

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 AT 10:15 AM

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

RALLY DAY



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

Andy Lang, organ

Introit

A Rose Touched by the Sun's Warm Rays
Chancel Choir

Jean Berger

*A rose touched by the sun's warm rays all its petals gently does unfold;
So you, when touched by God's great mercy, let joy and gladness win your soul.*

Processional Hymn

God is Love, let heaven adore him
Abbot's Leigh

Hymnal 379

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 O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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

Genesis 50:15-21

Lector A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Benedic, anima mea

Psalm 103:8-13

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)

- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.



The Second Lesson

Romans 14:1-12

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

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

O bless the Lord, my soul!

Hymnal 411

St. Thomas (Williams)
Stanza 1-2, 6

The Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

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

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Rev. Imogen Rhodenhisier

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

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether
Chancel Choir; Andy Lang, organ

Harold W. Friedell

*Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name,
Two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem.*

*As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up.*

*All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee,
That by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.*

Presentation Hymn

The Kingdom of God, stanza 1

Laudate Dominum

The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

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.

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

God is love, and where true love is

Hymnal 577

Ubi caritas (Murray)

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

Go forth for God

Hymnal 347

Litton

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

Everyone is invited and all are welcome to our Rally Day Fair immediately following this service in the rear parking lot!

Today's Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by James Christopher Deal in loving memory of James Carroll Deal and in thanksgiving for Judia Deal, Joseph Horton, Eric Horton and Chase Horton.

Serving Today

Ushers Jason Hingerton and Terry Sullivan
Verger Caryl Fuller
Acolytes Dan Harris
Lectors Rich Leonard and Julie Lowe
Intercessor & Chalcist Molly Propst
Altar Guild Julie Lowe, Bit Hardy, Wendy Lapish,
Kris and Sue Lavalla, Jennifer Seiger,
and Marguerite Sullivan
Flower Guild Randy Roberts
Livestream & Sound Michael Burkhardt 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; 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, 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
Calvary, Wadesboro and St. John's, Wake Forest

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for
The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

Give to The Church of the Good Shepherd Online



Announcements for Sunday, September 13

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)

11:30 AM

Rally Day Fair

5:30 PM

EYC

Sunday School Registration

Sunday School will start next Sunday and we would like to ask all parents/guardians to please use the form from Thursday's newsletter to **register all Sunday School age children**. A reminder that this fall, we're excited to make a small but meaningful change to our Sunday School program by offering **two age-based classrooms**, allowing us to better meet children where they are in their faith and development.

"Time for a New Study"

The Tuesday Bible Study is beginning a study of the Gospel of John and will now meet at **11 am, on Tuesdays**, in the Ennis Suite. The Rev. Polly Robb will join in the fun and learning.

★ ★ ★ On the Road with the Green Team

Come join us for a private tour of the beautiful JC Raulston Arboretum **this Wednesday at 10 AM**. The mission of the Arboretum is to diversify the landscape by sharing our passion, our plants and our knowledge to plan – and plant for a better world. The arboretum has broad paths that are easy to navigate and benches to rest throughout. Contact Beth Hahn (bhahn2512@gmail.com) or text/phone (919-274-0660) to RSVP.

★ ★ ★ Our Shelter from The Stormy Blast: Spiritual Reflections of Hope & Redemption on the events of 9/11

Next Sunday we will welcome the Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke to preach and lead discussions during the 9 AM Adult Formation time. Hoke is a retired priest of the Episcopal Church, now living in Charlotte. He was an eyewitness to the catastrophic events of September 11, 2001—and a hands-on participant in the recovery efforts at Ground Zero until 2008 when he stepped down as Executive Assistant to the Rector of Trinity Church Wall Street in New York City. He speaks from the perspective of one who saw firsthand both mass destruction on the day itself, and God's precious gift of Redemption in the days and months that followed.

★ ★ ★ Growing Spiritually with Kids in Tow

Parents and kids: **Save the date – Sunday, September 27th -- 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?

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!

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.

This Week's Calendar

Date	Event
Mon, September 14	• 9 AM Morning Prayer
Tues, September 15	• 9 AM Morning Prayer • 11 AM Bible Study in Ennis Suite • 4:30 PM Good Shepherd Choir Rehearsal • 5:30 PM Bible Study at Van and Gigi Giersch's Home (6433 Chapman Ct, Raleigh, NC 27612)
Wed, September 16	• 9 AM - o Morning Prayer - o Kaffeeklatsch (fellowship group) at Café Carolina (2130 Clark Ave, Raleigh 27605) • 11 AM Green Team JC Raulston Trip • 12 PM Noonday Eucharist • 6 PM - o Finance Committee Meeting (on Zoom) - o Handbell Choir Rehearsal • 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thur, September 17	• 8:30 AM Books & Bagels Book Group at Starbucks (3800 Lake Boone Trail, Raleigh, NC 27607) • 9 AM Morning Prayer
Fri, September 18	• 9 AM Morning Prayer
Sat, September 19	No Events Scheduled

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