

Welcome to
The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 5, 2021

8:00 AM, THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

Welcome to the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd!

COVID-19 Precautions

Masks are now optional. Please be considerate of those who choose to wear masks and observe social distancing. Thank you.

Visitors

Welcome! We're glad to have you worship with us. If you'd like to learn more about this community of faith and our different ministries, fill out one of our visitor cards (in the pews) and hand it to an usher.

Restrooms

Exit through the courtyard. A family restroom is available to your right in the Worsham Hall building as soon as you go through the glass door.

Ask an usher if you need any assistance.

Stay Connected

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram. Our Facebook page is "The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd - Jacksonville, Florida" and we're on Instagram as "goodshepherdjaxchurch."

Our website is gsjax.church.

Sign up for "This Week at Good Shepherd," our weekly e-newsletter, by following the link on the homepage of our website or by emailing welcome@gsjax.church.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

People **For behold, darkness covers the land, and deep gloom enshrouds the people.**

Celebrant But over you the Lord will rise, and his glory will appear upon you.

People **Nations will stream to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawning.**

Celebrant The Lord will be your everlasting light,

People **and your God will be your glory.**

Celebrant O God, by whose Word all things are sanctified and who gave light to all creation: Grant that this wreath and the light that comes from its candles may serve as a reminder to us of our need to prepare ourselves in heart and mind for the coming of Christ, and that by his indwelling presence our lives might be transformed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant

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

GLORIA

Celebrant and People

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Baruch 5:1-9

Reader: A reading from Baruch.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 16: The Song of Zechariah

Celebrant and the People read the canticle by half verse.

Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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 EPISTLE: Philippians 1:3-11

Reader: A reading from Philippians.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the

crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Brent Owens

Please stand.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael Curry, John Howard, our priests Brent Owens and Elyse Gustafson, and our postulant Teri Calinao, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially our president, Joe Biden; our governor, Ron DeSantis; and our mayor, Lenny Curry, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor, especially for Skye, Missy, Paula, Angelina, Rebecca, Brad, Theodore, Peter, Brandon, Yevgeniya, Julie, Erwin, Andrea, Courtney, Rodman, Allison, Polly, Lawrence, Jennifer, Ann, Brian, Lisa, Nancy, Ted, Sally, Randall, Ingo, John, Glenn, Ruth, Constantine, Joyce, Gail, Art, Patricia, E. G., Judy, Dorothy, Ellen, Shirley and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially for Trey Herring, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant

Let us humbly confess our sins unto almighty God.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Celebrant

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Celebrant says to the people

People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 And with thy spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II

The people stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

The Celebrant continues

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand. Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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.

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

*A blessing is offered and the people respond **Amen.***

THE DISMISSAL

<i>Celebrant</i>	Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

The Rev. Brent Owens
Rector

Altar Flowers

Given by Ted and Alla Centerwall
to the glory of God and in honor of their wedding anniversary

Special Prayers

We pray for peace throughout the world.

We pray for our companion dioceses of Cuba and Peru, and especially for our companion parish, The Church of the Annunciation in Florida, Cuba.

We pray those in our diocese, especially for: Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach; St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Starke; St. Michael & All Angel's Episcopal Church, Tallahassee; St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Williston; Osprey Episcopalians, University of North Florida, Jacksonville.

We give thanks and pray for the safety of all healthcare workers during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially for: Dean, Karen, George, Alan, Naya, Jay, Lysa, Tony, Tom, Brett, Susanna C., MacLean Nasrallah, Ilya Nasrallah.

We give thanks and pray for all the frontline workers.

We pray for those in need of healing, strength or guidance, especially for:

Skye Carroll, Missy L., Paula, Angelina Smalkova, Rebecca, Brad, Theodore, Peter Flood, Brandon Centerwall, Yevgeniya, Julie Beasley, Erwin Cascante, Andrea H., Courtney, Rodman, Allison DeFoor, Polly, Lawrence, Jennifer Keen, Ann Ottesen, Lisa, Nancy, Ted, Sally McKeithen, Randall Burke, Ingo, John, Glenn, Ruth, Constantine, Joyce Norville, Gail Dunn, Art Jennette, Patricia Lee, E. G. Newsom, Judy Martin, Dorothy, Ellen, Shirley Walters, and our postulant Teri Calinao and husband George.

We pray for those affected by COVID-19, and for those who have died from the virus.

**We pray for those who have died, especially for Trey Herring.
May their souls, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.**

We pray for all who are serving in our Armed Forces and Intelligence Services, both at home and abroad, especially for: Rich, Ashton, Zachary, Brooker, Caleb, Charlie, Erik, Katie, Bradley Williams, Thomas Crouch, Jonathan Ubl, Channing Mattix, Warren Butler.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially

Griffin Lasch	December 5
Jennifer Keen	December 5
Steve Gillick	December 7
Ted Centerwall	December 8

We give thanks for those celebrating anniversaries this week, especially

Alla and Ted Centerwall	December 5
Eric and Kassie Weatherly	December 10

Announcements

Out of Office

Fr. Brent will be out of the office during the week of December 6.

Christmas 2021 Outreach: Shepherd's Tree

Our Christmas Gift Outreach for the children at West Riverside Elementary kicks off on Sunday, November 28, the First Sunday of Advent. The Christmas tree will be in the Narthex and decorated with gift tags. Please take tags, purchase gifts, and return the gifts WITH THE TAG ATTACHED! If you prefer to donate, we will purchase a gift for you. Send your donations to the church office and specify "Christmas Gift Outreach."

IMPORTANT DATES:

The supply chain situation is causing shortages in all stores; this is causing a tight schedule and additionally the last day of school is early this year. Below are IMPORTANT DATES!

- Dec. 7: Final day to donate and we purchase gifts for you.
- Dec. 13: Gifts delivered to West Riverside Elementary School for distribution to students.
- Dec. 17: Last day of school for Christmas Holiday.

If you have any questions, contact Susannah Sands at susannahsands@hotmail.com

Canticles & Carols: December 9 at 7:30 pm

Join the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Vocal Department as it presents the first of two nights of "Canticles & Carols" on December 9, 2021 at 7:30 pm at Good Shepherd. Hear classic songs of the season by talented vocalists from DA. Choirs are directed by Jeffrey Clayton and Holly Hammond.

Tickets are \$7.00 and can be purchased on gofan.co (NOT .com). After visiting the website, search for "Douglas Anderson." The cost of your ticket supports the arts.

Altar Flowers for 2022

The new year is only a couple of months away. This year, since we're back in the church, there is a flower chart in the Narthex (back part of the church). You can now sign up there.

Altar flowers are \$75. Please indicate "altar flowers" in the memo line if you pay by check or in the drop-down menu if you pay through Realm.

Send an email to welcome@gsjax.church with your dedication (usually in memory/honor/thanksgiving of someone) or call the parish office.

This Week

On Sunday Mornings

Bible Study in Craig Lounge (and by Zoom) on Sundays at 9:00 am

Study the Bible in a non-threatening way and get to know others in the process. No preparation or study is required. "African Bible Study" is a method first introduced by the African Delegation to Lambeth Conference in 1998 (Lambeth Conference is a gathering every 10 years of all bishops of the Anglican Communion.)

Good Shepherd 101 in the Library at 9:00 am on Sundays (and by Zoom)

This class welcomes everyone (whether new to Good Shepherd or a long-time member) into the Episcopal Church to help equip us to carry out the work of Christ in the world. We will explore Episcopal liturgy and history, our own spiritual gifts, the sacraments, and much more. Please explore the Episcopal Church with us as we also discern our own spiritual journey. Each session is a "stand-alone" class so that you can attend one, or all or something in between. Led by Fr. Brent Owens.

During the Week

Tuesday EWES Lunch in the Courtyard

EWES ("Eating With Episcopalians Socially") is a flock of Good Shepherd women who meet for lunch at 11:30 am on the first Tuesday of the month. No invitation is needed and no reservation is required. It's just a pleasant gathering with no agenda. Bring your lunch and join them in the courtyard.

Wednesday Noon Bible Study in Craig Lounge only

Julie Davis leads this study of Genesis, using Peter Enns' *Invitation to Genesis*.

Wednesday Prayer Shawl Ministry at 4:00 pm in the Courtyard

The prayer shawl ministry meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 4:00 pm in the courtyard. This group gets together to knit and crochet prayer shawls and prayer blankets that are blessed and distributed. If you enjoy knitting, crocheting, or just spending time with caring and interesting people, join them.

Wednesday Evening Compline on YouTube

Visit our YouTube channel at or after 7:00 pm each Wednesday for a service of Compline. Services are led by different people each week. These services are brief and a good way to find peace after a long day.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Florida

The Right Reverend Samuel Johnson Howard, Bishop

The Right Reverend Charles L. Keyser, Assisting Bishop

The Right Reverend Dorsey Henderson, Assisting Bishop

Contact Us

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The Vestry

Paul Arrington, *Sr. Warden*
Denise Gilbreath, *Clerk*

Anne Graham, *Jr. Warden*

Matt Wolfe, *Chancellor*
Joe Porter, *Treasurer*

Paul Arrington
Keith Sands
Anne Graham

Ted Centerwall
Denise Gilbreath
Matt Wolfe

Fran Wulbern
Maureen Ely
Julie Davis

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday, December 7th

11:30 pm EWES Lunch in the Courtyard

Wednesday, December 8th

12:00 pm Noon Bible Study in Craig Lounge only

4:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry in the Courtyard

7:00 pm Compline on YouTube

Sunday, December 12th

The Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 am The Holy Eucharist, Rite I in the Chapel

9:00 am Bible Study in Craig Lounge and via Zoom

9:00 am Good Shepherd 101

9:50 pm Children's Sunday School in Early Learning Center Classroom

10:00 am The Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Church and on YouTube

Our YouTube videos will remain available to watch after the time they premiere.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

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Jacksonville, Florida 32204

Parish office: (904) 387-5691

Email: welcome@gsjax.church

Church website: www.gsjax.church

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Pool office: (904) 387- 4298

Pool website: www.gsjaxpool.com