

## THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

January 4, 2026

10:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite II



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

Sunday Service at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 6 PM

**Our Sunday 10 AM service is livestreamed**

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## 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.

All music is reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense account #A-711594.

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

Most of the sung music is found in the blue hymnal, *The Hymnal, 1982*. In the bulletin, an "H" indicates the hymn section of the book; an "S" indicates it's from the service music section in the front of the book.



Virtual Worship Bulletins

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

### VOLUNTARY

Let Our Gladness Have No End  
From Heaven Above

David Cherwien  
Walter L. Pelz

*During the Voluntary, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ENTRANCE HYMN H-109

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

*(stanzas 1, 2, 3, 6)*

The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Refrain:* Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. *[Refrain]*

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. *[Refrain]*

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
that hath made Heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought. *[Refrain]*

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

*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, 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.

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

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray... O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

### THE WORD OF GOD

#### THE FIRST READING

*Please be seated.*

Jeremiah 31:7-14

*Lector* *The First Reading is taken from Jeremiah chapter 31...*

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

How dear your dwell-ing place to me, O Lord of hosts, my King;  
my soul de-sires the courts of God and in God's praise to sing.

The sparrow here has found a house, the swallow builds her nest  
where she may lay her young, O Lord, and by your al-tar rest.

How hap-py those who dwell with you, who al-ways give you praise;  
and hap-py those whose strength you are, whose hearts sing out your ways.

Those who go through the bar-ren vale will find it filled with springs,  
and those who climb from height to height will see the King of Kings.

## THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

*Lector*      *The Second Reading is taken from Ephesians chapter 1...*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand as able.*

## GOSPEL HYMN H-87

MENDELSSOHN

*(stanza 3)*

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

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

*People*      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Celebrant*      In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*Celebrant*      The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SERMON**      *Please be seated.*      The Rev. Whitney Burton

**NICENE CREED**      *All stand as able.*

*People*      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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from 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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He 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

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*Lector* Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Lector* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector* Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Lector* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector* Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Lector* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We give thanks for the flowers given to the Glory of God, and for all the blessings of this life, especially the birthdays this coming week of Scott Hood, Matthew Davis, Veronika Newman, Richard Harvey, Dominic DiRienz, Debra Mackay, and Emily Mackay; and the anniversary of Marc and Mary Ann Wigmore.

*Lector* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector* Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially those on our parish prayer list and those we now name aloud or in our hearts (*Pause*), give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Lector* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector* We commend to your mercy all who have died, and those we now name aloud or in our hearts (*Pause*) that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Lector* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## CONFSSION & 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

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

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

*All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## THE BLESSING OF JANUARY'S BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

**OFFERTORY SENTENCE** *Please be seated.*

**OFFERTORY** Of the Father's Love Begotten Robert Hebble

## PRESENTATION HYMN

## THE FIRST NOWELL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all

crea - tures here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye

heaven - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

*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.

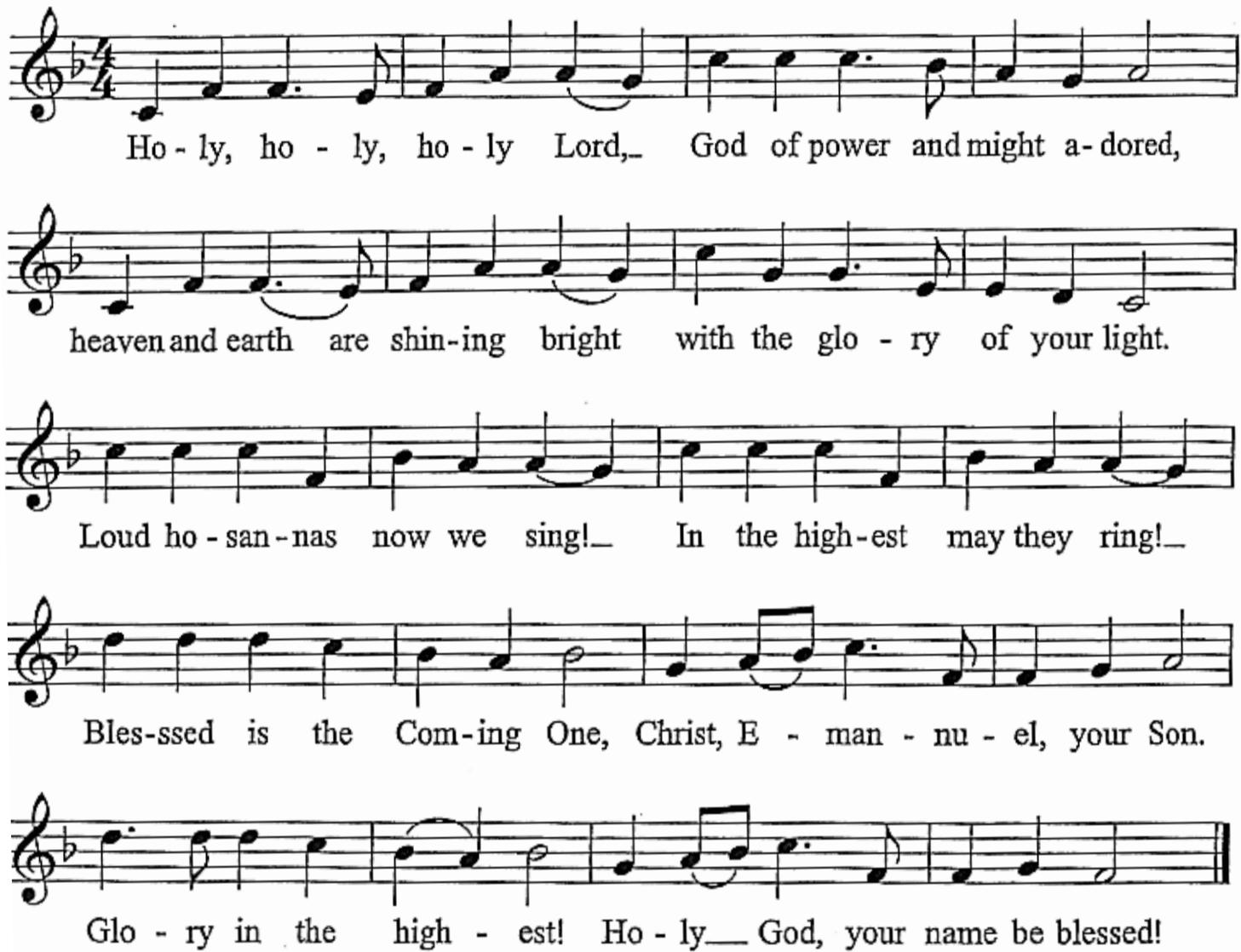
*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

## SANCTUS

MENDELSSOHN



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,-- God of power and might a-dored,  
heaven and earth are shin-ing bright with the glo - ry of your light.  
Loud ho - san - nas now we sing!— In the high-est may they ring!—  
Bles-ssed is the Com-ing One, Christ, E - man - nu - el, your Son.  
Glo - ry in the high - est! Ho - ly God, your name be blessed!

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 Jesus 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, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*People      Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

*People      Amen.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant    And now as our Savior Christ has 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.*

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Gently [In One]

*The St. James Christmas Service*

O Lamb of God, O Holy Child, who takes the sin of the world a-way; Have mer-cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the son of Ma-ry. This, this is your bo-dy giv'n, Your pre-cious blood, the gift of heav'n. Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the son of Ma-ry.

*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**

Coventry Carol

Franklin D. Ashdown  
(1942-2023)

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger-bed;  
there to bend the knee before him whom heaven and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet ever seek the mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare;  
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ! to thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus! every day keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright, need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;  
there for ever may we sing alleluias to our King.

### THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Celebrant* Let us pray...

*All* Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

### THE BLESSING

## THE SENDING HYMN H-128    We Three Kings of Orient Are    THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

*Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,  
King for ever, ceasing never over us all to reign. *[Refrain]*

Frankincense to offer have I: incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, gladly raising, worship him, God Most High. *[Refrain]*

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;  
heav'n sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies. *[Refrain]*

## THE DISMISSAL

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

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

## **VOLUNTARY**      Festal Flourish on “Ding Dong! Merrily on High”      David Lasky

## **SERVING US TODAY**

Celebrant	The Rev. Whitney Burton
Organist/Choirmaster	Tom Huffman
Cantor	Brody Holland
Crucifer	Ayden Watson
Torch/Chalicists	Carolyn Hughes and Pat Cates
Lectors	Sally Miller and Sharon Ozburn
Prayers of the People	Carolyn Hughes
Ushers	Crystal Collyer and Gerry Boone Alan Mackay and Jay Ozburn
Building & Grounds	Pat Cates
Welcome Table	Maureen Belote and Stephanie Scotti



### **PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR**

Annie Hope, Lauren, Kelly M, Rose, Lexi Belote Marston and family, Vaska, Deni, and Bob, Ada H, Charles H, Carl V, Blair B, Alice S, Allie F, Charline F, Jocelyn F, Kara M, Hope and Dave, Gloria S, Blair B, Stacy H, Dan and Gloria S, Mandeville P, Mavis S, Enez P, Michael W, Andrew L, Glenn R, Mike P, Lou F, Colette S, Heather S, Linda, The Keelers, Carol C, Tony B, the people of Jamaica in the wake of Hurricane Melissa, Millicent L, Lynne H, Butch N, Mary Ann W, Mara S and family, Maureen B, Helen Marie, Bonnie S, Bill G, Priscilla B, Indra E, the people of Ukraine, Jim T, Mark and Maryellen, and Kam M.



### **CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK**

**Birthdays** – Scott Hood, Matthew Davis, Veronika Newman, Richard Harvey, Dominic DiRienz, Debra Mackay, and Emily Mackay

**Anniversary** – Marc and Mary Ann Wigmore

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Sacred Ground Program** at COGS is beginning January 13. If you were not able to attend the information meetings, but would still like to participate in the program, please contact Rev. Kathy or the church office ASAP.

**2026 Contribution Envelopes** – If you have requested an envelope booklet for your 2026 pledges, these are available in Kirk Hall.

**140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** - The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd officially celebrates its 140th year on December 28, 2026. Beginning in January 2026, displays about the history of the church building and congregation will be presented in Kirk Hall. History Moments will be present at each Sunday Worship Service.

February 1 – 8, 2026: A week of events, history, and celebrations!

Sunday, February 1: 9 AM Official 140th Celebration Kick-Off Sunday

Tuesday, February 3: Cheese & History Reception

Friday, February 6: Fish Fry Dinner

Sunday, February 8: 9 AM Worship Service with Bishop Scharf. Reception to follow.

### **Regular Events –**

today - Rector's Discretionary Fund Sunday

every Wednesday – Bible study at 2 PM and Evening Worship at 6 PM

Friday, January 9 - Parish Game Night at 6 PM in the Patio Room

Sunday, January 11 - Youth Group 11:30 AM in the Youth Room

Tuesday, January 13 - Sacred Ground Begins

Saturday, January 17 - Soul Sisters Meeting at 10 AM in Kirk Hall

Sunday, January 18 - Dunedin Cares Food Pantry Collection and Cursillistas Meeting