



CHURCH OF THE
Good Shepherd

DECEMBER 1, 2024



December 1, 2024 | 10:45 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS | Spencer Johnson

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH | Greg Wheatley

OPENING SONG | *"O Come O Come Emmanuel"*

SONG | *"His Love Can Never Fail"*

OLD TESTAMENT READING | *Isaiah 9:1-7*

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *New City Catechism Q & A #22*

Q. Why must the Redeemer be truly human?

A. That in human nature he might on our behalf perfectly obey the whole law and suffer the punishment for human sin; and also that he might sympathize with our weaknesses.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE READING | *Luke 1:26-38*

SERMON | Simon Stokes, Lead Pastor

SONG | *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*



TODAY'S SINGERS are Jen Whipple and Ginger Barnhart

CONFESSION OF SIN

Lord Jesus, we have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek you in our daily lives. Our sins and shortcomings present us with a list of accusations, but we thank you that they will not stand against us, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver us from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in us, everything that prevents us taking delight in you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | *Isaiah 44:22*

"I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you."

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

SONG | *"O Come All You Unfaithful"*

PRAYER OF RESPONSE

SONG | *"Living Hope"*

BENEDICTION

DOXOLOGY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more announcements, please turn the page and/or scan the QR code on the back page.

SMC CONGREGATIONAL TOWN HALL

On **Sunday, December 8**, join us at **9:30 a.m.** for another Town Hall, in place of our regular SMCs, as we follow up on our recent congregational meeting and discuss potential plans for 2025. **December 15** will also be a joint SMC as we hear from Greg Wheatley on "The Carols of Christmas," in room S212.

CGS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Save the date! **December 8**, from **6-7 p.m.** in the church sanctuary, you are invited to join us for a family-friendly Christmas concert featuring all the CGS choirs and many of our talented musicians!

COOKIES + CAROLS

Join Miss RiLee and her merry crew on **December 7**, from **10 a.m.-12 p.m.** as we kick off the advent season with delicious cookies, Christmas carols & crafts, and so much more! Don your snazziest Christmas gear and invite a friend or two! This holly jolly gathering is perfect for our littlest ones up to the forever young, but is especially for those aged 6 and under. Be sure to sign up by **December 4** to guarantee enough milk and cookies for all! Questions? Email RiLee Robeson (rileerobeson@cgsonline.org).

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WIDOW'S LUNCH TODAY

If you are a widow, we'd like to invite you to join our monthly informal lunch at Jason's Deli on the first Sunday of each month right after worship. We gather together to share our stories and to experience the hope we have in Christ. All widows are warmly invited. For more information, contact **Gail Stepp** (919-545-1034) or **Jackie Brown** (404-917-3958).

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

No youth group tonight! See you next week, **December 8**, for our winter field-game day right after church. See the youth email for more details & upcoming trip sign ups!

JOURNEYMATES | A MORNING APART ADVENT RETREAT

Before the pace of the holiday season picks up, you're invited to take time and space to be with God. Jen Whipple and others will lead a three hour soul care retreat, beginning with guided silence/prayer, a short reflection on Advent and the practice of lectio divina. CGS will host this Advent retreat Friday, **December 6**, from **9 a.m.-12 p.m.** Due to generous donors, these retreats are of no cost to participants. See the Friday email or QR code below to register today!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Duke ISI will be holding a Christmas party for international students on **December 6**, at Blacknall church. They are in need of volunteers to help put on this event, with various opportunities from **5-8:30 p.m.** As a church partnering with ISI, we'd love to help make this happen! See the Friday email or the QR code below for sign ups.

KIDS CARE PROJECT

Mark your calendars & join us in making Blessing Bags! We'll bag packaged food, drinks, socks, hand-warmers, handmade cards, and other goodies. These can be kept in vehicles to give as needs are seen. All ages welcome! **Sign up by December 7** to bring goodies! Questions? Contact Bethany Porter (bethanyporter@cgsonline.org).

DURHAM RESCUE MISSION MEAL

On Sunday, **December 15**, CGS is responsible for providing lunch at the DRM men's campus. If you would like to help with this month's meal, please contact Will Burkhardt (wburkhart877@gmail.com; 919-732-5199). Dropping off dishes in the main kitchen between **9:30-10:45 a.m.** the day of the meal remains the same.

BUDGET UPDATE

Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025:	\$1,950,000.
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget (4 months):	\$650,000
CGS Actual Fiscal YTD Income Received:	\$528,948
Fiscal YTD Surplus/(Deficit) to Budget:	(\$121,052)
CGS Actual Surplus/(Deficit) for Fiscal YTD 2024-25:	(\$51,872)

*For more announcements,
please scan the QR code:*

