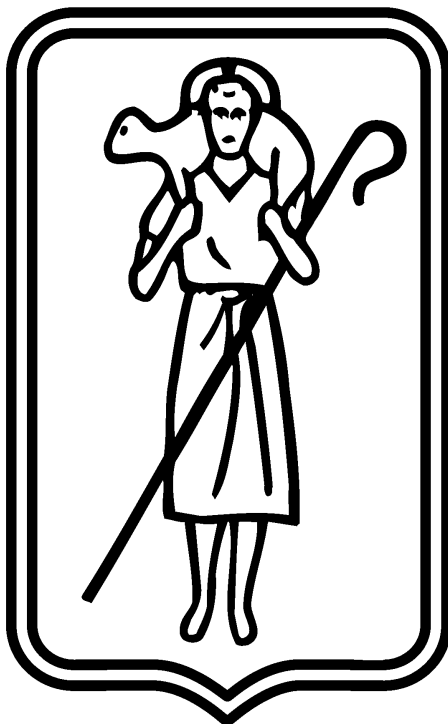


Welcome to
The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 4, 2022

10:00 AM, THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

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.

Children & Youth A staffed nursery is available each Sunday from 8:30 - 11:30 am and at other times as needed. The nursery is the closest Early Learning Center classroom to the pool. It is the first room on the right after you go through the gate. Infant through 4 years old.

For children 5 years old-5th grade, Sunday School will start at 10:00 am. Our Sunday School classroom is next to the nursery facing Park Street. At the announcements the children will be brought into the church to join their parents for communion.

Youth Group meets in the third floor youth room after the 10:00 am service.

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 using the QR code on the right or by emailing welcome@gsjax.church.



OPENING VOLUNTARY

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Mary Beth Bennett (b.1954)

WELCOME

The Rev. Brent Owens

OPENING HYMN

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

Merton

Hymnal 59

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Dean, Michelle, Reed, and Stella Krueger

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
People

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us

Hymnal S-91

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant
People
Celebrant

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
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: Isaiah 11:1-10

Reader: A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit

of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

(Sung by the choir)

Anglican chant: Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)

- ¹ Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- ² That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- ³ That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- ⁴ He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- ⁵ He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

- ⁶ He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- ¹⁸ Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- ¹⁹ And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

THE EPISTLE: Romans 15:4-13

Reader: A reading from Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry *Winchester New Hymnal* 76

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

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

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Elyse Gustafson

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

The Leader and People pray responsively

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, kindle in us the desire to remain awake;
that we might be ready for your coming, and eager to pray.

O God, you are the potter, and we are the clay, the work of your hand. We pray for the
church, especially Good Shepherd, that you might form us and mold us into the church you
would have us be.

People Come Lord Jesus,
 and hear our prayer.

In your time, O Lord, the valleys shall be lifted up, the mountains and hills shall be made
low, and the rough places will become a plain. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that
your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth.

People Come Lord Jesus,
 and hear our prayer.

In your Kingdom, O Lord, you bring unending comfort; you feed your flock like a shepherd,
and gather the lambs into your arms. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress
of any kind especially Barbara, Donnie, Rich, Carter, Linda, Jessie, Peggy, Susan, Penelope,
Virgil, Jo, Doug, Richard, Richard, Diane, Jamie, Elizabeth, Skye, Missy, Peter, Brandon,
Yevgeniya, Julie, Polly, Lawrence, Ashton, Jennifer, Brian, Nancy, John, Constantine, Gail,

E. G., Dorothy, Ingo, Shirley; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

People Come Lord Jesus,
and hear our prayer.

Your great works of redemption, O God, span the ages. We pray for those who rejoice this week as they celebrate their birthday and anniversaries; that they might obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing might flee away.

People Come Lord Jesus,
and hear our prayer.

In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer.

People Come Lord Jesus,
and hear our prayer.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Celebrant

Come among us O God, and hear our prayers; so that when your Son Jesus comes among us with great might, and in manger mild, we might recognize his face and his voice, and come to adore him. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

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

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

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins,
who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,
who was and is and is to come; sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
for Christ is coming soon!

E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;
they need no light, nor lamp, nor sun, for Christ will be their all!

PRESENTATION HYMN

O come, O come Emmanuel

Hymnal 56

O come, thou Branch of Jes - - se's tree,
Free them from Satan's ty - - ranny
That trust thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them Vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 2 FROM ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP

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 our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

SANCTUS

The Celebrant and People sing

Hymnal S-129

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people stand or kneel.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

FRACTION HYMN Lamb of God David Hurd (b. 1950) Hymnal S-161

Celebrant and People sing

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

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.

You may either take communion by intinction (dipping the host into the chalice) or you may drink from the common cup. Please let the priest know if you desire a gluten free wafer. If you would prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, please cross your arms over your chest as an indication to the priest.

COMMUNION MOTET O Salutaris G.F. Anerio (1569-1630)

O SALUTARIS Hostia
Quae caeli pandis ostium.
Bella premunt hostilia;
Da robur, fer auxilium.

O SAVING Victim opening wide
The gate of heaven to all below.
Our foes press on from every side;
Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.

Translation

COMMUNION HYMN For the bread which you have broken *Omni die* Hymnal 341

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

People and Celebrant

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 BLESSING

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

CLOSING HYMN Prepare the way, O Zion *Bereden väg för Herran* Hymnal 65

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Improvisation on *Veni, Veni Emmanuel*

*Altar flowers are given by Jonathan Crews & Chris Mitchell
to the Glory of God and in heartfelt thanks for the friendship and ministry
of the Reverend Elyse Gustafson.*

Special Prayers

We pray for peace throughout the world, especially for peace in Ukraine.

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 for those in our diocese, especially for: St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Jacksonville; Trinity Parish Episcopal Church, Saint Augustine; St. Teresa Prison Ministry at Wakulla Correctional Institution; St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, Jacksonville Beach; St. Mary's Mission Episcopal Church, Jacksonville; St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Jacksonville; St. Christopher's Episcopal Mission, Flagler Beach.

We pray for those in need of healing, strength or guidance, especially for: Barbara and Donnie Pearce, Rich Batsavage, Carter, Linda Kendrick, Jessie, Peggy Croom, Susan Croom, Penelope Nasrallah, Virgil, Jo, Doug Walkinshaw, Richard, Richard, Diane, Jamie, Elizabeth, Skye Carroll, Missy L., Peter Flood, Brandon Centerwall, Yevgeniya, Julie Beasley, Polly, Lawrence, Jennifer Keen, Nancy, John, Constantine, Gail Dunn, E. G. Newsom, Dorothy, Ingo, 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.
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: Ashton Moulder, Zachary, Brooker, Caleb, Charlie, Erik, Bradley Williams, Thomas Crouch, Jonathan Ubl, Channing Mattix, Warren Butler.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially for

Harry Benton-Rzeznik	December 4
Samuel Benton-Rzeznik	December 4
Griffin Lasch	December 5
Jennifer Keen	December 5

Steve Gillick	December 7
Ted Centerwall	December 8
Ann Johnson	December 8
William Thomson	December 8

We give thanks for those celebrating anniversaries, especially for

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

*Let us know if there is someone who could be blessed by receiving flowers from the altar
or if you would like to add a name to our prayer list.
welcome@gsjax.church*

Our prayer list was last updated on December 1, 2022.

Announcements

Pledge Reminder

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, comes from God. When we are generous with our resources for God's work, God promises to "open the windows of heaven" and pour out blessings upon us (Malachi 3:10). And Paul tells us that when we are rooted in faith, our gratitude grows (Col. 2:6-7)!

If you have not yet had the opportunity to turn in your pledge of work, wisdom, and wealth, we ask that you do so. It is upon your faithfulness and generosity that we depend to plan on our ministry in 2023. Pledge cards are available in the back of the church (narthex). You can place your pledge in the offering plate or turn it in at the Parish Office. Many thanks to each of you!!

First Coast Pops Concert Tonight, December 4 at 5:00 pm

Come back for a concert tonight! December 4 at 5:00 pm, the First Coast Pops Orchestra will perform a holiday concert. This concert is free and open to the public.

Aids Memorial Quilt

World AIDS Day is December 1st. The idea for The Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt began in 1985 in San Francisco by Cleve Jones to raise awareness of how massive the AIDS pandemic really was and to bring support and healing to those affected by it. Additional goals were to raise funds for local AIDS service organizations and to increase funding for AIDS prevention and education.

Many lives had been lost in just a few years and so often the families of those lost had turned their backs on their children and services were never held.

The Quilt became a reality in 1987 as a Memorial to Celebration of the lives of people lost to the AIDS Pandemic. The 1st display of the Quilt was at The National Mall in Washington DC in October 1987.

Each quilt panel is 3'x6'. They are sewn together in blocks of 8 onto a canvas backing.

Jacksonville 1st saw the Quilt in 1998 at the Convention Center, thanks to the determination and hard work of Evelyn Nehl, along with some of her friends, to bring awareness to Jacksonville. The local chapter of The Names Project was also started in 1998 by Jeremy Lucas.

Quilt panels are usually displayed at City Hall every year in December along with a ceremony as well as being displayed at many churches, medical facilities, and educational facilities.

Many fundraisers are held throughout the years by individuals, local businesses, and entertainers. The help of many local volunteers who help transport and display The Quilt along with the fundraisers and support of those who allow us to display and those who come to see it make all this possible. We thank you all!

Sunday School and Youth Group: Brief Winter Pause

Sunday School and Youth Group will both take a break this winter. They will meet one last time in 2022 on December 18. Your children can join them again on January 8, 2023.

A staffed nursery will be available during the 5:00 pm Christmas Eve service.

Jacksonville's Architectural Heritage on Thursday, December 8

The Jacksonville Historical Society will present “Jacksonville’s Architectural Heritage,” a presentation by Wayne W. Wood about his new Bicentennial edition of the popular book, on Thursday, December 8, in Betsy Lovett Hall. The presentation will begin at 6:45 pm. If books are delivered in time, Dr. Wood will hold a book signing 6-6:45 and 7:30-8 pm. **If the books are not delivered on time, the event will not be held.**

Please RSVP by December 6 to communications@jaxhistory.org

Hospitality Ministry Notes

The next potluck will be on **December 11** and every second Sunday after.

The Hospitality Committee is continuing its purge of surplus items. Please help yourself to anything you can use.

We are also offering a gift wrap service. Bring in your holiday presents and we'll wrap them with either your gift wrap or select from ours. Volunteers are wanted to help out in this project.

A donation to the Hospitality Committee is requested but not required for both initiatives.

Altar Flowers for 2023

The flower chart for 2023 is in the narthex (back part of the sanctuary). You can sign up there if you wish to donate altar flowers. 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.

Please send an email to Gina at golson@gsjax.church with your dedication, so it can be included in the bulletin when your flowers are on the altar. Dedications are often in honor of, thanksgiving of, or in memory of.

St. Catherine's Rosa Lee Brannan Food Pantry

We continue to collect food donations for the Rosa Lee Brannan Food Pantry at St. Catherine's Episcopal. Donations can be brought to church on Sundays or dropped off at the Parish Office during the week. Your donations have been greatly appreciated!

Christmas Flowers and Music Donations

If you would like to make a donation to our Christmas music and flower funds in thanksgiving or memory of a loved one, envelopes are available in the pew racks.

Please turn in envelopes by **Friday, December 16** if you would like the dedication to appear in the Christmas bulletins.

Shepherd's Tree: Christmas Gifts for West Riverside Elementary

Our Shepherd's Tree Ministry needs your participation. We just received 100 names of students from West Riverside Elementary who need presents. This year we have a tight timeline as the presents will be carried to West Riverside on Monday, December 12. That leaves only 15 days from this Sunday, November 27, to pick up your gift tag(s), shop, wrap, and return the gifts to Good Shepherd by **Sunday, December 11**.

Each gift tag includes a child's initials, age, grade level, and gift suggestion. Please remember to pick up the tags this Sunday or next Sunday from the Shepherd's Tree. **Be sure to attach the gift tag securely to the present so that we can make sure each child gets their intended present.** If you are not able to shop but want to sponsor a child's present, you can make out a check to Good Shepherd with "Shepherd's Tree" in the memo line or donate on Realm where the fund is called "Angel Tree." Heartfelt thanks to each of you for making this ministry work.

Please leave gifts at the Parish Office.

EWES Lunch on Tuesday, December 6 at 11:30 am

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.

Book & Bible Study on Wednesdays at Noon

What are you doing on Wednesday? Join the noon study in Craig Lounge. We're reading Adam Hamilton's *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem*. This study will meet on December 7 and 14. Join us!

Join the Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study for the Gospel of Matthew!

Our Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets at 7:00 am in Betsy Lovett Hall. We are currently studying N.T. Wright's *Matthew for Everyone* (available on Amazon). Join us for some great discussions!

Douglas Anderson Choral Concert on December 15

Mark your calendars! On Thursday, December 15 at 7:30 pm, the choirs of Douglas Anderson will have their holiday choral concert. Ticketing for the choral concert is handled by Douglas Anderson, and we will share more details as soon as they are available.

Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, December 18

Plan to stay after the service on Sunday, December 18 to help with the hanging of the greens. This will be a time of fellowship and festivity.

Check the "Weekly Calendar" at the back of the bulletin and our online calendar for more upcoming services and events!

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Florida

The Right Reverend Samuel Johnson Howard, Bishop

Contact Us

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Tameka Brown, *Bookkeeper*
tbrown@gsjax.church

The Vestry

Julie Davis, *Sr. Warden*
Lucie Sweda, *Clerk*

Anne Graham, *Jr. Warden*

Matt Wolfe, *Chancellor*
Paul Arrington, *Treasurer*

Homer Bliss
Keith Sands
Anne Graham

Ted Centerwall
Denise Gilbreath
Matt Wolfe

John Zell
Juan Vegega
Julie Davis

Contact our Senior Warden at swarden@gsjax.church.

Contact our Junior Warden at jrwarden@gsjax.church.

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday, December 6th

11:30 am EWES Lunch in the courtyard

Wednesday, December 7th

7:00 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study in Betsy Lovett Hall

12:00 pm Wednesday Study of *The Journey* in Craig Lounge

7:00 pm Compline on YouTube

Sunday, December 11th

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 by Zoom)

9:00 am Good Shepherd 101 in the Fant Library

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

Nursery and Sunday School in the ECS Classrooms

Potluck follows the 10:00 am service in Betsy Lovett Hall.

Youth Group follows the 10:00 am service in the Youth Room.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

1100 Stockton Street

Jacksonville, Florida 32204

Parish office: (904) 387-5691

Email: welcome@gsjax.church

Church website: www.gsjax.church

Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9 am - 4 pm; Fri. 9 am- Noon

Pool office: (904) 387- 4298

Pool website: www.gsjaxpool.com