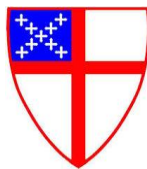
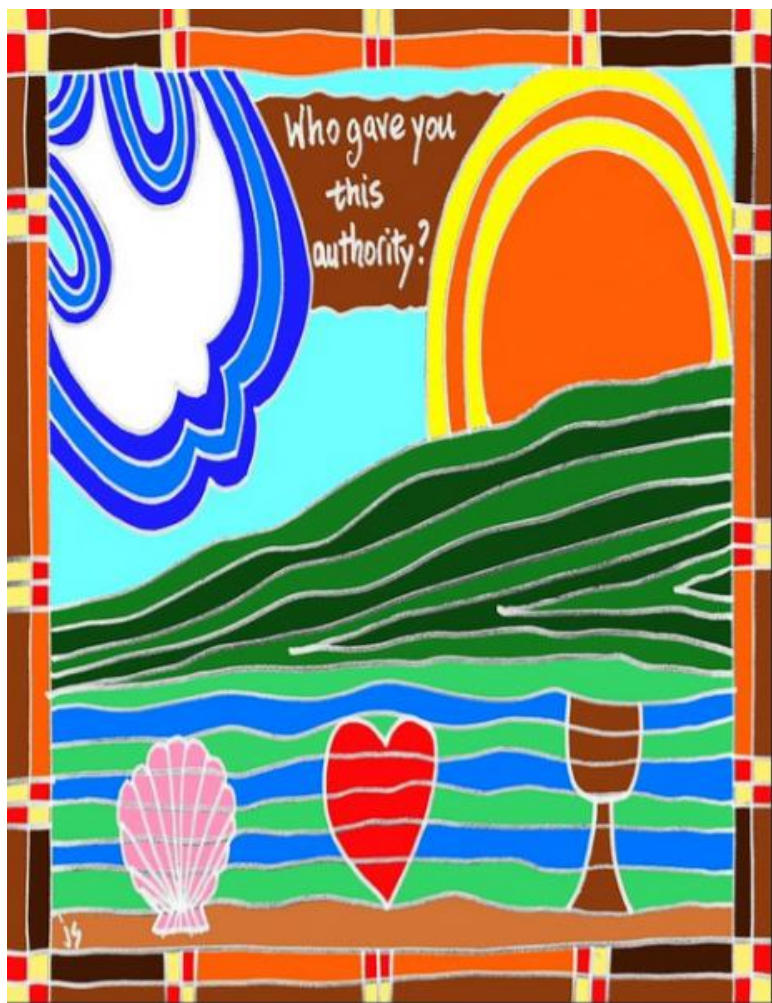


Good Shepherd Episcopal Church



The Village of Pine Grove, Virginia



The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 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 Sep 27** **The 18th Sunday after Pentecost**
 Last day for FISH food & funds donations
11:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** with the Rev. Deborah Rutter
- TUE Sep 29** **Morning FISH delivery, followed by...**
10:00 a.m. **Preparation of “to-go” meals** (Parish Hall basement)
- WED Sep 30** **Distribute FISH “to-go” meals** (morning)
- SAT Oct 3** **Outdoor Blessing of the Animals** (10 to 11 a.m.)
- SUN Oct 4** **The 19th Sunday after Pentecost**
10:00 a.m. **“Modern Parables”** Adult Sunday School
11:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist with Blessing of the Animals**
 with the Rev. Martha Clark
Reader: Rick Whitehouse | LEM/Prayers: Judy Hall
Zoomer: Tim Hall | Music Leader: Eileen Cawood
- SUN Oct 11** **The 20th Sunday after Pentecost**
10:00 a.m. **“Modern Parables”** Adult Sunday School
11:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** with the Rev. Kate Bryant
Lay Reader: Kelly Macoy | LEM/Prayers: Tim Hall
Zoomer: Judy Hall | 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 | Zoomer: Ron Edwards

Welcome and Introduction

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.

The Gloria

BCP p. 356

*Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. 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.

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. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The Reader introduces the first lesson, saying

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

The Old Testament: Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16

Said responsively by half verse

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, *
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, *
and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff, *
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

The Reader introduces the second lesson, saying

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

The Epistle: Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or

was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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.

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 The Rt. Rev. E. Mark Stevenson, The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris, The Rt. Rev. Mark Bourlakas and all Bishops participating in the House of Bishops meeting. In the *Anglican Cycle of Prayer*, we pray today for The Church of Bangladesh. 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, 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.

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:

***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

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,

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.

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.

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

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 August, Good Shepherd collected **\$340 for FISH** and Eileen delivered the **51 lbs. of donated food**. Peggy and Janet made 42 turkey slider lunches. Christine made 12 vegan lentil/rice salad lunches. Of course, apple sauce, fruit and fruit cups, trail mix, and chips were available for all.

Please **contact Judy Hall to help** with the **upcoming “to-go” dates**, which are this **Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 29 & 30**.

Also, please **remember FISH** when 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 complete the migration this month, but before we do, please check it out and give feedback: <https://goodshepherdblueмонт.org/> Please email any updates, information, and/or photos to Christine. Thank you for your help.

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 fall.

ANIMAL AWARENESS MONTH

St. Francis of Assisi's feast day is celebrated each year in the church's liturgical calendar on Oct. 4, This year is also the 800th anniversary of his passing. In honor of St. Francis' life and love for animals and

continuing with our call to Creation Care, we at Good Shepherd Church have designated October as **Animal Awareness Month**.

We'll begin **this Saturday, Oct. 3**, with an outdoor **Blessing of the Animals service** from 10 to 11 a.m. Everyone in the community is invited to bring their “furry, feathered, or froggy friends” to be blessed on the church lawn by the Rev. Martha Clark. We will provide free coffee, juice, and pastries for humans, and treats for the pets. If you would like to help, please talk to Tim Hall.

Our worship service next Sunday, Oct. 4, will include another **Blessing of the Animals**, with special readings, prayers, and music. Please talk to Rev. Martha Clark or Eileen Cawood if you'd like to help.

All month long, we will be collecting donations and raising funds to purchase items for the **Clarke County Animal Shelter**. Bring your donations of wet or dry cat food, wet dog food, old clean towels, gently used or new pet toys, and/or a check for our collection box throughout October.

Our vestry is offering **a match of up to \$500** for monetary donations, all of which will be used to buy supplies for the animal shelter. Checks may be made payable to “Good Shepherd” with “Animal Awareness Month” in the memo line. Or you may give cash in a well-marked envelope.



PRAYERS

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

Prayers for Friends and Family: 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



GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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www.goodshepherdbluemont.org

Senior Warden: Judy Hall

Register: Kelly Macoy

Junior Warden: Frank Bredimus

Treasurer: Tim Hall

Follow Christ. Welcome All. Serve Humbly.