

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

JANUARY 4, 2026 AT 10:15 AM

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.



Are You Visiting Today?

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 Visitor Card, either by scanning the QR code to the right OR by filling out a physical card located in the pew rack in front of you. If you fill out a physical card, please place it in the alms basin during the offertory or hand it to an usher or to a member of the clergy as you leave today. Thank you!



THE RT. REVEREND SAMUEL RODMAN **THE RT. REVEREND JENNIFER BROOKE-DAVIDSON**
BISHOP DIOCESAN OF NORTH CAROLINA ASSISTANT BISHOP OF NORTH CAROLINA

THE REVEREND IMOGEN RHODENHISER
RECTOR

THE REVEREND JUSTIN GABBARD
ASSOCIATE RECTOR

THE REVEREND NANCY ALLISON **THE REVEREND HERSHEY MALLETTE STEPHENS**
PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

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

Voluntary: Story of "Our Town"

Aaron Copland

American composer Aaron Copland's piano music is not as widely known as his orchestral music, like "Fanfare for the Common Man" or "Appalachian Spring." "Story of 'Our Town'" comes from a suite of music Copland wrote for a film version of the play "Our Town" and evokes a sense of togetherness, welcoming us back in the new year.

Processional Hymn: Hymnal 117, Brightest and best of the stars of the morning Morning Star

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant I bring you good news of great joy.

People **A Savior has been born. Alleluia!**

Celebrant Unto us a child is born.

People **Unto us a Son is given.**

Celebrant Alleluia! This is Christ the Lord.

People **We worship and adore him. Alleluia!**

The Collect for Purity

BCP, p. 355

Song of Praise: Hymnal S 280, Canticle 20, Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth. | 6 | For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, |
| 2 | Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory. | 7 | you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen. |
| 3 | Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, | | |
| 4 | you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us; | | |
| 5 | you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer. | | |

The Collect of the Day

BCP, p. 357

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Collect of the Kids

Children ages 4 to 5th grade are invited to the steps for a brief introduction to the day's liturgy or lessons. They then depart for Godly Play, returning for the Eucharist.

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Lector A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the
nations;

proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of
the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of
the earth,
among them the blind and the lame, those with
child and
those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them
back,

I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not
stumble;

for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too
strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of
Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness
of the LORD,

over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the
herd;

their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the
dance,
and the young men and the old shall be
merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness
for sorrow.

I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my
bounty,
says the LORD.

The Response

Quam dilecta!

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Psalm 84:1-8

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

The Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Lector A reading from Saint Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: Hymnal 124, What star is this, with beams so bright

Puer nobis

The Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

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

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

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Imogen Rhodenhiser

The Nicene Creed

BCP, p. 358

A Christmas Litany

Adapted from a Litany by Fran Pratt

Leader Gracious, generous God, on this day we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ, Your Son, Your Self in human form.

All **We celebrate the Son of God.**

Leader We are transfixed by the story of Jesus. We looked for a warrior;

All **You sent a baby.**

Leader We looked for royalty;

All **You were born to peasants.**

Leader We looked for power;

All **You showed us meekness.**

Leader We looked among rulers and politicians;

All **You were found among cattle and shepherds.**

Leader We looked for military victory;

All **You gave us resurrection.**

Leader We looked for riches;

All **You gave us selflessness.**

Leader We looked for a king;

All **You gave us a servant.**

Leader Jesus you come in the voice of the poor, in the hurting of the sick, in the anguish of the oppressed.

All **Open our eyes that we may see you.**

Leader Jesus you come in the weakness of the vulnerable, in the questions of the doubting, in the fears of the dying.

All **Open our ears that we might hear you.**

Leader Jesus you come in the celebration of the saints, in the generosity of the faithful, in the compassion of the caring.

All **Open our hearts that we might embrace you.**

Leader Almighty God whose great love and compassion came into our world in the person of your incarnate son, Jesus Christ, plant in every heart your concern and care for all humankind. May the light of Christ ignite our hearts and shine out brightly from our lives, proclaiming your salvation to all the earth.

All **May the light of God shine on us,
May the love of Christ shine in us,
May the life of the Spirit shine through us.
This day and evermore.
Amen.**

The Peace

BCP, p. 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem: O God, Who By a Star

arr. Walter Ehret

Chancel Choir

*O God, who by a star did guide the wise men on their way
Until it came and stood beside the place where Jesus lay.
Although by stars Thou dost not lead Thy servants now below,
Thy holy spirit, when they need, will show them how to go.
As yet we know Thee but in part, but still we trust Thy word
That blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see the Lord.
O Saviour give us then Thy grace to make us pure in heart,
That we may see Thee, face to face, hereafter as Thou art.*

Celebrant ...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.

All **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP, p. 364

The Fraction Anthem: Hymnal S 154, Christ, our Passover

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Invitation and Communion

During communion today, Daughters of the King will be available in the Bride's Room to pray with anyone desiring 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 I ask for communion to be brought to me? *Please ask an usher to receive by intinction in your seat.*

Communion Hymn: Hymnal 127, Earth has many a noble city

Stuttgart

Sending Out of Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **Because we who are many are one body in Christ. We share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Hymnal 119, As with gladness men of old

Dix

The Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Voluntary: Declamation on Dix

Craig Phillips

The tune for our closing hymn today is "Dix." This setting of the tune takes each phrase as a fragment, interspersing pedal figuration in between them. The middle section puts hints of the melody in the pedals, and then the final section returns to the texture of the opening.

Can You Help?

It's time for our beautiful Chrismon Tree to come down. We'll be removing the decorations immediately following this service today. If you can stay for a few minutes to help, please do. Many hands make light work!

You're Invited to Lunch!

Good Shepherd's Beyond Our Doors Ministry Team invites you to our monthly Community Lunch immediately following this service. Come enjoy great food and fellowship. Everyone is invited, and all are welcome!

Serving Today

Ushers Brother Paul Henry, OSF and Kathy Stefanou
Verger David Roten
Acolytes Ella Grayce Cherry, Arianna Zomorodi, and Benjamin Zomorodi
Lectors Rich Leonard and Julie Lowe
Chalicerist Molly Propst
Altar Guild Julie Lowe, Bit Hardy, Wendy Lapish, Kris & Sue Lavalla,
Jennifer Seiger, and Marguerite Sullivan
Flower Guild Anne Doster
Livestream and Sound Craig DeShong and Sam DeShong

Today's Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory by Sarah Stohler
in loving memory of her husband, Hugh Dale Stohler.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Prayer List

Catherine and Bob Williams; JoAnn Kistler and Charles Latimer; Roy Wright; Janet Gilliam;
Ralph Sanders; Pete Taylor; Martha Bailey; Janie Ward-Newton; William Short; Brinley Harris;
Don Caudill; Jerry Smith; Margaret Park; Lynda Terrell-Rea; The Rev. Sallie Simpson;
Patricia Harris; Susie Rahal; Larry Phearse and Family; David Lovelace; Dana Babbs;
Mike Newton-Ward; Melissa Habel; Gary Blaettler; Dennis McKinnie; Rose Hoppe;
Bob Kochersberger and Family; Susan and Jane Jackson and Family;
The Mogilski, Bormann, and Dangerfield Families; The Ellington Family; The Stroud Family;
The Wilson Family; the people of Israel and Palestine; the people of Ukraine and Russia; victims
of gun violence; and those affected by drought, heat, floods, storms, and fires.
And we pray for those who mourn, including the family and friends of Michael Riddle, Al Bass,
Smith Lingerfelt, Paul Hoch, The Rev. Janet Watrous, Mary Best,
A.B. Swindell, and Peggy Hawks.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Church of the Province of Central Africa.

Give to The Church of the Good Shepherd Online

Use the QR code to the right to give online.



The Church of the Good Shepherd Announcements for Sunday, January 4th

Please see the parish newsletter for all of the latest news!

In addition to today's services at 8 and 10:15 AM:

- 8:30-12 Noon**
 - Nursery Care available for children up to 4 yo
- 9 AM**
 - Kids Sunday School
 - Adult Formation
 - Bible Study Led by Debbie Moyer in Room 303
- 11:30 AM**
 - Community Lunch & Fellowship Sponsored by Beyond Our Doors Ministry Team

Vestry Nominations Due Today!

The Parish will elect four new vestry members at the **Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 25 at 10:30 AM (immediately following our combined worship service at 9 AM). Nominations must be received by TODAY!** If you would like more information about serving on the vestry, please contact **Esther Hall, Nominating Committee Chair (estherhall@gmail.com or 919.740.5260).**

Adult Formation in January and February

New Year, New Horizons

We kick off 2026 with two special adult formation offerings.

- Starting January 11th, Rev. Hershey Mallette-Stephens leads a guided tour through Richard Rohr's latest work, *The Tears of Things*.
- In February, Ian Finley returns to introduce us to one of his favorite books - *Making Sense of the Bible* by Adam Hamilton.

Please refer to the parish newsletter for more information.

Weekday Worship

- Morning Prayer at 9 AM, Monday through Friday
- Wednesday Eucharist at 12 Noon

Calendar at a Glance

Please note:

- EYC, Sundays afternoons, 5:30-7:30, in the Parish Life Center
- Morning Prayer, Monday-Friday at 9 AM in the church
- Bible Study with Rev. Nancy every Tuesday at
 - 10:30 AM in the Ennis Suite
 - 5:30 PM at 3110 Belvin Dr, Raleigh 27609
- Jr Choristers (Good Shepherd Choir) rehearses Tuesday afternoons, 4:30-5:20
- Kaffeeklatsch Fellowship Group every Wednesday at 9 AM at Carolina Café (Village District)
- Handbell Choir rehearses Wednesday evenings, 6-6:45
- Chancel Choir rehearses Wednesday evenings, 7-8:30

January 2026

Jan 6	Feast of the Epiphany
Jan 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Eucharist at 12 Noon in the church • Pastoral Care Committee Meeting 1-3 PM
Jan 8	Men's Fellowship Lunch at 12 Noon at High Park Grill
Jan 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastoral Care Workshop 9A-1P • Prison Families Support Group at 10 AM in the Ennis Suite
Jan 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth 2027 Pilgrimage Info Session at 11:45 AM • Youth Confirmation Class at 4:30 (prior to EYC meeting)
Jan 14	Holy Eucharist at 12 Noon in the church
Jan 17-18	EYC Lock-In
Jan 18	Lector & Chalcist Intro & Training at 11:45 AM
Jan 19	Parish Office Closed in observance of MLK Jr Day
Jan 20	Springmoor Eucharist at 11 AM
Jan 21	Holy Eucharist at 12 Noon in the church
Jan 25	ANNUAL MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Eucharist (one combined service) at 9 AM • Annual Meeting in the church at 10:30 AM • Youth Confirmation Class at 4:30 • EYC Meeting at 5:30 PM
Jan 28	Holy Eucharist at 12 Noon in the church

Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School 2026

June 15-18 (Monday-Thursday), 9 AM – 12 Noon

Ages pre-K through 5th grade

Nursery care will be available for younger children

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Vestry

Dan Harris, Sr. Warden James Deal, Jr. Warden
Gregg Knepley, Treasurer Carolyn Manley, Registrar

CLASS OF 2026

Ed Gavin
Esther Hall
David Howard
Gregg Knepley

CLASS OF 2027

James Deal
Dan Harris
Leslie Gilbert
Kay Stallings

CLASS OF 2028

Drew Elliot
Harry Johnson
Susan Lewellen
Michael Riddle†

Parish Staff

David Baggett
Parish Administrator

Laura Dearth
Bookkeeper

Dana Deaton
Communications Specialist

Logan Dreifuss
Facilities Assistant

Maria Gartner
Nursery

Kirsten Homdrom, DMA
Director of Music & Organist

Lisett Marquez Borges
Nursery

Stephen McCann
Facilities Coordinator

Valence Mukubu
Facilities Assistant

Sthepanie Sierra Medina
Children's Sunday School