

Dec 27th, 2020

GSPV Series: Hearts Prepared for Jesus.
Theme: When Jesus Turns up in the Temple”
10am ONLY - Combined Service

Pre-Service: Forever (Michael W Smith) <https://youtu.be/JQBwwHvlgSk>

Good morning - and welcome to Good Shepherd. (*Rolly - worship leading*)

Today is first Sunday after Christmas. Christmas can be a time of joy - especially when as a child you receive presents, eat lots of treats, and have family holidays. Yet for those who are isolated, or in a dysfunctional family, or in the shadowlands of grief, Christmas can be a tough time. A smile, a listening ear, a caring phone call, or some encouraging words can lift spirits and renew hope.

The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem meant that Mary and Joseph were a long way from home. While they experienced much joy, perhaps they were also bewildered with the responsibility of having to raise God's Son on earth. While at the temple in Jerusalem, God sends two elderly people to bless and encourage this family. Today's theme: *When Jesus Turns Up in the Temple*.

As you are able, please rise for our opening sentences.

Opening Sentences (Psalm 96:1-4 NLT)

Sing a new song to the LORD!

Let the whole earth sing to the LORD!

Sing to the LORD; praise his name.

Each day proclaim the good news that he saves.

Publish his glorious deeds among the nations.

Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.

Great is the LORD!

He is most worthy of praise!

We begin in the name of the living God who claims us in baptism and promises to be with us forever: in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Song: Hosanna (Paul Baloche) <https://youtu.be/xoz5wpycqw>

Song: Forever (Michael W Smith) <https://youtu.be/JQBwwHvlgSk>

(Please be seated)

Call to Confession

An angel of the Lord told Joseph: "You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Let us approach God's throne of grace, that we might again receive forgiveness, life and salvation through his Son Jesus.

Prayer of confession

Lord God, our Heavenly Father,

We confess that we need Jesus to save us.

For we have not always loved you first or most in our lives.

Our desires, thoughts, and actions are often self-centred.

We have hurt other people through our attitudes, words, and actions.

(quiet time for reflection and confession to God)

Because of the gift of Jesus,
his perfect life in our place,
his death on the cross for our mistakes,
and his resurrection victory,
we ask you to forgive us.

Fill us with your Spirit,
so we can experience the joy and peace
proclaimed by angels when Jesus was born. Amen.

God's Word of Forgiveness

Hear the good news of great joy: "...in the town of David a Savior has been born for you; Jesus Christ the Lord!" Because of what Jesus has done for you, God forgives you all your sins.

God's gift has restored our relationship with him and given us back our lives.
And there's more life to come — an eternity of life! (Titus 3:7 The Message)

May God grant this to us all! Amen!

Song: Mary Did You Know <https://youtu.be/JPsglhYQmM>
(Please be seated)

Bible Reading:

Luke 2:21-40 Jesus is presented at the temple

Galatians 4:4-7 At the right time, God sent his Son - so we can become God's children.

Message: *When Jesus Turns up in the Temple (Belay)*

Song: In Christ Alone https://youtu.be/ENtL_li4GbE
(Please be seated)

General Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Freewill Offering Announcement

Through our freewill offerings, we honour God and join his mission of making Jesus known in our community. Many of you do this electronically. Otherwise, you are invited to place your freewill offerings in the bowls in the café after the service.

Song: He Shall Reign Forevermore (Tomlin) <https://youtu.be/V5UXgs6nvGM>

Blessing

May the LORD bless you and keep you in his care.

May the LORD smile on you and pour his grace into your lives.

May the Lord look on you with favour and give you his peace. Amen

Announcements: (Please be seated)

1. **Celebrations: "O" B'days:** Bethany L (Wed); David J (Thurs).

Anniv's: Rolly and Leanne S & Noel and Bethany K (35th on Mon)
John and Jan D (50th on Sat)

2. **New Year's Eve Service and Celebration:** 7:30pm intergenerational service followed by a fun evening of games, carpet bowls, and connecting. BYO food and drinks.

3. **Church Office remains closed this week. Reopens Tuesday Jan 12th**

The next issue of the Weekly News will be Jan 15th. During the Church Office closure, you can ring and leave a message. Messages will be retrieved as soon as practical. The phone answering service will provide an emergency contact number if needed.