

Welcome to Shepherd of the Desert Evangelical Lutheran Church



Epiphany of our Lord
January 3,4, 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 In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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

C **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

C Amen

P God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

C Amen.

✠ Gathering Hymn Arise, Your Light Has Come

ELW 314



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Prayer of the Day

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

The Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Pew Bible

- ¹ Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;
² **that he may rule your | people righteously**
and the | poor with justice;
³ that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.
⁴ **Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,**
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.
⁵ May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.
⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,**
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.
⁷ In his time may the | righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.
¹⁰ **May the kings of Tarshish and of the | isles pay tribute,**
and the kings of Sheba and Seba | offer gifts.
¹¹ May all kings bow | down before him,
and all the nations | do him service.
¹² **For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress,**
the oppressed, and those who | have no helper.
¹³ He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor,
and preserves the lives | of the needy.
¹⁴ **From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives,**
and precious is their blood | in his sight.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

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 2:1-12

Pew Bible

P The Gospel of Our Lord
 C Thanks be to God

Message

⌌ Hymn of the Day Beautiful Savior

ELW 838



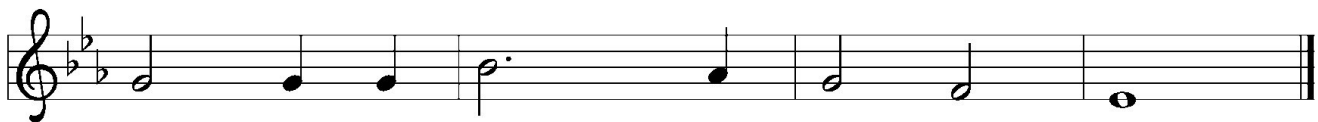
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

†† 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 Hear us, O God

C Your mercy is great.

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 We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

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.

P With hearts full of memories and hopes, we break this bread and share this cup, remembering the death and resurrection of Christ, and his promise to be with us always.

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

✠ 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 God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

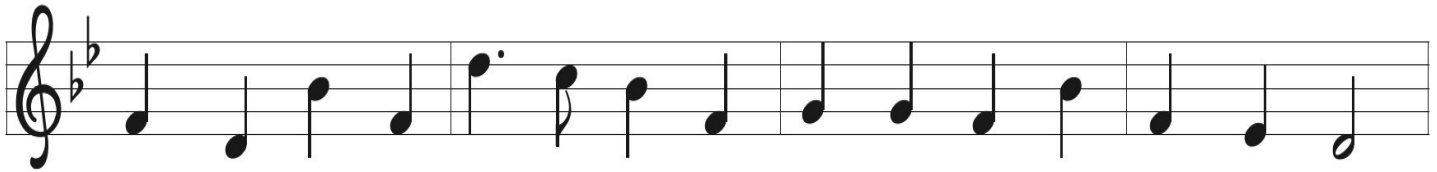
C Amen

Sending of Communion to the Homebound and Ventana Winds

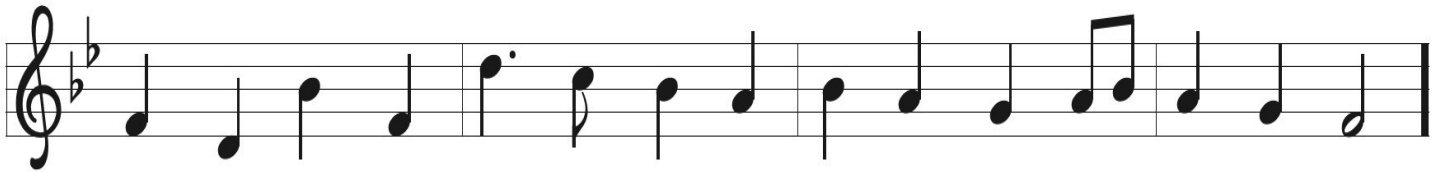
✠ Blessing

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 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla - tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

⌌ **Dismissal**

- A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Shepherd of the Desert Announcements

Attention still need to update!!

Monday Morning Bible Study 10:00 a.m. in the Conference 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 Dec.16th in the Sanctuary at 2:00 p.m.

December Mission of the Month In December, special offerings designated "Mission of the Month" will go toward **Eve's Place Community Services** a Mobile Advocacy Program for victims for domestic, sexual and teen dating abuse, that provides services in various locations throughout Arizona, California, and New Mexico.



Linda Jones

12/13

Gerald Dittmer

12/17

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 **Email:** Office - Kristen Wood Secretary: secretarysod1@gmail.com

