

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 AT 10:15 AM

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



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!



Holy Eucharist: Rite II

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

Meditation

Mel. Bonis

French composer Mel(anie) Bonis studied with Cesar Franck and was a prolific composer. This short piece is melodic with impressionistic sixteenth-note runs primarily in the left hand.

Processional Hymn

O God Beyond All Praising

Thaxted



1. O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
2. The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
3. Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,
and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;
for we can on-ly won-der at ev-ery gift you send,
but hid-den from all na-ture th'e-ter-nal seed is sown-and
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,
at—bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end.
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still,
We lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word;
for Christ, the Man from heav-en, from death has set us free,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty, and glo-ry in your ways,
we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise!

The Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

BCP, p. 355

Celebrant 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.**

The Kyrie

BCP, p. 356

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

BCP, p. 357

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant *Let us pray.*

Celebrant 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.**

The Collect of the Kids and Godly Play

Children ages 4 to 5th grade are invited to the steps for a brief introduction to the day's liturgy or lessons.

Then they may depart for Godly Play. Godly Play is a wonderful Montessori-inspired learning method for children that uses storytelling, wonder, and play to help them explore their faith.

The First Lesson

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

Lector A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

The word of the Lord came to me: 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"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. 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.

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? 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. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. 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?

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. 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? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Ad te, Domine, levavi

Psalms 25:1-8

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)

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.

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.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 2:1-13

Lector A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

At the Name of Jesus

Hymnal 435

King's Weston
Stanzas 1 & 4

The Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

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

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Rev. Polly Robb

The Nicene Creed

BCP, p. 358

The Prayers of the People from our 2026 Community Prayer Chain

Leader With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for an end to war and prejudice, and for leaders of peace in Gaza, Sudan, Ukraine, Haiti, Israel, and Palestine, and all places where people live in fear without a safe place to call home, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For our nation and for all our leaders - the President, Congress, Raleigh City Council, and the Wake County Commissioners - that they may be moved with kindness and compassion to invest in affordable housing for all, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad, and for all who defend public safety, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the care of God's creation: the earth and the waters, and for all living creatures with whom we share this life, that we may be wise and faithful stewards of the goodness of God's creation, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For our schools, teachers, and students—from kindergarten through college—and for all those discerning a call to ministry, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For those without safe or secure shelter, and for all who wander from hotel to hotel struggling to find stability, that they may be dry, safe, fed, and treasured as God's own, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit: for children and all those battling cancer, for those living with chronic conditions, disability, or addiction; and for all who seek job opportunities, relief from loneliness, or a calm path through divorce, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and light perpetual shine upon them, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader In thanksgiving for wonderful family and friends, for doctors, caregivers, and those who support us, for Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh Mennonite Church, St. John's MCC, and all our partner communities, let us give thanks to the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Leader Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

BCP, p. 360

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

All **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.**

Celebrant 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.

All **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

Agnus Dei
Chancel Choir

Douglas E. Wagner

Sung in Latin; English translation:

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Presentation Hymn

The Kingdom of God, stanza 3

Laudate Dominum

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
God's love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP, p. 361

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every
where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Celebrant 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:

Sanctus Holy, holy, holy, Lord Hymnal S 125

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

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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:

All **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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.

All **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer BCP, p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread BCP, p. 364

Fraction Anthem Christ our Passover Hymnal S 154

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Invitation and Communion BCP, p. 364

All are welcome to Holy Communion at God's table.

You are invited to receive on the chancel floor or at the altar rail.

If you would prefer to receive communion at your seat, please tell an usher.

- To receive a gluten-free host, please receive at the altar and ask the deacon or priest.
- To receive the wine, feel free to sip from the chalice when it is offered to you or to intinct the host, carefully dipping your host into the wine.
- To receive a blessing, simply place your hands across your chest.

Communion Hymn Where true charity and love dwell Hymnal 606
Ubi Caritas

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 BCP, p. 366

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **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.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

Lead on, O King eternal
Lancashire

Hymnal 555

The Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Voluntary

Toccata on "Great Day"

Adolphus Hailstork

"This is the day of jubilee, God's going to build up Zion's walls!"

Please join us immediately following this service for Fellowship Time with snacks and beverages hosted by the Cary Zip Codes; Contact: Carolyn Edge

Today's Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Lynda Terrell-Rea in thanksgiving for Ashley and Jack Grady and in loving memory of A.T. and Lue Terrell.

Serving Today

Ushers John and Karen Gazda Boyne
Verger Dave Roten
Acolytes Quincey Swindell, Allison Elliot, and Isabel Elliot
Lectors Phyllis Vail and Rich Leonard
Intercessor & Chalcist Rob Robinson
Altar Guild Jan Harris, Jill Sessoms, Christie Barbee, Stephanie Bias,
Anne Doster, Peter Miller, Phyllis Vail, and Carolyn Wilson
Livestream & Sound Rich Netherby and Sam DeShong

The Church of the Good Shepherd Prayer List

Catherine and Bob Williams; JoAnn Kistler; Roy Wright; Janet Gilliam; Ralph Sanders; Pete Taylor; Martha Bailey; Janie Ward-Newton; William Short; Brinley Harris; Don Caudill; Margaret Park; The Rev. Sallie Simpson; Patricia Harris; Larry Phearse and Family; Mike Newton-Ward; Rock Kershaw; Bill White; NY Mike Smith; Tamara Gregory; Lynda Terrell-Rea; Elise Abernathy; Marsha Sample; Susan Doty; Lynn Wiss; Kari Molvar Kim; Jemma Kim; Sue Johnson; Nicholas Smith; Peter Smith; Lou Phillips; John Anthony Allen and Family; The Pursley Family; The Cooke Family; The Rahal and Anderson Families; The Smith and Acton Families; The Vitaglione Family; the people of the Middle East; 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 Valerie Buckner, Mary Best, A.B. Swindell, Peggy Hawks, Charles Latimer, Nolan Simon, Karen Pursley, Deborah Cooke, Susie Rahal, Jerry Smith, Gerard Spagnoli, and Guy Vitaglione.

In the diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Margaret's, Waxhaw and St. Mark's, Wilson.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Church of Bangladesh.

Give to The Church of the Good Shepherd Online



Announcements for Sunday, September 27

Today

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

8:30 AM - 12 Noon

Nursery Care Available (infant-5 yo)

9 AM

Children's Sunday School

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Adult Formation: Meet and Greet with your CGS Clergy

11:30 AM

Fellowship Time hosted by the Cary Zip Codes

4:45 PM

Growing Spiritually with Kids in Tow

5:30 PM

EYC

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Debbie Moyer's 9 AM Sunday morning Bible class returns **today** in PLC Room 303. We will continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew.

★ ★ ★ Growing Spiritually with Kids in Tow

Parents and kids: **Tonight! -- 4:45-6:00 PM** at the church. Dinner and sitters provided. The Rev. Polly Robb will help lead our discussion. By the grace of God, children are born innately spiritual. How can we as caretakers/parents foster our kids' spirituality, lest it diminish? How can our own spirituality grow alongside? Questions? Email Rev Polly.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

The Tuesday Bible Study is studying the Gospel of John. The group meets at **11 AM on Tuesdays** in the Ennis Suite. Please call the Rev. Polly Robb if you have any questions. All are welcome to join anytime.

★ ★ ★ Historic Church Walk, Saturday, October 3

The 2026 Historic Church Walk is coming up soon, and Good Shepherd is one of the participants! Eight historic churches in

downtown Raleigh, all founded in the 1800s, will open their doors for visitors on **Saturday, October 3 from 9:00-12:00 PM**. Self-guided and guided tours will be on offer. Start at any church and visit churches in any order you like. Look for balloons at church entrances and signs. The event is sponsored by the Community of Historic Churches in Downtown Raleigh. See the Downtown Raleigh Churches for a map of participating locations.

★ ★ ★ The Feast of St. Francis Pet Blessing

Bring your furry, scaly, and/or winged friends to Jaycee Park on **Saturday, October 3rd from 3-5 PM** for a pet blessing in honor of the feast of St. Francis!

Caring for God's Creation: Supporting Second Chance Pet Adoptions

Through **Sunday, October 11th**, we are collecting supplies to benefit animals lovingly cared for by Second Chance Pet Adoptions while they wait for their forever homes. Find out what items are requested and, if you choose, shop through their Wish Lists and have the items shipped directly to Second Chance at <https://secondchancenc.org/donate-wish-lists/> If you prefer to drop items off at church, a **collection bin for your donations can be located in the Parish Life Center lobby**. These items will be dropped off at Second Chance the week of October 11th. Thank you in advance for your generosity! Outreach Committee

★ ★ ★ Adult Formation Class: *What We Carry Remembering, making meaning, and carrying it forward.*

Join us for three weeks starting **October 11th** as our Deacon Devin McGinnis leads our Sunday morning Adult Formation class. "Life asks us to carry many things: people we love, memories, grief, change, disappointment, hope, and experiences that have shaped who we are. What We Carry is a three-session space to slow down, attend to what we are carrying, and explore how we might carry it forward."

Interested in becoming a Church of the Good Shepherd Docent?

The CGS Archives and History Committee is looking for volunteers to serve in a new docent organization. If you have an interest in the history of Good Shepherd, this would be a great way to serve the church. A docent's job is fairly simple: be available to answer questions about the history of the church and the church building during church functions and open houses and lead short tours. Training would be provided. To volunteer or for more information, please contact John Beck at jbecknc@yahoo.com.

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. 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 POLLY ROBB
ASSOCIATE RECTOR FOR FAMILY MINISTRY AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

THE REVEREND DEVIN MCGINNIS, DCN.
DEACON

Vestry

Dan Harris
Senior Warden

James Deal
Junior Warden

James Joslin
Treasurer

Carolyn Manley
Registrar

Class of 2027

James Deal
Dan Harris
Leslie Gilbert
Kay Stallings

Class of 2028

Drew Elliot
Jason Hingerton
Harry Johnson
Susan Lewellen

Class of 2029

Katie Chimenti
Anne Doster
James Joslin
Tara Sumanaseni

Parish Staff

David Baggett
Parish Administrator

Laura Dearth
Bookkeeper

Sean Dye
Communications Specialist

Maria Gartner
Nursery

Kirsten Homdrom, DMA
Director of Music & Organist

Lisett Marquez Borges
Nursery

Stephen McCann
Facilities Coordinator

Valence Mukubu
Facilities Assistant