

**THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 • 10:30 A.M.



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY
Handel

Andante

G. F.

HYMN 390

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

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-35

Venite

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth,

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

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 Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Amos 8:4-7

Reader A Reading from the Book of Amos.

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." ⁷The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence follows the reading.

PSALM 113 (All sing. Congregation remains seated.)
Azmon

1. **Hallelujah! Give praise to God,
Yes, let his Name be praised;
From this time forth forevermore
Let blessing be upraised.**
2. **From sunrise to the setting sun
Sing praises to God's Name;
Exalted over all the earth,
Above the heavens his fame.**
3. **For who, enthroned like God on high,
Stoops down to heaven and earth,
Lifts up the weak and poor from dust,
Ascribes to them such worth?**
4. **He sets them with the mighty ones,
The princes of the earth;
He makes the barren woman sing
With joy as she gives birth.**

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Reader A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to Timothy.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all-- this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A moment of silence follows the reading.

HYMN 488

"Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart"

Slane

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 16:1-13

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

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰ "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can

serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Rebecca Michelfelder

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 III)

387

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on _____ and all those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

We also pray for Jeanette Belfield, Brenna Bennett, Becky Bryan, Bill Hudgins, Mary Dawson, Albert Ervin, Frances Gaither, Dwight Johnson, Dawn McGlohon, Boo White, and Brent Wilson.

Leader Defend from all perils _____, and all others who are preparing for the birth or adoption of a child.

People **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Leader We praise you for _____ and all your saints who have entered into joy;

People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Leader Gracious God, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

361

Anthem *Sing Praise To God, Our Strength Of Old* Franz Joseph Haydn

Sing praise to God, our strength of old, and ages count on ages rolled; with lasting joy thy servant's eyes shall see his children's children rise. Safe in thy presence let us stand, and share the blessings of thy hand; our dwelling let thy truth defend, thy mercy on our steps attend. So shall thy love awake our song, thy name the willing note prolong, while warmed with zeal, our vows we pay, and bless thee to our latest day. text: based on Psalm 61:6-8

HYMN 416 (vs. 5) "For the beauty of the earth"

Dix

**For the Church which evermore lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore thy pure sacrifice of love,**

Christ our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer A)

361

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; for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Presider We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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: Christ our Passover

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 676

"There is a balm in Gilead"

Balm in Gilead

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 408

"Sing praise to God who reigns above"

Mit Freuden zart

DISMISSAL

366

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Allegro

G. F.

Handel

*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in thanksgiving for Alston McCullough Meadows,
Frank Pleasants Meadows IV, and Sadie Estelle Meadows.*

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735780-A. All rights reserved. Permission to use the hymns and service music in this service obtained from RiteSong, order 807153a2-75c0-44de-9e03-1ac39b25af0b. All rights reserved.

SERVERS

Acolytes Sadie Meadows and Andrew Hedgepeth;
Altar Guild Jeanne Shannon;
Audiovideo Engineer Ron Sowers; **Eucharistic Minister** Ashley Moss;
Flower Guild Pam Larimer and Ashley Moss;
Greeters Al and Barbara Hicks; **Intercessor** Lance Daughtridge;
Musicians The Good Shepherd Choir; Lawrence Goering, organist;
Presider The Rev. Rebecca Michelfelder;
Readers Kim Bayless and Howard Weeks;
Vestry Counters Britt Myers and John Tobias

VESTRY

Class of 2026
Brenning Daughtridge
Emily Dwight
Britt Myers

Class of 2027
Kenneth Burnette
Barbara Hicks
Jack Miller
John Tobias

Class of 2028
Corey Folta
Heather Seale

Senior Warden Kenneth Burnette
Clerk Gayle Edwards

Junior Warden Emily Dwight
Treasurer Jon Colston

STAFF

Lawrence Goering (lgoering@goodshepherdrrmt.org), *Organist and Director of Music*

Penny Neville (pneville@goodshepherdrrmt.org), *Bookkeeper*

Sarah Katherine Rollings (office@goodshepherdrrmt.org), *Office Administrator*

Bernadette Yarborough (byarborough@goodshepherdrrmt.org), *Acting Director of the Day School*

The Rev. Becky Zartman Carpenter (rzartman@goodshepherdrrmt.org), *Priest-in-Charge*

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

To support the ministries of Good Shepherd,
please consider donating online using this QR code:



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)