



The Memorial Church of the Good Shepherd, Parkersburg

January 4, 2026 10:15 AM
Second Sunday after Christmas

Participants in the service:

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Katie Beth Miksa

Lector: Bob Crocker

Welcome Center: Sally Harris, Cathy Freed

Director of Music: Ella Rockhold

Chalice: Greg Cigal

Intercessor: Toni DeVore

The Word of God

Prelude

“Away in A Manger”

Gregg Sewell

Processional Hymn #93

“Angels from the realms of glory”

Regent Square

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Celebrant

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.**

Song of Praise #497 (vs. 1 & 2)

“How bright appears the morning star”

Wie schön leuchtet

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

The people remain standing

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah (31:7-14)

Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

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

Psalm 84

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
 My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
 my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
 by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
 they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
 whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, *
 and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
 hearken, O God of Jacob.
 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
 and look upon the face of your Anointed.
 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
 and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
 10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; *
 he will give grace and glory;
 11 No good thing will the Lord withhold *
 from those who walk with integrity.
 12 O Lord of hosts, *
 happy are they who put their trust in you!

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (1:3-6, 15-19a)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

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

The Sequence Hymn #109 (vs. 1,2,3,4,5) “The first Nowell”

The First Nowell

Then, all standing, the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (2:13-15, 19-23)
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

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

Sermon

The Rev. Katie Beth Miksa

The Nicene Creed

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.

Please kneel

Prayers of the People (from the Church of England)

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into his own marvelous light.

Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: help us to know you, to worship and to serve you.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love and fill her with the Spirit of truth.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of the nations and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families and renew our communities.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by your healing power give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace, especially the family and friends of Dianna Quick and those on the prayer list...

The congregation reads the parish prayer list aloud. (next page)

Good Shepherd Parish Prayer List

The People of Israel and Gaza	Marcia Doyle – healing	Mary Gevas – healing
The People of Ukraine	Peggy Roberts - healing	Peter Gevas – healing
Victims of gun violence	Diana Quick - healing	Ann Stevens– healing
Jone Johnson – healing/strength	Susan Allander - healing	Dee Milhoan – healing
Vickie Dilley – healing/strength	Gene Allander - healing	Buck Harris – strength/healing
Wanda Grace Mitchell – healing	Amanda Morris – healing	Julie Stover - healing
Nicole Combs – healing	Tom Fielder – healing	Joseph Fielder – healing
Rich Dalzell – recovering from heart surgery	Deb Hepburn-McKinney – recovering from surgery	

Safety for all those serving in the Armed Forces
Sterling Slusher, Lauren Fielder, Peter Keiser

Those needing healing from cancer

Hal Foss	Julia Lee	John Stevens	Lois Switzer
Judy McCoy	Alana Dailey	Faith Beha	Chris Angotti
Doris Lowe	Gary Greer	Wendy Meridith	Mirtala Smith
Everett Gilmore	Charles Sterchak		

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit,
hear our prayer, receive our praises, fill our lives. Amen.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect

Confession

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.**

The Peace

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

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentences

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.

Offertory Music

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Donald Busarow

Doxology Hymn #380 (vs. 3)

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

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.**

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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 #130 (*Celebrant and People* (next page))



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Then the 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The 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 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 for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem #S164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, followed by those present.

Communion Music

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

Carol Tornquist

VERSE

$\text{♩} = 77$ E5 A2

1. How love - ly is Your dwell - ing place, O Lord al - might-
 (2. One) thing I ask and I would seek: To see Your beau -

y. For my soul longs and e - ven faints for You.
 ty, to find You in the place Your glo - ry dwells.

For here my heart is sat - is - fied with - in Your pres - ence. I
 One thing I ask and I would seek: To see Your beau - ty, to

sing be - neath the shad - ow of Your wings. Bet - ter is
 find You in the place Your glo - ry dwells.

CHORUS

one day in Your courts, bet - ter is one day in Your house, bet - ter is

one day in Your courts than thou - sands else - where. Bet - ter is one day in Your courts, bet - ter is

22

one day in Your house, bet - ter is one day in Your courts than thou - sands

24

else - where, than thou - sands else - where. 2. One else - where.

1 Bsus E5 2 Bsus

After Communion, the Celebrant says:

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Carla Werry, Sally Morgan, Brittany Israelsen

Closing Hymn #99

“Go tell it on the Mountain”

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

“Go Now in Peace” (sung once & then as a 3 part round when bell ringers are present)

Go now in peace;

go now in peace.

May the love of God surround you

everywhere, everywhere

you may go

Please remain for the postlude as you are able.

Postlude

“El Desembre Congalet”

Christine Robbins

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stewardship – If you filled out a pledge card, your 2026 Pledge Envelopes are available at the back of the church for you to pick up. If you would like envelopes but don't see any there for you, please contact Ginger in the office.

Christmas Offering – It is still the Christmas season and we still welcome Christmas Offering donations to support our food ministry to the unhoused. Simply put Christmas in the memo line of your check or place cash in a Food Pantry envelope in the Welcome Center and place in the offering plate..

Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at 4:15 PM. The next meeting will be Jan. 7. All are welcome.

Open Altar Flower Dates – We have open flower dates available. These include 25 Feb. 1, 8 & 15. If you would like to give flowers in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special moment or person, please contact Ginger in the parish office. The cost of flowers is \$40 per vase.

This Tuesday, Jan. 6, come at 6PM for Epiphany Prayer, a chili cookoff, and games for the whole family. Sign up in the Welcome Center today or call the office tomorrow to be added to the sheet if you plan to attend.

Let Katie Beth know if you are interested in more Tuesday night prayer opportunities during the season of Epiphany.

