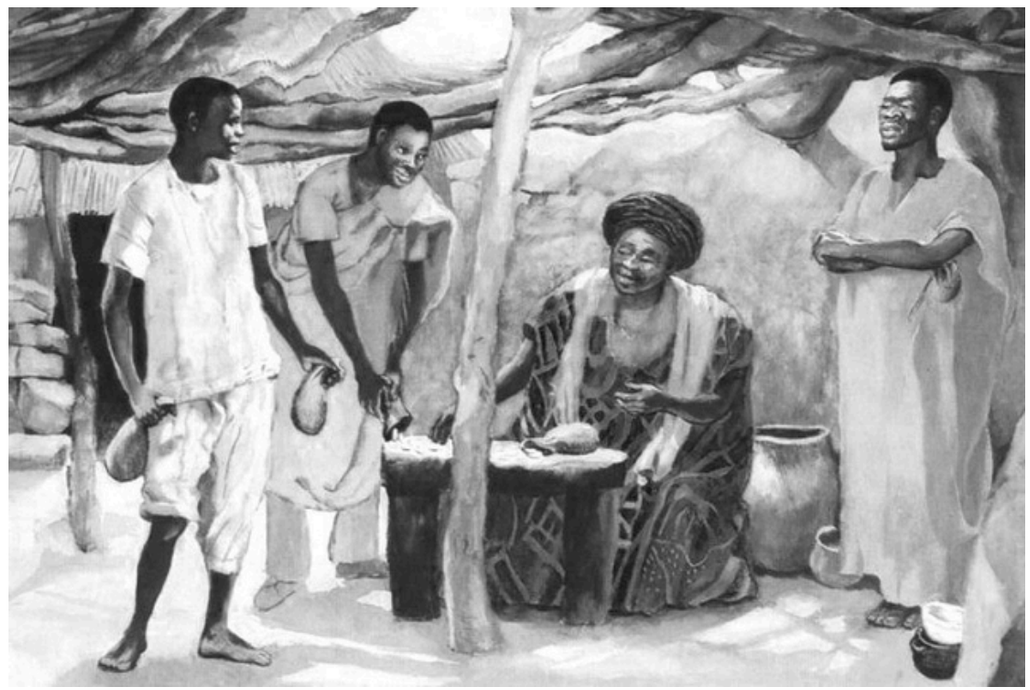
# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

*A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York*
96 Jewett Parkway, Buffalo, NY 14214
Parish Office: 716-833-1151
Email: officegoodshep@gmail.com www.goodshepherdbuffalo.org

**November 15, 2026**
**Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost, Year A**
**8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II**



"When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the native-born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God." (Leviticus 19:33-34)

## THE ENTRANCE RITE

*Time prior to the start of the liturgy is a time for quiet meditation and prayer.*

**Prelude Organ Voluntary (10:30)** *In Nomine,* **Atwood**

**Entrance Hymn (10:30)** Hymnal 450

**Opening Acclamation** BCP 355
**The Collect for Purity** BCP 355
**Gloria in excelsis (8:30)** BCP 356
**Gloria in excelsis (10:30)** S-277

*The S-section is located in the front of the Hymnal 1982.*

**The Salutation & The Collect of the Day** BCP 357

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE WORD OF GOD

**The First Lesson** *Zephaniah 1:7,12-18*

Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.
At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.
The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.
Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 90:1-12** **Domine, refugium**

*The psalm is read responsively by half-verse.*

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
**from one generation to another.**
2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, *
**from age to age you are God.**

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
**"Go back, O child of earth."**
4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
**and like a watch in the night.**
5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
**we fade away suddenly like the grass.**
6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
**in the evening it is dried up and withered.**
7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
**we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.**
8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
**and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**
9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; *
**we bring our years to an end like a sigh.**
10 The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; *
**yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,**
**for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**
11 Who regards the power of your wrath? *
**who rightly fears your indignation?**
12 So teach us to number our days *
**that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

**The Second Lesson** *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

**Sequence Hymn (10:30)** Hymnal 628

**Gospel Lesson** *Matthew 25:14-30*

*Gospeler:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an

abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

**The Sermon** Rev. Frieda Van Baalen Webb

**The Nicene Creed** BCP 358

**The Prayers of the People, Form VI** BCP 392

**Parish Prayer List:** Vincent and Karen M., Kim Greene, Jim Russo, Mimy Butler, Halsey Van Lew, Jane R., Beth Regan, Father John Paul Boyer, Jo Meachem, Samuel, Darlene, Nekka, Carol B., Charlie Ohl, Jim Cosbey, Sue, Larry L., the MacIntyre family, Christine A., Charley Lewis, and Norm and Sharon D.

**The Peace** BCP 360

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**The Parish Announcements and Stewardship Speaker**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory Anthem (10:30)** *Let Us Light a Candle in the Dark*

**The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A** BCP 361

**Sanctus (10:30)** S-124

**Agnus Dei (10:30)** S-161

**Communion Hymn (10:30)** Hymnal 309

**Post-Communion Prayer**

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**

***People:* Amen.**

**Hymn (10:30)** Hymnal 594

**Dismissal**

*Celebrant:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**Postlude Organ Voluntary (10:30)** *Largo, Fugue,* **Anonymous**

### Lectors

**November 15, 2026**
**8:30** Nancy & Dale Cich
**10:30 L1:** Jennifer Snyder-Haas
**L2:** Marji Torrell
**PotP:** Jennifer Snyder-Haas

**November 22, 2026**
**8:30** Jesse Pyle
**10:30 L1:** Joe Spina
**L2:** Pat Lalonde
**PotP:** Joe Spina

### Calendar

**11/15 The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**
8:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (Spoken)
10:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II with music
**11/18 Wednesday**
10AM-2PM Food Pantry
6PM Worship Service with music
**11/22 The Last Sunday after Pentecost**
8:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (Spoken)
10:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II with music

### Upcoming Events

**12/6 Sunday**
3PM to 4PM Pete's Pet Food Pantry
**12/13 Sunday**
Bishop Lane Visit
**12/20 Sunday**
Decorate the church for Christmas (help is needed)
**12/24 Thursday**
4PM Christmas Eve Eucharist with choir
**12/25 Friday**
9AM Christmas Day Eucharist with music

## Announcements

**St. Philip's Episcopal Church Harvest Festival**
Our Good Shepherd family has been invited to join St. Philip's Episcopal Church for their Harvest Festival gathering on Sunday, Nov. 22 starting at 11:30 AM. There will be no coffee hour on that date after the 10:30 service. They will be providing the meal and tell us that "we don't need to bring anything except ourselves"! (For anyone still wishing to contribute, they would accept donations toward the cost of the gathering.)

St. Philip's is located at 18 Sussex Street in Buffalo (a short 7-minute drive from Good Shepherd). Carpooling is recommended. On-street parking is located on Fernhill Avenue (on the other side of the building from Sussex Avenue), and there is the Barnes Firm parking lot across Sussex Avenue from the church. Contact Elaine Richau for more information.

**Thanksgiving**
Join us on 11/25 at 6 PM for our Thanksgiving Eve service.

One of the best ways to thank God for all we have received is by sharing those blessings with our neighbors in need. Our church food pantry is in need of food items to help local families. As you do your grocery shopping, consider picking up some items to share.

Most needed items:

- Canned goods such as beans, vegetables, tuna fish, canned soup
- Peanut butter
- Boxed milk
- Grocery store gift cards
- Cash

Dropoff location: Church foyer bin and collection plate
Collection dates: Now thru Sunday November 29th

Thank you for your generosity , your heart for service and for being the hands and feet of Christ in our community this holiday season.

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JESUS MAFA, Parable of the Three Servants, or, The Talents.
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