

# Welcome to Shepherd of the Desert Evangelical Lutheran Church



Third Week after Epiphany  
January 25, 2026

## Mission Statement

"To be a congregation that puts the Love of Christ into action from one generation to  
"another and from our community to our world".

✠ Please stand in body or spirit.

## Preludes

Words of Welcome Pastor John Maroni

## ✠ Confession and Forgiveness

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
To you, O God,

C **all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

P By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

C **Amen.**

✠ Gathering Hymn Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

ELW #553



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;  
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of righ-teous-ness, a - rise, tri - umph o'er the shades of night;  
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,  
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

## **‡ Prayer of the Day**

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

## **First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4**

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

## **The Psalm: Psalm 27:1, 4-9**

Pew Bible

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then I shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>4</sup> **One thing I ask of the LORD; one I thing I seek;**

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;**

**to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God I in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will I give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- I on a rock.

<sup>6</sup> **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies I who surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;**

**I will sing and make music I to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, I when I call;

have mercy on me and I answer me.

<sup>8</sup> **My heart speaks your message— I “Seek my face.”**

**Your face, O LORD, I I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of I my salvation.

## **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
 You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.  
 Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.  
 Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

Pew Bible

P The Gospel of Our Lord  
 C Thanks be to God

Message

† Hymn of the Day I Love to Tell the Story

ELW #661



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

## **† Apostles Creed**

A With the whole church let us confess our faith

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the Gathered Community**

Each petition ends with:

A Merciful God,

**C receive our prayer.**

A Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## **† Share the Peace**

## **Offering Music**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

‡ Prayer at the Table

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

‡ Holy, Holy, Holy

Setting 8 Pg. 190

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C **Amen**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

### **Invitation to Communion**

P There's a place for everyone at the table. All are welcome here.

### **✠ Lamb of God**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

**Special Music** "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

Shepherd's Choir

### **✠ Post-Communion Blessing**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

### **✠ Post-Communion Prayer**

A Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with  
delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and  
heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

### **Sending of Communion to the Homebound and Ventana Winds**

### **✠ Blessing**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

**✠ Dismissal**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**



# Shepherd of the Desert Announcements

**Monday Morning Bible Study** 10:00 a.m. in the Founders Room. Remember to bring your Bible and a beverage. We will be reading the lessons for the upcoming weekend services.

**Choir Rehearsals** Come and join Kevin DeYager, our Sunday Organist, as we rehearse choir music for the upcoming services. The next rehearsal is Tuesday Feb. 3rd in the Sanctuary at 2:00 p.m.

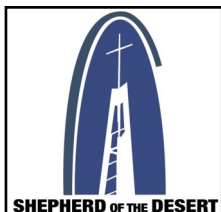
**Ladies Book Club** Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. The Book they are reading is The Story of Ruth by Liz Curtis Higgs. The cost is \$5.00. Please reach out to Nancy Fisher if you need a book.

**Pancake Breakfast** January 31st 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in Walton Hall. The price is right FREE!!! This is a free breakfast for the community and S.O.D.

**Mission of the Month - January: Area Agency on Aging DOVES®**  
Helps survivors of late-life domestic violence, sexual assault and elder abuse, age 50 and older, overcome the unique challenges older victims face as they flee their abusers and work toward self-sufficiency.



Val Thirkell	1/25
Dalene Depelsmaecker	1/29



**Senior Pastor:** Rev. John Maroni

**Church Address:** 11025 N 111th Ave. Sun City, AZ 85351 **Phone:** 623-933-1359

**Musicians:** (Sunday) Kevin DeYager (Saturday) Linda McClentic (1&3) Tony Lake (2&4)

**Website:** [www.sdaz.org](http://www.sdaz.org) **Email:** Office - Kristen Wood Secretary: [secretarysod1@gmail.com](mailto:secretarysod1@gmail.com)