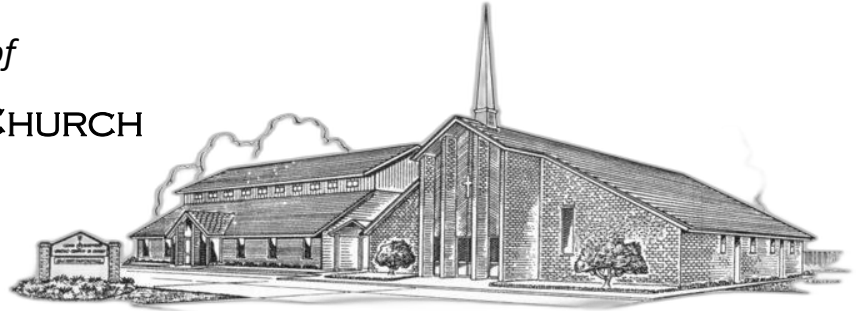


Shepherd's Voice

FEBRUARY 2023

The monthly parish newsletter of

GOOD SHEPHERD ANGLICAN CHURCH



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2023

WHAT WE BELIEVE...

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.

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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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
who with the Father and the Son is wor-
shiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the for-
giveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Thursday, February 2 @ 6:35 PM

(Red Letter Day)

Candlemas: Presentation of the Lord in the Temple

Sunday, February 5 @ 10:00 AM ONLY

(No 8:30 AM this week due to Annual Meeting after 10:00 AM)

Sunday morning Holy Eucharist—Epiphanytide 5

Sunday, February 12 @ 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Sunday morning Holy Eucharist—Epiphanytide 6

Sunday, February 19 @ 8:30 AM or 10:00 AM

*Sunday morning Holy Eucharist— Second to Last Sunday in
Epiphany & World Mission Sunday*

Sunday, February 26 @ 8:30 AM or 10:00 AM

Sunday morning Holy Eucharist—Transfiguration Sunday

PLEASE NOTE: Our YouTube channel is located at
www.YouTube.com/GoodShepherdMet. Each Sunday morning,
we livestream our 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist on our channel.

FROM THE RECTOR'S STUDY

WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA!

We are approaching the end of the first month of 2023 as I compose this column. That places us only days away from our annual congregational meeting. The annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 5, 2023 immediately following the 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist. Please note that on that Sunday, we will not hold our 8:30 AM service. We are doing this in an effort to get all of our members together at one service so that we can move quickly and smoothly into our annual meeting at the conclusion of the 10:00 AM.

The annual meeting will include many of the typical agenda items that church members have come to love—committee reports, minutes of last year's meeting, a treasurer's report, and a 2023 budget proposal. We'll also receive an update on our ongoing project to re-write our bylaws to reflect changes associated with our identity as it relates to being a member parish of the Diocese of the Western Gulf Coast (DWGC) of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA). We hope to see everyone at church and the meeting on the 5th!

Please note also that we'll hold a Red Letter Day Service of Holy Eucharist on Thursday, February 2 at 6:35 PM to celebrate Candlemas and the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple.

Until next month, let your light shine!



Fr. Randall M. Graf, Rector



NOTES FROM RINDA

The hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" was one of the most popular hymns during the 20th century. Like many other hymns it has a special background story.

Henry Van Dyke, a renowned Presbyterian minister, was conducting a preaching seminar at Williams College. He was staying with the president of the college. One morning he came down for breakfast and placed the hymn in front of his host. "Here is a hymn for you. Your mountains (the Berkshires) were my inspiration. It must be set to Beethoven's "Hymn to Joy."

At the turn of the century there was a strong theological emphasis in many churches on what was called the social gospel. This movement sought to promote the welfare of society more than individual salvation. This hymn placed the emphasis not on what humanity can do, but on the source of all things—God our creator.

The tune HYMN TO JOY is from Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. At the end of the symphony during the final movement a choir and soloists sing Schiller's poem "Ode to Joy."

This hymn remains one of the most beloved Christian musical offerings.

Rinda Coleman

GSC Music Director

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COLLECT FOR THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

*Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear our prayers, and grant that in this Congregation the pure Word of God may be preached and the Sacraments duly administered. Strengthen and confirm the faithful; protect and guide the children; visit and relieve the sick; turn and soften the wicked; arouse the careless; recover the fallen; restore the penitent; remove all hindrances to the advancement of your truth; and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

From the ACNA (2019) Book of Common Prayer, page 649.

PRAYING AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Since the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown began, Good Shepherd Church has been streaming our 10:00 AM Sunday morning Service of Holy Eucharist each week. During the distribution of Holy Communion, the lector reads a prayer entitled ***An Act of Spiritual Communion*** for those who are watching at home and are unable to partake in the reception of Holy Communion sacramentally. That beautiful prayer comes from the Book of Common Prayer (pg. 677, ACNA 2019) and can be prayed by a Christian any time they are longing for the grace of Holy Communion but are unable to receive the tangible elements of the sacrament. These are the words to that prayer:

***Dear Jesus, I believe that you
are truly present in the Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to possess you within my soul.
And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.
I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people
gathered around every altar of your Church,
and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul.
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.***



GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

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Father Randall M. Graf, Priest & Rector

WORSHIP SERVICES

Holy Eucharist

8:30 AM & 10:00 AM every Sunday

Red Letter Holy Days

12:15 PM or 6:30 PM

