

# GSBC Worship

December 13, 2020

# Our Mission Statement

The mission of Good Shepherd Baptist Church is to be a supportive, open, growing Christian community that reaches out to all in a spirit of unconditional love.

## Our Statement of Core Values

We value and support:

- ▶ A variety of viewpoints, biblical interpretations, and Christian expression
- ▶ The dignity of each individual as an unduplicated child of God
  - ▶ Following the way of Jesus and absolute love

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*We respectfully acknowledge that our services are being held on the traditional lands of the Snohomish and other Coast Salish Tribes.*

# HYMN #CH128 “One Candle is Lit” (1, 2, 3)

- ▶ Come surely, Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night, our hearts long to greet you, as roses the light. Salvation, draw near us, our vision engage. One candle is lit for the hope of the age.
- ▶ Come quickly, shalom, teach us how to prepare for a gift that compels us with justice to care. Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease. One candle is lit for the reign of God’s peace.
- ▶ Come, festively sing while awaiting the birth, join angels in dancing from heaven to earth. Wave banners of good news, lift high thankful praise. One candle is lit for the joy of these days.

# CALL TO WORSHIP—from Psalm 126

- ▶ **LEADER:** When the Redeemer returns the exiles to the Promised Land we will have been like dreamers.
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** Then our mouths will overflow with laughter, our tongues with cries of joy.
- ▶ **LEADER:** Then it will be said among the nations: “God has acted with grandeur on behalf of these people.”
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** God will act with wonder toward us; the thought fills us with joy.
- ▶ **LEADER:** The Holy One has glorified us - we will be as though having been in the divine presence throughout.
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** Return us, God, from our exile like sudden streambeds in the desert.
- ▶ **LEADER:** Those who plant seeds with tears of sorrow will gather the harvest with songs of joy.
- ▶ **ALL:** The one who walks even while weeping will return with gladness.

Adapted from  
*The Complete Psalms,*  
Pamela Greenberg

# HYMN #CH138 “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” (1, 3)

- ▶ Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning,  
sing our your joy, for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing.  
Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together,  
he opens wide the heav’nly door and live now inside us for ever.
- ▶ Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, though dark the winter and cheerless,  
the rising sun shall crown you with light, be strong and loving and fearless;  
love be our song and love our prayer, and love, our endless story,  
may God fill ev’ry day we share, and bring us at least into glory.

# Receiving Of Our Offerings

- ▶ *Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Whose constant love and grace we know.  
Bless now, O God, these gifts we give  
That others may in your peace live. Amen.*

# HYMN #CH 171 “God’s Love Made Visible!” (1, 2)

- ▶ God’s love made visible! Incomprehensible! Christ is invincible! His love shall reign! From love so bountiful, blessings uncountable make death surmountable! His love shall reign! Joyfully pray for peace and good will! All of our yearning he will fulfill. Live in a loving way! Praise him for every day! Open your hearts and pray. His love shall reign!
- ▶ God gave the son to us do dwell as one of us—a blessing unto us! His love shall reign! From love so bountiful, blessings uncountable make death surmountable! His love shall reign! Open all doors this day of his birth, all of good will inherit the earth. His star will always be guiding humanity throughout eternity! His love shall reign!

# Scriptures & Sermon “Leftovers & Cousins”

## ▶ **John 1:6-8, 15, 19-28**

- ▶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. (John testified to him and cried out, ‘This was he of whom I said, “He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.” ’)
- ▶ This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, ‘I am not the Messiah.’ And they asked him, ‘What then? Are you Elijah?’ He said, ‘I am not.’ ‘Are you the prophet?’ He answered, ‘No.’ Then they said to him, ‘Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?’ He said, ‘I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, “Make straight the way of the Lord” ’, as the prophet Isaiah said.
- ▶ Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, ‘Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?’ John answered them, ‘I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.’ This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

# HYMN #CH143 “Joy to the World” (all)

- ▶ Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
- ▶ Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- ▶ He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

# Shalom Circle

- ▶ Shalom, my friend; Shalom, my friend;  
Shalom, Shalom. We'll see you again; We'll  
see you again; Shalom, Shalom.