

## HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 5, 2024 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

#### Welcome!

The people of Holy Comforter joyfully welcome you to this historic church. We are happy that you are here, and we hope you will find your worship today meaningful and inspiring. If you are looking for a church to call your own, we hope you will consider our parish. At the root of all we do is our desire to live out the Great Commandment of Jesus Christ: to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Holy Comforter has made a difference in our lives, and we believe it can do the same for you.

In peace, The Rev. Greg Brown Rector

### "BCP" refers to the Book of Common Prayer, found in the pew rack in front of you.

During the Easter Season (the "great fifty days of Easter"), it is customary to omit the Confession of Sin and to remain standing for all prayers.

VOLUNTARY "Earth Carol" from Saint Francis Suite (Richard Purvis, 1913-1994) "Praised be our God for our mother, the Earth, which doth sustain and keep us and bringeth forth fruits and flowers of many colors."

WELCOME

#### THE WORD OF GOD

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

#292 O Jesus, crowned with all renown

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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 FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Celebrant The Lord be with you. And also with you. People

Celebrant Let us pray.

> O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

THE FIRST LESSON Acts 10:44-48

Lector A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Lector The word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98 8:00: read responsively

10:00: sung by the choir (Anglican chant by Stephen Darlington, b. 1952)

Lector Sing to the Lord a new song, \*

for he has done marvelous things.

People With his right hand and his holy arm \* has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; \*

his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; \* lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp, \* with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn \* shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

## Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \* the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, \* and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world \* and the peoples with equity.

THE SECOND LESSON 1 John 5:1-6

Lector A reading from the first letter of John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Lector The word of the Lord. People **Thanks be to God.** 

\*(at 10:00) At this time, children ages 3 to second grade--and any adults who wish to accompany them--are invited to follow the small wooden cross down the center aisle for children's chapel in our parish hall. Older children are welcome to participate as leaders and helpers. Everyone will return before the Peace.

GOSPEL PROCESSION (sung at 10:00)

#576 God is love, and where true love is

THE GOSPEL John 15:9-17

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not

choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

THE SERMON The Rev. Emily Parker

THE NICENE CREED (please stand)

BCP, Page 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon God gives us what is good. Let us pray that this goodness of God flow

through us into all the world, saying: O God, giver of love, hear our

prayer.

Intercessor O God, your love is in motion. We praise the strength of your love.

Where there is hunger, raise up your love. Where there is hurt and persecution, empower your love. Where there are false prophets, proclaim your love, Where there are lies, speak your love. O God, giver

of love:

Hear our prayer.

Where nations are angry and plot harm against one another, bring your love. Where governments lie and deceive, bring your love. Where powers cripple and destroy what you have made, bring your love. O God, giver of love:

Hear our prayer.

For our nation and for the elections to come, we pray: Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of our President, our Governor, and all officials and representatives;

That by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected, and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes.

Deacon

For all who suffer in body, mind, spirit, or soul, for whom Christ is risen with healing in his glorious wings, that they may be comforted. We pray especially for... Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have died and for all who grieve, that in Christ who triumphs over death they may find light perpetual and blessed assurance. We pray especially for... Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the joys and gifts of life, large and small, remembered and forgotten, especially... Let us pray to the Lord.

God of all gladness, have mercy upon us.

We pray for those sharing their time and talent for spreading the Gospel at Holy Comforter. Today we remember the Holy Comforter Choir, including Carter Alden, Frances Alden, Jim Amburn, Jane Arant, John Arant, Scott Benner, Susan Brooks, Natalie Castro, John Cox, Mary Cox, Jane Crutchfield, Emily Doehling, David Duggan, Pat Faellaci, Mary Frye, Mary Frances Gourley, Linda Ingle, Kathy Hibbitts, Carlyle Knox, Gray Langley, Paul Malina, Jarvis Miller, Charles Murray, Brad Patterson, Sharon Patterson, Ashley Reynolds, Denise Spriggs, Cyndie Turner, Jon Wells, Denise Wells, Carole Whittington, Tia Wilson, Wendy Wingard-Gay, Elaine Wood, and David Yarbrough

Celebrant O God, we thank you for the power of divine love and for the

presence of your love in one another. Guide us all finally into that

greatest love who is Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THANKSGIVINGS (please be seated)

Birthdays for the Week:

5/7 Benjamin Knox; 5/8 Donna Harmon, Paul Smith, Bobby Anderson, Phillip England, Phillip Kolb; 5/10 Meredith Josten

A Collect for Birthdays

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Anniversaries for the Week: 5/5 Elaine & Jon Wood

#### A Collect for Anniversaries

O gracious and everliving God, you have created us in your image: Look mercifully upon these couples who come to you seeking your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep the promises and vows they have made; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

#### PRAYERS FOR THOSE TRAVELING TO IRELAND AND SCOTLAND

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go:

Preserve all those who will travel later this week on pilgrimage to Ireland and Scotland; surround them with your loving care as they sing, learn, and experience new places; protect them from every danger, and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

8:00: Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness (Setting by Donald Busarow, 1934-2011) 10:00: The Falconer (Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953)

You are invited to contribute financially to Holy Comforter's mission and ministry by placing your gift in the offering plate at the head of the aisle, or by giving electronically via the QR code printed here.



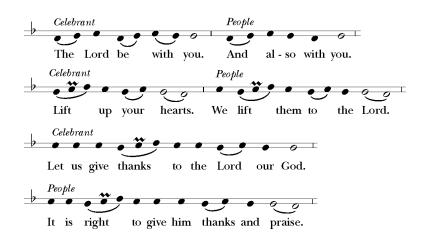
PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Doxology with Alleluias

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (PRAYER B)

BCP, Page 367



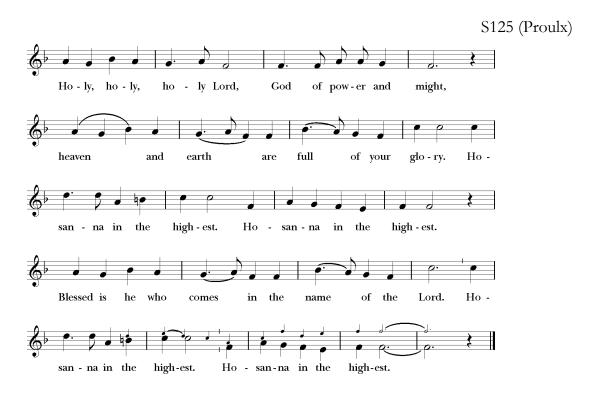
SANCTUS (8:00: spoken, 10:00: sung)

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.

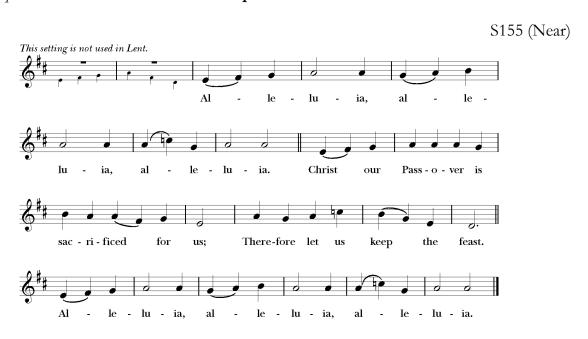
Hosanna in the highest.



FRACTION ANTHEM: AGNUS DEI (8:00: spoken, 10:00: sung)

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.



The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION HYMNS

#705 As those of old their firstfruits brought #455 O love of God, how strong and true

PRAYER TO USE WHEN PARTICIPATING IN A "DISTANCED" CELEBRATION OF HOLY EUCHARIST

In union with the faithful gathered at every altar of your church where the sacrament is celebrated this day, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And, since I cannot at this time receive you in the bread and the wine, I ask you, Lord Jesus, to come into my heart. Dwell in me, gracious Christ, in the fullness of your strength, in the depth of your peace. Renew my hope. Cleanse my body. Restore my patience. Until by your grace I can receive again, in this life or in the life to come. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (when needed)

Celebrant In order that all may receive Holy Eucharist (N) will take communion

to (N) today.

All In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing

these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING (please stand)

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#412 Earth and all stars

DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

VOLUNTARY Trumpet Tune in A Major (David N. Johnson, 1922-1987)

Music in this service is broadcast with permission under OneLicense.net, license #A-735757.

# HOLY COMFORTER PRAYERS THIS WEEK MAY 5-11, 2024

CURRENT PRAYERS **Of support** for parishioners Cesar Ortiz, Mo. Gay Silver, John Sapielak for family and friends Melvin Thompson, Ken Stewart, Bob Peek, Sylvia White, Deanne Smith, Leslie and Hana Newman, Abby Lynn Robinson, Judy Robinson for those who have died Irene JarrettCaroline Bosbyshell, David Peacock, Dick Snelsire

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for the birthdays of Anna Scott Arnold and Elizabeth Francis Reed by their grandfather Bill Reed.

#### ON-GOING PRAYERS

Of support for Vicky Adkins, Grey Brewington, Linda Carr, Rev. Cat Connolly, Ray Diamond, Hope Diaz, Jeffrey Freed, Efraim Nathaniel Gonzalez, Connie Guthery, Hoover Harelson, Bryan D. Jackson, Margaret Kahn, Paul Kochenash, Anne Lisk, Amy Alexander Myers, Vera Payne, Ginger Prisinzano, Pete Riley, Sean Riley, Amy Samonds, Lydia Cristou Samonds, Carolyn Mae Smith, Linda Shuping Smith, Nell Smith, Joey Starnes, Katharine Thomas, Tim Thomas, Betty Webb, Michael Weeks, Anja & Chris Whittington, Michael Wilson, John Womack

for military service David Cavins, Stephen DenBoer, Bryan Gamboa-Alfaro, Steven Parmley, Michael Sparta

#### **CLERGY & STAFF**

The Reverend Greg Brown, Rector
The Reverend Cat Connolly, Associate Rector
Dr. Patrick Pope, Director of Music
Jessica Dunlap, Director of Parish Life
Kimberly Rockas, Director of Children's Ministries
Samantha Haren, Youth Administrator
Holly Williams, Parish Administrator
Trish Stukbauer, Director of Communications
Maguilida Rowe, ESL Coordinator
Lauren Cavins, Director of La Escuelita Weekday School

Staff email addresses are first name, last initial @holycomfortercharlotte.org

#### VESTRY

Terms ending 2024: Joyce Bott (Senior Warden), Natalie Castro, Jason Evans, Carlyle Knox (Junior Warden)

Terms ending 2025: Mary Amos, Anne Binns (Clerk), Tom Cooke, Bob Murphy

Terms ending 2026: Tim Cavins, Jacqueline Howells, Niki Manke, Diana Smith



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER 2701 PARK ROAD, CHARLOTTE, NC, 28209
WWW.HOLYCOMFORTERCHARLOTTE.ORG
704.332.4171

### May 5

## The Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter

## The Sunday Spirit



#### **This Sunday**

- 8 am service
- 9 am The Bible as it is, 207 Van Every
- 10 am service, <u>also</u> <u>shown on Facebook live</u>
- 11:15 am Coffee Hour
- 11:30 am Galilee Sunday, Henry Hall
- 12:30 pm La Misa in Spanish
- Potluck lunch, following La Misa
- 5 pm EYC

#### **Servers this Week**

Celebrant: Fr. Greg Preacher: Rev. Emily Verger: Ann Moore, Pat English

**VPOD:** Jacqueline Howells, Joyce Bott

**Acolytes**: Harper Lucke, Fin Weil, Sophia Gallagher

**Eucharistic Ministers**: Pat Mynatt, Bill Livingstone & John Elder

**Lectors**: Jon Wood, Mary Schmulling & Virginia Knox, Hank Schmulling

Eucharistic Visitor: Kathy
Taylor

Flower Delivery: Jeanne Rockas

Visit our website!



www.holycomforter charlotte.org

#### **Rector's Note**

By now you have probably heard of the loss of life of the four law enforcement officials

and wounding of others in Charlotte, another needless tragedy. I ask you to hold them and their families in prayer at this time of loss and grief. I also ask you to hold up all those who serve their neighbors as protectors and first responders, willingly placing their lives at risk for the well-being of others and for the common good.



Read the full text of Fr. Greg's Rector's Note from Tuesday at this link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2p9fdf87">https://tinyurl.com/2p9fdf87</a> Please hold the officers pictured above and their families in your prayers.

#### **Worship & Education Opportunities**

#### The Bible as it Is

John 14--"Let not your hearts be troubled ..." Is Jesus talking about an end or a beginning? These and other questions will be explored as we look at John 14 during the next session of The Bible As It Is in Van Every 207, at 9 a.m., Sunday, May 5.

#### Today is Galilee Sunday at Holy Comforter

Galilee Sunday is an opportunity for churches across the Charlotte convocation to learn about Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte – a mission of our Diocese – during their Sunday worship and education programs. The Reverend Deacon Emily Parker, Director of Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte, will preach on May 5 and host a discussion about Galilee during adult formation.

We ask that you bring a donation for Lydia's Pantry, Galilee's emergency food pantry. We are in need of: canned fruits and vegetables, canned chicken and tuna, black beans, pinto beans, and rice. Pop tops are great and no glass, if possible. We also need ready-to-eat items such as pre-packaged crackers, and protein or granola bars.

#### **Pentecost and Summer Schedule**

On May 19, we'll celebrate the birthday of our church with an 8 am English service followed by a bilingual 11am service followed by our Pentecost picnic. Wear your red and plan to be there. The following Sunday, May 26, we'll begin our summer schedule. We'll have a single 9:30 am English service and an 11:30 am La Misa service on Sundays through Labor Day, September 1.

#### **More Worship Opportunities**

#### Altar Flower Dates for 2024

Available 2024 dates for flowers are: July 14 & 21; September 1; October 27; December 24/25. To reserve your date, contact Elaine Wood at 704-517-0161 or ebwood5409@gmail.com.

This week we are praying for: Our Choir. As our Choir prepares to leave for Ireland and Scotland, we take some time to pray for them. The cornerstone of our parish's music program is the Holy Comforter Choir, an adult ensemble of approximately 30 voices. Singers in the choir do much more than "sing the notes"; they learn musical skills such as proper breath control, counting, and how to achieve a unified sound with their musical colleagues. Choir members also learn about church history, the shape of liturgy, theology, and prayer through the music they prepare. Singing in the choir requires a commitment to excellence through work and determination, but the work is ultimately rewarding and satisfying. Contact Patrick Pope for details.

#### Parish Survey 2024 Update: Coming in mid-May!

To accommodate the wide range of topics on which your input is needed to help Holy Comforter's clergy and church leaders plan for the coming year, we are taking some extra time to get the survey ready. Parishioners will be able to take the survey beginning in mid-May. Watch for more information and then let your voice be heard!

#### **Education**

#### **Adult Forum at The Hour**

On Sundays at 11:30am, in Henry Hall, unless noted:

May 5 Galilee Ministries, Emily Livingstone Parker

May 12 Blessing of the Gardens, in the Memorial Garden

May 19 Pentecost! No program, Join is for our Pentecost Picnic at 12:30 pm

May 26 Open Forum

Check the Blast and Sunday Spirit for other adult Christian formation opportunities.

#### It's Time to think VBS!

Date: June 10-14, 2024
Time: 9-12 p.m.
Cost: \$45/child
(Financial Assistance Available)
There is no cost for volunteers.

Register at this link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2cmz3p8r">https://tinyurl.com/2cmz3p8r</a>

Welcome to Seekers in Sneakers: Discover Jesus!, an interactive Vacation Bible School where children use their investigative skills to discover Jesus. Geocaching activities will challenge children to dig into the Bible to find the way to Jesus. This journey of discovery has many twists and turns, so children will learn to ask questions, work with others, shine their light in the world, follow Jesus' example of serving others, and trust Jesus when things go wrong. Through worship and drama, Bible study, art and science explorations, and active games, children are invited to follow the example and teachings of Jesus in every place and every part of life. Snacks are provided. VBS is for children ages four (by 8/31/2024) and potty trained through rising 5th graders. Financial assistance is available, please email <u>Kimberly Rockas</u> to apply. Youth (rising 6th grade through college) can volunteer to be teen helpers and Adult volunteers are needed. Sign up here: https://finyurl.com/5n7m92ru

#### Sacred Ground Diocesan Online Group

Two Thursdays a month, 11:00 - 12:30 PM, Beginning May 23 and co-facilitated by our own Ed Gash. Register: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/4999dzvy">https://tinyurl.com/4999dzvy</a> The Diocese offers Sacred Ground as part of its commitment to Racial Justice. Questions? Ask Ed Gash, Jessica Dunlap or Fr. Greg.

#### What's New to Read this Summer?

Darrow-Owens invites you to attend our annual Beach Reading Party on Monday, May 6th in Henry Hall, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Sally Brewster, proprietor of Park Road Books, will present us with all the new reads for this summer, along with a brief, yet tantalizing description of each. She always has some ideas for graduations, Mother's Day and Father's Day as well, plus some children's and young adult selections. We encourage you to invite friends, your book club, or someone new at church. It will be a relaxed atmosphere with a generous potluck buffet and wine for those who partake.

Come at 6:00 for the potluck with a contribution for the meal. Sally will begin her presentation at 7:00 and the program will wind down by 8:00. She will have inventory with her for those who want to take a selection home. Responses aren't required, but we appreciate them tremendously. Send RSVP's to Mary Amos.

#### **Fellowship**

#### First Tuesday Dinner on May 7

Adults in their 20s and 30s are invited to First Tuesday Dinner, May 7, 6:00-7:30 pm for great food and fellowship. It's a chance for interesting dialog, supportive friendship, and hearty food. All are welcome! For more information, contact Beth Hardin at <a href="mailto:eahardin@mindspring.com">eahardin@mindspring.com</a> or Diana Smith at <a href="mailto:diana.smith@comporium.net">diana.smith@comporium.net</a>.

#### **Last Community Dinner!**

Our last Community Dinner of the programming year is May 8. We need YOU to make it happen. Dinners are held Wednesday evenings from 5:45-6:45 pm in Henry Hall. We welcome parishioners and guests to enjoy a meal and engage in lively conversation at the table. \$5 donation suggested.

#### Holy Comforter is going to SedgeFest 2024!

Saturday, May 11, 11AM – 4PM Sedgefield Neighborhood Park, 600 Elmhurst Road https://sedgefieldneighborhood.com/events/2024sedgefest

Volunteers needed to help man the HoCo booth (1-2 hrs). More info & sign up

here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D45ADAE2FA B9-49409342-hoco

Come enjoy the festival while meeting our Sedgefield neighbors and "being" Holy Comforter.

Email <u>pathfinders@holycomfortercharlotte.org</u> or talk with Vicki Bott or Beth Hardin for details.

#### **Outreach**

#### Nourish Up / Loaves & Fishes is in need of:

- Diapers and baby wipes
- Peanut butter
- Cereal

Items can be left at the Nourish Up door in Van Every or the box in the Atkinson library. Thank you for helping our pantry.