

**THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021 • 10:30 A.M.



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

RITE II

COVID UPDATE: Due to the increasing cases of COVID, our Diocese is requiring that all people, vaccinated and unvaccinated, wear masks when gathering at church.

VOLUNTARY

Adagio (from Sonata I)

Felix Mendelssohn

THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN 359

Toulon

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY355

Presider 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.

People Amen.

HYMNAL S-35

Venite

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 COLLECT OF THE DAY.....234

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

A moment of silence is observed.

Presider O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22

Reader A Reading from the Book of Esther.

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. ²On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, 'What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.' ³Then Queen Esther answered, 'If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. ⁴For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.'* ⁵Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, 'Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?' ⁶Esther said, 'A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!' Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. ⁹Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, 'Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.' And the king said, 'Hang him on that.' ¹⁰So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. ²⁰ Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, ²¹enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, ²²as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence follows the reading.

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

³⁸ John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹ But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰ Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. ⁴² "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁴ ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell., ⁴⁶ ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. ⁴⁹ "For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰ Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE NICENE CREED.....358

Presider and People

**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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Form V)389

- Presider* In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- Leader* For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming; we pray to you, O Lord.
- People* **Lord, have mercy.**
- Leader* For the mission of the Church, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one; we pray to you, O Lord.
- People* **Lord, have mercy.**
- Leader* For Michael, our presiding bishop; Sam and Anne, our bishops; our priests, especially Becky Michelfelder, who will begin service as our interim rector on October 1st; and for this congregation; that the Church may show forth your glory in all the world; we pray to you, O Lord.
- People* **Lord, have mercy.**
- Leader* For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples; we pray to you, O Lord.
- People* **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For those in positions of public trust; especially, Joe, our president; Roy, our governor; and Sandy, our mayor; that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person; we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For our enemies and those who wish us harm; for all whom we have injured or offended; and for ourselves, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, forgiven of our sins, and blessed with the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives; we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the poor, the persecuted, refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger, that they may be relieved and protected; we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For those who suffer from the coronavirus, and for those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For all who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially _____, and others we name now silently or aloud... ; and for all our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health; we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For _____, and all others who are preparing for the birth or adoption of a child; we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For all who have died in the communion of your Church, [especially _____]; and those whose faith is known to you alone; that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal; we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People **To you, O Lord our God.**

THE CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION.....360

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

A moment of silence is observed.

Presider and People
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE.....360

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY361

Anthem *A Gaelic Prayer* David Lowry

Deep peace of the rolling wave to you; Deep peace of the flowing air to you; Deep peace of the quiet earth to you; Deep peace of the shining stars to you; Deep peace of the gentle night to you; Moon and stars pour their healing light on you; Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you; Deep peace of Christ to you. text: from an ancient Gaelic rune

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B).....367

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

HYMNAL S-129

Sanctus

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Presider 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,

Presider and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

Presider 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 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.

People **AMEN.**

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

Presider and People

**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.....364

After the Presider breaks the consecrated Bread, a moment of silence is observed.

Hymnal S-154

Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover

Presider and People

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION364

You may now proceed up the center aisle maintaining social distancing and receive the bread at the bottom of the steps, then return to your seats using the side aisles. As always, please follow the directions of the usher. The Celebrant will stand at a distance, and the wine will not

be administered. If you would prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, simply fold your hands and the Celebrant will be happy to offer that instead (but without laying-on-of-hands).

POST COMMUNION PRAYER.....365

Presider Let us pray.

A moment of silence is observed.

Presider and People

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

HYMN 609

Gardiner

THE DISMISSAL366

Presider Let us bless the Lord.

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

VOLUNTARY

Festival March

Norman Warren

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*All are invited to the parish hall following the service
for conversation (with social distancing) and coffee.*

10:30 A.M. SERVERS

Altar Guild Betty Norman; **Audiovideo Engineer** Ron Sowers;

Flower Guild Nan Bayless and Jenny Williams; **Intercessor** Marzena Laszewski;

Musicians The Good Shepherd Choir; Lawrence Goering, organist;

Presider Robert Sawyer; **Reader** Marzena Laszewski;

Vestry Counters Albert Ervin and Mary Palmer

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

September 26	Jim Mullen
September 27	Faye Brady
September 28	E. L. Daughtridge, Bernice Dawson, and Westray Hicks
September 30	Bruce Daughtry, Laurie Lilley, and Riki Mottershead
October 2	Betty Adkins

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our new Interim Priest is Reverend Susan Rebecca Michelfelder, she prefers Becky or Rev. Becky. She grew up in Ohio in a farming community and still lives in Ohio. She has masters degrees in theology and music and was ordained in 2000. She has served parishes in Ohio, Washington, New Jersey, North Carolina, Virginia, Michigan, West Virginia, the Republic of Panama and now back again in North Carolina. We will be her 9th interim call. She enjoys moving around the Country while maintaining a “base camp” apartment in Columbus Ohio. Her ultimate goal in life is to transform her 1995 Toyota Previa mini van into a camper and start her own You Tube channel.

She is very much looking forward to moving to Rocky Mount and serving God with the people of Good Shepherd. Her ministry with us begins on October 1, 2021, her length of service will be a minimum of one year but is yet to be determined. Stay tuned for more information as we make plans to welcome Becky here to the Church of the Good Shepherd.

While we wait for the arrival of our Interim Rector, any questions, concerns, or pastoral needs may be addressed to Mary Palmer, Senior Warden at piperremy444@gmail.com.

Book Fair. During the week of September 26 through October 1, the Day School will be hosting a book fair in the parlor. The hours are as follows: **Sunday, September 26**, before and after the 8 a.m. service and before the 10:30 a.m. service; and **Monday through Friday**, 7 – 9 a.m. each morning, and 3:30 -5:30 p.m. each afternoon.

St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals. Bring your animals! Sunday, October 3rd, 5:00 p.m.

On Sunday, August 29, sixteen years after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, Hurricane Ida made landfall in the same region. This Category 4 storm brought flooding and damaging winds that caused a loss of water to hundreds of thousands and a loss of electricity to over 1 million people. Episcopal Relief & Development is working closely with the Diocese of Louisiana and other regional partners in what will be a long-term response. Your generous gift will help alleviate suffering for the most vulnerable residents impacted by Hurricane Ida. Please visit episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief to make a gift today.

Morning Prayer, Rite II is offered in the church on Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.

The Good Shepherd Knitters Group is meeting weekly on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 a.m., in the parlor. All are welcome to join us for knitting and conversation.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church has a Food Pantry which is open 9:00-11:00 a.m. every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Pick up is available once a month. An I.D. is required. Please pass this info on to those in need. St. Andrew's is located off of Sunset Avenue at 301 Circle Drive.

Altar Flower Donations will once again be accepted by the flower guild in memory of, or in thanksgiving for, a loved one. The cost is \$60.00. For more information or to schedule, please contact Tom in the church office at tparker@goodshepherdrmt.org.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For those in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially Denise Meredith, Pam Shafer, Peggy Parker, Boo White, Donna Carmical, Pegram Johnson, Betty Jo Bolander, Henry Dickens, Eva Thompson, Joe Anderson, Patsy Gilliland, Reid McAuley, the Johnson family, Peter Gilliland, Suzanne Sifford, Becky Bryan, Brent Wilson, Kitty Hudgins, Mary Kathleen Duncan, Lee Hux, Elizabeth "Sister" Cherry, Jeffrey Reddick, Linda Knight, Kathryn Kelly, Ann Hartley, Frances Gaither, James Boles, and Lib Blackburn.

For the blessings of this life.

For those preparing for the birth of a child, especially Emily and Chris Dwight.

For those who have died, especially Steve Coggins.

VESTRY

Class of 2021
Jeannette Belfield
Deborah Burnette
Mary Palmer

Class of 2022
Albert Ervin
Reuben Harris
Catie Roche

Class of 2023
Ben Blackburn
John Mebane
Jim Mullen

Senior Warden Mary Palmer
Clerk Lisa Godwin

Junior Warden
Treasurer Jon Colston

STAFF

Email can be sent to the prefix listed below by each person's name, followed by @goodshepherdrmt.org (e.g. Lawrence Goering is lgoering@goodshepherdrmt.org)

Mary Alston, *Head Nursery Attendant*

Lawrence Goering (lgoering), *Organist and Director of Music*

Ernest Jones (ejones), *Bookkeeper*

Tom Parker (tparker), *Parish Administrator*

Carolyn Thomas (cthomas), *Director of the Day School*

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND DAY SCHOOL

231 N. Church St., Rocky Mount, NC 27804
www.goodshepherdrmt.org (252) 442-1134

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. (Holy Eucharist, Rite I)

10:30 a.m. (Holy Eucharist, Rite II – livestreamed at gslive.org)

Wednesday Service

7:30 a.m. (Morning Prayer, Rite II)