



A Bluegrass Mass

June 13, 2021

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 6

Welcome to the Church of the Holy Comforter

Welcome! We're glad you're here. Masks are encouraged but not required for those who have been vaccinated. Please keep three feet between households other than your own.

Pre-service Music

Opening Song *Standing*

Rae's Creek Revival

Will the Circle be Unbroken

I was standing by my window
On one cold and cloudy day
When I saw that hearse come rolling
For to carry my mother away

Will the circle be unbroken
By and by, Lord, by and by
There's a better home a-waiting
In the sky, Lord, in the sky

I said to that undertaker
Undertaker please drive slow
For this lady you are carrying
Lord, I hate to see her go

Will the circle be unbroken
By and by, Lord, by and by
There's a better home a-waiting
In the sky, Lord, in the sky

I went back home Lord, my home was lonesome
Missed my mother, she was gone
All of my brothers, sisters crying
What a home so sad and lone

Will the circle be unbroken
By and by, Lord, by and by
There's a better home a-waiting
In the sky, Lord, in the sky

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.*

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated for the lessons.

The First Lesson

1 Samuel 15: 34-16:13

Introduction to the Lesson

By selecting David, Jesse's youngest son, to serve him as Israel's new king, God demonstrates that he does not judge by outward appearance, but rather by the heart.

A reading from the First Book of Samuel:

Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel. The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer

with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.”

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Song

Crying Holy unto the Lord

Crying holy unto the Lord
Crying holy unto the Lord
Oh, if I could I surely would
Stand on the rock where Moses stood

 Sinners, run and hide your face
 Sinners, run and hide your face
 Go and run into the rocks and hide your face
 The rocks got no hiding place

Crying holy unto the Lord
Crying holy unto the Lord
Oh, if I could I surely would
Stand on the rock where Moses stood

Lord, I ain't no sinner now
Lord, I ain't no sinner now
I've been introduced to the Father and the Son
And I ain't no sinner now

Crying holy unto the Lord
Crying holy unto the Lord
Oh, if I could I surely would
Stand on the rock where Moses stood

The Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 5: 6-17

Introduction to the Lesson

Because Christ died and rose for all, we can rejoice in knowing that God has prepared a heavenly home for us.

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians:

We are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Look away beyond the blue.

I've got a home in glory land, that outshines the sun
I've got a home in glory land, that outshines the sun
I've got a home in glory land, that outshines the sun
Look away beyond the blue.

Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Look away beyond the blue.

I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too,
I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too,
I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too,
Look away beyond the blue.

Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Look away beyond the blue.

I read about it in the book of revelation, you read it, too
I read about it in the book of revelation, you read it, too
I read about it in the book of revelation, you read it, too
Look away beyond the blue.

Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
Look away beyond the blue.

Introduction to the Lesson

Like the smallest of seeds that yield abundance at the harvest, small acts of faithfulness will blossom into the fullness of God's kingdom.

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

Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.” He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

The Story of the Mustard Seed The Rev. Canon Joshua Varner
Children are invited up front to participate in this story.

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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Frank our Bishop; and all bishops
and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. (Intercessions for healing) Hear us Lord
For your mercy is great.

We thank you Lord for all the blessings of this life. For those with special celebrations (Intercessions for thanksgiving). We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. (Intercessions for the departed) Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

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.*

Offertory Hymn

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, (how sweet the sound)
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Amazing grace, (how sweet the sound)
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

Amazing grace, (how sweet the sound)
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

Amazing grace, (how sweet the sound)
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.

Was blind, but now I see.

The Great Thanksgiving – Eucharistic Prayer A *Also found on page 361 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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 is said:

*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: 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 many 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 the 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: 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.

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

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord, show me the way

O sisters, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O sisters, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord, show me the way

O brothers, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
Come on, brothers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord, show me the way

O sinners, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O sinners, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord, show me the way

I wandered so aimless, life filled with sin
I wouldn't let my dear savior in
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

I saw the light, I saw the light
No more darkness, no more night
Now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

Just like a blind man, I wandered along
Worries and fears I claimed for my own
Then like the blind man that God gave back his sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

I saw the light, I saw the light
No more darkness, no more night
Now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

I was a fool to wander and stray
For straight is the gate and narrows the way
Now I have traded the wrong for the right
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

I saw the light, I saw the light
No more darkness, no more night
Now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

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. Children are invited to help the clergy with the dismissal.)

Closing Song *Found on the following page*

I'll fly away

Priest: Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Post Service Music

Foggy Mountain Breakdown

Closing Song

I'll fly away

Some bright morning when this life is over
I'll fly away
To that home on God's celestial shore
I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh glory
I'll fly away in the morning
When I die hallelujah by and by
I'll fly away

When the shadows of this life have gone
I'll fly away
Like a bird from these prison walls I'll fly
I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh glory
I'll fly away in the morning
When I die hallelujah by and by
I'll fly away

Just a few more weary days and then
I'll fly away
To a land where joys will never end
I'll fly away

I'll fly away oh glory
I'll fly away in the morning
When I die hallelujah by and by
I'll fly away
I'll fly away

Post Service Music

Foggy Mountain Breakdown

***The Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God and in
Thanksgiving for the 35th Anniversary of Cynthia Taylor's
ordination as a deacon.***

Flowers are always a welcome addition to our worship service. If you would like to give altar flowers in thanksgiving, remembrance or honor of someone or a special event, please contact the Administrator Vivian Vaiden at 706-210-1133.

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*

Welcome to A Bluegrass Mass!

We are blessed this morning to welcome Luke Teague and Catherine Robertson of Rae's Creek Revival for our first ever Bluegrass Mass! We are in for a treat, so clap your hands, tap your toes and sing your hearts out this morning! While Luke is passionate about his profession, he enjoys spending free time surrounded by his growing collection of guitars, banjos, and mandolins and is humbled by any opportunity to perform. He is a funeral director at Thomas Poteet and Sons.

Catherine is an Augusta native and cradle member of Saint Paul's Church, who returned to Augusta in 2014, after retiring from teaching middle school in the Coffee County School System in south Georgia. In retirement, she is a professional genealogist.

Welcome Joshua Varner!

The Rev. Canon Joshua Varner is our guest preacher. Joshua is the Canon for Children and Youth for our diocese and has been working with the pastor and others on those ministry areas this weekend.

Children's Ministry Time

This morning the children will be joining our preacher, Joshua Varner, rather than going downstairs.

Covid Guidelines Update

Masks are encouraged, but not required, for those who are fully vaccinated. Households are asked to keep three feet of spacing from others.

Youth: Lake Day at Mistletoe State Park

July 24: Lake Day at Mistletoe State Park We have booked a picnic shelter at Mistletoe State Park for the day. We have a boat for rides and tubing and will be firing up the grill. More details soon.

Food Drive July 17

Our drive through food drive is Saturday July 17 from 10am—noon. Bring non-perishable food such as applesauce, canned veggies and meats, crackers, boxed milk, healthy cereals and oatmeal, fruit cups, cooking oil and spices. And thank you—you are making a difference in our area.

Pastor Away at Conference

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor will be attending the Christian Formation Conference at Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, NC tomorrow—Thursday.

Ways to Give

You can make a gift to Holy Comforter in a variety of ways:

- Use the Square Reader in the foyer for debit/credit cards
- Go to our website, click giving and use Pay Pal
- Make checks out to Holy Comforter and/or give cash and put it in the offertory plate on Sunday.
- Remember Holy Comforter in your will.
- For those with an IRA account, consider using your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) as a way to give.
- All gifts are tax deductible

May Financial Report

Actual Revenue as of May 31, 2021	\$146,829.29
Actual Expenses as of May 31, 2021	<u>\$136,763.75</u>
Surplus/Deficit as of May 31, 2021	\$10,065.54

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: Liz Corley, Joyce Shaw, Paulie Kane, and Christy Skalak.

For those celebrating birthdays: Mallory Halterman, Gayle Jolley, Reymond Cardinal, Caty Lue, and Gage Skinner

For those celebrating anniversaries: Loren and Joy Waldo, Lou and Linda Scales, Rick and Claudia Mahaffie, Gregg and Harriette Graham

Thanksgiving for our partnership with Martinez Elementary School, The Claiborne, and 143 Ministries.

For those who are homebound: Donna Garvey and Joan Jackson

For the safety of all those who serve abroad, including Will Liebel.

Missions and Prayer

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

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

Wanted—Youth and Children’s Ministers

Cheryl Spessert will be stepping down from children’s ministry this summer in preparation for a move to Hungary. To say that she will be missed is an understatement. We are looking for qualified candidates for both children and youth ministry. These are part-time positions. Candidates should have a love of God’s children, be self-starters as well as team players, organize programs and recruit volunteers. A good sense of humor is always a plus. Send resumes to The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor at pastor@holycomforterchurch.org.

Serving Today

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

The Rev. Canon Joshua Varner
The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor
Elizabeth Hahn
Barry Paschal
Karen Sheppard
Sara Liebel
Tab Carter and Nathan Suggs
Mallory Halterman

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor, Pastor
Vivian Vaiden, Church Administrator
Lara Fort, Financial Secretary
Cheryl Spessert, Children's Ministry Director
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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Web: holycomforterchurch.org

General Email: mailbox@holycomforterchurch.org

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

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and join the conversation!



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by scanning our QR code**