



January 28, 2024

**Fourth Sunday after
the Epiphany**

Welcome to the Church of the Holy Comforter

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

At the Procession

From all that dwell below the skies

Standing

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
*3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye

Name be sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue!
shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

THE WORD OF GOD

Officiant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

Officiant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Glory be to the Father

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: "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 score consists of three systems of staves, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line.

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

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant: Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated for the lessons.

The First Lesson

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Introduction to the Lesson

Moses reassures the people that after his death, God will raise up another prophet to lead them.

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy:

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” Then the Lord replied to me: ‘They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.’”

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 111

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

Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the Lord! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.

His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.

He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.

Introduction to the Lesson

Paul warns believers against becoming vain about their knowledge. He declares that all they really need to know is that they are loved by God.

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

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge.

Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks Be to God

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

Gospel Hymn

There is a balm in Gilead

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Introduction to the Lesson

Jesus acts with authority, backing up his teaching by healing a man troubled by an unclean spirit.

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

Jesus and his disciples went into Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

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, Frank our Bishop, Glenn our Priest;
and all 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

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

People: *And also with you.*

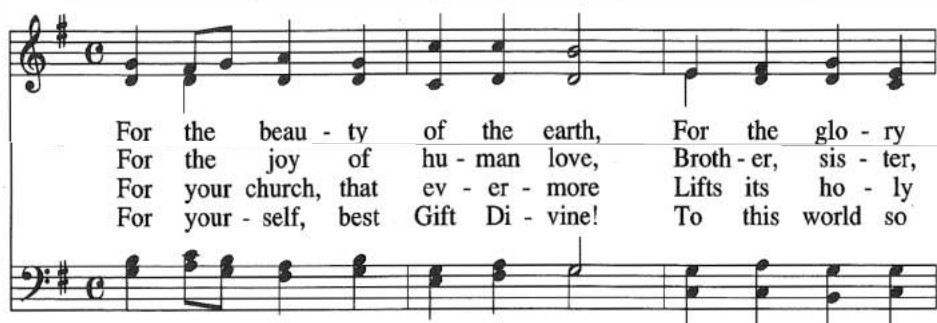
THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

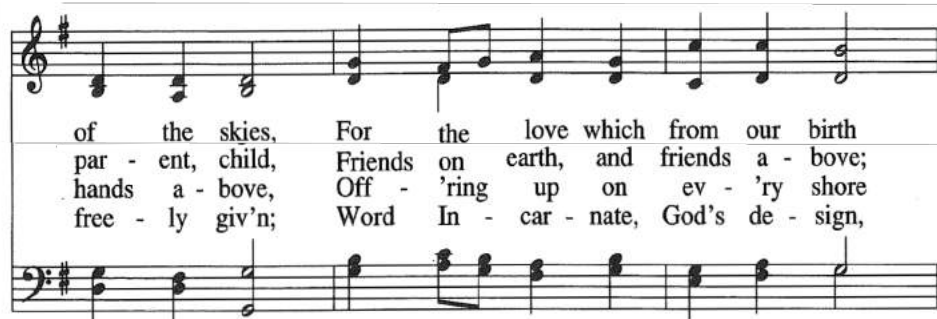
Offertory Anthem

Offertory Hymn

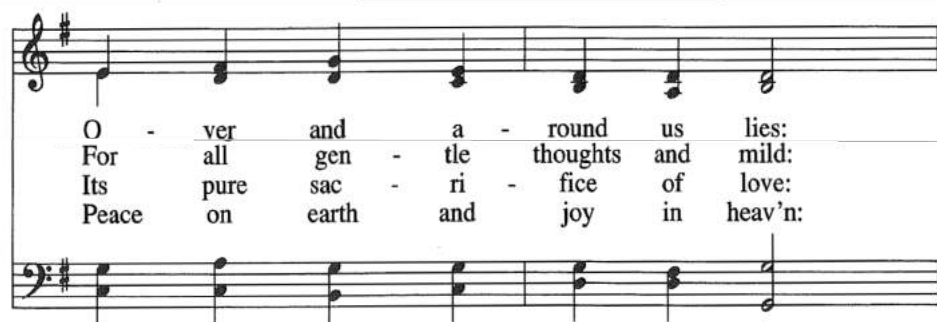
For the beauty of the Earth



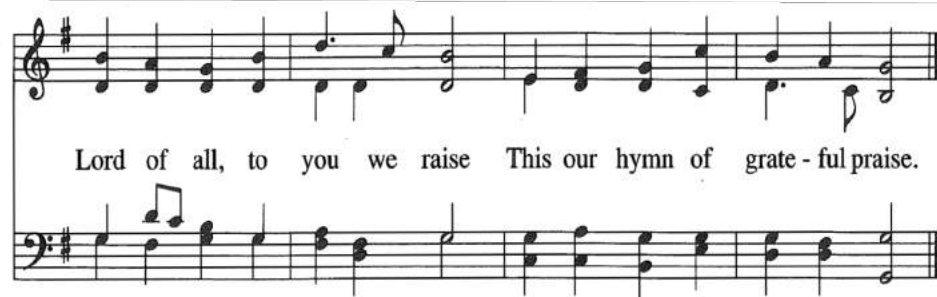
For the beau - ty of the earth, For the glo - ry
 For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter,
 For your church, that ev - er - more Lifts its ho - ly
 For your - self, best Gift Di - vine! To this world so



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.

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

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

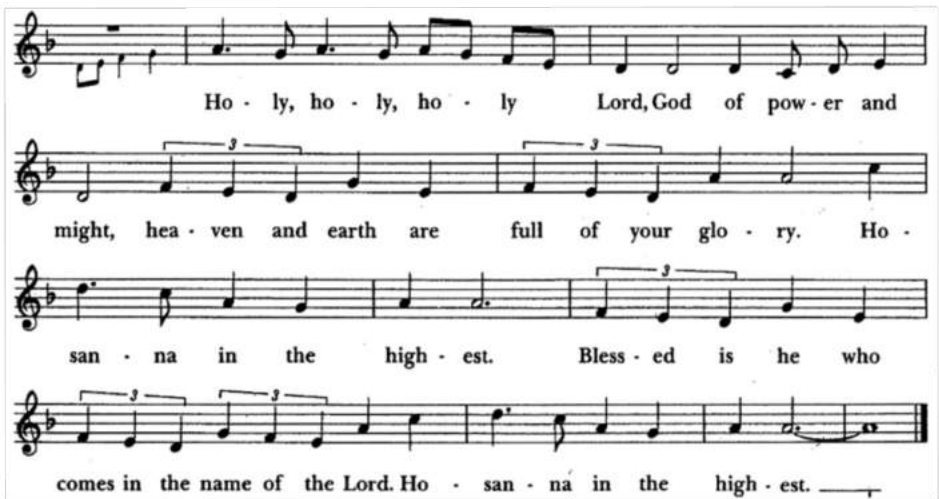
People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

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:



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, ask the server for gluten free bread when you come to receive.

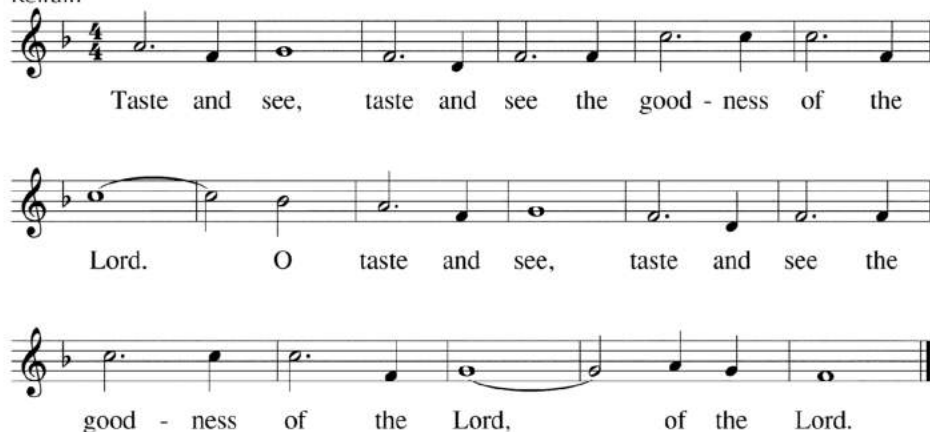
Prayer Team available during Communion:

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.

Communion Song

Taste and See

Refrain



Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the
 Lord. O taste and see, taste and see the
 good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Verses



1. I will bless the Lord at all times.
 2. Glo - ri - fy the Lord with me.
 3. Wor - ship the Lord, all you peo - ple.

Praise shall al - ways be on my lips;
 To - geth - er let us all praise God's name.
 You'll want for noth - ing if you ask.

my soul shall glo - ry in the Lord
 I called the Lord who an - swered me;
 Taste and see that the Lord is good;

for God has been so good to me.
 from all my trou - les I was set free.
 in God we need put all our trust.

D.C.

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Text: Psalm 34; James E. Moore, Jr., b.1951

Tune: James E. Moore, Jr., b.1951

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Communion Song

You are my all in all

1. You are my strength when I am weak, You are the trea - sure that I
2. Tak - ing my sin, my cross, my shame, Ris - ing a - gain I bless Your

seek; You are my all in all. Seek - ing You as a pre - cious
name; You are my all in all. When I fall down, You pick me

jewel, Lord, to give up, I'd be a fool; You are my all in all.
up; When I am dry, You fill my cup; You are my all in all.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, Wor - thy is Your name!

Je - sus, Lamb of God, Wor - thy is Your name!

The Post Communion 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: 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.)

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

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

Recessional

Let all things now living

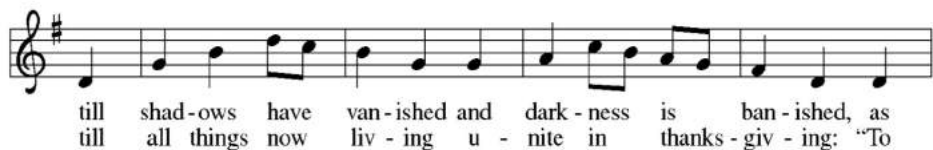
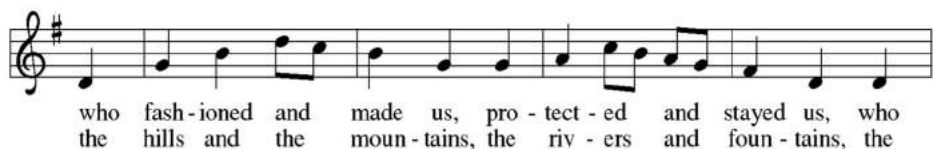
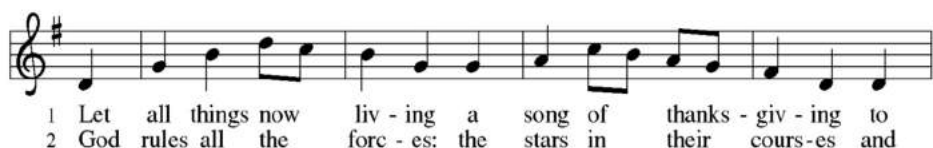
The Mission of Holy Comforter

Love God, Love Others

Serve God, Serve Others

Recessional

Let all things now living



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.*

Today: Annual Meeting and Chili Cook-Off

Stay after worship today for our Annual Parish meeting. We will elect one person to the Vestry, elect delegates to the 2024 Diocesan convention, and approve the 2024 budget.

We are having a Chili Cook-off in conjunction with the annual meeting. So grab a bowl of chili and vote for your favorite!

Women's Retreat

Saturday, February 3rd from 9:30am to 2pm:

You are invited to attend a Woman's Retreat to reflect on Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Who was the young woman from Nazareth who received the unbelievable news from an angel? Special feature of the day will be the premier performance of the Holy Comforter Theatre Group presenting a play, "Mary and Joseph." Morning snacks are from a Nazareth menu, and lunch will be salads and desserts. To register, please complete the form found in the Narthex.



Questions? Talk with Linda Scales, Tula Henson, or Mary Kelly.

The Rector's Forum

Next Sunday, February 4th at 9:15am: We continue our discussion of *The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21st Century* by Sister Joan Chittister.

King Cakes Sunday

Sunday, February 11th is the Last Sunday of Epiphany and King Cakes will be served after the service. The person who finds the Christ Child hidden in the cake wins a prize! It's a fun way to say farewell to Epiphany.

Shrove Tuesday Low Country Boil and Pancake Supper

Join us Tuesday, February 13th at 6:00pm for supper, trivia and lots of fun! Tickets are \$40.00 per family or \$15.00 per person and will be available at the Annual Meeting. Bring a dessert to share. Tickets must be purchased in advance to insure we have enough food. Please contact Tab for more info at tcarter@augusta.edu.



Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday, February 14 we will observe Ash Wednesday services at noon and 6:30pm here in the Parish Hall. This is one of the most holy days in the church year and fasting, even a moderate fast, is suggested.

The Book Club

The Book Club meets Wednesday, February 14 at 10am to discuss the book, *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See. Please note: We meet in the downstairs classroom.

Ramblings with the Rector

Wednesday, February 21st from 8:30-10am: Father Glenn will host "Ramblings with the Rector" at the Dunkin Donuts down the street from the church. We'll get together for coffee and casual conversation about any topic folks want to discuss.

Thursdays in Lent

Begins Thursday, February 22nd from 6:30 to 8:00pm in the Parish Hall: We read and discuss *Lent with Evelyn Underhill*. Evelyn Underhill was one of the great Anglican (Episcopal) mystics of the twentieth century as well as a prolific writer of books, articles and reviews.

A light supper of soups, salads, sandwiches, and desserts is provided. Sponsored by the Daughters of the King.

The Men's Group

The Holy Comforter Men's Group meets Friday, February 23rd at 7:30am at That Flippin' Egg, 4466 Washington Road in Evans. All are welcome!

Our Master Calendar

When scheduling events and meetings at the church, contact Father Glenn at rector@holycomforterchurch.org. Our administrator, Vivian Vaiden, keeps a master calendar of all happenings at the church. Call the office at 706-210-1133 to speak with her about available dates.

Church Pictorial Directory

For his senior project, Ben Doughtie is producing a pictorial church directory for Holy Comforter. He has already started taking photos and wants to make sure you are included.

He will take pictures next Sunday morning from 8:30 to 10am and after the service as well. This will be drop-in style. No need to sign up, just walk up and he'll get you and/or your family's picture.

For those members who view from home and can't drive, he will try and come to you. Contact Ben at benjamin.doughtie@icloud.com. If you want to supply a family photo that you already have we'll gladly take it. Last day for photos being accepted and/or taken is Feb. 5th.

[illegible]

Prayers of the People

Persons remain on the list for two weeks. You may add prayer requests at the lectern in the foyer.

For those in need of healing: Bill James

For those celebrating birthdays: Camilla Baker and Bailey Colsh

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

For those in residential care: Loren Waldo

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

Missions and Prayer

Prayer Shawl Ministries: Make them at home or come to church on Tuesday mornings 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: Donate *travel size* shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, white cotton socks for men/women. All items must be *new* and *unopened*. Also 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 A. Palmer
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Linda Bargerion and Pam Vanscoy
Acolytes	Aletha and Abriana Kleinheksel
Reader	Linda Bargerion
Altar Guild	Linda Bargerion
Altar Bread	Carol Page
Prayer Team	Carol Kane and Robert Bargerion
Ushers	Tab Carter and Nathan Suggs
Pre-Service Greeter	Carol Kane
Media Crew	Dave Blake and Dan Doughtie
Vestry Person of the Day	Pam Vanscoy

Staff

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

Vestry

Tab Carter, Sr. Warden, Pam Vanscoy, Jr. Warden (Class of 2024)
Jenny Quebedeaux, Barry Paschal (Class of 2025)
Heather Doughtie, Keith Milburn (Class of 2026)

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

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and join the conversation!



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