Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church

400 West Duarte Road, Arcadia, California 91007
(626) 447-2181 / www.cgsum.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP
First Sunday of Advent

Broadcast Live to Facebook/CGSUM and to CGSUM.ORG

Sunday, November 30, 2025 10:00 a.m.

As we prepare for worship, let us be in prayer and meditation.
Please "Check In" on social media, then set all electronic devices to silent mode.
Remember to sign the attendance pad.
The Offering Box is located in the Sanctuary entryway.

Prelude "Trio for Flute, Oboe, and Piano – II. Andante Simplice" by Madeline Dring
Laura Argenbright, Oboe; Catherine Baker, Flute; Stephen Cook, Piano

Chimes

Introit "Come, Promised One" by John D. Becker
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Diorectort

Welcome and Greeting *Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin*

Passing the Peace

***Call to Worship** (Rev. A. Mark, Advent Liturgy 2017)) *Lynne Rivera, Lay Reader*

Liturgist: Let us hear the revelation of God's promise,
Church: for Advent is a time of expecting new light to shine.
Liturgist: Let us receive light from the prophets,
Church: for light penetrates darkness and prepares the way of the Lord.
Liturgist: Let us see God's glory shine forth,
All: for we long to be transformed by the light and the hope it brings.

***Opening Hymn** "Let There Be Light" Red UM Hymnal #**440**

The Word for Children **Children are invited to come sit in the front.*

**The congregation standing, if able.*

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath "The Hope Candle" *Elaine Iverson*

1st Reader: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future when God's reign will be fully realized and recognized throughout creation. When that time comes, God "shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2:4).

2nd Reader: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise to follow the Light as we answer God's call to transform our hope into reality today and in the days to come.

All: Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God's reign has come and is coming among us.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

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, forever. Amen.

Anthem "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" arr. Heather Sorenson
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Director

Scripture Lesson *Lynne Rivera, Lay Reader*

Isaiah 2:1-3
*Matthew 24:36-44

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn of Preparation** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" Red Hymnal **#206**

Sermon "Advent is Hope: To Expect the Unexpected" *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

Special Music "Just Another Christmas" by Laura Story
Carolyn Noonchester, Soloist

Announcements *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

***Closing Hymn** "Christ is the World's Light" Red UM Hymnal #**188**

Benediction

Benediction Response **"Peace, Peace/Silent Night"** arr. Bock

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child, Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Postlude "Ash Grove" arr. Martin

Stephen Cook

**The congregation standing, if able.*

Sundays at Good Shepherd

- 8:30 a.m. or TBD Chancel Choir
- 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class
- 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Nursery Care available for infants and toddlers
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Classes for Children and Youth
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship for all in the Hall after worship
- 11:30 a.m. Children's Choir, Youth Bells Choir
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Choir

We also offer luncheons, forums, meetings, and new member sessions on various Sundays. Please visit the church website or scan the QR code for more info on events, ministries, and online giving.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Announcements

It's Poinsettia Time! Presale ends today These beautiful plants will be decorating our sanctuary beginning December 14th through our Christmas Eve services. Cost is $22. Place your order today following worship.

Remember! Cookie Decorating and Hot Chocolate today after Worship!

Have you made your pledge yet? Help us meet our goal for 2026 Pledges by turning in your Pledge Card to the office or the offering box in the Sanctuary by December 31st, 2025. (*See the article in this week's newsletter.)*

Foothill Unity's Angel Cards are here! You may pick up one (or more) from the church office or Sanctuary entryway. Along with new toys and books, gift cards (Amazon or Target) are also requested to assist local families. Please have your gifts in by December 5th.

SCAM Alert! Be cautious! Delete any spam or fake emails and texts from hackers impersonating Pastor Eva or any church staff.

Save the Date!

December 7th - Hanging of the Greens Service
December 7th and 14th - Alternative Christmas Market
December 14th - Chancel Choir's Lessons and Carols Service
December 21st - Trek to the Tree Service
December 24th - Christmas Eve Services (5:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 11:00 pm)
December 28th - Christmas Carols Hymn Sing Service

Ministers: Members of the Congregation
Resident Bishop: Bishop Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank
District Superintendent: Rev. Moonyoung Lee
Pastor: Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Franklyn Shen
Director of Music Ministries: Stephen Cook
Director of the Good Shepherd Children's Center: Linda Bro

Mission Statement: At Church of the Good Shepherd, God calls us to welcome all to a vibrant community on a continuing journey of Faith, Growth, Justice, and Service in the image of Christ