

# GSBC Worship

October 25, 2020

## **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

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

# HYMN #CH293 “Out of Need and Out of Custom” (1,2)

- ▶ Out of need and out of custom, we have gathered here again; to the gathering we are bringing love and laughter, grief and pain. Some believing, some rejoicing, some afraid, and some in doubt, come we now our questions voicing, we would search these matters out.
- ▶ Come we now our masks displaying, fearing that we shall be known, foolish games forever playing, feeling meanwhile so alone. Let pretension’s power be broken, to be human let us dare; let the truth in love be spoken, let us now the questing share.

# CALL TO WORSHIP—from Psalm 37

- ▶ LEADER: Don't grow heated and angry against those who cause harm; don't get jealous over those who act unjustly.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: For like grass they will soon wither, like a weed they will waste away.**
- ▶ LEADER: Trust in God and do good; dwell on the land nourishing your faith like sheep.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: Delight in the Holy One, and you will be given your heart's desire.**
- ▶ LEADER: Be silent and wait for the Creator; don't grow heated and angry when the wrongful succeed on their path.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: those who spend their time crafting treacherous schemes.**
- ▶ LEADER: Calm your anger, abandon rage. Don't grow heated; it can only bring harm.
- ▶ **ALL: For those who bring sorrow will be cut off; but those who hope in God—they will inherit the earth.**

# HYMN #CH711 “O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines”

▶ O day of peace that dimly shines  
through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,  
guide us to justice, truth, and love,  
delivered from our selfish schemes.  
May swords of hate fall from our hands,  
our hearts from envy find release,  
till by God's grace our warring world  
shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

▶ Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,  
nor shall the fierce devour the small;  
as beasts and cattle calmly graze,  
a little child shall lead them all.  
Then enemies shall learn to love,  
all creatures find their true accord;  
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled,  
for all the earth shall know the Lord.

# 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 #CH339 “Just As I Am” (1, 3, 4)

- ▶ Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bid'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
- ▶ Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
- ▶ Just as I am, thy love unknown, hast broken ev'ry barrier down; now, to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

# Scriptures & Sermon “Becoming the Oppressor”

## ▶ **Ezra 9:1-4; 10:1-5, 44**

### ▶ **Denunciation of Mixed Marriages**

▶ 9After these things had been done, the officials approached me and said, ‘The people of Israel, the priests, and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands with their abominations, from the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites. <sup>2</sup>For they have taken some of their daughters as wives for themselves and for their sons. Thus the holy seed has mixed itself with the peoples of the lands, and in this faithlessness the officials and leaders have led the way.’ <sup>3</sup>When I heard this, I tore my garment and my mantle, and pulled hair from my head and beard, and sat appalled. <sup>4</sup>Then all who trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the faithlessness of the returned exiles, gathered around me while I sat appalled until the evening sacrifice.

### ▶ **The People’s Response**

▶ 10While Ezra prayed and made confession, weeping and throwing himself down before the house of God, a very great assembly of men, women, and children gathered to him out of Israel; the people also wept bitterly. <sup>2</sup>Shecaniah son of Jehiel, of the descendants of Elam, addressed Ezra, saying, ‘We have broken faith with our God and have married foreign women from the peoples of the land, but even now there is hope for Israel in spite of this. <sup>3</sup>So now let us make a covenant with our God to send away all these wives and their children, according to the counsel of my lord and of those who tremble at the commandment of our God; and let it be done according to the law. <sup>4</sup>Take action, for it is your duty, and we are with you; be strong, and do it.’ <sup>5</sup>Then Ezra stood up and made the leading priests, the Levites, and all Israel swear that they would do as had been said. So they swore. <sup>44</sup>All these had married foreign women, and they sent them away with their children.



# HYMN #CH594 “Dear God, Embracing Humankind” (1, 4, 5)

- ▶ Dear Lord, embracing humankind, forgive our foolish ways!  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.
- ▶ Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;  
take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered  
lives confess the beauty of thy peace.
- ▶ Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy  
balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the  
earthquake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

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# Shalom Circle

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

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