



**GoodShepherd**  
**OPC**

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**January 1, 2023**

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*Good Shepherd welcomes all ... the seeker, skeptic, and spiritually hungry. We all come as we are and at the same time, anticipate God will minister and change us by his grace. On the pages of the Bible, we see the unfolding message of Jesus Christ light up from Genesis to Revelation. He ignites our faith...he draws near to us and challenges us to grow. *Welcome!**

**Meeting at: Kids R Kids Learning Academy**

**Organizing Pastor  
Rev. Mark Wheat**

**(346) 291-5741  
[www.gsopc.org](http://www.gsopc.org)**

**8202 Homeward Way  
Sugar Land, TX 77479**

# MORNING WORSHIP

\*If able, please stand.

\*\*Hymn of Month

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Prayer Upon Entering the Sanctuary

*Almighty God, whose glory is above the heavens, praise waits for You in Zion! Out of Your great mercy You have gathered us into Your Church. Receive the adoration of our hearts, and grant that we may so honor You, both in spirit and in outward form, that Your name may be glorified through the worship of our lips and of our hearts. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen!*

\*Opening Praise (sing together):

*Doxology*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

*Praise him, all creatures here below*

*Praise him above, ye heavenly host*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\*Call to Worship

Psalm 67:3-5

\*Opening Prayer of Invocation

\*Hymn p. 2

*Worship the King*

Scriptural Exhortation:

1 John 2:12-14

**Pastor:** *Let us confess our sins to Almighty God...*

**People:** *O Lord whose chosen dwelling is the heart that longs for Your presence and humbly seeks Your love: we come to You to acknowledge and confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; we have not loved You with all our heart and soul, with all our mind and strength; we have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, or for the good we have left undone. But You, O Lord, are*

# MORNING WORSHIP

\*If able, please stand.

\*\*Hymn of Month

*full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy; there is forgiveness with You. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us the word that we need, and let Your word abide with us until it has worked in us Your holy will. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon:

1 Peter 2:24

\*Hymn p. 100

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

Prayer for the Covenant Community

\*Confessing Our Faith:

*The Nicene Creed (p.846 in hymnal)*

\*The Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.*

Tithes and Offerings

\*Hymn p. 302

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Reading of Scripture from the Old Testament:

Genesis 23:1-16

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: Praise Be to God!*

Reading of Scripture for the Sermon:

Revelation 21:1-4

*Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: Praise Be to God!*

Sermon Title:

*No More Crying*

\*Hymn p. 605

*All the Way My Savior Leads Me*

\*Benediction

\*Departing Hymn

*Now blessed be the Lord our God, the God of Israel,  
for he alone does wonderful works in glory that excel.  
And blessed be his glorious name to all eternity;  
the whole earth let his glory fill.  
Amen, so let it be. Amen*

## NOTES

# A Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols

**OPENING HYMN: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” TH 208**

**OPENING SCRIPTURES:** Psalm 96 - Reading Responsively

Sing to the Lord a new song;

**sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

Sing to the Lord and bless God’s name;

**tell the good news of salvation from day to day.**

Declare God’s glory among the nations,

**God’s marvelous works among all the peoples.**

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

**Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

**the world, and those who live in it.**

Let the whole creation sing for joy

**at the presence of God, who is coming.**

God is coming indeed,

**to judge the earth with righteousness,**

and the peoples with equity and truth.

**Praise the Lord!**

HYMN “Once in Royal David’s City” TH 225

**FIRST LESSON Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19:** God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent’s head

CAROL “O Little Town of Bethlehem” TH 202

**SECOND LESSON Genesis 22:15-18:** God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

CAROL “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” TH 194

**THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6-7:** The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

CAROL “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” TH 200

**FOURTH LESSON Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9:** The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

CAROL “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” TH 221

**FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26-35, 38:** The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child

CAROL “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” TH 203

**SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:1-7:** St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

CAROL "Away in a Manger" **TH 204**

**SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8-16:** The shepherds go to the manger

CAROL "Angels We Have Heard on High" **TH 214**

**EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-11:** The wise men are led by the star to Jesus and offer gifts to the new born King.

CAROL "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (See Below)

**NINTH LESSON John 1:1-14:** St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

CAROL "Silent Night, Holy Night" **TH 210**

**A Meditation:**

Pastor Wheat

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

CLOSING HYMN "Joy to the World!" **TH 195**

**CHARGE AND BLESSING**

WE THREE KINGS

We three kings of Orient are  
Bearing gifts we travel afar.  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never  
Over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I.  
Incense owns a Deity nigh.  
Prayer and praising all men raising,  
Worship Him, God on high.

Myrrh is mine: Its bitter perfume  
Breaths a life of gathering gloom.  
Sorrow, sighing, bleeding dying,  
Sealed in a stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Sounds through the earth and skies.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Welcome!* We are grateful that you have joined our worship and fellowship today. We have prayed for you and your worship, and we look forward to meeting you personally.

### *Looking Ahead:*

1/4 *Hour of Prayer* from 7:00-8:00pm via Zoom

1/7 Annual Mini-Retreat for Planning: January 7, 2023, 9:00am-12:00pm.  
Purpose: to lay before the congregation our Four Areas of Ministry that are in place and who are the Committee Chairman. Four Areas of Ministry: Outreach and Evangelism: Mark Sumpter; Edification: (need for a new chairman here); Worship: Mark Wheat; Financial and Facilities: Dwight Gardner. At this meeting we want to inform the congregation of all that is taking place at GSOPC, we want all to give input, to know our goals, to explain our need to grow, and how we are seeking to do so.

1/15 *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday* – in two weeks, on January 15<sup>th</sup>, we will observe the Lord's Supper in our morning service. After the morning worship, we will have our monthly fellowship meal, followed by an Afternoon Worship Service. We will also take up a Diaconal Offering in the morning service after we partake in the Lord's Supper.

**January 20-21 Presbytery Meeting Coming to Houston:** Over the Friday and Saturday of January 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, the Presbytery of the Southwest will be meeting at the Friendswood Church of Christ facility, 2051 W Parkwood Avenue, Friendswood, TX 77546. The meeting begins at 12 noon Friday with a devotional service and church updates. Some 25 churches and mission works (roughly) from Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Mexico, and Texas will be represented. This meeting does not come to Houston too often. Perhaps you'd like to attend some or all. It's open to the public. The meeting happens Friday: 12 Noon to around 8 pm. And then Saturday, 8:00 AM to around 12 Noon. If you're interested in Officer Training at Good Shepherd, this is a good way to see some aspects of the work of elders and ministers. Pastor Alan Strange will be giving talks on presbyterian church government on Thursday afternoon at 3:00 pm and evening (and Friday morning), January 19<sup>th</sup> and January 20<sup>th</sup>. Talk to Pastor Mark Wheat about specifics concerning any matters of this presbytery weekend.



**GIVING:**

Please make checks payable to: *Good Shepherd OPC*

Mailing Address: *16107 Kensington Dr., #192*  
*Sugar Land, TX 77479*

*Good Shepherd is a congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, a Protestant denomination committed to the historic Reformed faith. We believe in the authority of inspired Scripture as our only rule for faith and practice. Please visit [www.opc.org](http://www.opc.org) for more information.*