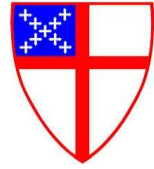


# Good Shepherd Episcopal Church



The Village of Pine Grove, Virginia



The First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

# Welcome to Good Shepherd Church



## CALENDAR

- SUN Nov 30** **First Sunday of Advent**  
10:15 a.m. **Choir Practice** before service  
11:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist & Healing**
- MON Dec 1** **Advent book study, 7 p.m. via Zoom** (see Notices)
- MON Dec 1** **Preparing Advent Christmas tins of baked goods**  
- **SUN Dec 14** (see Notices)
- THU Dec 4** **Vestry Meeting, 10 a.m.** in the Parish Hall
- SAT Dec 6** **Holiday Showcase and Caroling** (see Notices)
- SUN Dec 7** **The Second Sunday of Advent**  
10:15 a.m. **Choir Practice** before service  
11:00 a.m. **Contemplative Holy Eucharist**  
with The Rev. Martha Clark  
Lay Readers: Josette Keelor & Janet Locklear  
LEM/Prayers: Janet Locklear | Zoomer: Tim Hall  
Music Leaders: Josette Keelor & Eileen Cawood
- MON Dec 8** **Advent book study, 7 p.m. via Zoom** (see Notices)
- SUN Dec 14** **The Third Sunday of Advent**  
11:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** with The Rev. Cathy Tibbetts  
Lay Readers: Kelly Macoy & Lee Ruddle  
LEM/Prayers: Tim Hall | Zoomer: Rick Whitehouse  
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.



A small group of women is holding Al-Anon meetings at Good Shepherd every Tuesday from noon to 2 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Ladies, please feel free to join them.

**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

LEM: Josette Keelor | Prayers: Lee Ruddle

Lay Readers: Christine Kestner and Ron Edmonds

Music Leader: Tim Hall | Zoomer: Judy Hall

**Prelude** “Comfort, comfort ye my people”

*Hymn 67*

### **Welcome and Introduction**

### **The Lighting of the Advent Candle**

*A reading from the “Lighting the Advent Candles” insert.*

Candle Lighting **Hymn 56** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” *vv. 1 & 2*

*The 1<sup>st</sup> candle is lit. Then the congregation prays together*

**Loving God, as we enter this Advent season we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ. Show us the power of HOPE. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

Opening **Hymn** “God, Your Gift of Peace is Precious” *Carolyn Gillette*

Sung to the tune ***Cwm Rhondda***

(“God of Grace and God of Glory”)

***God, your gift of peace is precious  
in this world of sin and loss:  
You have given joy and gladness,  
making peace through Jesus' cross.  
God, in love you came to save us,  
giving freedom from our sin —  
In you, gifts of peace begin.  
Jesus, you are God's example  
in the life on earth you lived.  
Help us see your face in others,  
teach us freely to forgive.***

*When, in all your children's conflicts,  
hate and violence increase —  
Blest are those who work for peace.*

*Spirit, help us work for justice  
in each challenge that we face.  
Each one needs to have the other:  
righteousness and peace embrace.*

*Children hungry? People homeless?  
Missiles flying through the air?  
You seek peace with justice there.*

*So we pray and work together  
toward a world of your shalom.  
May all people share your bounty,  
and all have both feast and home.  
Wolf and lamb shall feed together:  
In your kingdom war shall cease  
And your people live in peace.*

## **The Word of God**

*BCP p. 355*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

*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.**

## **Kyrie**

*Hymnal S-91 (Sung in Unison)*

*Lord have mercy upon us.* (3x)  
*Christ have mercy upon us.* (3x)  
*Lord have mercy upon us.* (3x)

## **The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

*People* The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

*The Reader introduces the first lesson, saying*

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

### **The Old Testament: Isaiah 2:1-5**

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come  
the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.  
Many peoples shall come and say,  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 122**

*Said responsively by half verse*

*Laetatus sum*

- 1 I was glad when they said to me, \*  
**“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”**
- 2 Now our feet are standing \*  
**within your gates, O Jerusalem.**
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
**that is at unity with itself;**
- 4 To which the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the LORD, \*  
**the assembly of Israel,  
to praise the Name of the LORD.**
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, \*  
**the thrones of the house of David.**
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*  
**“May they prosper who love you.**
- 7 Peace be within your walls \*  
**and quietness within your towers.**
- 8 For my brethren and companions’ sake, \*  
**I pray for your prosperity.**
- 9 Because of the house of the LORD our God, \*  
**I will seek to do you good.”**

*The Reader introduces the second lesson, saying*

A reading from the letter to the Romans.

**The New Testament: Romans 13:11-14**

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

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

Gradual Hymn **LEVAS 18** “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

*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 24:36-44**

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

*The Rev. Deborah Rutter*

Prayer Hymn **LEVAS 106** “Precious Lord, take my hand

**A LITANY OF HEALING**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant and People together pray the Collect for St. Luke*

**Almighty God, who inspired your servant Luke the physician to set forth in the Gospel the love and healing power of your Son: Graciously continue in your Church this love and power to heal, to the praise and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

*The Celebrant continues the Litany with this bidding*

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

*The People audibly or silently name those for whom they are interceding.*

*The Lay Eucharistic Minister then leads the Litany*

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives,  
in our nation, and in the world;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

You are the Lord who does wonders:

**You have declared your power among the peoples.**

With you, O Lord, is the well of life:

**And in your light we see light.**

Hear us, O Lord of life:

**Heal us, and make us whole.**

Let us pray.

*A period of silence follows.*

*The Celebrant concludes the Prayers with the following Collect.*

Gracious God, we give you thanks for your beloved Jesus Christ, in whom you have shared the beauty and pain of human life. Look with compassion upon all for whom we pray, and strengthen us to be your instruments of healing in the world, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

*The Lay Eucharistic Minister 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 pronounces the absolution.*

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

## Laying on of Hands and Anointing

*The Celebrant continues*

Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us;

**Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.**

*The Celebrant says the following blessing for those who have been named*

The Almighty Lord, who is a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and obey: Be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and feel that the only Name under heaven given for health and salvation is the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant now invites all gathered to come forward for the blessing of healing.*

**WLP 827** “O Lord, hear my prayer”

*The Celebrant offers prayer for each person individually according to that person’s need, with lifting up of hands.*

*The Celebrant continues*

Let us pray

*The Celebrant and People together pray*

**Thank you, Father, for your healing love at work within me.  
Thank you, Father, for your healing love at work within the  
other people here. Thank you, Father, for your healing love  
at work in the lives of those for whom we have interceded.  
Thank you, Father, for the assurance of victory! I love you  
Father! I love your Son, Jesus! And I love your Holy Spirit!  
Amen.**

*The Celebrant invites the People to stand.*

**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 Anthem** “Blest be the King whose coming”

*Hymn 74*

*The People stand for the Doxology*

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

**The Great Thanksgiving** *Eucharistic Prayer A*

*BCP, p.361*

*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. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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**

*WLP-858*

***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. Hosanna in the highest.***

*The People stand or kneel*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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.**

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.**

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** "The Light of Christ"

Refrain: ***The light of Christ has come into the world*** (2x)

***We must all be born again***

***to see the kingdom of God;***

***The water and the Spirit bring new life in God's love.*** (Refrain)

***God gave up his only Son***

***out of love for the world,***

***So that all who believe in him will live forever.*** (Refrain)

***The light of God has come to us***

***so that we might have salvation;***

***From the darkness of our sins we walk into***

***glory with Christ Jesus.*** (Refrain)

*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 forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

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

Closing **WLP 812** “I, the Lord of sea and sky”

### **The Dismissal**

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

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



## **NOTICES**

*See the “December 2025 at Good Shepherd” email for more info.*

### **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

**St. Mary’s Episcopal Church** will be hosting a “Holiday Showcase and Community Carols Sing” this **Sat., Dec. 6**. The Goldberg School of Music will present the showcase in the sanctuary from **2 to 3 p.m.** and then all are invited to the parish hall upstairs for caroling and goodies from **3 to 4 p.m.**

### **CHRISTMAS TINS**

We are continuing our Advent tradition of preparing and giving out Christmas tins to our neighbors and friends. For the last 5 years the village has come to know Good Shepherd for delivering Christmas tins with homemade cookies, other goodies, and an invitation to our Christmas Eve service. **What we need most is volunteer bakers and delivery elves.** To cover Pine Grove and friends we need 130 tins, which requires 65 dozen cookies! Please see the sign-up sheet on the table next to the Sacristy door in the Parish Hall, or talk to Judy Hall.

## ADVENT BOOK STUDY

We continue our Advent book study of “**Dreams: A Way to Listen to God**,” by Morton Kelsey, **tomorrow night at 7 p.m.**, led by Rev. Deborah Rutter. One-hour online discussions are scheduled for **Monday evenings at 7 p.m.** (Dec. 1, 8, 15; Zoom Meeting ID: 230 268 4545 Password: Get2gether).

## OUR COMMUNITY



This November for our Thanksgiving effort we **collected 248 lbs. of food** including 6 turkeys and many pounds of sweet potatoes. Also, **54 regular and 9 vegan to-go lunches** were distributed plus extra "kids" meals. Christine and Janet are trying different healthy options for the lunch boxes. Christine is making vegan sandwiches to support those that do not eat meat. Janet is looking for ways to include healthier lunches, like using real cheese, while keeping them familiar to the FISH customers.

Our **Thanksgiving monetary donations were \$650**. Thank you so much for the extra giving during the holiday season!

We are posting the most recent **handwritten thank you notes from FISH on the Parish Hall bulletin board**. They contain some touching stories and show ways our funds are being put to good use.

Contact Janet Locklear if you would like to support this food ministry financially or help with fixing meals. The FISH clothing store and food pantry at 36 E. Main St., Berryville is open every Tuesday 8-10 a.m. and Wednesday 8-11 a.m. Call FISH at 540-955-1823 for more information.

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Choir **rehearsals continue next week**, under the direction of Janet Locklear. **All are welcome!** The choir will share special music at three services: Sun., Dec. 14, Christmas Eve, and Sun., Dec. 28.



## **GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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

540-252-5825 | [office@goodshepherdbluemont.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdbluemont.org)

[www.goodshepherdbluemont.org](http://www.goodshepherdbluemont.org)

*Senior Warden: Judy Hall*

*Register: Janet Locklear*

*Junior Warden: Ryan Keelor*

*Treasurer: Tim Hall*



## PRAYERS

*Please pray for our neighbors and for ways we can serve the community.*

**Friends and Family:** Harriett Hilton (Christine's aunt); Lydia Allie (Christine's cousin's widow) & sons, Austin and Brandon; Robert Stevens (Christine's friend); Bob Zidek (Bryan's dad); Marty Aiken (FISH family); Judy Anderson (Bluemont neighbor); Brian Sweeney (Natalie's brother); Amie Comer (friend at Rose Hill); Judi Floyd; Rose Holden, her sister-in-law Nancy, and her neighbors Andy Pope and Donna Sowder; Jon Hall (Tim's brother); Elaine J. (Christine's friend); Darlene Schaffer and her friends & family: Sam Myers, John West, and Kenny Lucas; Vickie Hooper (in-law of the Halls); Terry (our neighbor Gertrude's niece); Becky Loker (daughter of a friend of the Halls); Eileen Cawood; Adriana Rincon & family (Ron's friend); Lyam (Ron & Christine's friend); Lovette & the Rev. Michael Sie; Nancy Kelley & her great-grandson Hyden McClain; Kevin Tapscott (Lois's nephew); Yvette Webster (Rachel's partner); Craig Eney (Andrea's brother-in-law); Cat Cox (Retreat neighbor); Bobby Duke (our neighbor); The Adamson Family in Russia, especially Chris: David Aikman (Charlene's husband); Dusty Bailey and Ted Weaver (Charlene's friends); Martha Hayes; Lee Ruddle & his spouse, Dane Toler; Tim & Cindy Ingram, and Tim's friend Roberta Adams; Michael Mohn (previous clergy); Kathleen Franz (Kelly's mother).

**In thanksgiving** for the life of Brian Allie (Christine's cousin), 1960 – 2025.

*To add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, send an email to [prayerlist@goodshepherdbluemont.org](mailto:prayerlist@goodshepherdbluemont.org)*

In the **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**, we pray today in thanksgiving for God's Creation and those who care for it. In the **Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray today for The Anglican Church of Australia.

***Follow Christ. Welcome All. Serve Humbly.***