

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 AT 10:15 AM

THE SEVENTEENTH 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

Melancolie

Francis Poulenc

This reflective piece by French composer Francis Poulenc uses many textures and distinctive harmonies. You will hear the first theme played three times in three different keys.

Processional Hymn

We gather together

Hymnal 433

Kremser

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 Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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

Jonah 3:10-4:11

Lector A reading from the Book of Jonah.

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Exaltabo te, Deus

1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.

4 One generation
shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.

5 I will ponder the glorious splendor
of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.

Psalm 145:1-8

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



6 They shall speak of the might
of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.

7 They shall publish the remembrance
of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 1:21-30

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

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation.

And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Take my life, and let it be

Hymnal 707

Hollingside

The Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

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

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke

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

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

The Lord bless you and keep you:

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Amen.

-Numbers 6: 24

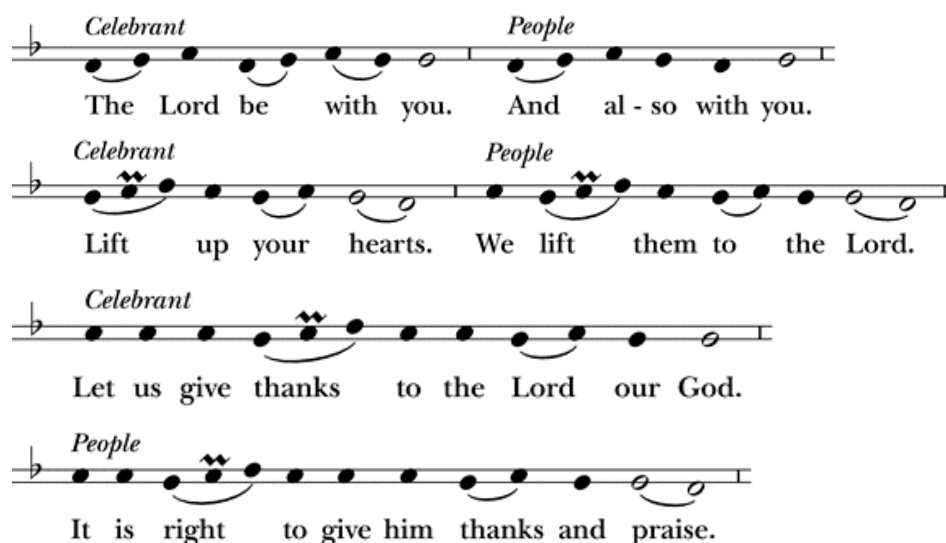
Today's anthem is offered in memory of Brad Strahan's oldest son, Russell

Presentation Hymn

The Kingdom of God, stanza 2

Laudate Dominum

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;
And hope is awakened in place of despair.



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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

For the bread which you have broken

Hymnal 341

Omni die

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

O God, our help in ages past

Hymnal 680

St. Anne

Stanzas 1-2: All

Stanza 3: High Voices

Stanza 4: Low Voices

Stanzas 5-6: All

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

Allegro maestoso e vivace from Sonata in C Minor, Felix Mendelssohn

This wonderful march is in the same key as today's closing hymn. "O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home."

Please join us immediately following this service for Fellowship Time with snacks and beverages hosted by the Altar Guild; Contact: Marguerite Sullivan

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 Brother Paul Henry, OSF and Kay Stallings
Verger Ed Gavin
Acolytes Callin Fee and George Hill
Lectors Ian Finley and Jason Hingerton
Intercessor & Chalcist Bethany Pergerson
Altar Guild Pattie Lamb, Becky Anderson, Whitney Cain,
Peg Dorer, Brenda Fentress, and Ginger Harris
Flower Guild Lisa Jennings
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; 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
Christ Church, Walnut Cove and Emmanuel, Warrenton.

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

Give to The Church of the Good Shepherd Online



Announcements for Sunday, September 20

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
- Adult Formation: Responding to 9-11

11:30 AM

Fellowship Time hosted by the Altar Guild

5:30 PM

EYC

Sunday School

Sunday School starts today! If you haven't already, please use the form from Thursday's newsletter to **register all Sunday School age children.**

Out and About Potluck Supper

OUT & ABOUT is a longstanding Good Shepherd supper group affirming our LGBTQ families & friends. Our next supper is **tonight at 6 PM** hosted by Michael Springston, Dave Roten, and Julie Lowe at 112 Cherry Birch Court in Holly Springs.

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.

★ ★ ★ Piano Recital by Dr. H. this Friday!

Our own Dr. Kirsten Homdrom is presenting a solo piano recital *Expressions* featuring works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Florence Price, Francis Poulenc, and others **this Friday, September 25th at 7 PM at First Presbyterian Church.** See the newsletter for other dates/locations where Kirsten will play. Admission is free; please join us!

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Debbie Moyer's 9 AM Sunday morning Bible class returns **next Sunday, September 27th** in PLC Room 303. We will continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew.

★ ★ ★ 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? Questions? Email Rev Polly.

★ ★ ★ 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!

★ ★ ★ 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.

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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