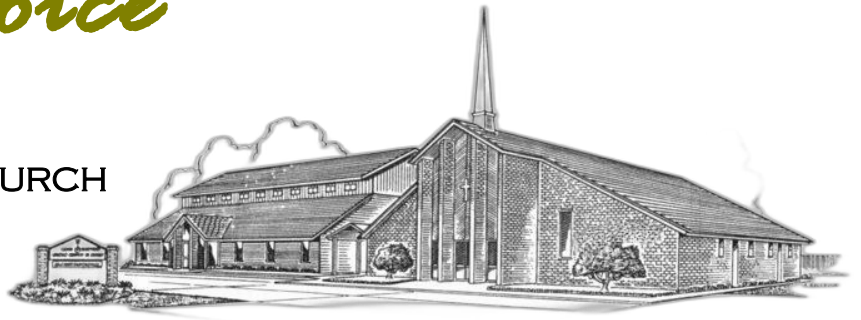


Shepherd's Voice

The monthly parish newsletter of

GOOD SHEPHERD ANGLICAN CHURCH



WHAT WE BELIEVE...

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.

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 from the Holy Spirit and the
Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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 wor-
shipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the for-
giveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2022

Tuesday, November 1 @ 6:30 PM

(Red Letter Day)

All Saints/All Souls Office of Evening Prayer

Sunday, November 6 @ 8:30AM & 10:00 AM

Sunday morning Holy Eucharist

Sunday, November 13 @ 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Sunday morning Holy Eucharist

(Stewardship Sunday & New Member Sunday)

Sunday, November 20 @ 8:30 AM or 10:00 AM

Sunday morning Holy Eucharist

(Totenfest, Christ The King Sunday, Thanksgiving Sunday)

Sunday, November 27 @ 8:30 AM or 10:00 AM

Sunday morning Holy Eucharist—Advent 1

Wednesday, November 30 @ 12:15 PM

(Red Letter Day Lunchtime Holy Eucharist)

Feast Day of St. Andrew the Apostle

PLEASE NOTE: Our YouTube channel is located at
www.YouTube.com/GoodShepherdMet. Each Sunday morning,
we livestream our 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist on our channel.

FROM THE RECTOR'S STUDY

IN ALL THINGS GIVE THANKS!

Celebrant: *Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.*

People: ***It is right to give Him thanks and praise.***

That prayerful exchange between the Priest and the People during the Sursum Corda of the Holy Eucharist helps frame why we celebrate Holy Communion—because we are called to remember the Lord's sacrifice (e.g., Luke 22:19). We are also commanded to offer our own sacrifice (Hebrews 13:15, Psalm 116:17) which the Liturgy reminds us is a "sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving." In fact, the term *Holy Eucharist* actually means *Holy Thanksgiving*. The Eucharist is the thanksgiving meal of the Church—that heavenly banquet of our Lord that tears open the veil between heaven and earth, allowing us, along with angels, archangels and all the company of heaven, to sacramentally commune as one body in the presence of our Lord.

As this is November, the secular concept of thanksgiving will be evident all around us as we enjoy a day off on Thursday, November 24 to celebrate our nation's Thanksgiving holiday. But even within that secular celebration, with our eyes of faith, we can see the presence and providence of God in our midst. In fact, when the first Thanksgiving Day feast was celebrated in the New World in 1621, the pilgrims who had landed at Plymouth Rock held their celebration to offer prayers to God Almighty for His divine providence of food, shelter, and safety in their new land during the previous year.

History tells us that the pilgrims held a second Thanksgiving celebration in 1623. This celebration was in gratitude to God for the end of a drought which had compromised their crops. Interestingly, this prompted Governor William Bradford to then declare an annual day of thanksgiving in the colonies. Even more interesting is the reality that as a devout Christian of the Puritan tradition of Anglicanism, Bradford opted not declare the holiday as a feast day, but rather as day of fasting and thanksgiving. (Side note: This author wishes to express sincere gratitude that the Puritan expression of Anglicanism has all but disappeared.)

A Proclamation by the President of the United States of America.

THE year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they can not fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to invite and provoke the aggressions of foreign states, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed every where, except in the theatre of military conflict, while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

The needful diversions of wealth and strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship. The axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and voice by the whole American people; I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea, and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity, and union.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

It was not until 1863, at the height of the American Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln, heeding the advice of his dear friend Sarah Joseph Hale (the author of the nursery rhyme Mary Had a Little Lamb), released a proclamation entreating all of America to set aside the last Thursday in November to annually beseech God to "commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife" and to "heal the wounds of the nation." In 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in the height of the Great Depression, moved the holiday up a week in an effort to spur retail sales during that economically challenging time. While history tells us that his plan actually did help retail sales that year, it was not popular with many who derisively called it "Franksgiving." In 1941, Roosevelt signed into law a bill that officially designated the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day in our nation.

I think we'd be hard pressed to find an American who does not appreciate the Thanksgiving holiday. Yet, as a Christian, never fail to realize that every time we offer the prayer of the Holy Eucharist, we are indeed stepping into an ongoing and endless Thanksgiving celebration of the goodness of God through Christ and His precious body and blood.

Until next month, let your light shine!



Fr. Randall M. Graf, Rector



NOTES FROM RINDA

November brings us the month when we traditionally celebrate thankfulness. I love the traditional hymns that I learned as a child, but I also love newer hymns that emphasize giving thanks for the gifts of God.

One of my favorite newer hymns is "Give Thanks" which was written by Henry Smith in the late 70's. It brings a new appreciation for God's gift of Christ to the people on earth. It emphasizes God's interest in his people on earth--including their economic condition and mental and physical strength. The weak are given esteem and become strong (Joel 3:10). The poor will become rich and inherit the spiritual kingdom that Christ proclaims.

As we have concluded our stewardship emphasis, it is indeed a time to Give Thanks.



Rinda Coleman
GSAC Music Director

TOTENFEST—NOVEMBER 20 @ 10:00 AM

Each year, in keeping with our heritage from the German Evangelical and Reformed Tradition, Good Shepherd Church celebrates **Totenfest**. The celebration of Totenfest is always held on the **last Sunday of the Church Year**, also known as **Christ the King Sunday**. The annual tradition includes the reading of the names of those members of our church family and the names of others who we loved who entered into the heavenly rest during the preceding church year. If you would like the name of a loved one who passed in the previous church year to be included in Totenfest, please use the sign up sheet in the narthex.

Worshippers are also invited to light a candle for all loved ones that are missed due to earthly death at our **All Saints/All Souls Day Evening Prayer Service** on Tuesday, November 1 at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary. Unlike Totenfest which remembers those who passed in the previous church year, All Souls Day gives us a chance to remember all of our loved ones who are resting in the arms of the Savior, regardless of when they passed.



CHURCH WORK DAY

We will have a work day on **Saturday November 12th** from 8:00 AM till noon. It will involve clean up, repairing tables floor buffing, oil carvings, polish brass, various painting projects, and some outdoor jobs if weather permits. For more information, please see Mel Aucoin.



COLLECT FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

Most merciful Father, we humbly thank you for all your gifts so freely bestowed upon us: for life and health and safety, for strength to work and leisure to rest, for all that is beautiful in creation and in human life; but above all we thank you for our spiritual mercies in Christ Jesus our Lord; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

(From the Book of Common Prayer (ACNA, 2019), pg. 637.)

GOOD SHEPHERD WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild thanks all who have donated eyeglasses for recycling. The guild also was blessed to support Socktober and happy to assist in donating supplies for Trunk or Treat. Please join us at our next monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 8 at 10:00 AM.

Dottie Frilot, President



MOTHERS PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting of the Good Shepherd Mothers Prayer Group will be held on **November 15th at 7:00 PM**. All mothers are welcome to join us at our prayer meeting. For more information, please see Gwen Martinez.



MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Every **Monday** evening beginning at **6:30 PM**, we hold our weekly Bible study in the conference room.

This study is open to all who desire an opportunity to dig into God's Word with brothers and sisters in Christ.

Currently we are studying the Book of Acts.

If you would like more information about our weekly Bible Study, please see Noah Huntley.



ARTSY-FARTSY PAINTING

It was a GREAT success last time and so we thought we'd do it again! Artsy-Fartsy Painting returns to Good Shepherd on **Sunday, November 13** from **4:00 to 7:00 PM**. Friends and family are welcome to join us for fun and fellowship! The event is \$40 per painter and this includes canvas, paints, and brushes. Painters need only to bring their own snacks, wine, and set ups. **Reserve your spot** using the sign up sheet in the narthex and choose your painting choice. For more information, contact Carla at 504-236-8324.

IN THANKS FOR GOOD DESSERTS

A SPECIAL RECIPE FROM THE KITCHEN OF MRS. HELEN SUNDMAKER



Mrs. Helen Sundmaker
(Feb 16, 1916 – Aug 26, 2014)

Preheat oven to 375

1 egg
1/4 lb. (1 stick) butter, melted
1 cup sugar
1 cup quick oatmeal
5 Tbsp. flour
1/4 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup chopped pecans

Mix all together. Place marble-sized pieces on a foil-lined cookie sheet. Bake 6-7 minutes until brown. Let cool and they will crisp.



HANGING OF THE GREENS

The New Church Year begins with the First Sunday of Advent, and this year that is Sunday, November 27. At Good Shepherd, we can't begin Advent without first holding our annual tradition of the Hanging of the Greens!

Join us on Saturday, November 26 at 10:00 AM as we decorate the sanctuary for the Seasons of Advent and Christmas. The Altar Guild and Christian Education Committee have once again joined forces to encourage children of ALL ages to participate in this family-friendly event. Decorating will begin at 10:00 AM, and will conclude with refreshments.

We hope to see you there!



KEEP UP WITH GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH ONLINE



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www.YouTube.com/GoodShepherdMet



www.Twitter.com/GoodShepherdMet



www.GSCMet.com



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website and
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e-newsletter!*



DIOCESAN SYNOD

From November 4 through November 6, the Diocese of the Western Gulf Coast will hold the annual Diocesan Synod in The Woodlands, Texas. In addition to our rector, Fr. Randall, we also have several lay members attending and representing us as delegates. These include Margaret Aucoin, Mel Aucoin, and Rinda Coleman.

Please remember the Synod in your prayers—that it will be a great success and spiritually fulfilling for those in attendance. Please also remember to pray for traveling mercies for those who will be traveling from Louisiana to Texas.

PRAYING AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Since the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown began, Good Shepherd Church has been streaming our 10:00 AM Sunday morning Service of Holy Eucharist each week. During the distribution of Holy Communion, the lector reads a prayer entitled ***An Act of Spiritual Communion*** for those who are watching at home and are unable to partake in the reception of Holy Communion sacramentally. That beautiful prayer comes from the Book of Common Prayer (pg. 677, ACNA 2019) and can be prayed by a Christian any time they are longing for the grace of Holy Communion but are unable to receive the tangible elements of the sacrament. These are the words to that prayer:

***Dear Jesus, I believe that you
are truly present in the Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to possess you within my soul.
And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.
I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people
gathered around every altar of your Church,
and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul.
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.***



GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

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Father Randall M. Graf, Priest & Rector

WORSHIP SERVICES

Holy Eucharist

8:30 AM & 10:00 AM every Sunday

Red Letter Holy Days

12:15 PM

