



CHURCH OF THE
Good Shepherd

JANUARY 4, 2026

Welcome to the Church of the Good Shepherd!

We are excited you are here. Please visit the welcome table in the narthex following the service to learn more about ways you can join in.

If you have not already, please complete the Connect Card in the pew in front of you so that we can get to know you!

Please Recycle Your Bulletin

Place your bulletin and other unwanted papers in one of the plastic recycling bins located at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you!



January 4, 2026 | 10:45 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship | Mark Whipple, Pastor of Community Formation

Song | *This Is Amazing Grace*

Song | *Great Are You Lord*

Scripture Reading | Ruling Elder Kyle Osborne, Isaiah 40:3-8, pg. 599

Congregational Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Dismissal of Children | *(Ages 3 to 3rd grade)*

Q: What is our prayer for our children?

A: To know and enjoy God and his Word.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Scripture Reading | Mark 1:1-13, pg. 836

Sermon | *The Beginning of the Gospel*

Simon Stokes, Lead Pastor

Series: Learning the Way of Jesus

Song | *King of Kings*



Confession of Sin

Father of mercies, we confess that we have sinned against you. Instead of loving our neighbor, we have looked down on them. Instead of serving you, we have demanded things from you. Forgive us. By your Holy Spirit, come and work repentance into our hearts. Help us to see you as you are: with outstretched arms, a loving heart, and power to save.

Assurance of Pardon | Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

Communion is for anyone who is united by faith to Christ and joined to any Christ-centered church.

Song | Altogether Good

We invite you to either join in singing or meditate quietly during this time.

Prayer of Response

Song | Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Benediction

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.

**White grape juice is located on the outer ring of the tray; red wine is on the inner rings.*

The pre-packaged elements in the center of the tray are certified gluten free.

The baked bread is prepared using a gluten free mix. Cross-contamination with common allergens is possible.

GROW TOGETHER

Learn more at cgsonline.org or RSVP with the QR code below.

Sunday Morning Classes (SMCs) | January 11

Join us for our new SMCs beginning January 11. Please see the flyer in your bulletin or visit the church website for additional information.

Youth News: Dark Games | January 11

Middle and high schoolers are invited to join us on Sunday, January 11, from 6:00-8:30 p.m. in the youth room. Come spend time with friends and enjoy fun games around the church.

Women on Wednesdays Social | January 14

All women are invited for a time of social fellowship at Monica Gainey's home (1002 Valley Rose Way, Durham, 27712) on January 14 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Drop in any time and bring any food or drink you'd like to share. Please reach out to Julie (julieburson@cgsonline.org), with any questions.

Legacy Brunch | January 15

Join us on Thursday, January 15, at 10:30 a.m., featuring a brunch buffet of assorted bagels with toppings and yogurt bowls, followed by a conversation with two parents on how life in our local school systems has changed over the past ten years and how we can support our families today.

SERVE TOGETHER

Children's Worship Openings

Children's Ministry is looking for 6 puppeteers, 3 guitarists, and 3 vocalists who would like to help lead Children's Worship. Please contact Angie (angieheinrich@cgsonline.org) if interested and for more information.

CGS FINANCES

For Fiscal Year Beginning 7/01/2025

Fiscal Year-to-Date giving as of 11/30/2025:	\$786,462
Fiscal Year-to-Date budget as of 11/30/2025:	\$762,710



Please recycle. Thank you!

Scan the QR code to
register for an event:





CGS LEADERSHIP

ELDERS

Norman Acker
Doug Betts
Andrew Carlson
Stephen Eckel
Steve Jones
Dave Long
Kyle Osborne
Alex Robeson
Todd Rust
Ray Toher

DEACONS

Richard Alford
Stephen Balevic
Daniel Carter
Justin Davis
Dean Freck
Andrew Hassinger
Aaron Mitchell
Brian Prentice
Phillip Yelverton

SESSION ADVISORS

Michelle Bryan
Angie Heinrich
Alex Mitchell