Church of the Holy Comforter

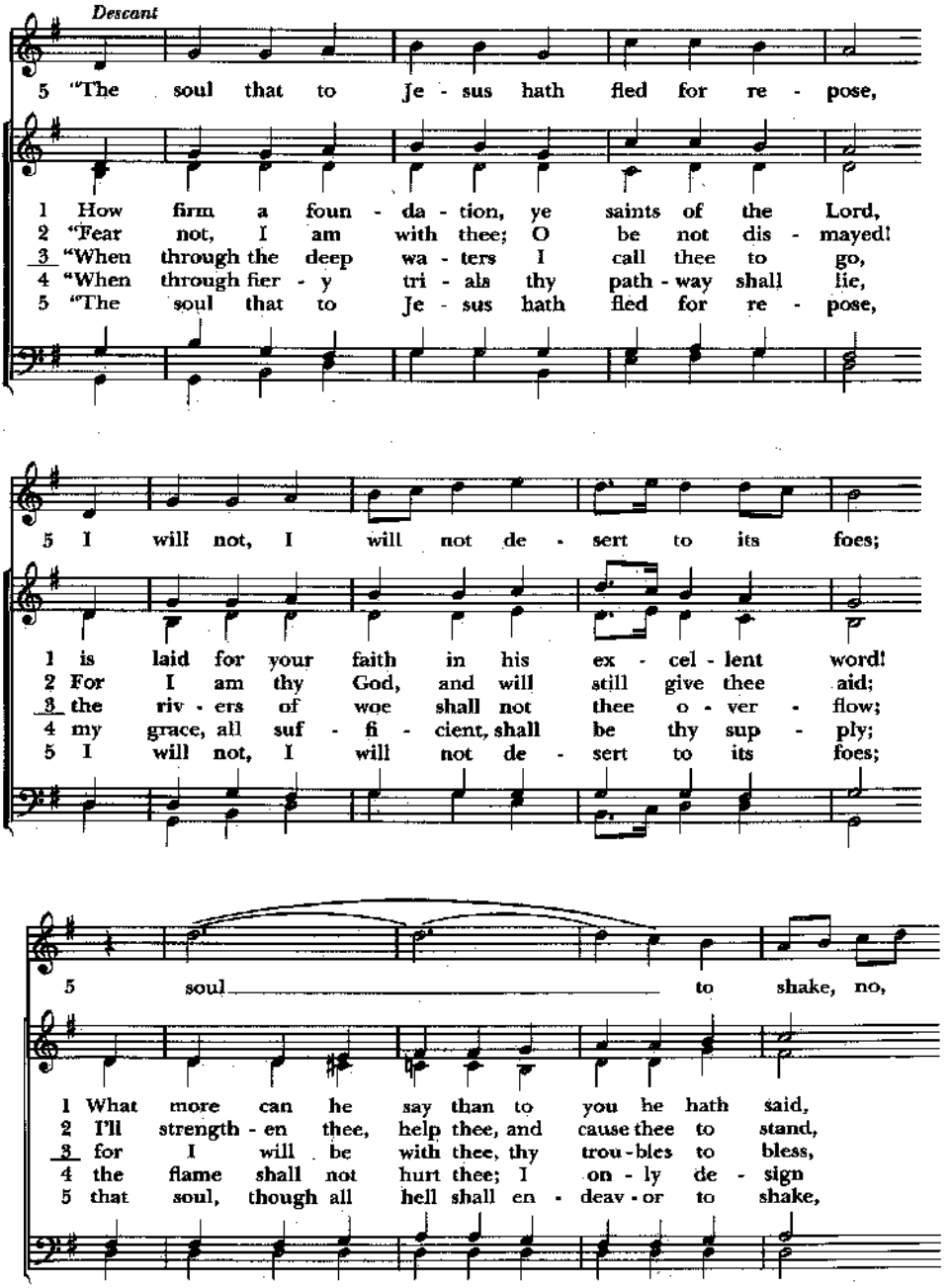
November 15, 2026

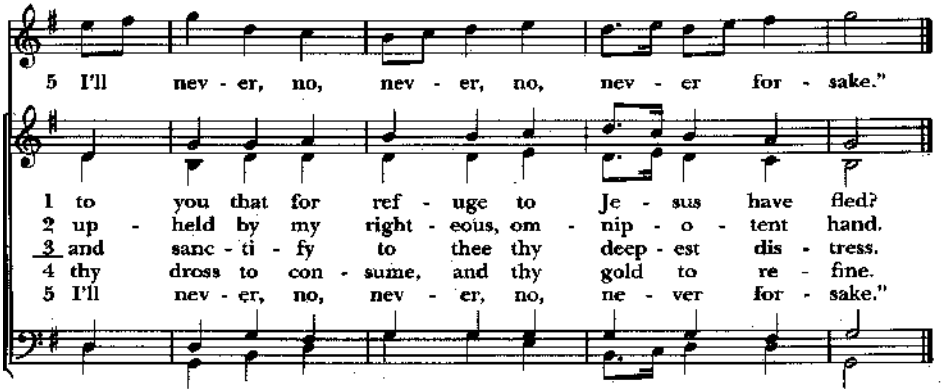
Proper 28

Welcome to The Church of the Holy Comforter

Welcome! We're glad you're here. Parents: The nurseries for infants and toddlers are located on the lower level.

At the Procession *How Firm A Foundation*
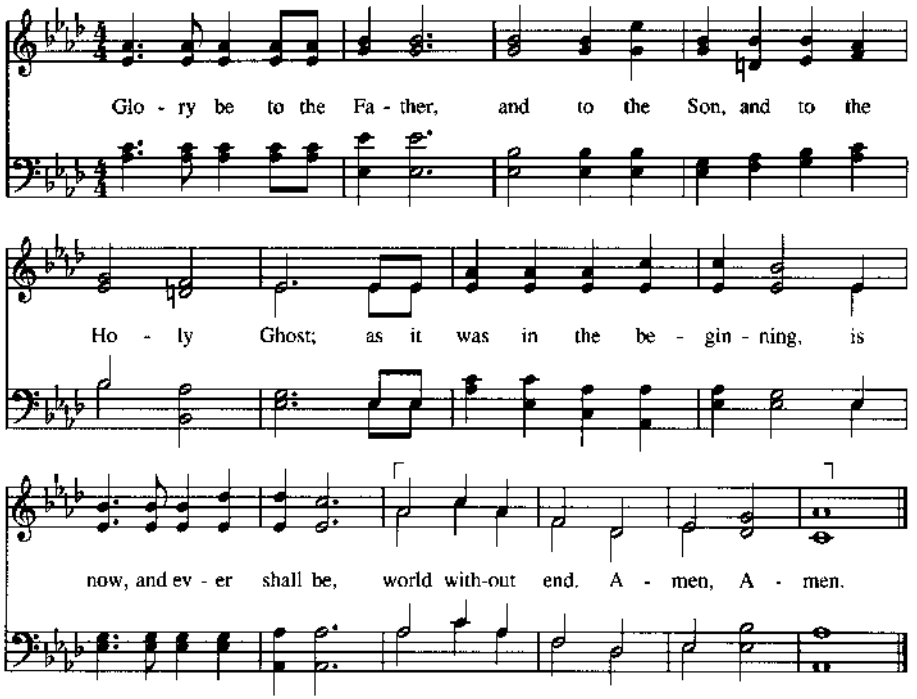




THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

Celebrant: 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 be to the Father



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: *And also with you.*
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated for the lessons.

The First Lesson **Joshua 4:1-7**

A reading from the Book of Joshua:

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 123

The Psalm will be said responsively by whole verse, alternating each verse with the Lector who reads first

To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
    and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
    until he show us his mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
    for we have had more than enough of contempt,

Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
    and of the derision of the proud.

The Second Lesson **1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11**

Introduction to the Lesson

Paul reminds believers that no one knows when history will end, so they must turn away from sin and live in the light of Christ.

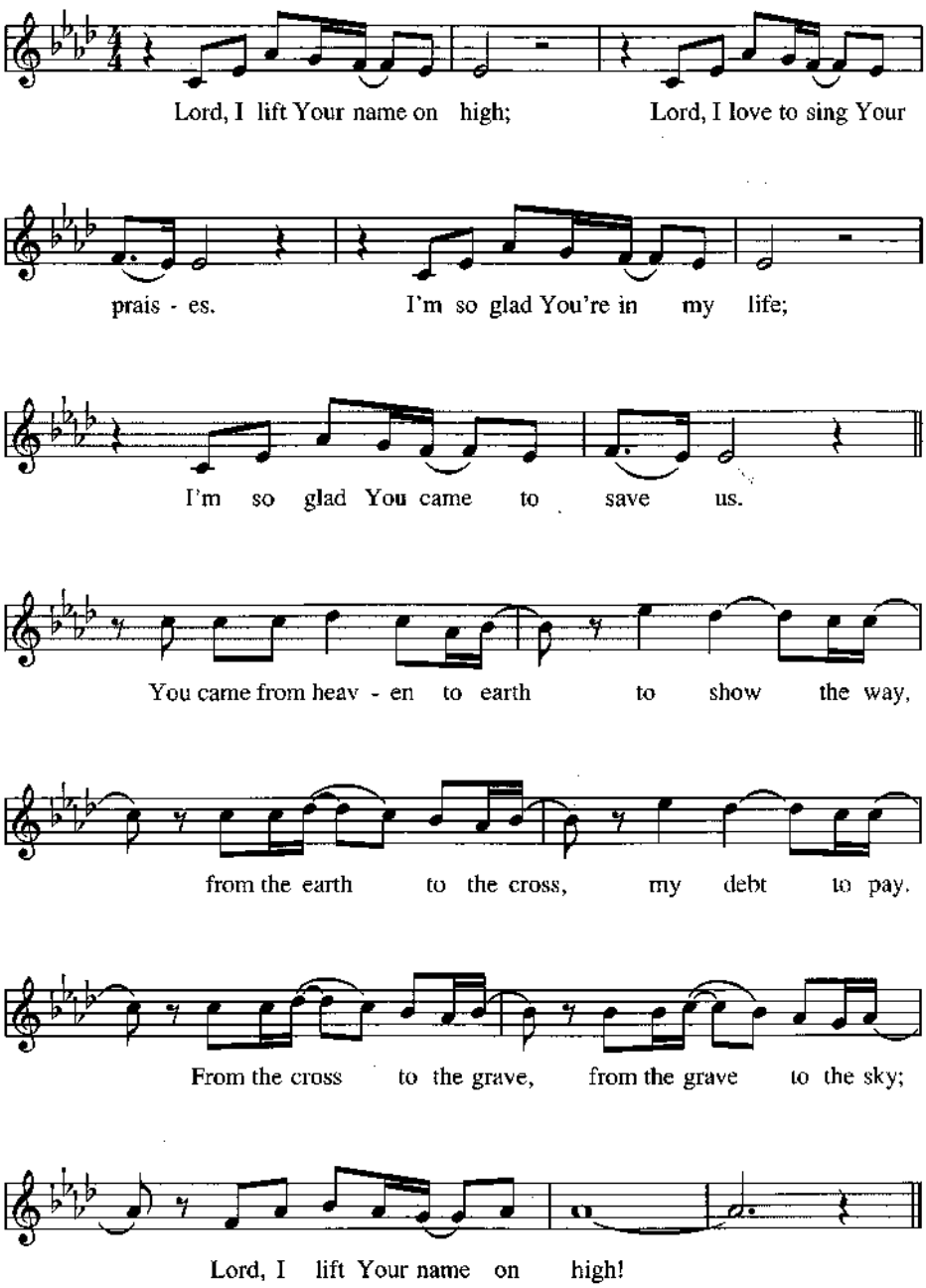
A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand for the Gospel Hymn and the reading of the Gospel. Sing before the Gospel and after the Gospel.

Gospel Hymn *Lord, I Lift Your Name On High*



The Holy Gospel **Matthew 25: 14-30**

Introduction to the Lesson

Through this parable, Jesus teaches his disciples that they are expected to make use of the faith with which they have been entrusted.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

The Sermon The Rev. Glenn A. Palmer

The Nicene Creed

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

Prayers of the People

Jesus said, “In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.” Trusting in God’s abundance and welcome, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all creation.

Gracious God, you have made plenty good room for us in your household. Inspire your church to be a place of welcome, generosity, and love. We thank you for the resources you have entrusted to us, and we pray for wisdom to use them in service of your mission. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of community, you bind us together in relationships of care and compassion. Strengthen the bonds within this congregation, and guide us to extend hospitality to our neighbors near and far. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of abundance, you invite us to respond with gratitude for all your gifts. Bless this stewardship campaign, that our pledges of time, talent, and treasure may be faithful signs of our trust in you. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of creation, you have made a world with plenty good room for all living things. Teach us to care for the earth and to share its resources with justice and joy. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of mercy, your dwelling place has room for all who suffer. Be present with those who are sick, lonely, grieving, or in any kind of need (Intercessions for healing). Surround them with your healing and your peace. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We thank you Lord for all the blessings of this life. For those with special celebrations (Intercessions for thanksgiving). Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of hope, you prepare a place for us in your eternal home. We remember before you those who have died, confident that they now rest in your embrace (Intercessions for the departed). Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Loving God, you call us into your abundant life and promise that there is plenty good room for all your children. Hear our prayers and accept the offerings of our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

The Confession and Absolution

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 upon 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 Peace

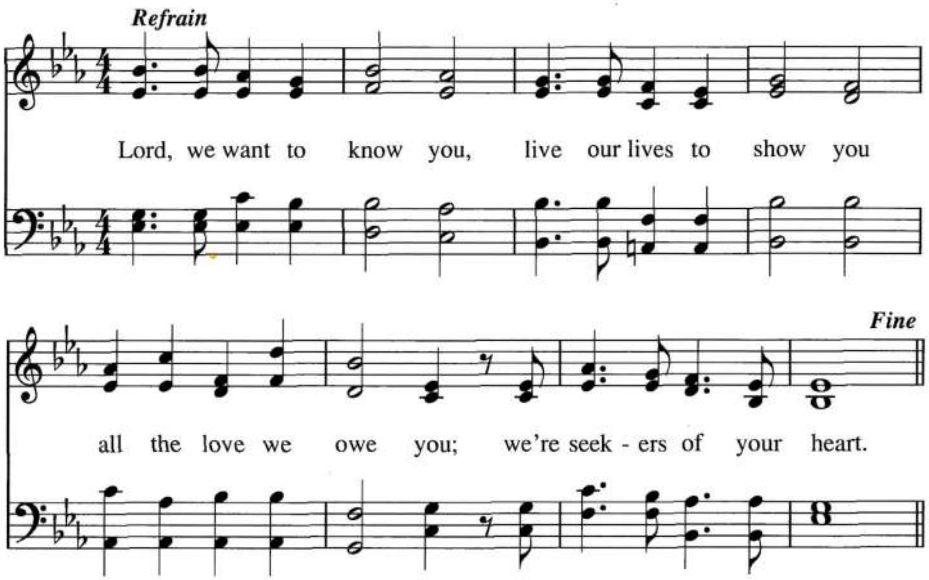
Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: *And also with you*.
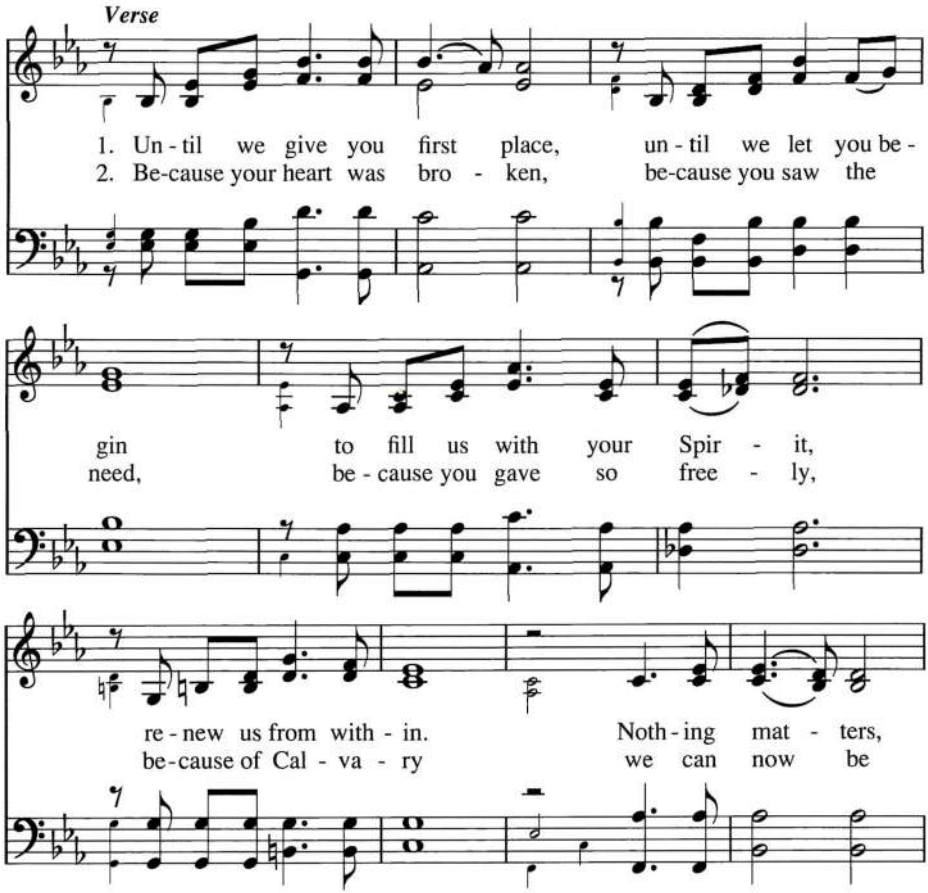
THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem

Offertory Hymn *Seekers of Your Heart*





An Acclamation of Thanksgiving for God's Gifts
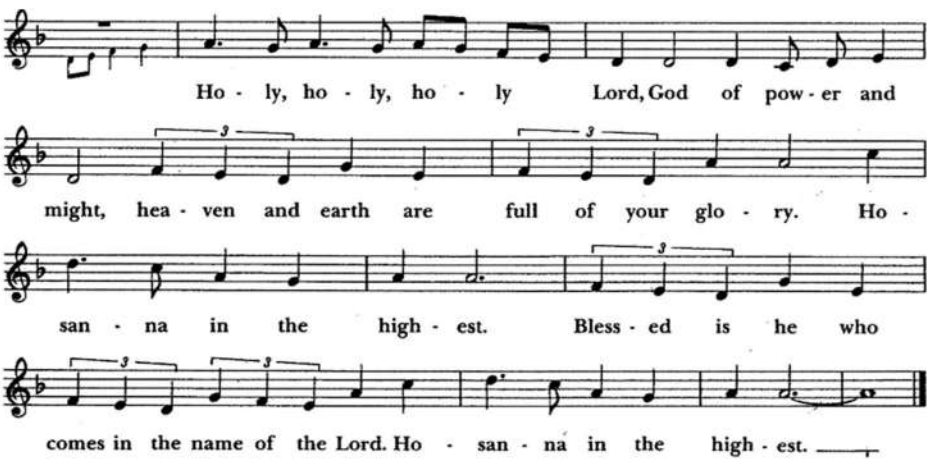
Celebrant: All things come from you O Lord
People: *And of your own have we given you.*

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. For

you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:



Celebrant: 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 he 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People: *Christ has died.*
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant: 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 forever. *Amen.*

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

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.

Celebrant: This is the table not of the Church but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little. You who have been here often and you who have not been here long. You who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come because it is the Lord who invites you. It is the Lord's will that those who desire Jesus should meet him here at this table.

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.

Receiving communion: All are welcome at God's table. If you would like to receive the wine by common cup, go to the right. If you would like to receive by intinction, go to the left.

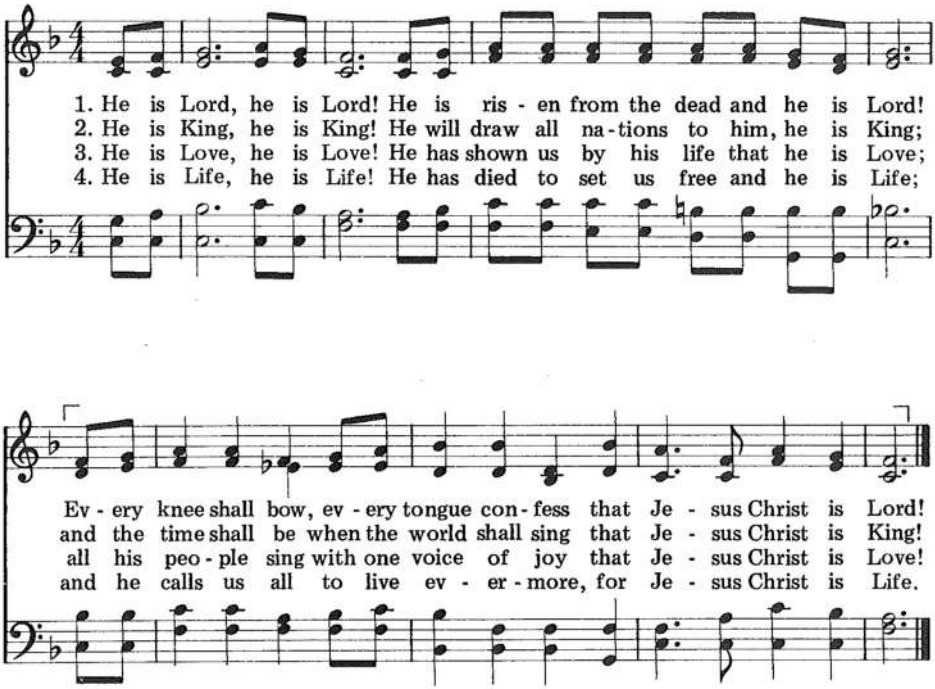
Prayer Team: If you would like a member of the Prayer Team to pray with you for any need in body, mind, or spirit, go to the back of the church after receiving communion and members of the Prayer Team will pray with you.

The Mission of Holy Comforter
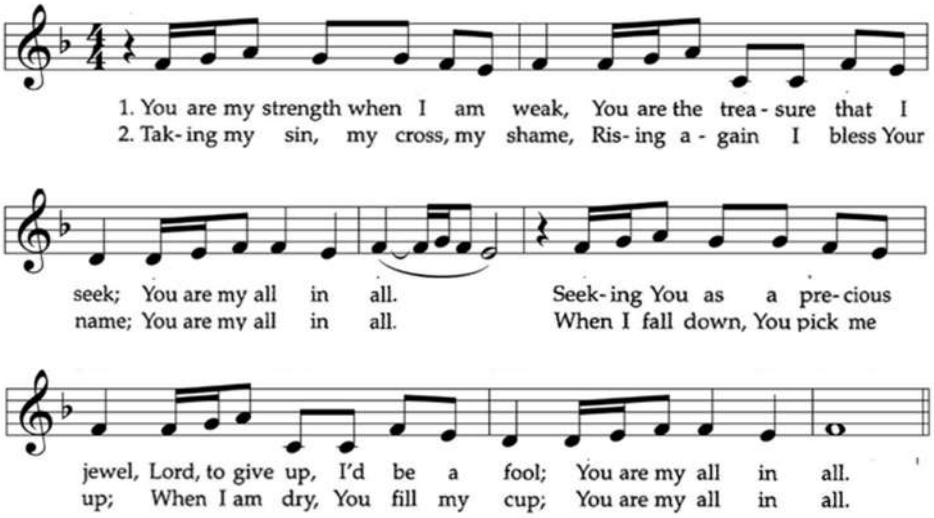
Love God, Love Others
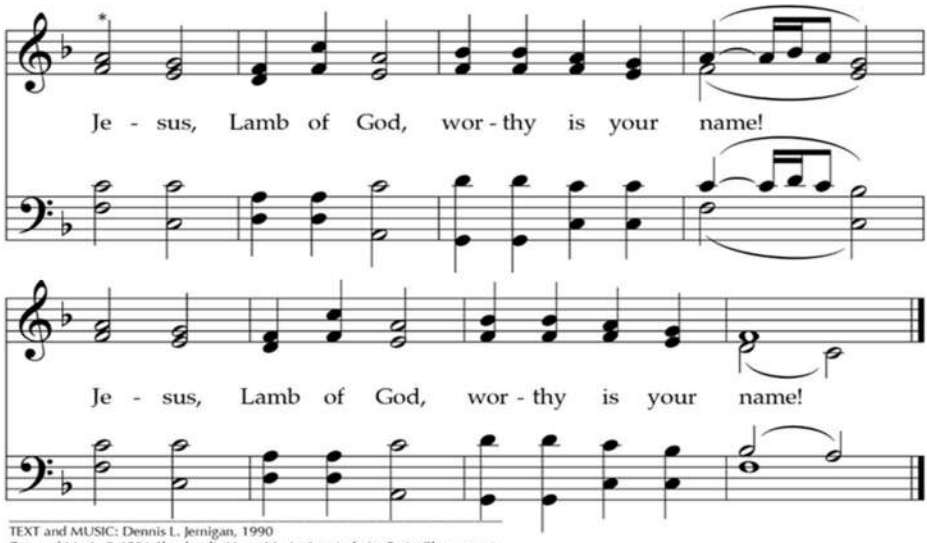
Serve God, Serve Others

Communion Music *He is Lord*



Communion Hymn *All in All*





TEXT and MUSIC: Dennis L. Jernigan, 1990
Text and Music © 1991 Shepherd's Heart Music, Inc. (admin. PraiseCharts.com)
Reprint under CCLI # 2526933

The Postcommunion Prayer

Please stand and remain standing through the closing hymn

Celebrant and People: *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.*
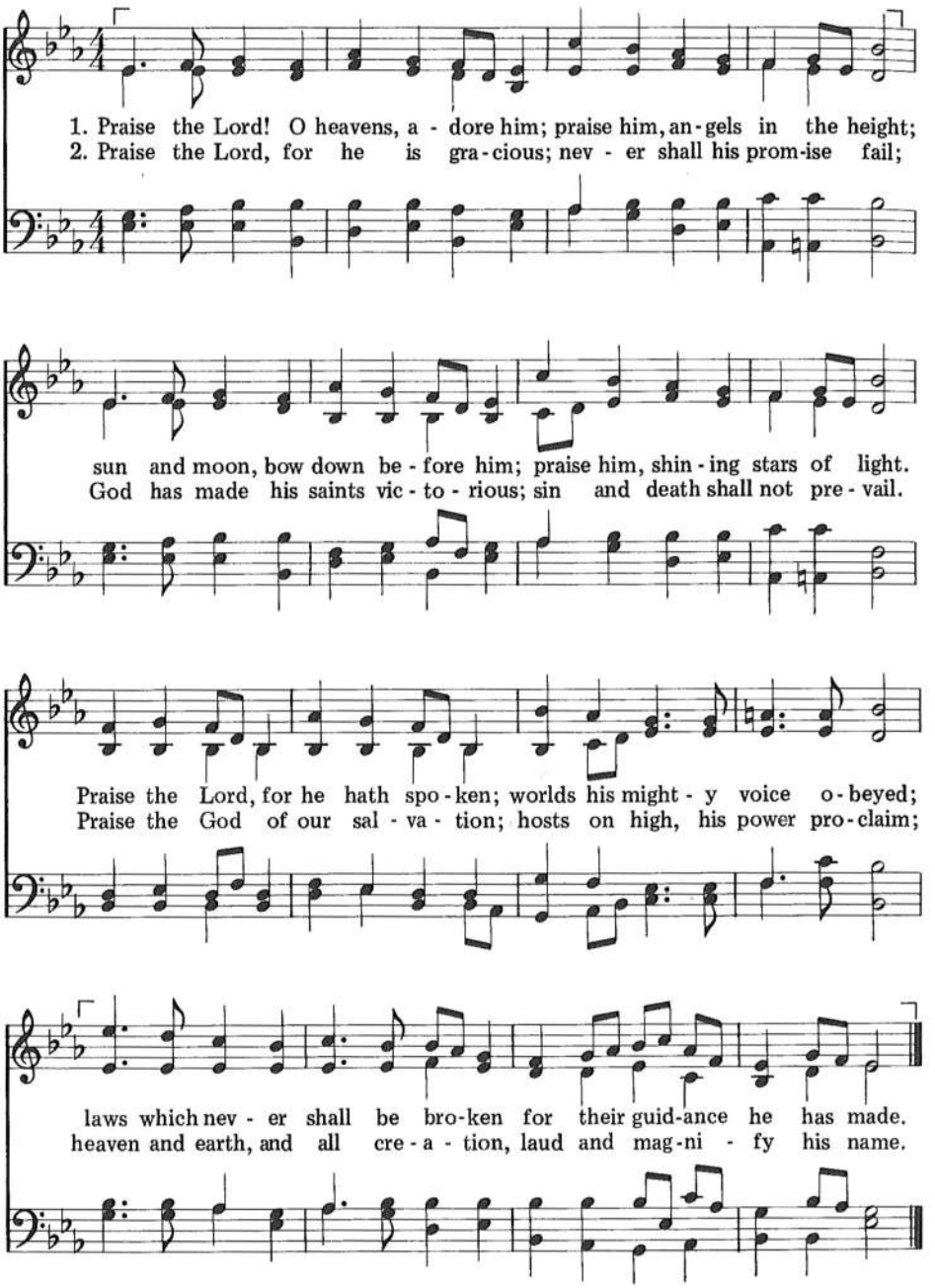
The Blessing and the Dismissal

Celebrant: Always remember how short life is and how little time we have to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

(The dismissal is said after the closing hymn)

Priest: Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Recessional *Praise the Lord, O Heavens, Adore Him*



Welcome to Holy Comforter—We're Glad You're Here!

Our first joy is to welcome our guests and newcomers. An usher can assist you with any questions. Like to be on our mailing list? Please sign our guest register.

Do you want to be part of Holy Comforter? Call the parish office (706-834-6228) and we'll be glad to help you. *Also, please make sure that we have your e-mail address to receive our weekly E-News.*

Stewardship



Today is Commitment Sunday when we ask that all pledge cards for 2027 be returned. If you have not made your pledge, it's not too late! Scan the QR code or mail in your pledge card. As you consider your commitment, please know that the commitments we receive help us prepare the 2027 budget in support of the mission and ministries of Holy Comforter. Stewardship continues year-round through our time, talents and treasure.

Mahjong at Holy Comforter

Join us for Mahjong here at Holy Comforter today from 1:30-4:00pm. This event is free. If you would like to play, register by emailing Tula Henson at tulahenson714@gmail.com.

If you are interested in learning Mahjong, contact Tula Henson and she will arrange times for teaching with you.

Candlelight Healing Service



Threads of Comfort

The next meeting of the Threads of Comfort ministry is Thursday, November 19th at 10am in the Parish Hall. If anyone needs blanket supplies, contact Gail Jarrell through text at 706-414-3543.

The Men's Group

The Holy Comforter Men's Group meets Friday, November 20th at Cracker Barrel, 544 North Belair Road at 8:00am in the back corner.

The Rector's Forum

Sunday, November 22nd at 9:15am: We continue a discussion of *Grace on the Journey to God* by Father Michael Casey.

Sunday School and Youth-charist

Sunday School and Youth-charist will NOT meet next Sunday, November 22nd.

Putting Skin on GOD's Love at The Byllesby Center

To paraphrase Matthew 25:40, what you do for the least of them, you do for me. We are looking for an individual or group of individuals to help coordinate a weekly hot meal breakfast on either a Wednesday or Friday at The Byllesby Center. If YOU would be interested in starting up this ministry, please contact Fred Hoogland at 770-335-7942.

Golden Harvest Volunteers

Meal Packing: Father Glenn is looking for 14 volunteers to pack meals at 3310 Commerce Drive in Augusta on Monday, November 23rd from 9:00 - 11:30am.

Meal Serving: Father Glenn is looking for 12 others to join him in serving the lunch meal at The Masters Table from 10:30-12:15pm on Monday, November 30th. We meet at 702 Fenwick Street in Augusta. No open toed shoes please.

Brown Bag Bible Study

Wednesday, December 2nd at 12pm: Bring your lunch and join the conversation! We meet in the Parish Hall for the Noonday Prayer Service followed by a discussion of the lessons for the approaching Sunday.

Christmas Cards for Inmates

Christmas is coming to Leath Correctional Institution for Women, thanks to the generosity of time and cards from all of you. If you took home a pack of cards to write the message to the inmates and have already turned them in, a special thank you. If you still have your cards, please remember to put them in the container in the church foyer.

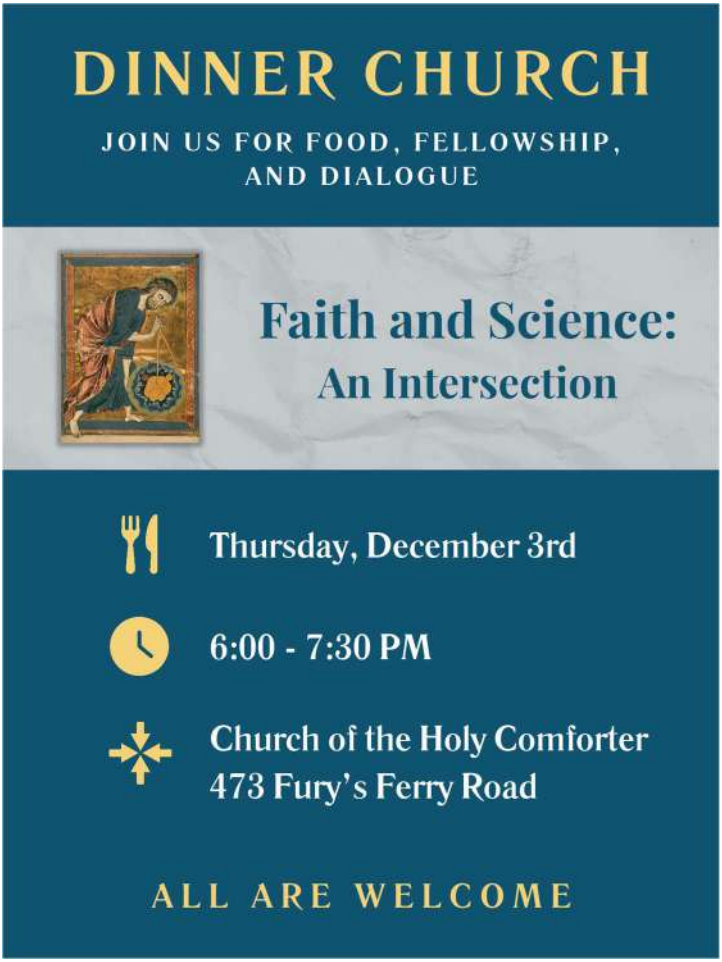
The last date to turn in the cards is November 22 but it is helpful to get them in earlier as each must be inspected before they are distributed to the inmates. If you are unable to complete the card by the due date, just let me know. You can bring them to me at church and they will be completed for you.



Thank you so much for being the hands and heart of Jesus. These cards may be the only card that some of the inmates receive.

Linda Bargeron
lhbargeron@gmail.com
706-257-8668

Coming in December



We're on Instagram – Come Follow Along!

Holy Comforter is now on Instagram.
Follow us: @holycomforterga

Help Make Cookies and the Christ Child Merry & Bright!

We're getting ready for Cookies and the Christ Child on December 19th, a special morning of Christmas cheer, cookie decorating, caroling, and storytelling for our church family! To make this festive event a success, we need a little help from our wonderful church community! There are lots of ways to lend a hand, whether you have a little time to spare or want to join in the fun!

Christmas Cookie Bakers: Help us fill our decorating tables by baking cookies ready for little hands to decorate!

Setup & Cleanup Crew: Help us transform our space into a Christmas celebration or lend a hand getting everything tidied up afterward.

Cookie Decorating Helpers: Join the fun during the event by helping children decorate their Christmas creations. No artistic talent required—just a little patience and Christmas spirit!

Christmas Storytellers: Help bring the magic and meaning of Christmas to life by reading our special Christmas book.

Christmas Carol Leaders: Help us make a joyful noise by leading some favorite Christmas carols. Enthusiasm is more important than a perfect singing voice!

Whether you love baking, singing, storytelling, or simply lending a helping hand, there's a place for you at Cookies and the Christchild!

Please contact Laura Knight (ms.hibberd@gmail.com or 704-576-1891) if you'd like to volunteer. Together, we can create a morning filled with sweet treats, joyful memories, and the wonder of Christ's birth!



GIFTS FOR THE CHRIST CHILD 2026

1. We now have sponsors for 35 families, with only 16 still needing sponsors. To sponsor a family, choose one after Sunday's service. Some families have four or five children; consider partnering with another Holy Comforter family to sponsor a larger household.
2. Want to sponsor a family but unable to shop because of physical limitations or other circumstances? Mary Kelly has recruited volunteers to shop for you. Contact Mary at 206-859-8418 or marykelly919@comcast.net for assistance.
3. The children's lists are wish lists, not must-have lists. Give as you feel led; you do not need to provide every item.
4. Project Linus is donating a warm fleece blanket or quilt for every child on our list. If your child requested a blanket, it is already covered.
5. Please bring all gifts to the church by **Sunday, December 6**. Place them securely in the provided black bag, close with zip tie and attach the tag with the family's number.
6. Pickup trucks and drivers are needed to help deliver the bagged gifts to the warehouse on Tuesday, December 8. If you can help contact Robert Bargeron at bargeronr@gmail.com or 706-373-1967, or Griff Kelly at griffkelly1950@comcast.net or 206-573-1523.



Gifts for the Christ Child

Are you sponsoring family #409 or #600?

Thank you to everyone who enthusiastically signed up to sponsor a family this Christmas! Two families were selected, but their sponsor information cards were not returned. We need these cards to keep track of each family's sponsor. If you selected family #409 or #600, please email one of us below. Bring your card to church on Sunday so we can give you the instructions, bags, and tags for your gifts.



Linda Bargeron at lhbargeron@gmail.com
Robert Bargeron at bargeronr@gmail.com

Prayers of the People

Persons remain on the list for two weeks; those with chronic needs continue to be prayed for by our Prayer Chain. You may add prayer requests at the lectern in the foyer.

For those in need of healing: Ashley Connor, Angela Davis, Clarence Booth, Clint Maddox, Donnie Hixon, and Linda Scales

For those celebrating birthdays: Erin Rymer, Ryan Hopper, and Carolyn Owens

Thanksgiving for our partnership with The Claiborne, Kairos Prison Ministry, and Boy Scout Troop 10.

For those receiving assisted care: Loren Waldo

For the safety of Joseph Haddow and all those who serve abroad and at home.

Missions and Prayer

The Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer request, send to Pam Whitaker at pwhitakernp@gmail.com. Your prayer request will be shared with those on the prayer chain and we will pray for you, your loved one, or your concern.

The Prayer Crafters: We crochet, knit and work on looms making hats, scarves, lap blankets and shawls. No experience necessary-we will teach you! Tuesdays from 10am-noon in the Parish Hall.

Food Donations: Please place non-perishable items in the red wagon by the front door. Canned goods that do not require a can opener are best. The food collected goes to The Byllesby Center, providing to those in need in the Harrisburg community.

Contacting Father Glenn

For pastoral emergencies:

Call or text anytime at 803-319-5296.

For non-pastoral and non-emergencies:

Please keep texts or phone calls limited to the hours of 8:00 A.M.- 6:00 P.M. Mon-Fri

Serving Today

Preacher/Celebrant	The Rev. Glenn A. Palmer
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Barry Paschal and Polly Simon
Acolytes	Andrew Recupero and Parker Maddox
Reader	Tim Curry
Altar Guild	Alison Moseley
Altar Bread	Karen Sheppard
Prayer Team	Carol Kane and Maurice Lewis
Pre-Service Greeter	Kathy Fulghum
Ushers	Tab Carter and Blanca Perez
Media Crew	Dan Doughtie and Keith Milburn
Vestry Person of the Day	A.J. Kleinheksel

Staff

The Rev. Glenn A. Palmer, Rector
Vivian Vaiden, Church Administrator, Accompanist
Lara Fort, Business Administrator
Gail Jarrell, Music Director
Laura Knight, Sunday School Coordinator

Vestry

Barry Paschal, Sr. Warden, Heather Doughtie, Jr. Warden
Amy Moore, and Maurice Lewis (Class of 2027)
Robbie Jarrell and A.J. Kleinheksel (Class of 2028)
Tim Curry (Class of 2029)

473 Fury's Ferry Rd., Martinez, GA 30907
(706) 834-6228
www.holycomforterchurch.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9am - 2pm

Like us on Facebook!

Find our page at "Church of the Holy Comforter"
and join the conversation!

Visit our Website
by scanning our QR code