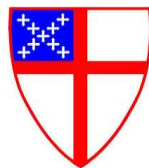


Good Shepherd Episcopal Church



The Village of Pine Grove, Virginia



The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

Follow Christ. Welcome All. Serve Humbly.

Welcome to Good Shepherd Church



CALENDAR

- SUN Jul 26** **The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**
Last day for **FISH food & funds donations**
11:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** with the Rev. Deborah Rutter
- TUE Jul 28** **Morning FISH delivery, followed by...**
10:00 a.m. **Preparation of “to-go” meals** (Parish Hall basement)
- WED Jul 29** **Distribute FISH “to-go” meals** (morning)
- SUN Aug 2** **The 10th Sunday after Pentecost**
10:00 a.m. **“Modern Parables” Adult Sunday School**
 until 10:45 in the Parish Hall
11:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** with the Rev. Deborah Rutter
Lay Readers: Christine Kestner & Ron Edwards
LEM/Prayers: Kelly Macoy | Zoomer: Ron Edwards
Music Leader: Tim Hall
- SAT Aug 8** **Vestry Meeting** 10am in the Parish Hall
- SUN Aug 9** **The 11th Sunday after Pentecost**
11:00 a.m. **Homecoming Service** at Wickliffe Church (see Notices)
- SUN Aug 16** **The 12th Sunday after Pentecost**
10:00 a.m. **“Modern Parables” Adult Sunday School**
 until 10:45 in the Parish Hall
11:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** with the Rev. Rob Banse
Lay Readers: Judy Hall & Rick Whitehouse
LEM/Prayers: Kelly Macoy | Zoomer: Tim Hall
Music Leader: Janet Locklear



The Pine Grove AA meets at Good Shepherd every Saturday at 8:30 p.m. in person or by Zoom. Drop in or contact:

<https://aavirginia.org/meetings> - search for Bluemont.



Women's Al-Anon meetings at Good Shepherd every Tuesday from noon to 2 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Ladies, feel free to join in.

We do not pass the plate to collect the offering. You may leave your gifts in the offering plate on the table in the Narthex.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

Celebrant: The Rev. Deborah Rutter

Lay Readers: Kelly Macoy & Lee Ruddle

LEM/Prayers: Judy Hall | Music Leader: Janet Locklear

Zoomer: Tim Hall

Welcome and Introduction

Prelude: “Precious Lord, take my hand”

arr. Polly Bekasova

Opening **Hymn 388** “O worship the King, all glorious above!”

m. 1-3

Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

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

People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever.**

Amen.

The Celebrant prays

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.

Praise **Hymn 419** “Lord of all being, throned afar”

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The Reader introduces the first lesson, saying

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The Old Testament: Genesis 29:15-28

Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

Said responsively by half verse

1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
 make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
 and speak of all his marvelous works.

- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 7 He is the LORD our God; *
his judgments prevail in all the world.
- 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, *
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
- 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, *
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- 11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance."
- 45b Hallelujah!

The Reader introduces the second lesson, saying

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

The Epistle: Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual **Hymn 488** “Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart”

Then, all standing, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

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

The Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Deborah Rutter

The Nicene Creed

The People stand

**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:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

The Prayers of the People, Form VI

BCP p. 392

The People may be seated or kneel

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For our friends and family: (*see back page of bulletin*). 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 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 The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion and all Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and Lay Leaders. In the *Anglican Cycle of Prayer*, we pray today for The Anglican Church of Tanzania. For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

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

For Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; for Sean, Presiding Bishop; for Mark, Gayle, and Mark, our Bishops; for Debbie, Rob, Kate, and Martha, 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.

The Leader continues

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

Leader and People

God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

The Peace *(the People stand)*

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

THE HOLY AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Offertory

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

Offertory **Hymn 635** “If thou but trust in God to guide thee”

The People stand for the Doxology

Hymn 380 v.3 “Praise God from whom all blessings flow”

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP, p.367

Eucharistic Prayer B

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 God 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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: [WLP 785]

[Spanish] ***Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora!***

Mi corazon te sabe decir: santo eres Señor.

[English] ***Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!***

My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, Lord.

The People stand or kneel

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

BCP p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

The Act of Reception for Spiritual Communion

*The Celebrant invites the following prayer to be said by all **virtual** participants.*

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament.

And, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

The Celebrant says the following

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people and ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds.

Communion **Hymn** “There is a Redeemer”

1 There is a Re - deem - er, Je - sus, God's own Son;
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, name a - bove all names,
3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see his face;
pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah, Ho - ly One.
pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah, hope for sin - ners slain.
there I'll serve my King for - ev - er in that ho - ly place.
Thank you, O my Fa - ther, for giv - ing us your Son, and
leav - ing your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

After communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

from Enriching Our Worship (p. 69)

God of abundance,

**you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people
in heaven and on earth.**

**Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may
proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue
for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless the People

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world,
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**



NOTICES

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING AND

LICENSES FOR GOOD SHEPHERD WORSHIP LEADERS

The Diocese requires Safe Church Training to be licensed for leadership roles. All our vestry members have completed Safe Church Training. All our LEMS have completed it, as well, and are in the process of being licensed with the help of Rev. Melanie Lewis of Millwood, the Region Dean.

Three of our parishioners – Kelly Macoy and Tim & Judy Hall – attended Lay Worship Leader training this past Saturday. A big thank you to Rev. Melanie for offering this class and shepherding us through the process so people from Good Shepherd can be officially licensed to lead Morning Prayer!

The Rev'd Shirley Smith-Graham—Canon for Congregational Vitality is working out a process for Good Shepherd to obtain the training required to become Licensed Lay Worship Preachers. Shirley+ has been coordinating with Rev'd Jenks Hobson, Canon Ricardo Sheppard, and others to find a way forward for Good Shepherd.

It takes a village to support a small mission church in the Blue Ridge Mountains. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful village in the Diocese of Virginia.

OUR COMMUNITY



Thank you to each of you that have made donations to FISH. In June, we donated 61 pounds of food, and our FISH team (Janet, Christine & Peggy) prepared and delivered 42 turkey slider lunches and

10 veggie spaghetti. Our **next to-go meals** will be **prepared and delivered** this week on **July 28 & 29**. Please **contact Janet Locklear to help** with this important ministry in our community.

Also, please **remember FISH** when you're doing your grocery shopping and **consider buying a little extra** to give to those in need. ***Weekly donations of a few items by everyone will really add up!***

WEBSITE UPGRADE

Christine Kestner has been working on bringing the new SquareSpace website live. We plan to migrate away from the current Websolutions site by the end of the summer. The newer site will be easier to update and will better integrate with our Google Drive. **Look for more website notices this month.**

SCHEDULING VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to everyone that helps keep our church running by taking part in the worship services and helping with the altar, teller duties, after church refreshments and cleanup, and so much more. Please be sure to sign up for the rest of the summer and the fall.

ANNUAL HOMECOMING SERVICE AT WICKLIFFE CHURCH

On Sun., Aug. 9, we gather at **11 a.m.** with two other Clarke County Episcopal churches—St. Mary's and Grace—for a special worship service at historic Wickliffe Church (built in 1819). The service will be followed by fellowship and a potluck picnic lunch underneath the shady oak trees. This is always a fun event and a nice way to meet other local Christian siblings. Please plan on coming and bring a potluck dish to share (appetizer, main, side, or dessert). ***Note: We will NOT be holding a service at Good Shepherd on that Sunday.***



OTHER NOTICES

If you have a notice you'd like included in the bulletin, please send it to our office email address (on back page) with subject "NOTICES".



PRAYERS

Please pray for our neighbors and ways to serve the community.

Friends and Family Prayers: Suffragan Bishop Michael Sie of Liberia, The Aguilar family (Christine's family); Carol Newman (Pine Grove neighbor); Sam Wiggington (Judi Floyd's neighbor); Bob Zidek (Bryan's dad); Judy Anderson (Bluemont neighbor); Brian Sweeney (Natalie's brother); Amie Comer (friend at Rose Hill); Donna Sowder and Terri Huff (Rose's friends); Darlene Schaffer and her friends & family: Sam Myers, John West, and Kenny Lucas; Eileen Cawood; Nancy Kelley, Tammy (Nancy's daughter), Jennifer (Nancy's grand-daughter); Yvette Webster (Rachel's partner); Craig Eney (Andrea's brother-in-law); David Aikman (Charlene's husband); Dusty Bailey and Ted Weaver (Charlene's friends); Martha Hayes; Lee Ruddle & Dane Toler; Tim & Cindy Ingram; Kathleen Franz (Kelly's mother).

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



GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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www.goodshepherdblueмонт.org

Senior Warden: Judy Hall

Register: Kelly Macoy

Junior Warden: Frank Bredimus

Treasurer: Tim Hall

Follow Christ. Welcome All. Serve Humbly.