

GSBC Worship

February 14, 2021

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

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

HYMN #CH277 “Christians, We Have Met to Worship” (1, 3)

- ▶ Christians, we have met to worship and adore the living God; will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the word? All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down; Christians, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.
- ▶ Let us love our God supremely, let us love each other, too; let us pray for all earth's people till our God makes all things new. Christ will call us home to heaven, at the table we'll sit down; Christ will welcome us and serve us living manna all around.

CALL TO WORSHIP—from Psalm 72

- ▶ **LEADER:** May there be abundance of grain on the earth, growing thick and even on the hilltops.
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** May its fruit flourish like Lebanon, and its grain like grass upon the earth.
- ▶ **LEADER:** May God's name remain forever and be established as long as the sun endures.
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** May all the nations bless themselves in God and call God blessed.
- ▶ **LEADER:** Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds!
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** And blessed be God's glorious name forever!
- ▶ **LEADER:** And may all the earth be filled with God's glory.
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** O Love that keeps the heavens turning, draw us to you in all our yearnings.

HYMN #CH 25 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (1, 2, 4)

- ▶ Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation.
O my soul, worship the wellspring of health and salvation.
All ye who hear, now to God's temple draw near.
Join me in in glad adoration.
- ▶ Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
who, as on wings of an eagle uplifted, sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen? All that is needful hath been
granted in what God ordaineth?
- ▶ Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

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 499 “When Love is Found” (2, 4, 5)

- ▶ When love has flowered in trust and care,
build both each day, that love may dare
to reach beyond home's warmth and light,
to serve and strive for truth and right.
- ▶ When love is torn and trust betrayed,
pray strength to love till torments fade,
till lovers keep no score of wrong
but hear through pain love's Easter song.
- ▶ Praise God for love, praise God for life,
in age or youth, in calm or strife.
Lift up your hearts! Let love be fed
through death and life in broken bread.

Scripture & Message “Jacob and Laban”

- ▶ Genesis 31:1-24
- ▶ Now Jacob heard that the sons of Laban were saying, “Jacob has taken all that was our father’s; he has gained all this wealth from what belonged to our father.” And Jacob saw that Laban did not regard him as favorably as he did before. Then the Lord said to Jacob, “Return to the land of your ancestors and to your kindred, and I will be with you.” So Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah into the field where his flock was, and said to them, “I see that your father does not regard me as favorably as he did before. But the God of my father has been with me. You know that I have served your father with all my strength; yet your father has cheated me and changed my wages ten times, but God did not permit him to harm me. If he said, ‘The speckled shall be your wages,’ then all the flock bore speckled; and if he said, ‘The striped shall be your wages,’ then all the flock bore striped. Thus God has taken away the livestock of your father, and given them to me. During the mating of the flock I once had a dream in which I looked up and saw that the male goats that leaped upon the flock were striped, speckled, and mottled. Then the angel of God said to me in the dream, ‘Jacob,’ and I said, ‘Here I am!’ And he said, ‘Look up and see that all the goats that leap on the flock are striped, speckled, and mottled; for I have seen all that Laban is doing to you. I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and made a vow to me. Now leave this land at once and return to the land of your birth.’”

Scripture & Message “Jacob and Laban”

▶ Genesis 31:1-24

▶ “Then Rachel and Leah answered him, “Is there any portion or inheritance left to us in our father’s house? Are we not regarded by him as foreigners? For he has sold us, and he has been using up the money given for us. All the property that God has taken away from our father belongs to us and to our children; now then, do whatever God has said to you.”

So Jacob arose, and set his children and his wives on camels; and he drove away all his livestock, all the property that he had gained, the livestock in his possession that he had acquired in Paddan-aram, to go to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan. Now Laban had gone to shear his sheep, and Rachel stole her father’s household gods. And Jacob deceived Laban the Aramean, in that he did not tell him that he intended to flee. So he fled with all that he had; starting out he crossed the Euphrates, and set his face toward the hill country of Gilead. On the third day Laban was told that Jacob had fled. So he took his kinsfolk with him and pursued him for seven days until he caught up with him in the hill country of Gilead. But God came to Laban the Aramean in a dream by night, and said to him, “Take heed that you say not a word to Jacob, either good or bad.”

HYMN #CH688 “When, in Awe of God’s Creation”

- ▶ When in awe of God’s creation, we view earth from outer space, this mysterious, floating marble, strewn with clouds and bathed in grace, how can we not pause in wonder, seeing earth as one and whole? As we heal our proud divisions, may earth’s healing be our goal.
- ▶ Blue and tan, with lace clouds swirling, flung in space and circling there, habitat for myriad creatures meant for land and sea and air! Must we draw our lines of hatred marking nation, class, and race? God, forgive us, we entreat you, for all pride of self and place.
- ▶ Living now, this is the picture we no longer can deny, for we see no angry boundaries when our view is from the sky: rivers, deserts, forests, snowfields, oceans, lakes and mountains, too, but no fences, built for barring you from me or me from you.
- ▶ Now we face the unknown future, challenged by the work at hand. Still the God of all creation summons us with one command: “Love each other!” Will we do it? “Love each other!” Wars might cease! “Love each other!” Justice follows: “Love each other!” There is peace!

Shalom Circle

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