

Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road
Cockeysville-Hunt Valley, MD 21030

410-666-2180

sherwoodcockeysville.org

July 12, 2026

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE Metamorphosis (arr. for organ) Philip Glass

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey, Rector

THE WORD OF GOD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Blessèd Jesus, at thy word H440

THE OPENING SENTENCES BCP pg. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

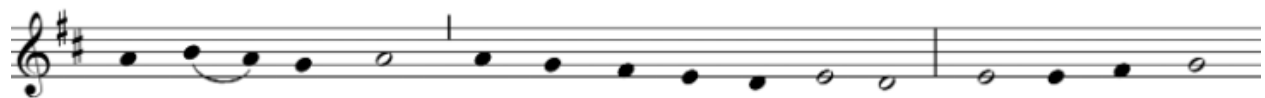
Gloria Glory to God in the highest S277



1. Glo - ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



2. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you,



we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,

on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

4. you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.

6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; 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 FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65: (1-8), 9-14

Said responsively by whole verse

- 1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; *
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.
- 2 **To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, ***
because of their transgressions.
- 3 Our sins are stronger than we are, *
but you will blot them out.
- 4 **Happy are they whom you choose**
and draw to your courts to dwell there! *
they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,
by the holiness of your temple.
- 5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation, *
O Hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the seas that are far away.
- 6 **You make fast the mountains by your power; ***
they are girded about with might.
- 7 You still the roaring of the seas, *
the roaring of their waves,
and the clamor of the peoples.

**8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your
marvelous signs; *
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

**9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.**

**10 You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.**

**11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

**12 You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.**

**13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

**14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law--indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the

dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation



Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Congregation: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse (Cantor): Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening; you have the words of everlasting life.

Congregation: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and

immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Rebecca C. Warlow

Following the sermon, let us pause for a period of silent reflection on God's holy word.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP pg. 358

Said by all, standing as you are able.

**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

BCP p. 388 Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
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.
Silence.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
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.
Silence.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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.
Silence.
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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 remember those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially the birthday of Emily Roebuck and Amber Poole.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

We especially remember those on our prayer list especially Kevin M., the Leezer family, Steve K., Chloe R., Anne, Michael L., Stephanie, Conner, Janice R., Anne K. and family, Rich K., Byron, Lisa, Susan F., Mike D, Nancy C., Dolly G., Tilda, Orion K., Liam O'D., Lois H. and the people of Venezuela suffering from the devastating earthquake.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

We especially acknowledge the flowers on the altar that are given by Judith Davenport in loving memory of the 80th anniversary of Ruth and Robert Perkins.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**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.**

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 PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people will greet one another with a sign of God's peace. Don't forget to show the sign of peace to our friends who are worshiping with us virtually.

Please be seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

What follows is the Holy Communion, the sacred meal of the Christian faith. The Episcopal Church, as do all other denominations rooted in the historic Christian faith, affirms that the sacrament of Baptism is the ancient and normative entry point for receiving the sacrament of Eucharist, yet no one who comes forward to receive the bread and wine at communion is ever turned away from God's table. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, the Episcopal Church welcomes you, and we invite you to explore with us what baptism may mean for you. Want to know more? Please see Mother Nancy following the service.

To receive either bread or wine is considered full communion. You may receive the bread or a gluten-free wafer; please indicate to the minister your need. To receive the wine, please assist the Chalice by holding the base of the chalice (cup) and guiding it to your lips.

If you are not baptized or would prefer not to receive communion for any personal or religious reason, you are still invited to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing from the priest. (Please place your arms across your chest to indicate your desire to receive a blessing.) Above all, remember that all are welcome here at Sherwood!

THE OFFERTORY

The people are seated while an offering is collected to support God's mission here at Sherwood Church and in the world. Your contributions of any size make a difference. [Give online](http://sherwoodcokeysville.org/give) (sherwoodcokeysville.org/give) or if you would prefer, mail your contribution to 5 Sherwood Road, Cokeysville, 21030. Thank you!



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← This QR code will take you to Sherwood's website where you may access your Vanco Give+ account.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Please remain seated

Offertory Anthem

Open thou mine eyes

John Rutter

Open thou mine eyes and I shall see, incline my heart and I shall desire, order my steps and I shall walk in the ways of thy commandments. O Lord God, be thou to me a God and beside thee let there be none else, no other, nought else with thee. Vouchsafe to me to worship thee and serve thee according to thy commandments in truth of spirit, in reverence of body, in blessing of lips, in private and in public.

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: **And of thine own we have given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B – BCP pg. 367

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

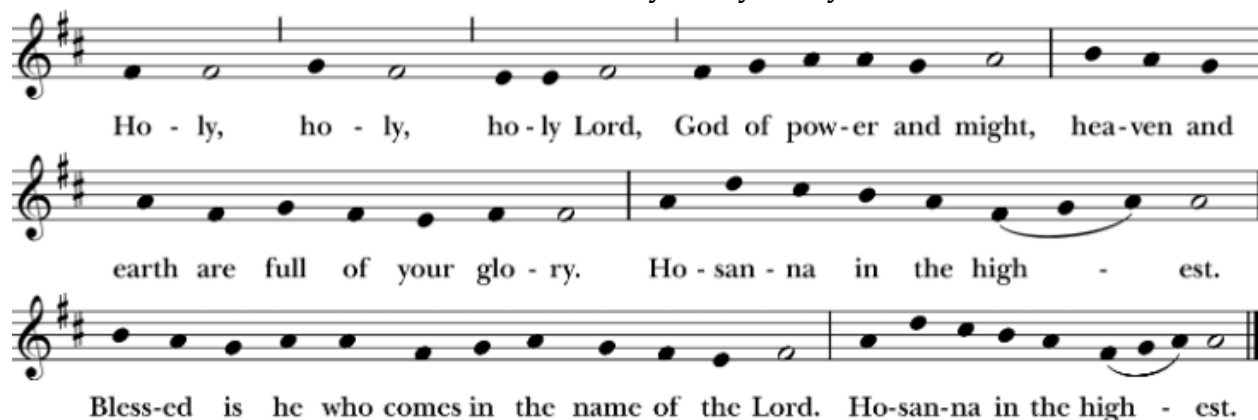
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ...

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 & BENEDICTUS Holy, holy, holy S124



Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prayers over the bread and wine.

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

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. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP pg. 364

The Celebrant says

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

AGNUS DEI Lamb of God S161

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

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Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

For those who are not able to be present for communion, please pray the Spiritual Communion Prayer while communion is distributed.

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Forces (1988)

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

You satisfy the hungry heart



Congregation: Refrain

Cantor: Verse 1. As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice; so when you call your fam'ly, Lord, we follow and rejoice.

Congregation: Refrain

Cantor: Verse 2. With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude that you should count us worthy, Lord, to share this heav'nly food.

Congregation: Refrain

Cantor: Verse 3. Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ outpoured? Do not one cup, one loaf, declare our oneness in the Lord?

Congregation: Refrain

Cantor: Verse 4. The myst'ry of your presence, Lord, no mortal tongue can tell: whom all the world cannot contain comes in our hearts to dwell.

Congregation: Refrain

Cantor: Verse 5. You give yourself to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be, to serve each other in your name in truth and charity.

Congregation: Refrain

You satisfy the hungry heart. Text by: Omer Westendorf. Tune by: Robert E. Kreutz. © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-744205. All rights reserved.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP pg. 365

Let us pray.

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 Celebrant pronounces a blessing over the people, and the people respond, **Amen.***

RECESSIONAL HYMN

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end

H655

THE DISMISSAL

As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our commitment to our mission as a congregation:

God commands us to enthusiastically cast open our doors to embrace all, impacting lives through bold service, no exceptions.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

The hymns and service music may be found in the 1982 Hymnal. Those worshiping online will find them at <https://tinyurl.com/4uxwssu7>

Worship Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Preacher: The Rev. Rebecca C. Warlow

Music Director and Organist: Greg Sesek

Cantor: Cassidy Dixon

Lectors – Laura A., Carrie F.

Crucifer/Acolyte: Dylan B.

Ushers – Kevin H., Jack B.
A/V – Stephanie E.
Hospitality: join us for refreshment
Altar Guild: Mary D., Bronwyn S., Sandy T.

Lay Participants for July 19th Sunday After Pentecost

Lectors: Sheila F. and Mary D.
Crucifer/Acolyte: Greg S.
Ushers: Kathleen S., Sandy T.
AV: Robin R.
Hospitality: join us for refreshment
Altar Guild: Mary D., Bronwyn S., Sandy T.

A very special welcome to visitors and newcomers! Thank you for joining us for worship. If you are seeking a church home and are interested in learning more about Sherwood Church, or if you would like to receive weekly emails and announcements from our parish, please contact us at sherwoodparish@gmail.com. Please be sure to check out our Facebook page for updates and remember to subscribe to our YouTube channel.

Please remember those with ongoing needs: Shannon T., Joyce, Christine, Kendall, Sarah, Gail, Steve W., Michelle, Danny, Debbie R., Marian, John M., Paige, Marissa, Frances T., David D., Hannah, Jessica, Don M., Andrea, Angelina, Bob O., Rosalie J., Don S., Butch H. and the people of Ukraine, Israel, Gaza and all impacted by the war with Iran.

This Week @ Sherwood

Sunday

Sunday Worship,
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10 am
Baptism Class, following worship
Young Victorian Theatre presentation of Iolanthe, 2 pm
Casa de Oración Hossana, 4-6 pm

Tuesday

The Church Office will be closed.
Mother Nancy and Amber will be available via email and phone.

Wednesday-Thursday
Amber Poole, Parish Administrator's,
Office Hours, 10 am - 3 pm at Faith Lutheran

Wednesday
Mother Nancy's Office Hours, 10 am - 3 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sherwood Welcomes the Gatua Family:

Today we will formally welcome the Gatua family to Sherwood. Samuel and his family are seeking a home parish who can walk with them as Samuel discerns a call to ordained ministry in The Episcopal Church.

Below is their letter to the community. Please give them a warm welcome.
Mother Nancy

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you. As a family, we are grateful for the chance to introduce ourselves and to seek a church home where we can worship, grow, and belong. My name is Samuel Gatua, and together with my family – my wife, Mary; our oldest daughter, Maria; and our second-born daughter, Anna – we come with open hearts, hoping to find a community where our faith can take deeper root.

We are originally from Kenya, and I am currently a seminary student at Nazarene Theological Seminary, pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree and scheduled to graduate in May 2027. In this season, we discern a call to the Episcopal priesthood and seek a congregation that can walk with us on this journey. We hope for guidance, mentorship, and a community that can help us listen well to God's leading as we navigate this path with humility and openness. In our prayer and discernment, we have been led to this Church, and under the Guidance of Mother Nancy and all of you, we hope to achieve our ministry goals and dreams.

Our life together is shaped by prayer, hospitality, and a desire to walk closely with God and with others. As immigrants, we have learned the gift of community – the way a church can become a place of grounding, healing, and

shared strength. We value meaningful worship, intergenerational relationships, and the kind of fellowship that helps people flourish.

Thank you, Sherwood Episcopal Church, for welcoming us with such kindness. We look forward to learning your stories and discovering how God may be inviting us to grow together.

With gratitude and peace,

The Gatua Family

Thank you to Amy Shepherd:

Amy has been maintaining the flower beds around our campus. You don't need to look far to see the good work she has done. Thank you, Amy, we greatly appreciate your loving caring for the property!

Wooden Shed Has Arrived:

Thanks to Stephanie Everts and Don Callihan, we now have a storage shed for the Clean Water Project. It will hold the necessary equipment for the project. It is located on the concrete slab on the back side of the Parish House.

Underwood on Campus:

Next week Underwood will be on campus doing some maintenance and care for the Clean Water Project. This is part of their agreement with Sherwood, post completion of the project.

Upcoming GreenCare Days!

We are looking for volunteers to help with weeding throughout the Clean Water Project. Join us on **Saturday, July 18 and Saturday, August 1 from 9:00 am - 11:00 am**. All ages welcome; refreshments will be provided to keep us energized and hydrated. Come for both or one of the days, bring a friend, and working gloves to weed. RSVP to sherwoodparish@gmail.com. See you there!

Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road

Parish office located at Faith Lutheran across Sherwood Road

Cockeysville, MD 21030

410-666-2180

sherwoodcockeysville.org

Sunday Worship at 10 am

Services are recorded and/or photographed

Parish Office Hours:

Closed Monday; Tuesday - Thursday 10 am-3 pm or by appointment

Parish Staff:

Rector: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey - sherwoodrector@gmail.com

Deacon: The Rev. Rebecca C. Warlow - deaconrebeccawarlow@gmail.com

Music Director and Organist: Greg Sesek - gregsesek@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: Amber Poole - sherwoodparish@gmail.com

The Vestry of Sherwood Episcopal Church

Senior Warden: Joyce Mann - joymann3@hotmail.com

Junior Wardens: Stephanie Everts and Greg Szymaszek -

sheverts@gmail.com and gregszymaszek@gmail.com

Treasurer: Charles Roebuck - charles@hgroebuck.com

Assistant to the Treasurer: Robin Rouleau - robin.rouleau@gmail.com

Registrar: Mary Doyle - mdoyle6@jhu.edu

Members: Robert Catlin, Mary Doyle, Sheila Fitzgerald, Mary O'Connell,
Charles Roebuck

Ministry Contacts

Altar Guild and Worship: Sandy Thompson - agthompson1@verizon.net

Cemetery Perpetual Care: Jack Turnbull - jbul547@gmail.com

Healing Ministry: Jane Turnbull - turnbull26@gmail.com

Hospitality Coordinators - Sheila Hood, Judy Lorenz

sherwoodparish@gmail.com

Outreach: Joyce Mann - joymann3@hotmail.com