

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 AT 10:15 AM

Commitment Sunday

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 REV. IMOGEN RHODENHISER

RECTOR

THE REV. JUSTIN GABBARD THE REV. NANCY ALLISON

ASSOCIATE RECTOR PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

THE REV. HERSHEY MALLETT STEPHENS

PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

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: Impromptu

Germaine Tailleferre

Germaine Tailleferre was the only woman member of the French composer group "Les Six". They were mainly active in the 1920's and the most famous composer of the group was Francis Poulenc. Tailleferre wrote music for her entire career, and this short piano piece is joyful in nature.

Processional Hymn: Hymnal 438, Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Woodlands

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 for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

BCP, p. 355

Song of Praise: Hymnal S 278, Canticle 20, Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*

- 1 Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
- 2 Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
- 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.
- 6 For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
- 7 you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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, 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. **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

Amos 6:1a,4-7

Lector A reading from the Prophet Amos.

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.
Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David improvise on instruments of music;
who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Psalm 146

Lauda, anima mea

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul! *

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; *
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

†9 The LORD shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!



The Second Lesson

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Lector A reading from the first letter to Timothy.

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation

of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time-- he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: Hymnal 508, Breathe on me, Breath of God

Nova Vita

The Gospel

Luke 16:19-31

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

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

Jesus said, "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house-- for I have five brothers-- that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser

Presentation Hymn: Hymnal 377: All people that on earth do dwell

Old 100th

During the hymn, the people are invited to bring forward their pledge cards.

Stanzas 1-2: All

Stanzas 3-4: Choir

Stanza 5: All

The Nicene Creed

BCP, p. 358

The Prayers of the People, Form VI

BCP, p. 392

Intercessor In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

Intercessor For all people in their daily life and work;

People **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Intercessor For this community, the nation, and the world;

People **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Intercessor For the just and proper use of your creation;

People **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Intercessor For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Intercessor For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Intercessor For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Sam and Jennifer our Bishops; for Imogen, Justin, Nancy, and Hershey, our clergy; for all bishops and other ministers;

People **For all who serve God in his Church.**

Intercessor For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Intercessor Hear us, Lord;

People **For your mercy is great.**

Intercessor We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

Intercessor We will exalt you, O God our King;
People **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, remembering especially Eleanor Williams.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Intercessor Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People **Who put their trust in you.**

Intercessor We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

All **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.

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 Anthem: Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

arr. Harold Friedell

Chancel Choir

*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:
Alleluya! Alleluya! 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,
Alleluya! Alleluya! 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.
Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve thee faithfully.*

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

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 309, O Food to pilgrims given

O Welt, ich muss dich lassen

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 Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some have entertained angels without knowing it. 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 541: Come, labor on

Ora Labora

The Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Voluntary: Light Within

Jack Langdon

Composer's Note: " 'Light Within' is a work for organ written during the Fall of 2014 in Northfield, MN. The piece explores the ideas of transcendence and unification... and is an homage to the great transcendent force which unites all people through the miracle of life."

Please join us immediately following this service in Shepherd's Hall for our STEWardship Lunch. Everyone is welcome!

Serving Today

Ushers Jason Hingerton and Kay Stallings
Verger Caryl Fuller
Acolytes Ella Grayce Cherry, Anders Fyfe, and Libby Boyne
Lectors Jean Knepley and Jason Hingerton
Chalicer and Intercessor Brother Paul Henry, OSF
Altar Guild David Roten, Caryl Fuller, Paul Henry, Ellen McSorley,
Caryn Meade, Molly Propst, and Lynn Wiss
Livestream & Sound Mike Burkhart and Sam DeShong

Today's Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory by Bit Hardy in loving memory of her husband, Dicky Hardy, and their parents and in thanksgiving for their children and grandchildren.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Prayer List

Roy Wright; Catherine and Bob Williams; Janet Gilliam; Ralph Sanders; Pete Taylor; Martha Bailey; Peggy Hawks; Janie Ward-Newton; William Short; Paul Hoch; JoAnn Kistler Lattimore and Charles Lattimore; Brinley Harris; Don Caudill; Janet Watrous; Jerry Smith; Margaret Park; Lynda Terrell-Rea; The Rev. Sallie Simpson; Patricia Harris; Susie Rahal; Tamara Gregory; Larry Phearse and Family; Bob Kirchgessner; Randy Roberts; Diane and Gary Gabbard; Regina Haggerty; Peter Smith; Nicholas Smith; Perry; David Lovelace; Leslie Myszka; Michael Koslow; Meg Dreifuss; The Riddle-Roberts Family; The Bass Family; The Lingerfelt Family; The Williams 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 have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, remembering especially Eleanor Williams.

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Margaret's, Waxhaw, and Grace, Weldon.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan.

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.



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

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Vestry

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

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Stephen McCann
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Children's Sunday School