

# GOOD SHEPHERD

*Episcopal Church and School*



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Holy Eucharist  
*Rite Two*

April 26, 2026 ♦ 10:00 a.m.

## MISSION

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

## VISION

We are called to be 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. For children in preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Sunday School is available at 10:00 in the Ryon Building. Children join their families in church mid-service for communion. Be sure to ask the greeters for directions or help.

## ABOUT GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Good Shepherd Sunday, observed on the Fourth Sunday of Easter, celebrates Jesus as the Good Shepherd who knows, loves, and cares for his people. On this day, we hear the familiar words from John's Gospel, "I am the Good Shepherd," reminding us that Christ calls us each by name, leads us, and lays down his life for us. Accompanied by the beloved words of Psalm 23, this Sunday offers a message of comfort, guidance, and belonging. In the joy of the Easter season, we are reminded that we are part of one flock, held in the loving care of the Good Shepherd. As the flock of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, we always take extra comfort in Good Shepherd Sunday.

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST



## THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### PRELUDE

*The people stand.*

HYMN • 645

*The King of love my shepherd is*

omit verses 3&4

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

*All standing*

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*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.**

*During the singing of the Gloria, the Sunday School children (age 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) and their teachers will follow the acolyte down the aisle and go to their classrooms.*

HYMN OF PRAISE (S-280) *sung by all*

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, 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

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

# THE READINGS

## THE FIRST READING

ACTS 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 23



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1 The Lord is my / shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in / want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green / pastures \*  
and leads me beside still / waters.
- 3 He revives my / soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his / Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no / evil; \*  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they / comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who / trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running / over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my / life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for / ever.

## THE SECOND READING

1 PETER 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

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

## THE SERMON

Alex Serra-Wolfington

*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 worshiped 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

When our valleys are full of shadows Lord, send us your light that we might find our way. Shepherd our hearts, comfort us with your overflowing love and listen to our prayers as we say, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord you are the good shepherd, give your sheep ears that hear your voice and hearts that long to follow you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shepherd of the church, deepen our faith and inspire us to turn to your holy word for daily reflection and comfort.

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

Shepherd of those who love justice and truth, bless this nation with servant leaders and with those who long to better the lives of your people.

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

Shepherd of those who love to learn, give our children a hunger to excel and imaginations that thirst for knowledge. Bless those who teach, coach, serve, protect, and nourish children in all nations.

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

Shepherd of the sick and suffering, bless our friends and neighbors with healthy bodies, minds and spirits. Take away all of the anxieties and afflictions of those with mental illness. Take away the apathy and hopelessness of spiritual sickness and heal those with physical illness. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list, and those we mention now either silently or aloud.

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

Shepherd of souls, bless the dying with a peaceful end and comfort those who wait and watch for their passing; that both are in full awareness that you are near. We pray especially for those we remember now either silently or aloud.

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 the Celebrant*

Good shepherd of the sheep, by whom the lost are sought and guided into the fold; feed us and we shall be satisfied, heal us and we shall be whole, and lead us that we may be with you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, where you reign one God for ever.. **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 OFFERTORY

*Celebrant* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
*Ephesians 5:2*

*Easter is a season of hope, joy, and new beginnings. In Christ's resurrection, we find a love that knows no end—a love that calls us to share and give generously. Your offering helps Good Shepherd be a place where that love is known, where lives are lifted, and where grace abounds. Thank you for giving from the heart, for being part of this Easter joy, and for sharing in the work of resurrection life.*



Scan to give now

### OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Brother James' Air*

Jacob

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, Resurrected Christ, who breaks open the tomb and fills the world with new life. Receive these offerings—those given here and those given in faith from afar—and bless them for your work. May they be vessels of your grace, signs of your mercy, and instruments of your love. Bless those who give and those who long to give, that all may be drawn deeper into your risen life. In the name of the Risen Christ we pray. **Amen.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer A*

*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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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:

The image shows a musical score for a hymn, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and'. The second staff continues with 'might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third staff has 'san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who'. The fourth staff concludes with 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and a fermata over the final note.

*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*

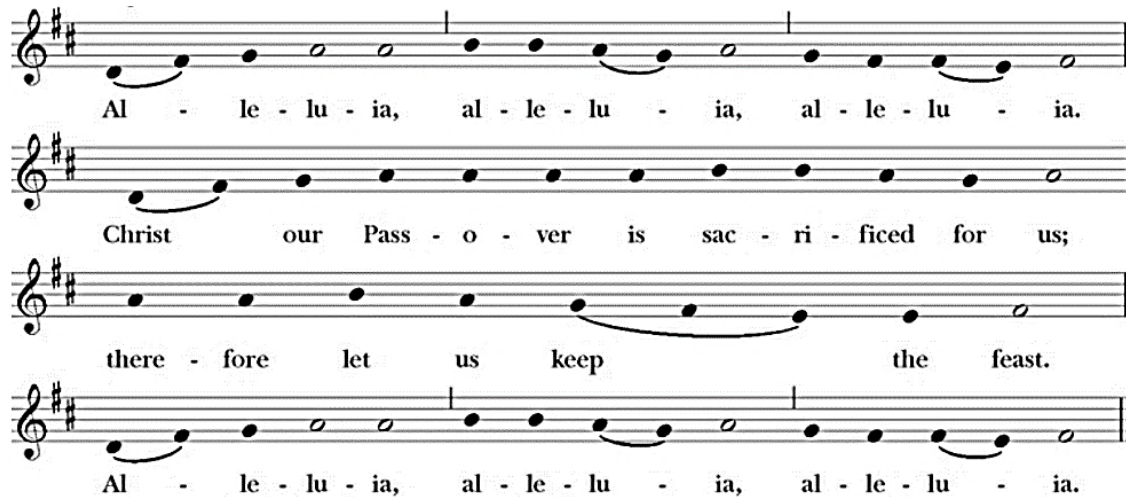
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is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

## FRACTION ANTHEM (S-154)

*sung by all*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*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*

*Shepherd Me, O God*

*My Shepherd will supply my need*

*Haugen*

*Hymn 664*

## 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

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN • 334

*Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing*

## THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*Priest* Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*People* **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

## TODAY'S SERVANT LEADERS

<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. James B. Cook
<b>Preacher</b>	Alex Serra-Wolfington
<b>Acolyte Server</b>	Elliot Gouery
<b>Torch Bearers</b>	Kate Hanssen, Alia Thomas
<b>Verger</b>	Tracy Smith
<b>Reader</b>	Tom Valk
<b>Intercessor</b>	Cole Dangerfield
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Beth Bohnsack, Larry Smith, Lucille Lanpher
<b>Healing Ministers</b>	Margaret Dunstan, Alex Lesbirel
<b>Ushers</b>	Rob Grover, Marilyn Lawrence
<b>Greeter</b>	Bryce Chant, Ken Gahre
<b>Vestry Host</b>	Stephen Hendrickson
<b>Vocalists</b>	Ian Anderson, Peter Carras, Mark Chittum, Peggy Chittum, Margaret Dunstan, Jenna Hoefort, Eddy Howard, Emily Kane, Patrick Levitsky, Chantal Pontbriand, Gary Riggs, Loretta Smith, Tom Valk, Debbie White
<b>Organist</b>	Timm Johnson-Reynolds
<b>Sound/Livestream</b>	Erik Pariseleti
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Judy Collins
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Mike Howard
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Julie Bohnsack

## OUR STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Sanford H. Groff, Jr., *Rector*  
The Rev. James B. Cook, *Assisting Priest*  
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 Admin & Dir. of Children's  
Ministries*  
Beth Bohnsack, *Director of Youth Ministries*  
Mary Lou Crifasi, *Office Coordinator*  
Lisa Ellington, *Office Assistant*  
Beth Long, *Thrift Store Manager*  
Pam Steele-Unger, *Asst. Thrift Store Manager*  
Erik Pariseleti, *Technology Coordinator*  
Corby Steiner, *Asst. Technology Coordinator*  
Yolanda Aquilar, *Custodian*  
Laz Fernandez, *Sexton*  
America Hernandez, *Nursery Attendant*  
Alex Serra-Wolfington, *Seminarian*

## OUR VESTRY

George Creel, *Sr. Warden*  
Larry Smith, *Jr. Warden*  
Mike Greene, *Treasurer*  
Sophie Riddle, *Youth Liaison*  
Dimitri Chimerakis  
Alexa Chura  
Ron Doucette  
Quinn Foerch  
Kate Gouery  
Mike Grashof  
Stephen Hendrickson  
Julie Hirsch  
Dale Smith  
Janice Thomas



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