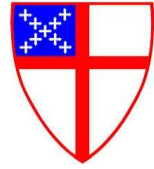


Good Shepherd Episcopal Church



The Village of Pine Grove, Virginia



The Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

Welcome to Good Shepherd Church

*The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Lois Tapscott, born December 4, 1946.*



CALENDAR

SUN Dec 7 The Second Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

11:00 a.m. Contemplative Holy Eucharist

with The Rev. Martha Clark

MON Dec 8 Advent book study, 7 p.m. via Zoom (see Notices)

SUN Dec 14 The Third Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Cathy Tibbetts

Lay Readers: Kelly Macoy & Lee Ruddle

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

Zoomer: Rick Whitehouse

MON Dec 15 Advent book study, 7 p.m. via Zoom (see Notices)

SUN Dec 21 The Fourth Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer with Josette Keelor

Acolyte: Bethany Whitehouse | Music Leader: Tim Hall

Lay Readers: Bethany & Rick Whitehouse

Zoomer: Ron Edwards

WED Dec 24 Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Deborah Rutter

Lay Readers: Christine Kestner & Ron Edwards

LEM/Prayers: Kelly Macoy | Music Leader: Janet Locklear

Zoomer: Judy Hall



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 five 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 CONTEMPLATIVE EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

Celebrant: The Rev. Martha Clark

Lay Readers: Josette Keelor & Janet Locklear

Music Leaders: Josette Keelor & Eileen Cawood

LEM/Prayers: Janet Locklear | Zoomer: Tim Hall

Welcome to our Contemplative Service of Holy Communion this morning.

*Please enter our sanctuary quietly
and take some time to come into the presence of God.*

*Prepare yourself in heart, mind and spirit
to hear and receive God's Word and Sacrament.*

The bell will call us to begin.

Welcome and Introduction

Call to Worship Chant

Piano plays through melody followed by cantor singing one time.

Congregation then sings

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am.

Be still and know - oh.....

Be still - hmmm.....

Be.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

see insert

Candle Lighting **Hymn 56** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" *vv. 3, 4*

The Word of God

BCP p. 355

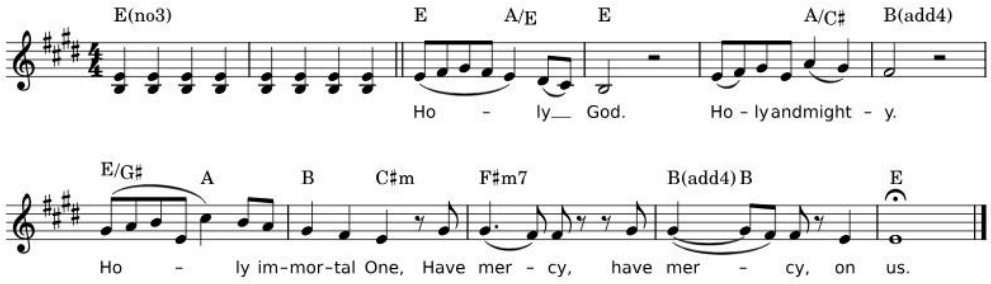
Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures forever

The Collect for Purity

The Trisagion

Fernando Ortega



E(no3) E A/E E A/C# B(add4)
Ho - ly God. Ho - ly and might - y.

E/G# A B C#m F#m7 B(add4)B E
Ho - ly im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy, have mer - cy, on us.

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 together.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

The Lessons

The Reader introduces the first lesson, saying

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The Old Testament: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw
like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for reflection

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

read responsively by whole verse

Refrain to be sung first by cantor and repeated by congregation

**Refrain: *The kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy
in the Holy Spirit.***

***Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of
your kingdom.***

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 **That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 **He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**

5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another. **(Refrain)**

6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

7 **In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be
no more.**

18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

19 **And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen. (Refrain)**

Silence for reflection

Gospel Acclamation “Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord” *Godspell*
Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

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 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell

you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

People sing Gospel Acclamation: Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

Lectio Divina with Reflection

The Rev. Martha Clark

The Prayers of the People, Form VI

The People may be seated or kneel

Prayer Chant

Taiže

***O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer
When I call answer me.***

***O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer
Come and listen to me.***

As you are invited, please offer up your prayers either silently or aloud

Leader: Let us pray for the Church ...

Let us pray for the world...

Let us pray for those in need...

Let us pray in thanksgiving for the blessings of this life...

Let us pray for the departed...

Prayer Chant

Taiže

***O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer
When I call answer me.***

***O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer
Come and listen to me.***

The Leader continues

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

Silence for self-examination

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

The Peace (*the People stand*)

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Share the peace reverently with a handshake, a bow, or a gentle word of peace

Announcements

THE HOLY AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Offertory

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture

After the altar is prepared, the people's offering is brought forward

The People stand for the Doxology

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

The Great Thanksgiving

from Enriching Our Worship

All standing

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.**

Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer until the Sanctus

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

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer until the Lord's Prayer

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

People and Celebrant

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

An Invitation to a Spiritual Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that can be prayed at any time to express a desire to receive Holy Communion when circumstances prevent a person from actually receiving Holy Communion.

The Act of Reception

*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

Post-Communion Chant

Taiže

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

Silence for thanksgiving

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

Sending Chant

Taiže

*With you, O Lord, is life in all its fullness,
and in your light we shall see true light.*

*With you, O Lord, is life in all its fullness,
and in your light we shall see true light.*

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

As you depart, gently carry the peace of Christ into the world



NOTICES

CHRISTMAS TINS

We are continuing our Advent tradition of preparing and giving out Christmas tins to our neighbors in Pine Grove and friends. To fill **130 tins**, we need **65 dozen homemade cookies**. We ask that each baker make their cookies and put them in **closed bags of six**

cookies each. This is the cleanest way to load the tins and preserve the cookies. You can bag the cookies in sandwich bags or get cookie bags at church on Sunday. Please bring as many bags of cookies as you can by **Sun., Dec. 14**, but we will take bags of cookies until **Sun., Dec 21**. Please use the signup sheet on the table outside the Sacristy, 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. This week read Chs. 6 & 7 and prepare to share another significant dream.

OUR COMMUNITY



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

Our **Thanksgiving monetary donations totalled \$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 the 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 next Sunday and at the Christmas Eve service.

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*



GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

540-252-5825 | office@goodshepherdbluemont.org

www.goodshepherdbluemont.org

Follow Christ. Welcome All. Serve Humbly.