

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2026

8:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite I



639 Edgewater Drive • Dunedin, FL 34698
(727) 733-4125 • Pastoral Care Number: (727) 275-0257
www.COGSDunedin.com
E-Mail the church office: info@cogsdunedin.com

Services: Sunday at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 6 PM
Our Sunday 10:00 AM service is livestreamed

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

Restrooms: Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

We have gluten-free wafers available: Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

Standing, sitting, and kneeling: Throughout the bulletin, there are invitations to stand, sit or kneel, as you choose. You are free to be seated at any time when that is best for you.

A gentle Reminder: Please enter the Nave quietly and reverently and silence your phones.



Virtual Worship Bulletins

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remain seated.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

All **Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy Spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray... 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.

All **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

Lector *The First Reading is taken from Genesis chapter 50...*

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103:1-13

Lector *We will read responsively from Psalm 103...*

Lector Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

People **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

Lector He forgives all your sins and heals all your infirmities;

People **He redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**

Lector He satisfies you with good things, and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

People **The Lord executes righteousness and judgment for all who are oppressed.**

Lector He made his ways known to Moses and his works to the children of Israel.

People **The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great
kindness.**

Lector He will not always accuse us, nor will he keep his anger for ever.

People **He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**

Lector For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

People **As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us.**

Lector As a father cares for his children, so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 14:1-12

Lector *The Second Reading is taken from Romans chapter 14...*

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Celebrant 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

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON Cindy Huffman

NICENE CREED

Please stand as you are able.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.

Celebrant Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Lector Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, especially to Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Whitney, our Rector; to our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic; to these Episcopal Churches in our Diocese; Church of the Epiphany, Cape Coral; Iona-Hope, Fort Myers; Lamb of God, Fort Myers; St. Hilary's, Fort Myers; St. Luke's, Fort Myers; St. Raphael's, Fort Myers Beach; Good Shepherd, LaBelle; St. Anselm's, Lehigh Acres; All Souls', North Fort Myers; St. Michael and All Angels, Sanibel, and St. John's, Pine Island; and to all priests, deacons, and the laity in their ministry; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially our elected leaders, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. We pray that all God's children, especially those in the Middle East, might live in the hope of the world peace for which we are created. God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor those on our parish prayer list and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those listed in the weekly news who have asked for our prayers and those we name now. *(Pause.)*

God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works,

that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. We give thanks for the flowers given for the glory of God, and for all the blessings of this life, especially the birthdays this coming week of Mary Anne Dorner and Butch Niford. God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially those we now name aloud or in our heart. (*Pause*) We beseech thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. God of Light and Life,

People **We pray to you.**

Lector Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

People **AMEN.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Please kneel or stand as able.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Please be seated.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer II

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Celebrant says a proper preface

Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

People **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel or stand, as you choose.

Celebrant All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,
People **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
All are invited to receive the Sacrament. If you would like to receive wine you may do so by sipping from the chalice or allowing the Eucharistic Minister to intinct (dip) the wafer for you.
If you desire a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION

Reflection

Michael Helman

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray.
People **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant announces the blessing.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God!**

VOLUNTARY

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven Michael Burkhardt
(based on the hymn at H-410 in *The Hymnal 1982*)

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays – Mary Anne Dorner and Butch Niford

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant The Reverend Whitney Burton

Lay Preacher Cindy Huffman

Organist Tom Huffman

Crucifer/Chalicerist Michelle Schombs

Lector Laura McGary

Prayers of the People Michelle Schombs

Ushers Bob DeStefano and Laura McGary

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR

Liz N, Allison W, David B, R.J., Pat B, Pam T, Breanna B. Olivia and Spencer, Heather S, Tony S, OL Park 2, Lou F, Colette S, Bernie L, Pedro G, Nancy B, Bernie L, Norman L, Mandeville P, Angela P, Mavis S, Jonquil S, Michael W, Butchie L, Eva P, John W, Patrick R, Jay O, Rose Marie, Mary Ann W, Elena G, Judy W, Carol B, Millie L, Hilda M, Sharon D, David M, Hazel D, Reverend Kathy, Rosemarie W, Pat and Carol C, Sherry B, Tony and Priscilla, Linda, Gus R-P, Cheryl S, the Ozbun family, Jim and Barbara G, Ana M, the people of Ukraine, Jay H, Gloria and Dan S, Maureen B, Bill G, Indra E, Mark and Maryellen, Kam M.

FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday Bible Study has resumed from 1:30-3 PM. We are continuing the book of Mark.

See Cindy Huffman for more information.

Soul Sisters will start again on October 17th at 10 AM in Kirk Hall.

Dunedin Cares collection is sent every 3rd Sunday. Please donate shelf-stable food and personal care items

Daughters of the King meet each 4th Sunday at 11:30 AM in the lounge.

Cursillo Gathering is every 3rd Sunday in the Patio Room.

Sunday School is available during the 10 AM service. Kiddos kindergarten through grade 6 begin in the church with their families and return prior to communion.

The **Nursery** is available for infants through pre-K and begins at 9:45 AM on Sundays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daughters of the King will be giving a Discernment class to be a Daughter starting this week. This class is a 3-month course. Installation will be on Sunday, November 8th. Any women of the church interested in becoming a Daughter of the King should call Marianne Heredia or Donna Charles for more information.

Cursillo #154 will take place at DaySpring Camp and Conference Center on September 17-20. See Reverend Kathy for more information.

Blessing of the Animals will be on Sunday, October 4th at 4 PM.

Choir Resumes in October - Choir will be returning on the second Sunday of October. Rehearsals will be weekly on Thursdays from 6:00-7:30 p.m. with a 9:30 a.m. warmup on Sundays. Your voice is needed. Talk to Choirmaster/Organist Tom Huffman about it.

Quilt and Craft Show and Sale will take place on Saturday October 10 and Sunday, October 11.