

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 2025 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!



Holy Eucharist with Baptism

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: Voluntary: Rorate Caeli

Jeanne Demessieux

French composer and organist Jeanne Demessieux was a force to be reckoned with in the early 20th century. She studied with Marcel Dupré and was organist at St. Esprit and La Madeleine in Paris. Her setting of the Gregorian chant "Rorate Caeli" calls for the melody to be soloed out on one manual, while the other hand plays harmonies with the pedals beneath it. "Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness."

Processional Hymn: Hymnal 76, On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Winchester New

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 299

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

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

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People **One God and Father of all.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP, p. 357

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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

Isaiah 11:1-10

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the
ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him,
and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response *Deus, iudicium*

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to
the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the
people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the
oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon
endure, *
from one generation to another.



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown
field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon
shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- †19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

The Second Lesson

Romans 15:4-13

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

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: Hymnal 54, Savior of the nations, come! Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

The Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

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

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these

stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

The Sermon

Mr. Harry Johnson

The Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

BCP, p. 301

The Baptismal Candidate is

Ambrose Hale Jacquet-Freese

child of McKenna and Jean-Paul Jacquet-Freese

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

(God)Parents **I present Ambrose Hale Jacquet-Freese to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.**
The Celebrant addressing the parents and godparents

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

(God)Parents **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

(God)Parents **I will, with God's help.**
The Celebrant addressing the parents and godparents

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer **I do.**

Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer **I do.**

Celebrant Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer **I do.**

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Ambrose in his life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Celebrant Let us join with Ambrose who is committing himself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

BCP, p. 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidate

BCP, p. 305

Let us now pray for Ambrose who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Intercessor Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

<i>Intercessor</i>	Open his heart to your grace and truth.
<i>People</i>	Lord, hear our prayer.
<i>Intercessor</i>	Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
<i>People</i>	Lord, hear our prayer.
<i>Intercessor</i>	Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
<i>People</i>	Lord, hear our prayer.
<i>Intercessor</i>	Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.
<i>People</i>	Lord, hear our prayer.
<i>Intercessor</i>	Send him into the world in witness to your love.
<i>People</i>	Lord, hear our prayer.
<i>Intercessor</i>	Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.
<i>People</i>	Lord, hear our prayer.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

BCP, p. 306

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

BCP, p. 307

Celebrant Ambrose, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant Ambrose, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.

People **Amen.**

Ambrose receives the Light of Christ.

*Ambrose receives a First Bible from
The Church of the Good Shepherd Family Ministries and a
First Book of Prayers from Daughters of the King.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

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: A Spotless Rose

Ola Gjeilo

Chancel Choir; Jessica Bowen, soprano

*Alleluia. A Spotless Rose is growing,
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter,
And in the dark midnight.*

*The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
Through God's great love and might
The Blessed Babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.*

-16th Century German

The Fraction Anthem: Hymnal S 164, Jesus, Lamb of God

Jesus, Lamb of God:

Have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins:

Have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world:

Give us your peace.

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 597, O day of peace that dimly shines

Jerusalem

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. 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the shadows from before your path; 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 65, Prepare the way, O Zion

St. Stephen

Closing Voluntary: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661

Johann Sebastian Bach

Johann Sebastian Bach wrote multiple settings of Hymn 54, our Sequence Hymn today. This setting is big, confident, and clear, with the melody in the pedals and a separate fugue melody in the manuals.

Please join us immediately following this service for our monthly Community Lunch sponsored by the Beyond Our Doors Ministry Team. Come enjoy great food and fellowship!

Serving Today

Ushers	Karen and John Boyne
Vergers	Evan Meade
Acolytes	Ella Grayce Cherry, Juliet Gilbert, Benjamin Zomorodi, Libby Boyne, Arianna Zomorodi
Lectors	Julie Lowe and Rich Leonard
Chalicer and Intercessor	Julie Lowe
Altar Guild	Julie Lowe, Bit Hardy, Wendy Lapish, Kris & Sue Lavalla, Jennifer Seiger, and Marguerite Sullivan
Flower Guild	Amanda Penny and Brother Paul Henry, OSF
Livestream & Sound	Mike Burkhart and Sam DeShong

Today's Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory by Bob and Janet Gilliam in honor of their grandchildren, Sarah, Jacob, Hannah, Nathan and Jack.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Prayer List

Catherine and Bob Williams; JoAnn Kistler Latimer 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; Melinda McIntyre and Family; Dana Babbs; Mike Newton-Ward; Melissa Habel; Gary Blaettler; Bob Kochersberger and Family; Susan and Jane Jackson and Family; The Mogilski, Bormann, and Dangerfield Families; The Ellington 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.

We pray for those who have died that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, remembering especially The Rev. Meta Ellington.

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 Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Church.

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

Give to The Church of the Good Shepherd Online
Use the QR code to the right to give online.



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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

Vestry

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

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Gregg Knepley

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Stephen McCann
Facilities Coordinator

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Facilities Assistant

Sthepanie Sierra Medina
Children's Sunday School