

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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Meet at the cross:  
KNNA 95.7 FM or  
www.thecross957.org  
Services are broadcast live on  
Sundays at 8 am and 10:30 am  
and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

## Vespers

Vespers (LW, pp. 224-35), meaning “evening” (from the Latin *vespera*), was originally known as lucernarium, as candles or lamps were lit in the course of its liturgy. Vespers was originally part of the night office, but by the time of Saint Benedict, it was transferred to the early evening or late afternoon. In structure, Vespers is very similar to Matins as both services provide for the praise of God in psalmody, hymns, and canticles, the opportunity for the reading and proclamation of God’s Word, and space for the prayers of the faithful.

*“As human beings learn to talk by listening to others around them, so liturgical prayer must be learned by listening to the “Our Father,” to the Word addressed to us, and to the company of the family of God among whom we live. Where that lively and life-giving Word is received in the heart of faith, the prayer that is “conversation with God” happens.”— Dr. Ken Korby*

## Advent Midweek 3 Children’s Program

December 16, 2020

**Introit** (*Ps. 19:1, 4-6; antiphon: Is. 45:8a*)



Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*  
and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;  
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;\*  
let the earth cause them | both to sprout.  
The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,\*  
and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.  
Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to  
the end | of the world.\*  
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;\*  
let the earth cause them | both to sprout.

### 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.

### Gradual (*Ps. 145:18, 21*)

The LORD is near to all who | call on him,\*  
to all who call on | him in truth.  
My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,\*  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.

## ORDER OF VESPERS/LSB 229

Welcome and Prayer

**Opening Hymn..... LSB 357**

**Children sing vs 1 & 6 alone**

Opening Versicles and Common\*

Advent Ascription of Praise\*..... LSB 229

Introit—*See Propers\**

**Office Hymn..... LSB 335**

**Children sing vs 1 & 2 alone**

Scripture Readings (*on back*):

Old Testament ..... Isaiah 9:2-7

**LSB ..... 349**

**Children sing vs 1 & 4, congrega-  
tion joins on vs 2-4**

Epistle..... Galatians 4:1-7

**LSB ..... 374**

**Children sing vs 1 & 2 alone**

Gospel..... John 1:1-18

Advent Responsory..... LSB 230

Sermon ..... *Pastor Clint K. Poppe*

**LSB ..... 372**

**Children sing vs 1-4 alone**

Gradual—*See Propers\**

Canticle\*...“Magnificat”..... LSB 231-232

Offering ..... LSB 232

Kyrie\* ..... LSB 233

Lord’s Prayer\* ..... LSB 233

Collects\* ..... LSB 233

Prayers\* ..... LSB 233

Benedicamus\* ..... LSB 234

Benediction\* ..... LSB 234

**Closing Hymn ..... LSB 370**

**Children sing vs 1 –2 & congrega-  
tion joins on vs 2 & 3**

Announcements

Postlude

## Hymns for today—

### OPENING HYMN

**LSB 357**.....O Come, O Come  
Emmanuel  
*(Children sing vs 1 & 6 alone)*

### OFFICE HYMN

**LSB 335**.....O Bride of Christ,  
Rejoice  
*(Children sing vs 1 & 2 alone)*

**LSB 349** .....Hark the Glad  
Sound  
*(Children sing vs 1 & 4, congregation  
joins on vs 2-4)*

**LSB 374** .....Gentle Mary Laid  
Her Child  
*(Children sing vs 1 & 2 alone)*

**LSB 372** . O Jesus Christ, Thy  
Manger Is  
*(Children sing vs 1-4 alone)*

### CLOSING HYMN

**LSB 370**.....What Child is  
This?  
*(Children sing vs 1 & 2, congregation  
joins on vs 2 & 3)*

### Old Testament: Isaiah 9:2–7

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

### Epistle: Galatians 4:1–7

<sup>1</sup>I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup>but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup>In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

<sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

### Holy Gospel: John 1:1–18

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.



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**Missouri Synod**

Order of Vespers

Advent Midweek 3  
Children’s Program

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