



**January 9, 2022**

**First Sunday after Epiphany**

**The Baptism of our Lord**

# Welcome to the Church of the Holy Comforter

Welcome! We're glad you're here. We ask that all persons above the age of 2 wear masks during the church service.

## Instrumental Procession

Highland Cathedral

Carl Purdy, Bagpipes

## At the Procession

*Joyful, Joyful we adore thee*

*Standing*

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, bloom-ing mea-dow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach - us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di-vine.

### Service of the Word

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*

### The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

*Please be seated for the lessons.*

**Introduction to the Lesson**

*The people are reminded of God's never-failing love. Because the Lord is always in their midst, his people will be delivered from exile, a sign to the whole world of the Lord's might.*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

**The Word of the Lord**  
*Thanks be to God*

**Psalm 29**

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

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*  
    ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*  
    worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
    the God of glory thunders; \*  
    the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \*  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord \*  
all are crying, “Glory!”

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

## The Second Lesson

**Acts 8: 14-17**

### Introduction to the Lesson

*Peter and John travel to Samaria to greet the new Christians there. God bestows the Holy Spirit on the believers as the apostles baptize them.*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**The Word of the Lord**  
*Thanks be to God*

*Stand for the Gospel Hymn and the reading of the Gospel.*

**Gospel Hymn**

*We are marching in the light of the Lord*

We are march - ing in the hahm buh koo kah  
Zulu: See yah

light of the Lord, we are march-ing in the light of the Lord. We are  
nigh nee kwen kohs. See yah hahm buh koo kah nigh nee kwen kohs. See yah

march - ing in the light of the Lord, we are  
hahm bah koo kah nigh nee kwen kohs. See yah

march - ing in the light of the Lord.  
hahm buh koo kah nigh nee kwen kohs.

WORDS and MUSIC: Zulu Traditional Song

Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

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march- ing,

Musical score for the first section of 'Marching Song'. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The vocal line starts with 'march- ing,' followed by 'We are march - ing,' then 'march - ing we are'. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble line with eighth-note chords.

Oh,

Musical score for the second section of 'Marching Song'. The vocal line begins with 'Oh,' followed by 'march-ing' (repeated), 'march-ing, we are march-ing in the light of the Lord,' and then a piano solo section. The piano accompaniment features eighth-note chords in the bass and eighth-note patterns in the treble.

*f* march- ing,

Musical score for the third section of 'Marching Song'. The vocal line starts with 'march- ing,' followed by 'of the Lord. We are march-ing, march-ing, we are'. The piano accompaniment includes eighth-note chords and a bass line.

Oh,

Musical score for the fourth section of 'Marching Song'. The vocal line begins with 'Oh,' followed by 'march-ing' (repeated), 'march-ing we are march-ing in the light of the Lord.' The piano accompaniment features eighth-note chords in the bass and eighth-note patterns in the treble.

**Introduction to the Lesson**

*John tells the crowds seeking baptism that he is not the messiah. Jesus is among those who are baptized, and when he comes out of the Jordan River, he is anointed by God's own Spirit.*

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor

**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 worshiped 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**

In the waters of baptism, we were called to be God's children and to minister to one another. Let us therefore pray for ourselves, for one another, and for all those in need of our prayers, saying: Lord, in your mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for the church, that it may stand fast in the one faith to which it has been called. Lord, in your mercy,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for the world, that our conflicts may cease and that peace may reign in this new year. Lord, in your mercy,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for all Christians who have been baptized into the one family of faith, that our lives reflect the forgiveness and love which was first shown us. Lord, in your mercy,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for all who are blind to the injustices of our world, that their eyes may be opened and that they may work for an end to oppression and injustice. Lord, in your mercy,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for the sick (*Intercessions for healing are offered here*), that their sickness may be turned to health and that they may once again join us in our work and worship. Lord, in your mercy,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We join with all those with special celebrations, especially (*Intercessions for thanksgivings are offered here*). Lord, in your mercy,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for the faithful who have gone before us, that we may follow the example of their lives and be reunited with them in the joy of everlasting life (*Intercessions for the departed are offered here*). Lord, in your mercy,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Great God, you know our thoughts and needs better than we ourselves. Accept the prayers which we now offer, and strengthen us to do your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

And now we pray to you for the forgiveness of our sins.

### **The Confession and Absolution**

*Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.*

### **Institution of Daughters of the King**

**Offertory Anthem**

*I have felt the hand of God*

## Offertory Hymn

*Soon and very soon*

1., 3. Soon and ver - y soon, we are going to see the King;  
2. No more dy - ing there, we are going to see the King;

soon and ver - y soon, we are going to see the King;  
no more dy - ing there, we are going to see the King;

soon and ver - y soon, we are going to see the King; hal-le -  
no more dy - ing there, we are going to see the King; hal-le -

lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! We're going to see the King.

going to see the King! Hal - le - lu - - jah! Hal - le - lu - - jah!

*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 B** *Also found on page 367 in The Book of Common Prayer*

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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:

*Sanctus:*



Ho ly, Ho ly, Ho ly—Lord, God of pow er and might, hea—ven and earth are  
full— of your glo ry Ho san na in the high est Bless—ed is he who  
comes— in the name of the Lord! Ho san na in the high est!

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life

On the night before he died for us, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People: *We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;*

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. *A MEN.*

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: 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:** At this time we are only offering altar bread, not wine.

**Gluten Free Communion Bread:** If you have a dietary restrictions and need gluten free communion bread, just ask the server for Gluten Free bread when you come to receive.

# Communion Hymn

*The Lord's Prayer*

Washington Isaac Holmes, soloist

## Communion Hymn

*One Bread, One Body*

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless. And  
we, though many, through-out the earth,  
we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

Verses

1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,  
wom - an or man no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: 1 Corinthians 10:16; 17, 12:4; Galatians 3:28; the *Didache* 9; John Foley, SJ, b.1939

Tune: John Foley, SJ, b.1939

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## The Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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 forever. Amen.*

## Postcommunion Hymn

*Friends*

Packing up the dreams God planted  
In the fertile soil of you  
I can't believe the hopes He's granted  
Means a chapter of your life is through

But we'll keep you close as always  
It won't even seem you've gone  
'Cause our hearts in big and small ways  
Will keep the love that keeps us strong

(Chorus) And friends are friends forever  
If the Lord's the Lord of them  
And a friend will not say never  
'Cause the welcome will not end  
Though it's hard to let you go  
In the Father's hands we know  
That a lifetime's not too long  
To live as friends

And with the faith and love God's given  
Springing from the hope we know  
We will pray the joy you live in  
Is the strength that now you show

We'll keep you close as always  
It won't even seem you've gone  
'Cause our hearts in big and small ways  
Will keep the love that keeps us strong

(Chorus)

Dr. Lucy Green, soloist

## **The Blessing and the Dismissal**

Celebrant: May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

*(The dismissal is said after the closing hymn. Children are invited to join the clergy at the front of the church to help with the dismissal.)*

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

## *Amazing Grace*

## Carl Purdy, Bagpipes

A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that  
 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

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

**To our guests—we are so glad that you are here!** Our first joy is to welcome our guests and newcomers. And our prayer is that we may become a spiritual home for you. An usher can assist you with any questions. Like to be on our mailing list? Sign our guest register.

**Do you want to be part of Holy Comforter?** Call the parish office (706-210-1133) 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.*

### **Welcome to Today's Service**

**Today marks the final service** of The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor as the founding rector of Holy Comforter. Thank you all for being here to celebrate her ministry. She has been pastor of Holy Comforter for just over 22 years. And after serving as a priest in the church for close to 36 years she is retiring.

**The focus of our service** is on joy and *thanksgiving*. Thank you to our guest musicians Washington Isaac Holmes and Carl Purdy for being part of this service as well as Drs. Brad and Lucy Green, Robbie and Gail Jarrell. And thanks to all of you for the love and support you have shown Cindy+ over the years but especially during this past year. There is joy in the journey.

### **Let's Eat!**

**Following today's service** there is a luncheon put on by The Daughters of the King (DOK). If you are able, we will need some help setting up tables, etc. Thank you for all the planning and hard work that has gone into this event.

### **New Daughters of the King**

**Tab Carter and Carolyn Owens are being inducted** into the Order of the Daughters of the King today. The DoK is an order for women whose mission is the extension of Christ's Kingdom through prayer, service and evangelism. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Carole Nelson or Linda Hoogland (706-945-0472). We will be training another group of initiates in early spring.

### **Altar Flowers**

**The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God** and in thanksgiving for our Rector, The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor by Daughters of the King and arranged by Jerri Coleman and Carolyn Owens.

## Our Annual Meeting

*Sunday, January 30th after worship*

**Between Cindy's retirement** party and the arrival of our Interim Rector, Glenn Palmer on February 7th we have our Annual Parish Meeting on January 30th following worship.

**Lunch will be provided.** All are welcome, all are needed. In an effort to move things along, we will conduct the meeting while you grab your lunch.

### **Meeting Agenda:**

Elections for the Vestry  
Elect delegates to Diocesan Convention  
Approve the 2022 Budget



**To insure we have a lunch for all attendees, please RSVP in our Enews or by using the QR code above by January 23rd.**

## The Book Club

**The Book Club will not meet in January.** Our next meeting is on Wednesday, February 9 at 10am to discuss the book *Upstream* by Mary Oliver. In a collection of essays by the National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize poet, Oliver "encourages us all to keep moving, to lose ourselves in the awe of the unknown, and to give power and time to the creative and whimsical urges that live within us."

## Upcoming Youth Events

**Sunday, January 30th:** Youth Spaghetti Night from 5pm - 7:30pm. Join us for a spaghetti dinner followed by basketball in the church parking lot (weather permitting).

**Sunday, February 6th:** Donuts & Devotionals at 10am. Join us for a sweet treat and a short youth group devotional.

**For more information** about our Youth Ministry contact Jennifer Cardinal at [jrcardinal2@gmail.com](mailto:jrcardinal2@gmail.com) or Tab Carter at [tcarter@augusta.edu](mailto:tcarter@augusta.edu).

## **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:** Lou Scales, Bill Greeba, Dee Barber, Marc Mexia, and Gary Miller

**For those celebrating birthdays:** Ashley Saunders, Abby Brooks, and Teresa Kezer

**For those celebrating anniversaries:** Robert and Amy Hardy

**Thanksgiving for our partnership** with Martinez Elementary School, The Claiborne, 143 Ministries, and Kairos Prison Ministry.

**For those who are homebound:** Donna Garvey and Loren Waldo

**For the safety of all those** who serve abroad.

**For the departed:** Joan Jackson, mother of Tammy and Debbie Sue Jackson.

## **Missions and Prayer**

**Prayer Shawl Ministries:** Make them at home or come to church every Tuesday at 10:30am to make shawls which are given to anyone with a prayer need.

**Food Bank:** Please place non-perishable items in the red wagon by the front door. The food collected goes to Columbia County Cares. Our goal each month is to give away 500 pounds of food!

**Ministering to the needy of Columbia County.** We need toilet paper, tissues, paper towels, tooth paste, soap, detergent, feminine needs, dish wash, and shampoo. Place those items in the kitchen in the marked container. And thanks!

## Serving Today

Preacher/Celebrant  
Lay Eucharistic Ministers  
Reader  
Altar Guild  
Ushers  
Altar Bread  
Vestry Person of the Day

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor  
Linda Bargeron  
Alexander Saunders  
Tammy Jackson and Linda Bargeron  
The Kremer's  
Judy Smith  
Tab Carter

### *Staff*

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor, Pastor  
Vivian Vaiden, Church Administrator  
Lara Fort, Financial Secretary  
Dr. Brad Green, Music Director

### *Vestry*

Fred Hoogland, Dave Blake, Jr. Warden (Class of 2022)  
Mallory Halterman, Bill Liebel (Class of 2023)  
Tab Carter, Pam Vanscoy (Class of 2024)

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

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and join the conversation!



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by scanning our QR code**