THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

DECEMBER 1, 2024 AT 10:15 AM **THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Are You Visiting This Morning?

Know that you are most welcome, and we pray that you will return to worship with us again soon! Please do us the honor of filling out a Welcome Card, either by scanning the QR code to the right OR by filling out a physical card located in the pew rack and then placing it in the alms basin during the offertory or handing it to an usher or to a member of the clergy as you leave. Thank you!

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

This service bulletin is designed for use with the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and the blue Hymnal 1982, both of which are located in the pew rack in front of you.

Voluntary

Processional Hymn: O come, O come, Emmanuel *(verses 1-4)* Hymnal 56

Opening Acclamation Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 355

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People **You come to your people and set them free.**

The Kyrie Hymnal S 91

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day BCP, p. 355

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

Lector A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response **Psalm 25:1-9**
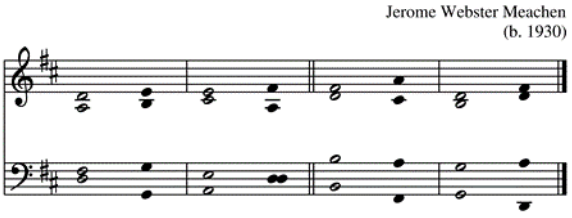
Ad te, Domine, levavi

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in
their schemes.

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my
transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.



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7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

The Second Lesson **1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

Lector A reading from St. Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: O day of God, draw nigh Hymnal 600

The Gospel **Luke 21:25-36**

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of

what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon The Rev. Hershey Mallette Stephens

Prayers of the People, Form IV BCP, p. 388

The Peace BCP, p. 360

Welcome and Announcements Please see pages 6 & 7 for today's announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem: Advent Carol John Horman

Prepare our hearts; prepare our minds for the advent of our Lord, Jesus Christ. For lo, the son of God appears! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel. The time is drawing nigh for his coming. The babe shall be born again in the hearts of all nations. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel. God with us.

Presentation Hymn: O come, O come Emmanuel *(verse 6)* Hymnal 56

O come, thou Dayspring from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer D BCP, p. 372

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy Hymnal S 124

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.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues on p. 373 in the Book of Common Prayer

The Lord's Prayer BCP, p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread BCP, p. 364

Fraction Anthem: *Agnus Dei* Hymnal S 158

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Invitation and Communion

During communion today, Daughters of the King will be available in the Bride's Room to pray with anyone desiring healing prayers.

All are invited to come forward during the sharing of Holy Communion.

Where can I go to receive bread and wine by drinking from the common cup? *Please come to the left side (lectern side) of the altar rail; return to your seat via the stairs in the sacristy.*

Where can I go to receive bread and wine by intinction (having a minister dip the host in wine and place it in your hand)? *Please come to the right side (pulpit side) of the altar rail; return to your seat via the stairs by the baptismal font.*

Where can I go to receive only the bread? *Please come to either location and tell the server "only bread."*

Where can I go to receive gluten-free bread? *Please come to either location and ask for gluten free.*

Where can I go to receive a blessing? *Please come to either location and cross your arms over your chest.*

How can ask for communion to be brought to me? *Please ask an usher to receive by intinction in your seat.*

Communion Hymns:

Once he came in blessing Hymnal 53
Savior of the nations, come! Hymnal 325

Post Communion Prayer BCP, p. 365

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: Hail to the Lord's Anointed Hymnal 616

The Dismissal BCP, p. 366

Voluntary

Please join us immediately following this service for lunch, fellowship, and Advent wreath making!

Today's Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Martha Kuper Brinson
in loving memory of her parents, Fred and Nadine Kuper.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Prayer List

Roy Wright; Catherine and Bob Williams; Janet Gilliam; Ralph Sanders; Pete Taylor; Martha Bailey; Peggy Hawks; Ginny Byrd; Darrell Dennis; Janie Ward-Newton; William Short; Paul Hoch; Brinley Harris; Don Caudill; Shirley Caudill; Larry Bledsoe; Jane Mayhew; Janet Watrous; The students, faculty, and community of St. Augustine's University; Rebecca Lamb; Alan L.; Bob Kirchgessner; Josephine Placa; Kathy Acton; Patricia Harris; Noah Cassion; Marilyn; The Lawrence Family; The Tyson Family; The Rivers Family; The Owens Family; the people of Israel, Palestine, and Lebanon; the people of Ukraine and Russia; victims of gun violence; and those affected by drought, heat, floods, and storms, especially those impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

And we pray for those who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, remembering especially Carolyn Owens and Teresa Burt.

In the diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for The Anglican Communion

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.

Serving Today

Ushers	Jason Hingerton and Kay Stallings
Lectors	Rich Leonard and Rob Robinson
Intercessor & Chalicist	Rob Robinson
Livestream & Sound	Ed Sharp and Sam DeShong
Flower Guild	Judi Mathis

Give to The Church of the Good Shepherd Online

Use the QR code to the right to give online.
Open your phone's camera, point the camera at the square, and tap the screen.

Announcements

Stewardship Update

- Thank you to everyone who has already pledged your financial commitment during 2025! If you haven't yet pledged, it's not too late. You're invited to support the parish and our ministries by submitting your pledge just as soon as possible so that your financial support can be considered as the vestry budgets for 2025. Thank you!
- To date:
  - Pledged: **$740,365 (99%** of our $750,000 pledge goal)
  - Number of pledges received: **163** (**87%** of 2024 pledges)
  - **The deadline for submitting 2025 pledges is today, December 1st.** All pledges received by December 1st will be counted toward the 2025 budget, which will be finalized by December 16th.

Confirmations, Receptions, & Reaffirmations

When Bishop Sam visits on December 15th, we will have the opportunity to celebrate confirmations, receptions, and reaffirmations during the 10:15 worship service. Anyone who desires to be confirmed or received or to reaffirm their baptismal vows should contact **Rev. Imogen** or Parish Administrator **David Baggett** (david.baggett@cgs-raleigh.org || 919.831.2018).

December at a Glance

Please see the parish newsletter for details

Dec 1	• 2025 Pledges Due • Beyond Our Doors Lunch • Advent Wreath-Making Festival
4	Funeral for Mitchell Lawrence at 11 AM
8	• Advent Lessons and Carols at 10:15 • Reading of *A Christmas Carol* at 11:45
15	• Bishop Sam's Visitation • Celtic Service (Hope & Healing at Christmas) at 5 PM
19	Shepherd's Lunch & Eucharist at 12 Noon
22	Christmas Pageant at 10:15 AM
24	Christmas Eve Services at 2, 5, and 8 PM *(special music at 4:30 and 7:30 PM)*
25	Christmas Day Service at 9 AM
29	Christmas Lessons & Carols

St. Nicholas Tree

This year our St. Nicholas Tree, located in the Parish Life Center lobby, benefits families served by Episcopal Farmworker Ministry. The tree is decorated with stars…each star has the name of a child along with the child's age, clothing sizes, and desired gifts. After you select your star(s) please use the notebook by the tree to list the star number(s) that you have taken and your contact information. Please wrap the gift and attach the child's star to the gift. If there are multiple gifts for one child, please label each gift with the child's star number. Please return gifts to the church by **Tuesday, December 10th.** Thank you so much for participating in this ministry. **Contact: Jennifer Tlusty** (919.414.2950).

Annual Reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*

Come enjoy this parish tradition with mulled wine and nibbles in the Ennis Suite at 11:45 next **Sunday, December 8th.**

Today

- At 9 AM
    - **Sunday School for Kids** (4-12 yo)
    - **Adult Formation --** *The Infancy Narratives in Advent* led by Rev Nancy in the Ennis Suite. This class is a joint offering with the Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study.
- At 11:30 AM -- **Advent Wreath Making, Lunch, and Fellowship**
- At 5:30 PM -- **Episcopal Youth Community (EYC)**

All-Ages Christmas Pageant

It's almost time for our annual Christmas Pageant! As we did last year, the pageant will be an all-ages affair, taking place during the 10:15 service on **December 22nd**. With scripts in hand, we'll tell the story of the first Christmas, as well as a few corny Good Shepherd jokes. We want this to be a simple and joyous experience that involves the whole Good Shepherd Family. We invite folks of all ages to sign up, especially the youngest among us, but there are roles and fun for anyone, in this celebration of our community. There's a signup form on the bulletin board outside the nursery for anyone of any age who wants to be a sarcastic census taker, a wicked monarch, or a humble visitor to the stable where our Lord was born. **Contact: Ian Finley** (919.931.2196).

Funeral Service for Mitchell Lawrence

A service to celebrate the life of our dearly beloved sister in Christ, Mary Etta Mitchell Lee Lawrence, will be held at The Church of the Good Shepherd on Wednesday, December 4th at 11 AM. The family will host a reception at the church immediately following the service. Please continue to hold Mitchell and her family and loved ones in your prayers. Funeral parking options for your consideration:

- 200 W Morgan Street (former Diocesan House lot) at the corner of McDowell and Morgan Streets (directly across McDowell Street from the church) from 10 AM until 1 PM.
- The Municipal Parking Deck at the corner of McDowell and Morgan Streets (diagonally opposite the back of the church) offers two-hour free parking.

Did You Know? There's Free Downtown Weekday Parking

The City of Raleigh has announced a new pilot program that will offer two-hour free parking in several city-owned decks throughout downtown, including the Municipal Building Deck (201 W. Morgan Street.) The Municipal Building Parking Deck is located catty-corner from the back of the church (across McDowell Street). This parking option is especially helpful for those wishing to attend Good Shepherd weekday events.

Battery Disposal - FILL THE BUCKET

The Green Team has placed a Battery Disposal Bucket in the Parish Life Center lobby. ***When disposing of a lithium battery (found in cell phones, laptops, and some tools), please be sure to tape both ends of the battery with non-conductive tape before dropping it in the bucket***. ***Tape is available at the bucket***. Thank you! **Contacts: Carolyn Manley** (919.333.1423) or **James Joslin** (919.219.4735).

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

We are a welcoming, inclusive and affirming parish in the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. We seek to meet and serve Christ in all people and to glorify God in our words and our actions.

THE RT. REV. SAMUEL RODMAN
BISHOP DIOCESAN OF NORTH CAROLINA

THE RT. REV. JENNIFER BROOKE-DAVIDSON
ASSISTANT BISHOP OF NORTH CAROLINA

THE REV. IMOGEN RHODENHISER, RECTOR
THE REV. JUSTIN GABBARD, ASSOCIATE RECTOR
THE REV. HERSHEY MALLETTE STEPHENS, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
THE REV. NANCY ALLISON, PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

YOUR 2024 VESTRY

Peg Dorer, Sr. Warden
David Howard, Jr. Warden
Gregg Knepley, Treasurer
Carolyn Manley, Registrar

CLASS OF 2025
John Boyne, Jr
Cheryl Cozzi
Peg Dorer
Grace Sved

CLASS OF 2026
Ed Gavin
Esther Hall
David Howard
Gregg Knepley

CLASS OF 2027
James Deal
Dan Harris
Leslie Gilbert
Kay Stallings

YOUR PARISH STAFF

David Baggett
Parish Administrator

Laura Dearth
Bookkeeper

Dwayne Holloway
Interim Director of Music & Organist

Stephen McCann
Facilities Coordinator