



October 2, 2022

The Blessing of the Animals

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.

Opening Hymn

For the beauty of the earth

Please stand

For the beau - ty of the earth, For the glo - ry
For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter,
For your church, that ev - er - more Lifts its ho - ly
For your - self, best Gift Di - vine! To this world so

of the skies, For the love which from our birth
par - ent, child, Friends on earth, and friends a - bove;
hands a - bove, Off - 'ring up on ev - 'ry shore
free - ly giv'n; Word In - car - nate, God's de - sign,

O - ver and a - round us lies:
For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
Its pure sac - ri - fice of love:
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

Lord of all, to you we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.

**(This morning's service is taken, in part, from the Supplemental
Liturgies of the Episcopal Church)**

The Word of God

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Creator, Word, and Spirit,

People: *Who brings all things into being and calls them good.*

Celebrant: Bless your Creator, all animals of the land.

People: *Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.*

Celebrant: Bless your Creator, all birds of the air.

People: *Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.*

Celebrant: Bless your Creator, all creatures of the sea.

People: *Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.*

Celebrant: Bless your Creator, all children of God.

People: *Let us praise and exalt our Creator together.*

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

God, maker of marvels, you weave the planet and all its creatures together in kinship; your unifying love is revealed in the interdependence of relationships in the complex world that you have made.

Save us from the illusion that humankind is separate and alone, and join us in communion with all inhabitants of the universe; through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who topples the dividing walls by the power of your Holy Spirit, and who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Please be seated for the lessons.

Then God spoke to Noah and his sons: “I’m setting up my covenant with you including your children who will come after you, along with everything alive around you—birds, farm animals, wild animals—that came out of the ship with you. I’m setting up my covenant with you that never again will everything living be destroyed by floodwaters; no, never again will a flood destroy the Earth.”

God continued, “This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and everything living around you and everyone living after you. I’m putting my rainbow in the clouds, a sign of the covenant between me and the Earth. From now on, when I form a cloud over the Earth and the rainbow appears in the cloud, I’ll remember my covenant between me and you and everything living, that never again will floodwaters destroy all life. When the rainbow appears in the cloud, I’ll see it and remember the eternal covenant between God and everything living, every last living creature on Earth.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Psalm 36:5-10

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

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.


O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your salvation to the upright of heart!

Stand for the Gospel Hymn and the reading of the Gospel. Sing verses 1-2 before the Gospel and verses 3-4 after the Gospel.


Gospel Hymn

All things bright and beautiful


Refrain




All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum - mer sun,
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



Repeat Refrain

he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

The Holy Gospel

John 1:1-5, 14-18

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John

testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Glenn 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

Let us pray.

Lector: For the artistry of spinning spiders, the industry of ants, and the busyness of bees, for all alert animals of field and forest, for the squirrels that gather, chipmunks that chatter, for mice that burrow, and pigs that root.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Lector: For the splendor of the great deep and sparkling streams, for the water bugs and dolphins, for all fish and all sea life, and for enormous whales.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Lector: For all things that fly, for pelicans and parakeets, barn owls and peacocks, for eagles that soar, and for birds that nest.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Lector: For beasts that lumber, for elephants and hippos, grizzly bears and tortoises, porcupines and three-toed sloths, and for all creatures that remind us not to hurry.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Lector: For the graceful beasts, the great cats, and for gazelles, for giraffes, and for flamingos, foxes, and fawns.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Lector: For the animals that work for human good, for horses, oxen, mules, and beasts of burden, for dogs, who lead those who cannot see or hear, track the lost and rescue the stranded.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Lector: For the animals that share our homes, for those in need of homes today, for faithful dogs and purring cats, for all animals that teach us how to love without judgment, for rabbits, hamsters, birds, assorted reptiles, and freshwater fish.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Lector: For the loving pets we no longer see nor hold, who served us in faithfulness and trust, and now live on in our hearts and minds.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Lector: We thank you Lord for all the blessings of this life. For those with special celebrations (Intercessions for thanksgiving). Hear us Lord.

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Lector: We pray for those in need of healing. (Intercessions are offered here) Lord in your mercy,

People: Hear us Lord.

Lector: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. (Intercessions for the departed). Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear us Lord.

Celebrant: Give us the grace, O God, to learn from the animal kingdom that you created all things: And bring us to your peaceable kingdom where lion and lamb lie down together. *Amen.*

Celebrant: Let us confess our sin against God and God's creation.

Celebrant and People: *Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you. We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation: teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives. We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life.*

We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control. We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection. Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Celebrant now offers prayers for Pets and a Blessing.

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Offertory Anthem

Offertory Hymn

Earth and all stars



1 Earth and all stars, loud rush - ing plan - ets, sing to the
 2 Hail, wind, and rain, loud blow - ing snow - storms, sing to the
 5 Class-rooms and labs loud boil - ing test - tubes, sing to the
 6 Know-ledge and truth, loud sound-ing wis - dom, sing to the



1 Lord _____ a new song! O vic - to - ry,
 2 Lord _____ a new song! Flow - ers and trees,
 5 Lord _____ a new song! Ath - lete and band,
 6 Lord _____ a new song! Daugh - ter and son,



1 loud shout - ing ar - my, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 2 loud rus - tling dry leaves, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 5 loud cheer - ing peo - ple, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 6 loud pray - ing mem - bers, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!



He has done mar - vel - ous things.



I, too, will praise him with a new song!

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Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b.1926

Tune: EARTH AND ALL STARS, 4 5 7 D with refrain; David N. Johnson

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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 – Form 2, from p. 404 in the BCP

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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.

And so we join the saints and angels in proclaiming your
glory, as we say,

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: 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 many for the forgiveness of
sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Recalling now his suffering and death, and celebrating his resurrection
and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Accept, O Lord, our sacrifice of praise, this memorial of our redemption.
Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts. Let them be for us the Body and
Blood of your Son. And grant that we who eat this bread and drink this
cup may be filled with your life and goodness.

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. *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. We are offering both bread and wine. 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.

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.

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 Congregation is invited to sing the following during communion.

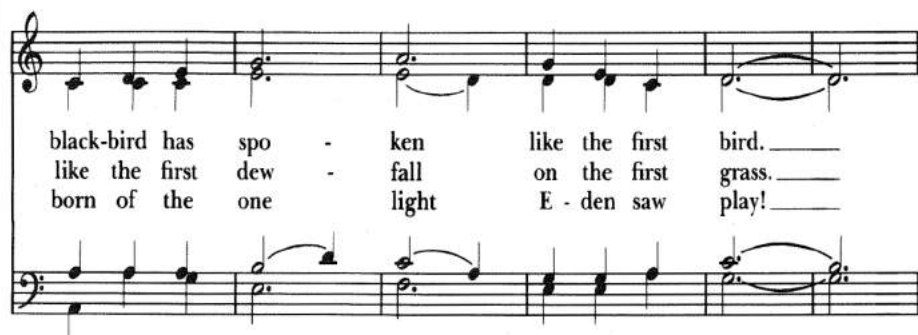
Communion

Morning has broken

Unison or harmony



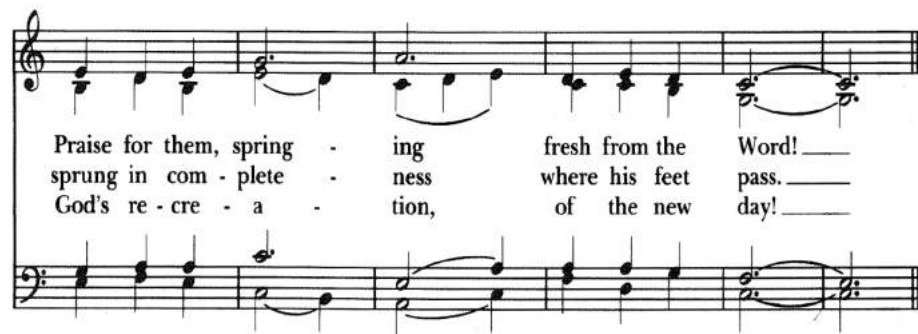
1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. ____
 like the first dew - fall on the first grass. ____
 born of the one light E - den saw play! ____



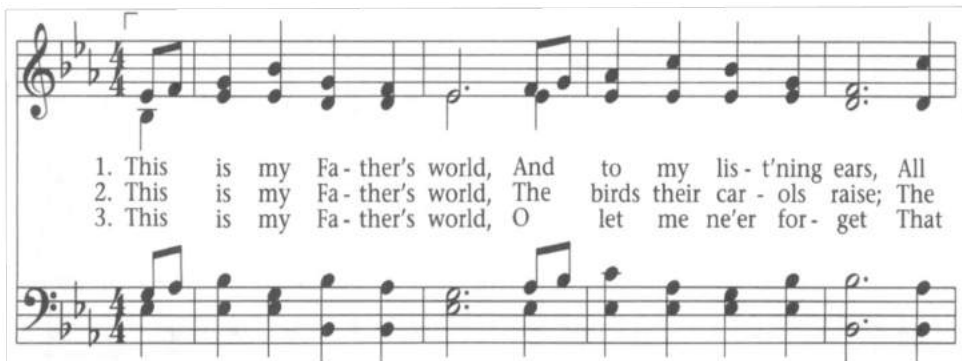
Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,



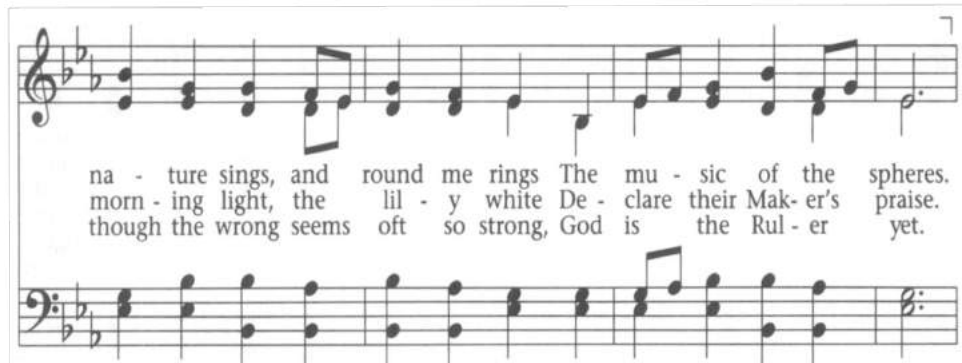
Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word! ____
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass. ____
 God's re - cre - a - tion, of the new day! ____

Communion

This is my Father's world




1. This is my Fa-ther's world, And to my lis-t'ning ears, All
 2. This is my Fa-ther's world, The birds their car-ols raise; The
 3. This is my Fa-ther's world, O let me ne'er for-get That



na-ture sings, and round me rings The mu-sic of the spheres.
 morn-ing light, the lil-y white De-clare their Mak-er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Rul-er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world, I rest me in the thought Of
 This is my Fa-ther's world, He shines in all that's fair; In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world, The bat-tle is not done; Je-



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the won-ders wrought.
 rust-ling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
 sus who died shall be sat-is-fied, And earth and heav-en be one.

The Postcommunion Prayer

(Please stand and remain standing through the Recessional)

(Children are invited to help the clergy with the dismissal at the front of the church.)

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 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.*

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

All creatures of our God and King

Recessional

All creatures of our God and King



- 1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voic-es, let us
 * 2 Great rush-ing winds and breez-es soft, you cloudsthat ride the heavens a -
 * 3 Swift flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, make mu-sic for your Lord to
 4 Dear mo-ther earth, you day by day un-fold your blessings on our



- 1 sing: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Bright burn-ing
 2 loft, O___ praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! Fair ris-ing
 3 hear, Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Fire, so in -
 4 wav. O___ praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! All flowers and



- 1 sun with gold-en beams, pale sil-ver moon that gen-tly gleams,
 2 morn, with praise re-joice, stars night-ly shin-ing, find a voice,
 3 tense and fierce-ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo-ry al-so show:



O praise him, O praise him, Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

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 (706-210-1133) 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*

Blessing of the Animals

We welcome you to this service of blessing and thanksgiving to our pets. This is somewhat abbreviated for the sake of our pets! This service is more than just a thanksgiving for animals but a focus on how we are called to be caretakers of a Creation that is under increasing threat because of our own actions.

Following the service you can receive individual blessings for your animals on the lawn and pick up the treats for pets.

Please Note: Refer to the Pet Do's and Don'ts handout to get the most out of this service.

Stewardship “Kick-off” is coming!

Our 2022 Pledge Campaign will kick-off next Sunday, October 9th. Our theme this year is *More Than Enough*, and reminds us that in and with God and God's grace we always have more than enough to give and to share for the sake of God's Kingdom.

Kids Club 219

Kids Club 219 meets Sunday mornings at 9:15am in the downstairs classroom. Each week we follow the liturgical calendar using *Lesson Plans That Work* from the Episcopal Church. Next Sunday, October 9, we look at the gospel reading, Luke 17:11-19. Feel free to follow along at home! <https://lessonplans.episcopalchurch.org/year-c/>

The Men's Group

The Holy Comforter Men's Group meets Tuesday, October 11th at 7:00pm at Pizza Central, 526 N Belair Road in Evans. Hope to see you there!

Altar Guild Recruitment

Altar Guild is a "behind the scenes" ministry that prepares the altar for all services. No experience is needed, all training will be provided. The only prerequisite is a desire to become more involved in the church. Please prayerfully consider becoming a member of the Altar Guild. Contact Karen Sheppard at kshepp55@yahoo.com or 706-631-4399.

The Book Club

The Book Club meets Wednesday, October 12 at 10am in the Parish Hall to discuss the book, *We Are All Welcome Here* by Elizabeth Berg. All are welcome!

The novel features three women, each struggling against overwhelming odds for her own kind of freedom. Set in Mississippi in 1964, it is the story of a mother with polio, her black caregiver, and the 14 year old daughter caught in between of childhood and responsibility. Each will find her own path to independence, understanding, and peace. A gift to all three.

For more information about The Book Club, contact Mary Kelly at marykelly919@comcast.net.

The Master's Table

The Master's Table soup kitchen serves a hot lunch to more than 325 community members every day, 365 days per year. If you would like to volunteer to serve lunch on Thursday, October 13 from 10:30am - 12:30pm, contact Father Glenn at rector@holycomforterchurch.org.

Baby Quilts for Ukraine

Let's include our community in helping raise money for Ukraine via our Baby Blanket Quilt Raffle. There are flyers in our church foyer that you can take to your hair salon, nail salon, barber shop, bank, or your favorite restaurant and ask them to display them. Raffle tickets are available in the church foyer or from Carol Kane (706-421-0558). Please help in doing whatever you can to support the people of Ukraine. The drawing will be on Sunday morning at church, November 6, 2022.

Church Grounds Clean-Up

Saturday, October 15 we are having a church grounds clean-up day from 9am to Noon. If you have a chainsaw, please bring with you. This is a great service opportunity for youth seeking volunteer hours.

Healing Service

On Sunday, October 16 at 10:30am we will have a service of healing. The Healing Service is a celebration of the Eucharist and includes readings and prayers specifically geared toward healing. The service will include the offer to be anointed with Holy Oil by Father Glenn. Anointing with oil is prescribed by St. James (James 5:14) to be used for healing and recovery (physical, emotional, spiritual).

Laundry Love Outreach Ministry

The Laundry Love Outreach Ministry is looking for volunteers on Wednesday, October 19 from 2:45-5:00pm at the Peanuts Laundromat located at 1931 Walton Way in Augusta. Holy Comforter provides the detergent and laundry love card - we do not do the laundry.

Our church will serve on the third Wednesday of each month. Also needed are financial donations as well as donations of bottled water, reading books, coloring books, crayons and child appropriate snacks. For more information, contact Pam Vanscoy at pvenscoy@comcast.net.

Youth Event

Sunday, October 23 from 5pm-7pm: CSRA Episcopal Youth Pumpkin Fest Party hosted by Saint Bartholomew's, 471 West Martintown Rd., North Augusta, SC. Pumpkin carving, compline, dinner. Contact: Meredith Holodak: mholodak@comcast.net or 803.634.9698. *Please RSVP by 10/20.*

August Financial Report

Actual Revenue as of August 31, 2022	\$202,466.18
Actual Expenses as of August 31, 2022	<u>\$210,165.02</u>
Surplus/Deficit as of August 31, 2022	-\$7,698.84

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: Chastity Foster, Doug and Melanie, and Mike DiGiovanni

For those celebrating birthdays: Sharon Attaway, Jack Rymer, Lochlan Rymer, Joe Haddow, Jennifer Hudson, Bill Liebel, and Liam Hahn

For those celebrating anniversaries: Stephen and Shannon Recupero, Brien and Jennifer Cardinal

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

For those who are homebound: Loren Waldo

For the safety of Steve Recupero and all those who serve abroad.

For the departed: Connie Bailey

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!

The Master's Table: They need *travel size* shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, white cotton socks for men/women etc. All items must be *new* and *unopened*. Also needed are plastic, not styro-foam take-out containers for food. Place items in the red bucket under the kitchen sink.

Serving Today

Preacher/Celebrant
Lay Eucharistic Ministers
Acolytes
Reader
Altar Guild
Altar Bread
Prayer Team
Vestry Person of the Day

The Rev. Glenn Palmer
Carole Nelson and Pam Vanscoy
Emma Morris and Ben Doughtie
Camilla Baker
Linda Bargeron
Carolyn Owens
Robert and Lina Bargeron
Barry Paschal

Staff

The Rev. Glenn Palmer, Priest-in-Charge, 803-319-5296
Vivian Vaiden, Church Administrator
Lara Fort, Financial Secretary
Dr. Brad Green, Music Director

Vestry

Mallory Halterman, Junior Warden, Bill Liebel (Class of 2023)
Tab Carter, Senior Warden, Pam Vanscoy (Class of 2024)
Jenny Quebedeaux, Barry Paschal (Class of 2025)

Mailing Address: 473 Fury's Ferry Rd., Martinez, GA 30907
Telephone: (706) 210-1133 / Fax: (706) 210-4515
Web: holycomforterchurch.org

General Email: mailbox@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**