CHURCH OF THE

Good Shepherd

NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Welcome to the Church of the Good Shepherd!

We are excited you are here. Please visit the welcome table in the narthex following the service to learn how you can join in.

If you have not already, please complete the Connect Card in the pew in front of you and drop it in the basket at the welcome table.

CGS Mission

Led by God's Word and Spirit, the Church of the Good Shepherd seeks to glorify God by proclaiming the gospel, shaping faithful followers of Jesus in grace-filled intergenerational community, and loving our neighbors in Durham, Chapel Hill, and the world.

November 22, 2026 | 10:45 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship | Spencer Johnson, Pastor of Youth Ministry

Song | *O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*

Song | *Good Good Father*

Scripture Reading | Ruling Elder Andrew Carlson, Leviticus 19:12-18, pg. 97
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Dismissal of Children | *(Ages 3 to 3rd grade)*
Q: What is our prayer for our children?
A: To know and enjoy God and his Word.

Congregational Greeting

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Scripture Reading | Matthew 22:34-40, pg. 828

Sermon | *Love is Essential*
Simon Stokes, Lead Pastor
Series: Renewing our Vision and Mission

Deacon of the Day: Mark Hlad

Song | *Behold*

Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in you there is the fullness of righteousness and mercy. Forgive us our many sins and strengthen our faith. We are cold in love; warm our hearts that we might love our neighbors as ourselves and serve you with all our being. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon | Psalm 103:11-12

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

Communion is for anyone who is united by faith to Christ and joined to any Christ-centered church.

Song | *All Ye Weary and Distressed*

We invite you to sing or meditate quietly during this time.

Prayer of Response

Song | *O Freedom*

Benediction

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**White grape juice is located on the outer ring of the tray; red wine is on the inner rings.*
The pre-packaged elements in the center of the tray are certified gluten free.
The baked bread is prepared using a gluten free mix. Cross-contamination with common allergens is possible.

GROW TOGETHER

Learn more at cgsonline.org or RSVP with the QR code below.

Young Adult Friendsgiving | Tonight!

Come hungry and join us for our annual Friendsgiving Feast tonight from 5:30–8:00 p.m. at the Whipples' home (4210 Peachway Dr., Durham)! Invite a friend and enjoy a Thanksgiving meal and time together. RSVP and sign up to bring a dish to share!

"Greening" of the Church | November 28

Join us on November 28, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, to decorate the church for Christmas, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Men, women, and children are invited to come. We'll have cookies and cocoa to kick off the Advent season together!

Garden Updates

Our garden is still producing! If you have some time, we have a few simple tasks coming up that can use your help! Contact Amanda Briscoe (amanda.m.briscoe@gmail.com) to learn more.

JusticeMatters Alms Offering | November 29

Alms collected at the end of the November 29 worship service will support JusticeMatters, a faith-based nonprofit law firm that helps people affected by human trafficking in North Carolina find safety and access services. Our guest speaker, Ivy Richie, Director of Giving Partnerships, will share about this work.

Cookies + Carols | December 5

Put on your Christmas PJs and join our littlest friends for our annual Cookies + Carols on Saturday, December 5, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.! This event is designed for preschoolers and younger children, but all are welcome. Sign up now to join us. For questions, email Miss RiLee at rileerobeson@cgsonline.org.

Middle School EDGE Conference | Register by December 15

Students entering grades 6–9 next fall are invited to the EDGE Conference, June 14–18, 2027, at Covenant College on Lookout Mountain. Join students from other PCA churches for five days of worship, activities, and time with friends. Register below and invite a friend to sign up, too!

High School Beach Trip | Register by December 15

High school students are invited to spend July 27–29, 2027, at a beach house on Topsail Island, NC. Bring a friend and enjoy three days of beach time and cooking together. The $185 cost covers two nights at the beach house, transportation, a T-shirt, and all meals except lunch on the way to the beach. Register below.

CGS FINANCES

For the New Fiscal Year Beginning **7/01/2026**

Weekly Budget:	$42,428
Given on 11/15/26:	$107,063
Year-to-Date Budget:	$848,558
Year-to-Date Giving:	$719,124

Please recycle. Thank you!

Scan the QR code to register for an event: