Trappey	<u>Expectant Mothers and their Babies</u>
Jacob Listman	Elizabeth Schaffer (January)
Jessica Smyth	
Jimmy Sheridan	

## Comfort & Healing

Albert Spinelli	Jack Rogers	Norman Rogers,Sr.
Barbara Alber	Jason	Pat Knott
Barbara Hill	Jerry Hathaway	Paul Paine
Barbara MacLeod	John Collier	Paul Williams
Barbara Peters Villari	John Rankin	Pauleen Williams
Betsy Richards	Joseph Wright	Regina Listman
Carlos Guemes	Joyce Foster	Richard Mealey
Celiann Santiago	Judi Hathaway	Ricky Beam
Dale Maloney	Linda Mulero	Robert Bratty
Dave McMichael	Lisa Gallagher	Robert Huster
Dona Smith	Lori Gantz	Robert Kebler
Donna Vandy	Mackenzie Wister	Tom Knott
Doris Elaine Philips	Mary Corson	Sheila Williams
Edna Krug	Mary McGrath	Steven Ireland
Gary Spinelli	Mary Smith	Warren Macdonald, Jr.
George Phelps	Meredith Del Rosi	
Ginger Phelps	Mr. & Mrs. Moe	
Hailey Mikula	Mrs. Simon	