

**THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 • 10:30 A.M.



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

RITE II

HYMN 390 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation" *Lobe den Herren*

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

355

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.*People* Amen.

HYMNAL S-236

*Benedictus, es, Domine***Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;****you are worthy of praise; glory to you.****Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;****we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.****Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;****on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.****Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;****we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.****Glory to you, beholding the depths;****in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.****Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;****we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

234

Presider The Lord be with you.*People* **And also with you.***Presider* Let us pray.*A moment of silence is observed.**Presider* O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*People* Amen.

Reader A Reading from the Book of Ezekiel

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. ²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence follows the reading.

PSALM 25:3-9

Old 100th

- 1 **Show me your ways, O LORD, my God,
And teach my feet your path, I pray;
For my salvation comes from you,
I trust in you throughout the day.**
- 2 **Remember your compassion, LORD,
Your steadfast love of ancient days,
And in that love remember me,
Remember not my youthful ways.**
- 3 **Gracious and upright is the LORD;
He teaches sinners in his way;
He guides the humble toward the right,
Instructs the lowly day by day.**

**4 The pathways of the LORD are love
and faithfulness to all his own
Who keep his covenant and all
the testimonies he made known.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 2:1-13

Reader A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

¹ If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence follows the reading.

HYMN 482

"Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy"

Slane

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 11:25-30

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in

heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Becky Zartman Carpenter

THE NICENE CREED

358

Presider and People

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Form IV)

388

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Leader Lord, in your mercy.

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Leader Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Leader Lord, in your mercy.

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Leader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Leader Lord, in your mercy.

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Leader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray especially for _____, and all others who are preparing for the birth or adoption of a child.

Silence

Leader Lord, in your mercy.

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Leader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially _____; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

We also pray for Hildred Goering, Chris Poole, Jeffrey Reddick, Mac Martin, Jim Facile, Gregory Strickland, Brent Wilson, Jeanette Belfield, Notie Vay Meadows, Bill Harris, Bill Hudgins, Becky Bryan, Albert Ervin, Dwight Johnson, and Boo White.

Silence

Leader Lord, in your mercy.

People Hear our prayer.

Leader We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially _____, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all

your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Leader Lord, in your mercy.

People Hear our prayer.

Leader All these prayers we offer up to you, O God, those spoken aloud and those known only to you in our hearts, trusting in your mercy.

People Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

360

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A moment of silence is observed.

Presider and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People Amen.

THE PEACE

360

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

361

Anthem *Jesu, Joy Of Man's Desiring* J. S. Bach
*Jesu, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright, drawn by thee, our souls aspiring,
soar to uncreated light. Word of God, our flesh that fashioned with the fire of life impassioned.
Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying round thy throne.* text: Robert Bridges

HYMN 432 (vs. 4) "O praise ye the Lord!" *Laudate Dominum*

**O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along!
For love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B)

367

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

HYMNAL S-125

Sanctus

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Presider We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word

spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People **AMEN.**

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Presider and People

**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 trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

364

After the Presider breaks the consecrated Bread, a moment of silence is observed.

Hymnal S-169

Fraction Anthem: My flesh is food indeed

Leader

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

Leader and People

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

Leader

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them.

Leader and People

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

364

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

364

Please follow the directions of the usher to the communion rail. After receiving the bread, communicants may receive the wine either by sipping from the chalice or by intinction (i.e. carefully dipping the wafer into the wine). Gluten free wafers are available. For a blessing instead of communion, please cross your arms over your chest as an indication to the priest.

HYMN 439

"What wondrous love is this"

Wondrous Love

HYMN 343

"Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless"

St. Agnes

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

366

Presider Let us pray.

A moment of silence is observed.

Presider and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do

the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BLESSING

HYMN 544

"Jesus shall reign, where'er the sun"

Duke Street

DISMISSAL

366

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Lobe den Herren

Johann

Pachelbel

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SERVERS

Acolytes Matthew McKellar and Julianne Wilson;

Altar Guild Barbara Willis and David McDaniel;

Audiovideo Engineer Ron Sowers; **Eucharistic Minister** Bob Larimer;

Flower Guild Ashley Moss and Emily Bondy;

Greeters Kenneth and Deborah Burnette; **Intercessor** Lance Daughtride;

Musicians The Alleluia Choir; The Cherub Choir; The Good Shepherd Choir;

Lance Daughtride, trumpeter; Lawrence Goering, organist;

Presider The Rev. Becky Zartman Carpenter;

Readers Marzena Laszewski and Mary Palmer;

Vestry Counter Kim Daughtride

VESTRY

Class of 2027
Kenneth Burnette
Barbara Hicks
Jack Miller
John Tobias

Class of 2028
Corey Folta
Heather Seale

Class of 2029
John Barker
Kim Daughtridge
Larry Duffee

Senior Warden Kenneth Burnette
Clerk Gayle Edwards

Junior Warden Heather Seale
Treasurer Jack Miller

STAFF

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For pastoral emergencies, please call and leave a message
on Becky's mobile phone: 570-259-0671

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AND DAY SCHOOL**
231 N. Church St., Rocky Mount, NC 27804

www.goodshepherdrmt.org (252) 442-1134

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. (Holy Eucharist, Rite I)

10:30 a.m. (Holy Eucharist, Contemporary language – livestreamed at *goodshepherdlive.org*)

Wednesday Service

12:00 p.m. (Holy Eucharist)