

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church



The Village of Pine Grove, Virginia



MISUNDERSTANDING
THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

<https://wp-media.patheos.com/blogs/sites/1251/2020/11/ParableTalents.jpg>

The 25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

Welcome to Good Shepherd Church

We are so glad you are here or joining us online!

UPDATED guidelines for indoor worship:

Masks are optional and are available at the welcome table in the Narthex. Hand sanitizer is available at many locations in the church. We are sharing communion wine from the common cup. If you would prefer not to partake, you can make a sign of the cross with the host over the cup as it passes or have the LEM intinct your wafer for you.

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ CALENDAR ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

SUN Nov 26 The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

11:00 a.m. Stewardship Sunday

Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Deb Rutter

LEM & Prayers: Tim Hall | Zoomer: Judy Hall

Lay Reader: Kelly Macoy | Keyboardist: Eileen Cawood

WED Nov 29 FISH Food Delivery and To-go meals distribution

SUN Dec 3 The First Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Rob Banse

LEM & Prayers: Josette Keelor | Zoomer: Judy Hall

Lay Readers: Penelope Yungblut and Ray Ewing

Keyboardist: Eileen Cawood

SUN Dec 10 The Second Sunday of Advent: Lessons & Carols

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Deborah Rutter

LEM: Judy Hall | Lay Readers: Many

Keyboardist: Eileen Cawood | Zoomer: Tim Hall

SUN Dec 17 The Third Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Martha Clark

LEM: Tim Hall

Lay Reader: Kelly Macoy | Prayers: Lee Ruddle

Keyboardist: Janet Locklear | Zoomer: Judy Hall

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at Good Shepherd every Saturday at 8:30 p.m., in person or by Zoom. Drop in, or visit <https://aavirginia.org/meetings> and search for Bluemont.



DAILY MORNING PRAYER: RITE TWO

Officiant: Cindy Ingram

Lay Reader: Josette Keelor | Zoomer: Tim Hall

Keyboardist: Janet Locklear

Welcome and Introduction

Prelude: "Down Ampney"

R. Vaughan Williams

Opening Sentence and Prayer
(The People stand)

BCP p. 78

Officiant Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.

People **I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to
the house of the Lord."**

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

Opening **Hymn 686** "Come, thou fount of every blessing" *Nettleton*

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 79

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People together

(The People may be seated or kneel)

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.**

The Officiant says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter (*The People stand*)

BCP p. 80

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

Glorify to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia!

The Antiphon (Officiant)

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.

The Venite (*Psalms 95:1-7*)

Hymnal S-35

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth,

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture

and the sheep of his hand.

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Lessons (*The People may be seated*)

The Reader introduces the first lesson, saying

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; The LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts,

“The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.”

Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12

Said antiphonally by half verse

Domine, refugium

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
“Go back, O child of earth.”
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is
past *
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 9 [When you are angry, all our days are gone; *
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- 10 The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength even eighty; *
**yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**
- 11 Who regards the power of your wrath? *
who rightly fears your indignation?]
- 12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

The Reader introduces the second lesson, saying

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Thessalonians.

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you,

beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

(The People stand)

Gradual Hymn “O God we yearn for safety!”

Nyland (See Insert)

(The People may be seated)

The Reader introduces the third lesson, saying

A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

The Third Lesson: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the

one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Homily

Cindy Ingram

The Apostles' Creed (*The People stand*)

BCP p. 96

Officiant and People together, all standing

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

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.
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. Amen.

Prayer **Hymn 288** "Praise to God, immortal praise"

Dix

The Prayers

BCP p. 97

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

The People may be seated or kneel

**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.**

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.

- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Officiant prays the **Collect of the Day**

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer Hymn **WLP 827** “O Lord, hear my prayer” (*sung once*) *Taiže*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For Dane Toler (Lee’s spouse), Bert Bonavita (Penni’s cousin), Judson Hardy (Janet’s father), Penelope Yungblut, Martha Hayes, Sheila and Karen Tapscott, Lee Ruddell, Tim Ingram, George & Debbie Rutter, Jeanette Carter, Nancy Kelley, the Adamson family in Russia, Shirley Grey, Jorie & Richard Martin, Dusty Bailey & Ted Weaver (Charlene’s friends), David Aikman (Charlene’s husband), Michael Mohn & Ralph Bayfield (previous clergy), Kathleen Franz (Kelly’s mother), Adele & Richard Sauer (Cindy’s parents), Judith Refo (Judy’s mother), Tara Refo (Judy’s cousin), Roberta Adams (Tim Ingram’s friend), Pat Pearson, Pat Wolcott & her family (in-laws of Josette), and Geraldine

Kolowski, Sam Myers, John West & Kenny Lucas (Darlene's friends & family). For all people in their daily life and work;

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

For the homeless nearby and across our nation. For the victims of mass shootings and gun violence that continue unabated. For the safety and freedom from theft for Pine Grove and Retreat residents and Appalachian Trail hikers. For this community, the nation, and the world;

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

For those suffering from climate change and natural disasters. For migrants and refugees and all who are exploited. For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

For all people suffering from conflicts throughout the world. May they find a way to peace. For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

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

In the *Diocesan Cycle of Prayer*, we pray today for Our Saviour, Montpelier; St. Clement's, Alexandria; St. Luke's, Remington; and St. Margaret's Woodbridge. In the *Anglican Cycle of Prayer*, we pray today for The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma). For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

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

For Justin, Archbishop; for Michael, Presiding Bishop; for Mark and Gayle, our Bishops; for Debbie, Martha, and Rob, our Supply Clergy, and for all bishops and other ministers.

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

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

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Prayer Hymn **WLP 827** “O Lord, hear my prayer” (*sung once*) *Taize*

A Collect for the Search for our Next Presiding Bishop

Almighty God, source of all wisdom and understanding: Look graciously on your church, and so guide the hearts and minds of those who will choose our next presiding bishop, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for all of your people, equip us for our ministries, and proclaim your word to us and to the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Litany for the Restoration of Peace in the Holy Land

God of peace, we pray for the people of Palestine and Israel in these perilous and dangerous times.

For all who are fearful for the safety of their loved ones and themselves, we pray that the assurance of unfailing love, even in the midst of danger, settles upon them. Shelter them from despair and protect them from harm.

For all who are wounded, **we pray they find healing.**

For all who have died, **we pray they find rest.**

For all who grieve, **we pray they find comfort.**

For leaders on all sides, we pray for a renewed will to lay down arms, for the strength to put the grievances and wrongs suffered by their people to rest, and for the conviction to embrace a path of

reconciliation and peace that preserves the rights and dignity of all of your children. **Lord hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, help us to remember there is no border that can separate us from your great love and protection, no stone that can sound the well of your deep mercy. **Lord hear our prayer.**

God of justice, we pray with hopeful hearts that your beloved children of the Holy Land will be spared a future of sustained violence and unrest and that a recognition of the humanity of all people will prevail. **Lord hear our prayer.**

We ask all this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Officiant invites the people to pray the General Thanksgiving together.

The General Thanksgiving

BCP p. 101

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

The Officiant prays **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

BCP p. 102

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

(The People stand)

The Grace

Ephesians 3:20, 21

The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Greetings and Announcements

The Offertory

The Officiant begins with a sentence of Scripture.

Please leave your offering in the plate on the Narthex table.

The People stand for the Doxology

Hymn 380 v.3 “Praise God from whom all blessings flow” *Old 100th*

Closing Prayer

Grant, we beseech you, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through your grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing **Hymn 290** “Come, ye thankful people, come”

St. George's, Windsor

The Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

NOTICES

JOIN US FOR LUNCH TODAY AT 1:00 P.M. IN THE PARISH HALL

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN FOR 2024

If you have not yet received your 2024 Stewardship letter or need an additional “Works and Wisdom” booklet, extra copies may be found in the narthex. Please prayerfully consider your gifts of time, talent, and treasure for next year and where the Holy Spirit is leading us. **We will be collecting responses at our “in-gathering” service, next Sunday**, which is Christ the King Sunday.

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH – COOKIE TINS

We have about 90 tins and boxes to fill! And we'll soon need volunteers to bake cookies, pack the tins, and deliver them to our wonderful neighbors, with personal invitations to join us for Christmas Eve (or anytime!). More details to come.

FISH OF CLARKE COUNTY



We continue to collect canned and dry goods, fresh produce, and paper products for **FISH of Clarke County**. In October, we donated 72 pounds of food, including five dozen eggs and lots of canned and boxed foods, as well as drinks. Thank you to everyone who donated so generously. **Our next FISH collection delivery is Nov. 29. Contact Lois Tapscott to help with anything related to FISH.**

BLUE RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE

- Blood Drive at the Fire Hall, Nov 18, 8 a.m. to Noon
- Breakfast with Santa, Dec 2, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

OUR CHURCH'S RESPONSE TO THE VIOLENCE IN THE HOLY LAND

Thank you to everyone who gave to support the Anglican Episcopal Al-Ahli Arab Hospital. Your generous donations totaled \$900. With the \$500 match from church funds, we were able to send \$1,400 to the “American Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem” to support this effort as we continue to pray for peace in the Middle East.

PRAYERS

Pray for our neighbors and for ways we can serve the community.

Friends and Family: For Dane Toler (Lee's spouse), Bert Bonavita (Penni's cousin), Judson Hardy (Janet's father), Penelope Yungblut, Martha Hayes, Sheila and Karen Tapscott, Lee Ruddle, Tim Ingram, George & Debbie Rutter, Jeanette Carter, Nancy Kelley, the Adamson family in Russia, Shirley Grey, Jorie & Richard Martin, Dusty Bailey & Ted Weaver (Charlene's friends), David Aikman (Charlene's husband), Michael Mohn & Ralph Bayfield (previous clergy), Kathleen Franz (Kelly's mother), Adele & Richard Sauer (Cindy's parents), Judith Refo (Judy's mother), Tara Refo (Judy's cousin), Roberta Adams (Tim Ingram's friend), Pat Pearson, Pat Wolcott & her family (in-laws of Josette), and Geraldine Kolowski, Sam Myers, John West & Kenny Lucas (Darlene's friends & family).

To add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, send an email to prayerlist@goodshepherdbluemont.org

For the homeless nearby and across our nation. For the victims of mass shootings and gun violence that continue unabated. For the safety and freedom from theft for Pine Grove and Retreat residents and Appalachian Trail hikers. For those suffering from climate change and natural disasters. For migrants and refugees and all who are exploited. For all people suffering from conflicts throughout the world. May they find a way to peace.

The Church: For Justin, Archbishop; for Michael, Presiding Bishop; for Mark and Gayle, our Bishops; and for Debbie, Martha and Rob, our Supply Clergy.



GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

27 Good Shepherd Road; P.O. Box 324, Bluemont, VA 20135

540-252-5825 | office@goodshepherdbluemont.org

www.goodshepherdbluemont.com

Senior Warden: Lois Tapscott

Treasurer: Cindy Ingram

Junior Warden: Tim Hall

Register: Janet Locklear