

# ***Gentle Shepherd Community Church***

“Where Truth and Love Grow Together”

Advent 4 - December 24, 2017 – 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Scott Kohler, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Brad Little, Pastor Emeritus

Christy Boyd, Pianist

**Greeters at Entrance:** Mel Spires & David Crawford

**Greeters at Entrance:** Arnold & Ruth Acton

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

#182 O Come All Ye Faithful

## **Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle**

**Call to Worship** Luke 1:46-50

**Leader:** My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

**Congregation:** for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

**Leader:** From now on all generations will call me blessed,

**Congregation:** for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name.

**Leader:** His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. (NIV®)

## **Opening Prayer and Lord’s Prayer**

## **Songs of Praise**

#189 Angels from the Realms of Glory

#221 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

**Scripture Reading:** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Rev. Ross Ingram

After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, he said to Nathan the prophet, “Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent.” Nathan replied to the king, “Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you.” But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying: “Go and tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, “Why have you not

built me a house of cedar?’” ’ “Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. “ ‘The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you. Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.’ ” (NIV®)

## **A Message for the Children**

## **Pastoral Prayer**

**Message** “A Holy Visitor”

**Closing Hymn** I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

## **Benediction**

**Choral Blessing:** Go Now in Peace

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of ev’ry day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.

Know he will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there, watching from above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

## **Postlude**

---

We welcome you to Worship at Gentle Shepherd Community Church this morning. We’re glad you came! Please plan to join us following the service for some refreshments and fellowship downstairs. If you are a visitor today, please sign our Guest Book in the foyer as you leave as a lasting reminder of your visit. We hope you feel as welcome as you are as part of the Gentle Shepherd family.

\*\*Please note: Instead of collecting our offerings during the worship service, there is now an offering box at the back of the church. Our church family is invited to share in giving in this way.

## Weekly Announcements

**Missions and Outreach Team Challenge:** Our December Food Bank (Greener Village) challenge is to provide canned goods that can be part of a Christmas meal, such as canned vegetables, fruit and cranberries. Although needed in this season for Christmas food boxes, these items are always in demand at Greener Village. As usual, your donations can be left in the box in the foyer of the church.

Any prayer requests can be sent to Don Kerstens at [djkerstens@gmail.com](mailto:djkerstens@gmail.com). If anyone would like their name included in the Prayer Chain, please contact Don.

Do you have announcements for the bulletin? Please send submissions to Connie Crawford at [conniecrawford259@gmail.com](mailto:conniecrawford259@gmail.com) by Tuesday morning.

**NO SCENTS MAKES SENSE:** A number of people in our church family have allergic reactions to scents. Please be sensitive to those needs when preparing to attend worship.

## Weekly Activities

Sunday, December 24	10:30 AM	Worship Service – Advent IV
Friday, December 29	5:30 PM	Potluck at Sensingers’
Sunday, December 31	10:30 AM	Worship Service



## **Gentle Shepherd Community Church**

Rev. Scott Kohler

December 24, 2017

870 Grandame Street

Fredericton, NB, E3B 3Z8

[www.gentleshepherdchurch.ca](http://www.gentleshepherdchurch.ca)

Phone: 460-8983 (church), E-mail: [gscpastor@gmail.com](mailto:gscpastor@gmail.com)