

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

DECEMBER 22, 2024 AT 10:15 AM

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

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

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!

Christmas Pageant with 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: Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes

Hymnal 72

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 Collect for Purity

BCP, p. 355

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

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Christmas Pageant

Our Christmas Pageant offers us the opportunity to enter the story of the coming of Christ. Through words spoken and embodied, through humor and play, and through songs offered in praise, we invite you to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem, and to see the Son of God lying in a manger. This Pageant is offered as a gift for all who hear it, in response to the greatest gift of all—God-with-us in Jesus Christ.

During the pageant, please join the cast and choir in signing the carols on the next page.

What child is this, who, laid to rest

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
 on Mary's lap is sleeping?
 Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
 while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,
 whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
 haste, haste to bring him laud,
 the babe, the son of Mary.

O little town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
 how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 the silent stars go by;
 yet in thy dark streets shineth
 the everlasting Light;
 the hopes and fears of all the years
 are met in thee tonight.

Once in royal David's city

Once in royal David's city
 stood a lowly cattle shed,
 where a mother laid her baby
 in a manger for his bed;
 Mary was that mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little child.

Angels we have heard on high

Angels we have heard on high
 sweetly singing through the night,
 and the mountains in reply
 echoing their brave delight.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.

We three kings of Orient are

We three kings of Orient are,
 bearing gifts we traverse afar,
 field and fountain,
 moor and mountain,
 following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night,
 star with royal beauty bright;
 westward leading,
 still proceeding,
 guide us to thy perfect light!

O come, all ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
 joyful and triumphant,
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
 come, and behold him,
 born the King of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord.

Joy to the world! the Lord is come

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
 let earth receive her King;
 let every heart prepare him room,
 and heaven and nature sing,
 and heaven and nature sing,
 and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

The Peace

BCP, p. 360

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem: Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green;
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see,
In Jesus Christ the Appletree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the Appletree.

I'm weary with my former toil -
Here I will sit and rest awhile,
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the Appletree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the Appletree.

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

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

Invitation and Communion

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 Hymns:

Creator of the stars of night

Hymnal 60

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Hymnal 67

Post Communion Prayer

BCP, p. 365

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: "Sleepers wake!" a voice astounds us

Hymnal 61

The Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Voluntary

Please join us immediately following this service for refreshments and fellowship.

Today's Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Randy Roberts and Michael Riddle in loving memory of their mothers, Helene and Jan.

Serving Today

Ushers Sarah Boney and Brother Paul Henry, OSF
Chalicer Jennifer Tlusty
Livestream & Sound Jacob Ferguson and Sam DeShong
Flower Guild Christie Barbee

The Church of the Good Shepherd Prayer List

Roy Wright; Catherine and Bob Williams; Janet Gilliam; Ralph Sanders; Pete Taylor; Martha Bailey; Peggy Hawks; 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; Bob Kirchgessner; Josephine Placa; Kathy Acton; Noah Cassion; Patricia Harris; Marilyn; Amy Proseus; Reginald Fuller; Dawn Downs; Elise Abernathy; The Rivers Family; The Owens Family; The Byrd Family; The Davidson Family; The McComas Family; The Fuller, Longerbeam, and Spencer Families; 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.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Diocese of Costa Rica.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of the Province of Uganda.

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.

