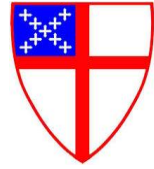


Good Shepherd Episcopal Church



The Village of Pine Grove, Virginia



<http://www.textweek.com/images/keys.jpg>

The 13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2026

Follow Christ. Welcome All. Serve Humbly.

Welcome to Good Shepherd Church



Our Vision:

Good Shepherd strives to be a welcoming and nurturing congregation, rooted in the knowledge and love of Christ, and committed to growing spiritually and serving our neighbors.



CALENDAR

- SUN Aug 23** The 13th Sunday after Pentecost
Last day for FISH food & funds donations
10:00 a.m. “Modern Parables” Adult Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with the Rev. Deborah Rutter
- TUE Aug 25** Morning FISH delivery, followed by...
10:00 a.m. Preparation of “to-go” meals (Parish Hall basement)
- WED Aug 26** Distribute FISH “to-go” meals (morning)
- SUN Aug 30** The 14th Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 a.m. “Modern Parables” Adult Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Healing with the Rev. Martha Clark
Lay Readers: Judy Hall & Rick Whitehouse
LEM/Prayers: Josette Keelor | Zoomer: Rick Whitehouse
Music Leader: Eileen Cawood
- SUN Sep 6** The 15th Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 a.m. “Modern Parables” Adult Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer with Tim Hall
Lay Readers: Christine Kestner & Ron Edwards
Zoomer: Ron Edwards
Music Leader: Janet Locklear



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



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: Christine Kestner & Ron Edwards

LEM/Prayers: Kelly Macoy | Music Leader: Tim Hall

Zoomer: Penni Tidwell

Welcome and Introduction

Opening **Hymn 304** "I come with joy to meet my Lord" *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.

Gloria Patri *Greaterorex*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen*

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.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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 Exodus.

The Old Testament: Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could

hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 124

Said responsively by half verse

- 1 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
 let Israel now say;
- 2 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
 when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
 in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
 and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters *
 have gone right over us.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD! *
 he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
 the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

The Reader introduces the second lesson, saying

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

The Epistle: Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual **LEVAS 99** "On Christ the Solid Rock"

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 16:13-20

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah

or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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.**

Prayer **LEVAS 178** “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

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 Students, Faculty, and Administrators at Diocesan Church Schools: Christchurch, Saluda; St. Catherine’s, Richmond; St. Christopher’s, Richmond; St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes, Alexandria; and Stuart Hall, Staunton. In the *Anglican Cycle*

of Prayer, we pray today for The Church of the Province of West Africa. 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.

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. (BCP p. 816)

Amen.

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Christ our Lord. (BCP p. 817)

Amen.

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, remembering especially Sandy Silvestro and Sonny Colbert, 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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

THE HOLY AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Offertory

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

Offertory **Hymn 304** “I come with joy to meet my Lord” *m. 3-5*

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,

People and Celebrant

BCP p. 364

**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

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 711** “Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God”

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

Closing **Hymn 302** “Father, we thank thee who hast planted”

The Dismissal

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

People **Thanks be to God.**



NOTICES

OUR COMMUNITY



FISH Mission Statement

"Our mission is to make sure everyone in Clarke County has access to the food, clothing, and support they need."

Thank you to everyone who makes donations to FISH. Your gifts of food, funds, and time are critical to this ministry. In July, Good Shepherd donated about 20 pounds of food and a check for \$590 from funds donated by parishioners in June and July. Peggy, Janet, Andrea, Eileen, Judy, Tim, and Christine helped with the various tasks of making lunches, delivering our food offering, handing out the to-go lunches at FISH, and delivering care boxes from FISH to our neighbors. **Our next round of "to-go" meals is this coming Tuesday and Wednesday.** 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 helping to 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.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES...

The Summer 2026 update to our church Friends and Family directory is available for pickup in the Narthex on Sunday mornings. If you'd like an electronic copy of the directory, please email the office (see back page) to request one.

FORWARD DAY-BY-DAY

Take away copies of the devotional for **Aug-Sep-Oct are available in the Narthex**. We provide Forward Day-by-Day to parishioners as a simple and effective way to have a daily prayer practice. Each day features a Bible verse from the daily readings and a related reflection written by a different author each month, all in fewer than 200 words. It even includes the daily feast days, as well as prompts to take faithful action in your daily life. Please take one home for yourself, and one for a friend.

VESTRY NEWS: At its August meeting, your vestry authorized the following Outreach Projects for the remainder of 2026:

- October Blessings – special call for food and supplies for the Clarke County Animal Shelter during the month of October, including a vestry match of up to \$500 for monetary donations.
- Blue Ridge VFR – \$500 donation discussed and approved.
- Christmas Tins – discussed and approved.

The Good Shepherd 2027 draft Budget request to the Diocese was reviewed and approved.

The vestry also voted to approve exploring the process of retaining part-time clergy, which includes talking to the Diocesan transition minister to find out next steps and clarifying the financial requirements for a part-time clergy.



PRAYERS

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

Friends and Family Prayers: Katie & Craig Eney (Andrea's sister and brother-in-law); Bethany Whitehouse; 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), and Jennifer (Nancy's granddaughter); Yvette Webster (Rachel's partner); 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@goodshepherdbluemont.org

In thanksgiving for the lives of

- Sandy Silvestro (Rose's friend and our most loyal Zoom worshipper), who died on Aug. 15, 2026, and
- Sonny Colbert (lifelong Bluemont neighbor), Jan. 17, 1930–Aug. 7, 2026.



GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

540-252-5825 | office@goodshepherdbluemont.org

www.goodshepherdbluemont.org

Senior Warden: Judy Hall

Register: Kelly Macoy

Junior Warden: Frank Bredimus

Treasurer: Tim Hall

Follow Christ. Welcome All. Serve Humbly.