

GOOD SHEPHERD

Episcopal Church and School



THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Holy Eucharist

Rite Two

August 17, 2025 ♦ 10:00 a.m.

MISSION

We exist to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love.

VISION

We are a vibrant, spiritual, and educational community,
radiating God's love for everyone, everywhere.



WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU

We are so glad you're here. Whether you're visiting for the first time or returning after some time away, we all belong in God's community. We'd love to get to know you better and stay connected! Please scan the QR code below to share your information with us. It's a simple way for us to welcome you personally, answer any questions, and let you know about upcoming events. You are always welcome here—just as you are.



WELCOME FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Jesus welcomed children and so do we. We don't mind wiggles and noise, but if you would prefer a quiet room when infants become fussy, one is located off the lobby. A window and sound system allow families to see and hear the service. Nursery care for children under three is available in the Ryon Building (office) for the 10 a.m. service and is well-staffed by caring adults. There is no Sunday School during the summer. Sunday School will return at the end of August.

THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST

The season after Pentecost extends from the Monday after Pentecost Sunday until the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent. The first Sunday of this season is Trinity Sunday, and the last Sunday is Christ the King Sunday. It may include as many as twenty-eight Sundays, depending on the date of Easter. It may be referred to as the "green season," because green is the usual liturgical color for this period of the church year. This period is also understood by some as "ordinary time," a period of the church year not dedicated to a particular season or worship theme, but instead to the ordinary rhythms of daily life.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST



THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

The people stand.

HYMN • 366

Holy God, we praise thy Name

Verses 1 – 4

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY *Prayed by 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. **Amen.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE READINGS

THE FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 23:23-29

Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 82 *read in unison*

- 1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
 he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:
- 2 "How long will you judge unjustly, *
 and show favor to the wicked?
- 3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
 defend the humble and needy;
- 4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
 deliver them from the power of the wicked.
- 5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
 they go about in darkness; *
 all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- 6 Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
 and all of you children of the Most High;
- 7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
 and fall like any prince."
- 8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
 for you shall take all nations for your own.

THE SECOND READING

HEBREWS 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN • 490

I want to walk as a child of the light

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 12:49-56

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

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

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son and son against father,
mother against daughter and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Sanford H. Groff, Jr.

A moment of quiet reflection will follow the sermon.

The people stand.

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

God, you are never far off. Your Word is fire, your truth shatters lies, and your presence breaks in where we least expect it. Stay close now and hear us as we pray: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Light your Church with holy fire. Burn away what's false and make us fearless in love, so people see you in us. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Stir up those who hold authority—locally and globally— until they cannot ignore the cries of the vulnerable. Break their allegiance to self-interest and bend them toward justice. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Work in the lives of those we may never meet—strangers, skeptics, seekers—so that your mercy surprises them and draws them toward life. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Speak into the chaos of war. Protect the innocent, feed the hungry, and soften the hearts of aggressors. Plant justice so deeply that peace can take root. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to live gently here. Show us how to protect what's fragile and repair what we've broken. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Speak peace where there is panic. Bring strength to the suffering. We name before you those on our parish prayer list and those we hold in our hearts.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Draw near to the dying and hold those who mourn in your steadfast love. We remember especially those we name now.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us now pray for our own parish family.

Almighty and everlasting God, make our parish of Good Shepherd truly a community of prayer and belonging. Raise up in our midst the resources and leadership which will enable us to act upon what you would have us do, in this place and in a ministry of love and concern for others. Open my mind and heart to discern what you would have me do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONCLUDING COLLECT *Prayed by Celebrant*

Gracious God, you have shown us your love again and again, cover us with your blessings and mercy as we move through our lives, that we might reflect your love into the world. All this we ask through Christ, our Lord who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, now and always. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**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.**

ABSOLUTION *prayed by the 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. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Celebrant and People

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on these your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you as you celebrate your birthday or wedding anniversary this week, and always. **Amen.**

THE OFFERING

Celebrant

O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have your being. Revelation 4:11

In the season after Pentecost, we live into the steady, Spirit-filled work of growing in faith and serving the world. Your offering helps Good Shepherd remain rooted in the love of Jesus Christ and responsive to the needs of our time. Giving is more than support; it's participation. It is how we join the slow, holy work of transformation that God is unfolding among us. Thank you for being part of this faithful, everyday miracle.



Scan to give now

OFFERTORY MUSIC

O Rest in the Lord

Mendelssohn

DOXOLOGY • (blue Hymnal, 380 vs. 3)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord of all seasons, who sows grace into ordinary days and brings forth holy fruit in due time. Receive these offerings, given in trust and love. In them we see signs of your goodness, and may they be tools of your mercy in a world that longs for healing. Bless those who give, and those who are drawn near by the generosity of others, that together we may grow day by day into the likeness of Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Prayer A*)

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Lift up your hearts.

People

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Celebrant and People

SANCTUS (S-125)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

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.

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:

Celebrant and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

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. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the bread followed by a moment of silence.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to receive communion this morning, an ancient practice intended for all baptized Christians, no matter your tradition.

You may receive just the bread (which is full participation in the sacrament), or both the bread and the wine. As an alternative to sipping directly from the cup, you are invited to receive by intinction and the priest will dip the bread in a separate chalice for you. To receive by intinction please fold your hands in front of you at the altar rail to indicate your preference. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister.

For those not receiving communion, you may also cross your arms over your chest for a blessing.

If you would like special prayers for healing--whether it be physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual--members of the Healing Team are available to pray with you in the side chapel. Please notify an usher if you would like a Healing Team member to come to you.

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION

Sung by the congregation

You Raise Me Up

My faith looks up to thee

Arr. Hayes

Hymn 691

SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITORS *When scheduled*

Celebrant In the name of God and of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts to N., that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup. Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

Go now with courage, knowing that following Christ may set you at odds with the easy peace of the world.

Let your loyalty to God's kingdom sharpen your vision,
your love outshine the approval of the crowd,
and your hope emerge from the deep quiet of your soul.

Read the signs, join the work,
and walk in the light that changes the world.

And the blessing of God Almighty—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—
be with you and remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

HYMN • 686

Come, thou fount of every blessing

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

TODAY'S SERVANT LEADERS

Celebrant and Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Sanford H. Groff, Jr.
Acolyte Server	Maggie Ulman
Torch Bearers	Ben Bonneau, Sonya Ulman
Verger	Mike Grashof
Reader	Peggy Greene
Intercessor	Janice Thomas
Eucharistic Ministers	Tracy and Larry Smith, Beth Bohnsack
Healing Ministers	Alex Lesbirel, Tamara Martin
Ushers	Marcia Cassidy, Kelly Bonneau
Greeters	Marilyn Lawrence, Pam Mayer
Vocalists	Debbie White
Organist	Patty Holland
Altar Guild	Eleanore Browne, Linda ClenDening
Coffee Hour	Gary Riggs
Flower Delivery	Tracy Smith

OUR STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Sanford H. Groff, Jr., *Rector*
The Rev. Bonnie Q. Jones, *Non-stipendiary Clergy*
Timm C. Johnson-Reynolds, *Organist & Choir Director*
Heather Vaughn, *Head of School*
Jo Wood, *Director of Hospitality*
Debbie White, *Assistant Choir Director*
Lynn Evans, *Business Manager*
Michelle Lane, *Parish Administrator & Director of*
Children's Ministries
Mary Lou Crifasi, *Office Coordinator*
Lisa Ellington, *Office Assistant*
Beth Long, *Thrift Store Manager*
Jennifer Johnson, *Thrift Store Assistant Manager*
Erik Pariseleti, *Technology Coordinator*
Danny Vaz, *Assistant Livestream Coordinator*
Evelyn Seely, *Digital Media Assistant*
Yolanda Aquilar, *Custodian*
Laz Fernandez, *Sexton*
America Hernandez, *Nursery Attendant*
Alex Serra-Wolfington, *Field Education Student*

OUR VESTRY

Dan Gilbert, *Senior Warden*
Kevin Riddle, *Junior Warden*
Carolyn Reikenis, *Clerk*
Mike Greene, *Treasurer*
Sophie Riddle, *Youth Liaison*
Caroline Boren
Dimitri Chimerakis
George Creel
Ron Doucette
Kate Gouery
Mike Grashof
Julie Hirsch
Larry Smith
Janice Thomas



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