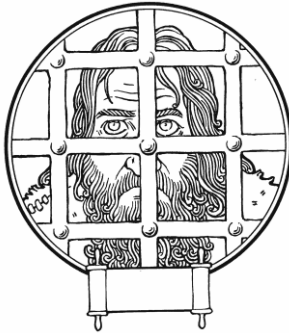


Third Sunday in Advent

“Gaudete”

Sunday, December 17th, 2023
Divine Service 3, Page 184

LARGE PRINT



Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church & School
7308 Wedgewood Drive
Black Hawk, SD 57718

*“We are baptized children of God, forgiven and redeemed by Jesus.
We are His family, called together to receive His gifts and serve
others.”*

Pastor Randy Sturzenbecher
Pastor Dennis Mercer

Office (605) 787-6438 Pastor S. Cell (605) 391-0428
Pastor M. Cell (443) 980-7338 ECC (605) 791-1131

Email: DSLCPsturz@divineshep.org
DSLCPmercerc@divineshep.org
DSLCSecretary@divineshep.org

Greetings to all in the Name of the Risen Lord!

May our worship celebrate the joy and hope, peace and presence, of our Lord Jesus Christ, raised to life for us. We welcome all, especially our guests. If you do not have a church home please consider Divine Shepherd. We would love to have you as part of our family. Please take a minute and sign our guest book.

A prayer before Worship

This is the day you have made, O Lord Jesus, a day of new life and eternal celebration! The stone is moved; death is defeated; heaven is open. As Your disciples first saw and believed Your victory over the tomb, so give us joy in the promise You made and keep for us: because You live, we live also! Amen.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession and gladness that, as our Lord says, He gives into our mouth not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord Jesus invites to His table those who trust His Words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.



Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the blood of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord.

(1 Cor 11:28 ESV) Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Any who holds a confession differing from that of the Holy Scriptures, or are not a member in good standing with the LC-MS, are asked to speak with Pastor Sturzenbecher or Pastor Mercer.

Members and guests of DSLC and School we stream our services through Facebook Live. With this stream we do publish this to our Facebook page which means your face may end up on our Facebook page. If you are not comfortable with this please talk to Pastor to address this concern. -Thank you, The AV Team.

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 △ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in; And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
 Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621
 Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation & Exhortation

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Confession and Absolution

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Special Music (10:30)

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Adult Bell Choir

Introit

Psalm 85:1–2, 6, 8



Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*

The Lord | is at hand.

LORD, you were favorable | to your land;*
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your | people;*
you covered | all their sin.

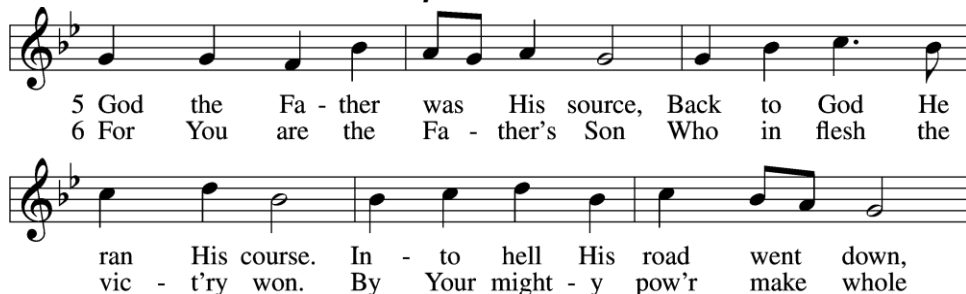
Will you not revive | us again,*
 that your people may re- | joice in you?
Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them
not turn back to | folly.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
 Rejoice in the Lord | always,*
 again I will | say, Rejoice.
Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.

Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

332 Savior of the Nations, Come *sts. 5-6*



5 God the Fa - ther was His source, Back to God He
 6 For You are the Fa - ther's Son Who in flesh the
 ran His course. In - to hell His road went down,
 vic - t'ry won. By Your might - y pow'r make whole



Text: str. Ambrose of Milan, 340-387; German version: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; (st. 1), 6; 1. Samuel Servais, 1913-2001; (st. 6), 1; Lutheran Service Book, 2006; Tune: Gaylethine grany
L. Bachley, 1924; Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter; (st. 1), 1; 1976 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LHM Hyphen License no. 110004022; Tune: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 40:1-11*

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice

with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Catechetical Review

Confession

What is Confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

Which are these?

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

Epistle *1 Corinthians 4:1–5*

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

Alleluia



Holy Gospel *Matthew 11:2–11*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." ⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you,

and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Sermon

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
 △ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
 par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
 world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
 with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
 liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Offertory



☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Offering, Special Music (8:00)

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

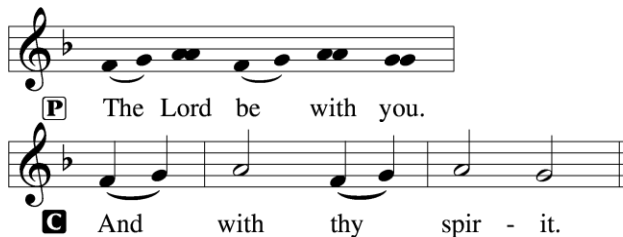
Adult Bell Choir

Prayer of the Church

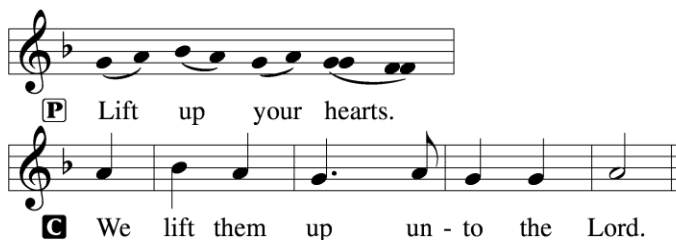
"Hear Our Prayer"

Preface

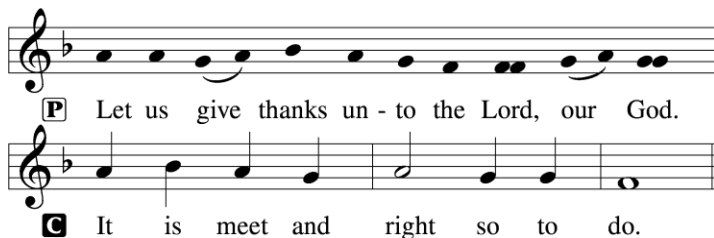
LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.
C It is meet and right so to do.

Sanctus *LSB 195*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

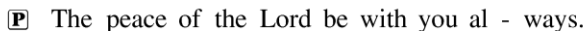
Lord's Prayer

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 and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper,

Pax Domini



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"

13

Distribution Hymn

636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther
 4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
 lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -
 cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of
 this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
 mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
 bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the
 With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
 there a - dore Him; Grant, Lord, that I now re -
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
 us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
 riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.
 la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend,
and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding,
Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You;
Love incarnate, I adore You;
Worthily let me receive You.
And, so favored, never leave You.

6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
At Your feet I cry, my maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven,
For our good, Your glory, given.

7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited,
Be Your love with love requited;
By this Supper let me measure,
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; (sts. 1, 4–5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2–3, 6–8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662Text (sts. 1, 4–5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004822Text (sts. 2–3, 6–8) and tune: Public domain

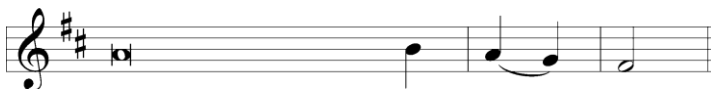
Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A-men.

Thanksgiving

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus



A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise
2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.
Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;



Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren free;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.
That in this house have called up - on Thy name.
For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.
Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826-93
Tune: Edward J. Hopkins, 1818-1901
Text and tune: Public domain

Divine Shepherd Calendar

Sunday, December 17th

| | |
|----------|---|
| 8:00 am | Divine Worship Service |
| 9:15 am | Coffee & Cookies |
| 9:30 am | Sunday School Christmas Program |
| 10:30 am | Divine Worship Service |
| 2:00 pm | Circuit Youth Event at Zion Lutheran Church |

Tuesday, December 18th

| | |
|---------|-------------------|
| 6:00 pm | ECC Board Meeting |
|---------|-------------------|

Wednesday, December 20th

| | |
|----------|-------------------------|
| 11:00 am | Morning Advent Service |
| 1:00 pm | Quilting |
| 5:30 pm | Family Dinner |
| 6:00 pm | Confirmation |
| 6:00 pm | Sunday Wednesday School |
| 7:15 pm | Advent Service |

Thursday, December 21st

| | |
|---------|--------------------|
| 9:30 am | Ladies Bible Study |
| 5:30 pm | Bell Choir |
| 6:30 pm | Adult Choir |

Sunday, December 24th

| | |
|---------|------------------------|
| 9:00 am | Divine Worship Service |
| 5:00 pm | Christmas Eve Service |

Monday, December 25th

| | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| 9:00 am | Christmas Day Service |
|---------|-----------------------|

The church office will be closed 25th-29th. Please email the church secretary or call the church number for assistance.

Important Dates

The Circuit Youth Christmas Event will be held **today from 2:00-4:00 pm at Zion Lutheran Church in Rapid City**. There will be Minute to Win it Christmas Games!

“Eyes to See” Higher Things Retreat is **January 14th-15th, 2024**. The retreat will take place at Faith Lutheran Church in Pierre, SD. Register at www.higherthings.org/events/retreats.



Looking For...

...a permanent bellringer and anyone who would be interested in being a bell choir sub for practices! Sadly, some ringers have to step out for the upcoming months and so, we need help! You don't have to read music (it helps some) but, more importantly, you need to be able to count to 4! That's it! If you have an interest in praising God through music, please contact Connie Rathert.

Poinsettias

Please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board if you would like to purchase one in memory or honor of a loved one. The price this year is \$16. Please bring the payment to the church office.

Lost and Found

There were wireless earbuds left in the work room. If you believe to be missing a pair, please see Katie in the office to identify them.

Hearing Assistance

Divine Shepherd offers hearing assistance for Divine Services for those who request it. Please speak to an Elder or a Pastor if you require or prefer hearing assistance for church services.

