

# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

*A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York*

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**September 13, 2026**

**The Sixteenth 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.

Please welcome Terry Gamble, our guest musician this morning.

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Preloude (10:30)           |            |
| Entrance Hymn (10:30)      | Hymnal 312 |
| 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  
O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE WORD OF GOD

**The First Lesson** Genesis 50:15-21  
Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph’s brothers said, “What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?” So they approached Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this instruction before he died, ‘Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

Psalm 103:1-13

Benedic, anima mea

The psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.  
2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and forget not all his benefits.  
3 He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;  
4 He redeems your life from the grave \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;  
5 He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.  
6 The Lord executes righteousness \*  
and judgment for all who are oppressed.  
7 He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.  
8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.  
10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.  
11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.  
12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.  
13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

The Second Lesson

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

*Please stand, as you are able.*

Sequence Hymn (10:30)

Hymnal 551

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 18:21-35

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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:** David Noller, Jim Cosbey, Darlene, Kim Greene, Nekka Scott, Samuel, Ibrahim, The Rev’d Canon Wadie Far, Beth Regan, Cynthia Lipsius Gembola, Carol Burns, Jim Bigaj, Chris Yeager, Amber B., Halsey VanLew, Jim Russo, Mimy Butler, Father John Paul Boyer, Oliver Patterson, Vincent (Buz) M.

The Peace

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

BCP 360

**The Parish Announcements**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Organ (10:30)

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

Sanctus (10:30)

Agnus Dei (10:30)

Communion Hymn (10:30)

BCP 361

S-124

S-161

Hymnal 333

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 685

Dismissal

*Celebrant:*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People:*

Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary (10:30)

Lectors

September 13

8:30 Paul Hojnacki

10:30 L1: Dottie Aikman

L2: Pat Lalonde

PotP: Dottie Aikman

September 20

8:30 Jesse Pyle

10:30 L1: Joe Spina

L2: Elaine Richau

PotP: Joe Spina

Calendar

9/13 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (Spoken)

10:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II with music

9/16 Wednesday

10AM-2PM Food Pantry

6PM Worship Service with music

9/20 The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (Spoken)

10:30AM Holy Eucharist Rite II with music

Upcoming Events

9/19 Saturday

11:30 AM Day of Discernment

10/4 Sunday

3PM to 4PM Pete’s Pet Food Pantry

Announcements

Day of Discovery

We are hoping for a great turnout for the Day of Discovery on 9/19/2026 starting at 11:30 AM. This will give all parishioners an opportunity to participate in the rector search process. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP to the office - officegoodshep@gmail.com - with the number of people from your family who will be attending. This will help us estimate how much food to provide. Thank you.

Music Director

The Music Committee is pleased to announce that we have a new Music Director! Gail Shepherd has been hired and will start with us in October. She has extensive background in choral music direction, and we were all very impressed with her audition.

Prayer List Reset

The prayer list will be reset as of 10/1. All names will be removed. Please notify the office if you would like to keep someone on the prayer list after 10/1. Thank you.

## **Donate**

To conveniently make a donation, simply scan the QR code below with your smartphone to access our online giving page. As a reminder, the Diocese is no longer covering our online processing fees. If you prefer to pay online, please consider using your bank's bill pay function to donate. It typically has no fees associated with the transaction. Thank you!



Please consider remembering Good Shepherd in your will. It is a wonderful way to continue your support of your parish into the future for generations.

## **Good Shepherd Staff**

The Reverend Frieda Van Baalen Webb, *Supply Priest*  
Jessica Thorington, *Administrative Assistant*

## **Vestry**

Dale Cich & Elaine Richau, Wardens;  
Pat Lalonde, Treasurer; Nancy Cich, Clerk;  
Class of 2026: Charlene Gottfried, Susan Woods  
Class of 2027: Marji Torrell, Linda Leighbody  
Class of 2028: Bev Barry, Kathy Toth

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