



**December 4, 2022**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

# 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

Standing

Lift up your heads



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the the  
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a the  
\*4 Re - deem - er come! I o - pen wide my heart to  
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and



1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is  
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and  
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner  
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit



1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.  
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!  
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - doned with prayer and love and joy.  
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.  
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.



Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

Music: Truro, melody from *Psalmody Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

LM

## 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

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the  
Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is  
now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

### The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; 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**

**Isaiah 11: 1-10**

### **Introduction to the Lesson**

*The prophet foretells a time when God will raise up a king who will rule the people whom he loves with mercy and equity. He will defend the humble and defeat the wicked.*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

## Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19

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

Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall  
be no more.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, \*  
who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! \*  
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.  
Amen. Amen.

**Introduction to the Lesson**

*Disciples of Christ are urged to avoid disputes and to respect one another, focusing on their common calling of glorifying God through Christ the Savior.*

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans:

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

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

*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.*

## **The Gospel Hymn**

## *Come thou long expected Jesus*

The musical score consists of two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music is in common time. The lyrics are integrated into the musical notes. The first four lines of the lyrics are:

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;  
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

The second part of the lyrics follows:

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: STUTTGART, Christian Friedrich Witt, 1660-1716

## **The Holy Gospel**

## **Matthew 3: 1-12**

### **Introduction to the Lesson**

*John the Baptist warns the people to prepare for the coming Messiah. He urges his listeners to repent and commit again to their covenant with God.*

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather

belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

For this Advent season, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord,  
have mercy.

That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us  
attentive to the nearness of his presence, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world,  
God's touch in every human embrace, and God's love in every  
gesture of self-sacrifice among us, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

That divine energy and holy grace may bring our hearts to vigilance and  
make us see with uncovered eyes the Christ who suffers in his people's  
agonies, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer  
that Jesus the Christ is with us here to make our songs of praise and  
pleading his own, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. (Intercessions for healing) Let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

We thank you Lord for all the blessings of this life. For those with special celebrations (Intercessions for thanksgiving). Let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom (Intercessions for the departed offered here). Let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

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**

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

## Offertory Anthem

### Offertory Hymn

*The King of Glory*



The King of glo - ry comes, the na - tion re - joic - es.

last time only

O - pen the gates be - fore him, lift up your voic - es.

*Verses*

1. Who is the King of glo - ry; how shall we call him?  
2. In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,  
3. Sing then of Da - vid's son, our Sav - ior and bro - ther;

He is Em - man - u - el, the prom - ised of a - ges.  
he goes a - mong his peo - ple cur - ing their ill - ness.  
in all of Gal - i - lee was nev - er an - oth - er.

The King of glo - ry comes, the na - nation re - joic - es.

### *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 you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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 all 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. *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 Hymn

*Like a shepherd*

Refrain

Like a shep - herd he feeds his flock and gath-ers the  
lambs in his arms, hold - ing them care-ful - ly  
close to his heart, lead - ing them home.

Verses 1, 2

1. Say to the cit-ies of Ju - dah: Pre - pare the  
2. I my - self will shep-herd them, for oth - ers have  
way of the Lord. Go to the moun-tain top,  
led them a - stray. The lost I will res - cue and  
lift your voice; Je - ru - sa - lem, here is your God.  
heal their wounds and pas - ture them, giv-ing them rest.

Verse 3

3. Come un - to me if you are  
heav - i - ly bur - dened, and take my yoke up -  
on your shoul - ders, I will give you rest.

Text: Isaiah 40:9ff, Ezekiel 34:11, Matthew 11:28ff; Bob Dufford, SJ, b.1943

Tune: Bob Dufford, SJ, b.1943; acc. by Sr. Theophane Hytrek, OSF, 1915-1992, alt.

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## Communion Hymn

*Emmanuel*

Em - man - u - el,  
his name is called  
God with us, re - veal'd in us,  
his name is called  
Em - man - u - el.

## 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.)*

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

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

## Recessional

## Hail to the Lord's anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
 2 He comes with suc - cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,  
 3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,  
 4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;  
 5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;



1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!  
 2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
 3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth:  
 4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;  
 5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all blest:



1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;  
 2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,  
 3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;  
 4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scand;  
 5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;



1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.  
 2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.  
 3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.  
 4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.  
 5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less Name of Love.



Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72

Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvöglein*, German folk song; adapt. and harm.

*A Student's Hymnal*, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

## ***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*

### **Advent Wreath**

**Today marks the Second Sunday of Advent.** This morning we light the second blue candle on our Advent wreath, which symbolizes Faith reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

### **Advent Devotionals**

**Advent is a time when we go deeper** into our relationship with Jesus. Advent devotionals are a way to assist in that. Devotionals for all are available in the foyer.

### **Youth Event**

**Tonight from 6pm-7:30pm:** Youth Christmas Party - Join us at the church for a pizza dinner, create a piece of art for the Youth Room, play games, and exchange gifts. *Bring a fun gag-gift to exchange (under \$15 please).*

### **Gifts for the Christ Child**

**Thanks to all that stepped up** to sponsor Gifts for the Christ Child. If you need bags, tags, and zip ties, contact Robert Bargeron at 706-373-1967 or [bargeronr@gmail.com](mailto:bargeronr@gmail.com). All gifts need to be at church next Sunday, December 11th.

### **The Book Club**

**The Book Club meets** Wednesday, December 7 at 11am at the home of Mary Kelly for discussion and a salad pot luck luncheon. Newcomers are very welcome. We will be discussing the book, *Consider the Women* by Debbie Blue. RSVP Mary Kelly at [marykelly919@comcast.net](mailto:marykelly919@comcast.net).

## **Christmas Cookie Exchange**

*Join us this Saturday at 9:00am!*

**Let's share Holy Comforter's peace and love** by sharing cookies with those who work so hard around the holidays. We are having a cookie exchange at the church on Saturday, December 10 from 9am to 10:30am. Bring 2 dozen Christmas cookies (store bought or homemade) to swap with your fellow parishioners and create a delicious box to take home or share with a random person - postal delivery person, first responder, nurse, etc. The church will provide containers with our church logo. Questions? Call or text Jenny Quebedeaux at 724-984-1092.

## **The Men's Group**

**The Holy Comforter Men's Group** meets Tuesday, December 13th at 7:00pm at Pizza Central, 526 N Belair Road in Evans. Hope to see you there!

## **The Master's Table**

**The Master's Table is always in need** of plastic containers for their guests to take food with them. Place in the red bucket in the kitchen.

## **Advent Lessons and Carols Sunday, December 18 at 10:30am**

**This special service, through song and biblical readings**, takes us through the story of Jesus' Family Tree. The choir and congregation alternate between hymns. Invite someone to join us for this special service.

## **Threads of Comfort**

**The next meeting of the Threads of Comfort ministry** is Wednesday, December 21 at 10:00am and 5:00pm in the Parish Hall. Questions? Contact Linda Bargeron at [lhbareron@gmail.com](mailto:lhbareron@gmail.com) or Gail Jarrell at [gjarrell4@comcast.net](mailto:gjarrell4@comcast.net).

## **Our Christmas Pageant!**

**We want you!** All children are invited to participate in the Christmas Pageant at the Family Service at 5:30pm on Christmas Eve. We are also looking for youth to serve as readers or to help with the younger children behind the scenes.

**Contact Mallory Halterman** at [mallory.halterman@gmail.com](mailto:mallory.halterman@gmail.com) for more details.

### **Christmas Eve Services**

**5:30 pm - Family Service with Holy Eucharist** - Our children will be presenting the Christmas story in their annual Christmas Pageant during this service. A nursery is provided.

**10:00 pm - Candlelight Service with Holy Eucharist** - Come for a very meaningful service with music presented by our Adult Choir. Children are most welcome to attend but there will be no nursery for this service.

### **Christmas Day Service**

**As Christmas Day falls on a Sunday** this year, we will not have worship that morning.

### **Save the Date for our Annual Meeting**

**Our Annual Parish meeting** is Sunday, January 29 after worship. At that time we will elect two persons to the Vestry to fill the expiring terms of Mallory Halterman and Bill Liebel. We will also elect two delegates and one alternate to the 2023 Diocesan convention to be held in Savannah as well as approve the 2023 budget.

## Bishop Visitation and Confirmation Class

# *Bishop's Visitation*

## and Confirmation Classes



**What is confirmation?** If you were baptized as a child, you may wish to make an adult profession of your faith. In the Episcopal Church, this is done through the sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation is the sacramental rite in which a person "expresses a mature commitment to Christ, and receives strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop" (BCP, p. 860).

**What is reception?** Reception is for those who have already made an adult profession of their faith in another Christian church. During reception, the candidate is "received" into the Episcopal church.

**Our bishop, The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue,** will be with us March 19, 2023. If you wish to be baptized, confirmed, or received, contact the church office at 706-210-1133 or speak with Father Glenn.

**Starting Sunday, January 8 at 9:15am,** Father Glenn will lead a combined Confirmation, Newcomers, and Rector's Forum Class. We will read and discuss the book *Walk in Love* written by two Episcopal Priests, Rev. Melody Wilson Shrope and Rev. Scott Gunn. The class is open to all. Books are provided. We meet in the downstairs classroom.

We will take a journey through *The Book of Common Prayer*, the Christian life, and basic beliefs of our faith. We will walk through the liturgical year, the sacraments of the church, habits of daily prayer, and the teachings of Anglican Christianity. See how our prayer shapes our belief and our lives and how our beliefs lead us into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. The class will be user friendly and conversational in nature.

## Laundry Love Outreach Ministry

**The Laundry Love Outreach Ministry** is looking for volunteers on Wednesday, December 21st 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.

**Also needed are donations of snacks**, bottled water, children reading and coloring books, crayons, and gift cards to Subway, Kroger, and Starbuck's, as well as financial gifts to cover Laundry costs. For more information, contact Pam Vanscoy at [pvanscoy@comcast.net](mailto:pvanscoy@comcast.net).

## Stewardship Update

**Thank you to all who have contributed to our 2023 Stewardship campaign.** We give thanks to our stewardship team: Bill Liebel, Heather Doughtie, and David Quebedeaux. But wait.... it's not too late to make your pledge! Send by mail or scan QR code below.



Open phone camera  
Hover over QR code  
Make your pledge

## **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

## Notes:

## **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, Maurica Bourne, Joseph Sotello, Theresia Renick, and Ruth

**For those celebrating birthdays:** Glenn Fulghum and Linda Morgan

**For those celebrating anniversaries:** Bobby and Janet Barnett

**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.

## **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	The Rev. Glenn Palmer
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Jenny Quebedeaux and Tab Carter
Acolytes	Elise Cardinal and Ben Doughtie
Reader	Shannon Recupero
Altar Guild	Karen Sheppard
Altar Bread	Carolyn Owens
Prayer Team	Linda Bargeron and Judy Smith
Vestry Person of the Day	Pam Vanscoy

### *Staff*

The Rev. Glenn Palmer, Interim Rector, 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 Frey, 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](http://holycomforterchurch.org)

General Email: [mailbox@holycomforterchurch.org](mailto:mailbox@holycomforterchurch.org)

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

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and join the conversation!



**Visit our Website  
by scanning our QR code**