

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades, including light lime green, medium green, and dark forest green, creating a modern and dynamic feel.

WELCOME!

GSBC Hybrid Worship

July 4, 2021

Our Mission Statement

The mission of Good Shepherd Baptist Church is to be a supportive, open, growing Christian community that reaches out to all in a spirit of unconditional love.

Our Statement of Core Values

We value and support:

- ▶ A variety of viewpoints, biblical interpretations, and Christian expression
 - ▶ The dignity of each individual as an unduplicated child of God
- ▶ Following the way of Jesus and absolute love

We respectfully acknowledge that our services are being held on the traditional lands of the Snohomish and other Coast Salish Tribes.

HYMN #CH 289 “What Is This Place” (1-3)

- ▶ What is this place where we are meeting? Only a house, the earth its floor, walls and roof sheltering people, windows for light, an open door. Yet it becomes a body that lives when we are gathered here, and know our God is near.
- ▶ Words from afar, stars that are falling, sparks that are sown in us like seed. Names for our God, dreams, signs, and wonders sent from the past are what we need. We in this place remember and speak again what we have heard: God’s free redeeming word.
- ▶ And we accept bread at this table, broken and shared, a living sign. Here in this world, dying and living, we are each other’s bread and wine. This is the place where we can receive what we need to increase: God’s justice and God’s peace.

CALL TO WORSHIP—from Psalm 122

- ▶ **LEADER:** Praise God, you that revere the ETERNAL ONE!
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** Stand in awe of God, O offspring of Israel; all of you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- ▶ **LEADER:** For God does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does God hide from them
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** but when they cry to God, God hears them.
- ▶ **LEADER:** My praise is of God in the great assembly.
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship God.
- ▶ **LEADER:** The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the ETERNAL ONE shall praise.
- ▶ **ALL:** God, may your Spirit be always with us!

HYMN #CH 725 “God of the Ages” (1-3)

- ▶ God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.
- ▶ Thy love divine hath led us in the past, in this free land with thee our lot is cast; be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay, thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.
- ▶ From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever sure defense; thy true religion in our hearts increase, thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Receiving Of Our Offerings

- ▶ *Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Whose constant love and grace we know.
Bless now, O God, these gifts we give
That others may in your peace live. Amen.*

HYMN #CH 491 “As Grain on Scattered Hillsides” (1, 3, 4)

- ▶ As grain on scattered hillsides, when gathered, makes one bread, God, gather all your people, as one in Christ our head. We come from many places and we are not the same, yet your strong love has called us to meet in Jesus’ name.
- ▶ Like yeast that brings new ferment so lifeless dough may rise, your Spirit is the leaven of life that satisfies. As salt enhances flavor, enriches, and preserves, may earth rejoice to savor a church that heals and serves.
- ▶ O Christ, our risen Savior; O Spirit, holy dove, come now and move among us; make us a sign of love. Come, knead and blend each texture with strong and gentle hands, that we may be one body, one loaf in many hands.

Scripture & Message “The New Rules?”

- ▶ Acts 15:1-21
- ▶ Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, “It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses.”
- ▶ The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers.

Scripture & Message “The New Rules?”

- ▶ And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.” The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. After they finished speaking, James replied, “My brothers, listen to me. Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written, ‘After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen; from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up, so that all other peoples may seek the Lord— even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called. Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things known from long ago.’ Therefore I have reached the decision that we should not trouble those Gentiles who are turning to God, but we should write to them to abstain only from things polluted by idols and from fornication and from whatever has been strangled and from blood. For in every city, for generations past, Moses has had those who proclaim him, for he has been read aloud every sabbath in the synagogues.”

HYMN #CH 420 “I Come with Joy” (1-3, 5)

- ▶ I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free, the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
- ▶ I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.
- ▶ As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.
- ▶ Together met, together bound by all that God has done, we'll go with joy, to give the world, the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen

Shalom Circle

- ▶ Shalom, my friend; Shalom, my friend;
Shalom, Shalom. We'll see you again; We'll
see you again; Shalom, Shalom.