

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd



The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 10, 2025
10:00 am, The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Welcome to the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd!

Visitors Welcome! We're glad to have you worship with us. If you'd like to learn more about this community of faith and our different ministries, fill out one of our visitor cards (in the pews) and hand it to an usher.

Children & Youth A staffed nursery is available each Sunday from 8:30 - 11:30 am and at other times as needed. The nursery is the closest Early Learning Center classroom to the pool. It is the first room on the right after you go through the gate. Infant through 4 years old.

Restrooms Exit through the courtyard and walk straight through the double glass doors.

Stay Connected

Our Facebook page is "The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd - Jacksonville, Florida" and we're on Instagram as "goodshepherdjaxchurch." Our website is www.gsjax.church.



Sign up for "This Week at Good Shepherd," our weekly e-newsletter, by using the QR code or by emailing welcome@gsjax.church.

Looking for another link?



Bulletin cover art by John Bunker, Good Shepherd parishioner.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Preludes and Fugues in F Major and F Minor from *The Well-tempered Clavier*

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Stephen Ackert, *Guest Organist & Harpsichordist*

OPENING HYMN Rejoice! Rejoice, believers *Llangloffan* **Hymn No 68**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant

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

People

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA Glory to God Robert Powell (b. 1932) **Hymnal S-280**

(Hymn numbers preceded by an “S” are found in the front of the hymnal.)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Celebrant

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 15:1-6

Reader: A reading from Genesis.

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 33:12-22

Celebrant and the People read responsively by half verse.

¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! *
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

¹³ The LORD looks down from heaven, *
and beholds all the people in the world.

- ¹⁴ From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
on all who dwell on the earth.
- ¹⁵ He fashions all the hearts of them *
and understands all their works.
- ¹⁶ There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; *
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.
- ¹⁷ The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *
for all its strength it cannot save.
- ¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear him, *
on those who wait upon his love,
- ¹⁹ To pluck their lives from death, *
and to feed them in time of famine.
- ²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD; *
he is our help and our shield.
- ²¹ Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- ²² Let your loving-kindness, O LORD, be upon us, *
as we have put our trust in you.

THE EPISTLE: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Reader: A reading from Hebrews.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith

he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN

This is the hour of banquet and of song

Morestead

Hymn № 317

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL: Luke 12:32–40

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief

comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Chris Dell

Please stand.

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially for Dale, Dean, Mike, Klara, Glenn, Doug, Evelyn, Richard, Patrick, Katrina, Ruthee, Don, Kurtis, Cory, Jacob, Kathleen, Greg, Arleen, George, Pat, Habib, Jack, Peggy, Susan, Vera, Pat, Pat, Sperry, Megan, Mona, Robin, Bobby, Paul, Jesse and Ed, Charlotte, Patti, Skye, Missy, Constantine, Yevgeniya, Jennifer, Gail; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, remembering especially Sally, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant 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.

ABSOLUTION

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. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSINGS FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

All teachers and students with their backpacks are invited to come forward for the blessing.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS AND STUDENTS

Lord, bless these backpacks and the students who carry them as they begin yet another year of school. Give them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in the classroom, on the school bus, on the playground, and at home, and may they feel your loving care in all they do. Amen.

BLESSING OF TEACHERS

Lord, bless those in the ministry of teaching future generations. As they embark on a new school year, grant them energy, passion, discipline, and endurance for their daily tasks. Infuse their classrooms with an atmosphere of care and mutual respect, that all interactions there will be bathed in patience and understanding. Help their lessons to grow pupils in both knowledge and character and help us all to support the work these teachers do building up our community and our future. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Prelude in F-sharp Minor from *The Well-tempered Clavier*, book 2

J.S. Bach (1685–1750)



Scan the
QR code to
give online.

THE DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

Hymn № 380 (vs. 3)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

Please stand as you are able.

The Celebrant says

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant offers the proper preface which celebrates God's action in the world for this season.

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:

SANCTUS Holy, holy, holy Lord Robert Powell (b. 1932) **Hymnal S-129**

Celebrant and People sing

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.

The people stand or kneel

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION

Celebrant and People say

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

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.

You may either take communion by intinction (dipping the host into the chalice) or you may drink from the common cup. Please let the priest know if you desire a gluten free wafer. If you would prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, please cross your arms over your chest as an indication to the priest.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Toccata for the elevation

Girolamo Frescobaldi (1583–1643)

THE SENDING

(When lay eucharistic visitors are present)

Celebrant In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

With this prayer we joyfully send our lay eucharistic visitors to take communion to people who are not able to be with us today due to health or other infirmity.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

People and Celebrant

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

*A blessing is offered and the people respond **Amen**.*

CLOSING HYMN Christ for the world we sing *Moscow* **Hymn № 537**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Fugue in A Minor Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Altar Flowers

*Given to the glory of God & in honor of our Good Shepherd family
by Steve Gillick and Tom Moore.*

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Florida

Contact Us

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Matt Wolfe, *Chancellor*

Vestry

Russ Collins, Laura Lane, Kate Medill, Cookie Rogers, Keith Sands,
Juan Vegega, Shannon White, Matt Wolfe, & John Zell.

Weekly Calendar

Office Hours by Appointment Only from August 8 to August 15.

Regular hours resume on Monday, August 18.

Sunday, August 10th *The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost*

9:00 am Acolyte & Usher Training in Nave

11:20 am “Being With”: Session #7 (Cross) in Parish Office

Wednesday, August 13th

8:00 am Men’s Bible Study in Craig Lounge

5:30 pm Evening Prayer in Chapel

Thursday, August 14th

9:00 am Lay Weeders Workday in Courtyard

Saturday, August 16th

9:00 am Lay Weeders Workday in Parking Lot

2:00 pm-6:00 pm Private Event Set-up in Betsy Lovett Hall

Sunday, August 17th *The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*

8:00 am The Holy Eucharist, Rite I in Chapel

10:00 am The Holy Eucharist, Rite II in Nave

11:20 am “Being With”: Session #8 (Prayer) in Parish Office

2:00 pm-6:00 pm Private Event in Betsy Lovett Hall



For the full calendar, scan this QR code:

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

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Office Hours: Mon. – Thurs. 9 am – 4 pm; Fri. 9 am- Noon

Pool office: (904) 387- 4298 Pool website: www.gsjaxpool.com