

GSBC Worship

September 20, 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

HYMN #CH290 “I Cannot Dance, O Love” (1, 3)

- ▶ I cannot dance, O Love, unless you lead me on. I cannot leap in gladness unless you lift me up. From love to love we circle, beyond all knowledge grow, For when you lead we follow, to new worlds you can show.
- ▶ O blessed Love, your circling unites us, God and soul. From the beginning, your arms embrace and make us whole. Hold us in steps of mercy from which you never part, that we may know more fully the dances of your heart.

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CALL TO WORSHIP—from Psalm 129

- ▶ LEADER: Many are the times they pressed against me—from the time of my youth—let Israel proclaim it.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: Many are the times they pressed against me from the time of my youth—**
- ▶ LEADER: but they could not defeat me completely.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: You understand what is right, God—you cut the rope of the wrongful in half.**
- ▶ LEADER: May they be ashamed and fall backward, those who despise Zion.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: May they be like grass on the rooftops that grows withered before it is plucked,**
- ▶ LEADER: so the harvester cannot fill his palm with it, nor carry sheaves of wheat against his chest.
- ▶ **ALL: And for those who fail to recognize the blessing of God upon all of us, we chastise you in the name of God.**

HYMN #CH82 “His Eye Is on the Sparrow” (1, 3)

- ▶ Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,
when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
- ▶ Refrain:
I sing because I'm happy, (I'm happy)
I sing because I'm free, (I'm free)
for his eye is on the sparrow,
and I know he watches me.
- ▶ Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
when song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him; from care he sets me free:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me. [Refrain]

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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 #CH671 “Why Stand So Far Away, My God?”

- ▶ Why stand so far away, my god? Why hide in times of need? The proud, unbridled chase the poor, and curse you in their greed.
- ▶ Why do you hide when, full of lies, they murder and betray? They wait to pound upon the weak as lions stalk their prey.
- ▶ The weak are crushed and fall to earth; the wicked strut and preen. Why in these cruel chaotic times cannot your face be seen?
- ▶ In ages past you heard the voice of those the proud oppress. Remember those who suffer now, who cry in deep distress.
- ▶ Arise, O God, and lift your hand; bring justice to the poor. Come, help us stop the flow of blood! Let terror reign no more!

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Scriptures & Sermon “City of Bloodshed”

▶ **Nahum 1:1-8, 14-15; 3:1, 18-19**

- ▶ An oracle concerning Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum of Elkosh.
- ▶ A jealous and avenging God is the LORD, the LORD is avenging and wrathful; the LORD takes vengeance on his adversaries and rages against his enemies. The LORD is slow to anger but great in power, and the LORD will by no means clear the guilty. His way is in whirlwind and storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet. He rebukes the sea and makes it dry, and he dries up all the rivers; Bashan and Carmel wither, and the bloom of Lebanon fades. The mountains quake before him, and the hills melt; the earth heaves before him, the world and all who live in it. Who can stand before his indignation? Who can endure the heat of his anger? His wrath is poured out like fire, and by him the rocks are broken in pieces. The LORD is good, a stronghold in a day of trouble; he protects those who take refuge in him, even in a rushing flood. He will make a full end of his adversaries, and will pursue his enemies into darkness. The LORD has commanded concerning you: “Your name shall be perpetuated no longer; from the house of your gods I will cut off the carved image and the cast image. I will make your grave, for you are worthless.” Look! On the mountains the feet of one who brings good tidings, who proclaims peace! Celebrate your festivals, O Judah, fulfill your vows, for never again shall the wicked invade you; they are utterly cut off.
- ▶ Ah! City of bloodshed, utterly deceitful, full of booty— no end to the plunder! Your shepherds are asleep, O king of Assyria; your nobles slumber. Your people are scattered on the mountains with no one to gather them. There is no assuaging your hurt, your wound is mortal. All who hear the news about you clap their hands over you. For who has ever escaped your endless cruelty?

HYMN #CH655 “Community of Christ” (1, 3, 4)

- ▶ Community of Christ, who make the cross your own,
live out your creed and risk your life for God alone:
the God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong,
whose children are of every race and every song.
- ▶ Community of Christ, through whom the word must sound -
cry out for justice and for peace the whole world round:
disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy,
turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.
- ▶ When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done,
the climate of the world be peace and Christ its sun;
our currency be love and kindness our law,
our food and faith be shared as one for evermore.

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Shalom Circle

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

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