



# HOLY COMFORTER

## Episcopal Church

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## THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

### THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 27, 2022

8:00 & 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.

As we transition to this new/old way of being, we ask that you be respectful of the various levels of comfort of the members of our community. Because we strive to be a welcoming place to all, we want people to feel comfortable wearing a mask if they want to, kneeling or standing to receive communion, or even having communion brought to them in the pew. We will set aside space in the church for those who still wish to have social distance to sit, and we ask that when you come forward to receive communion you continue to allow for a comfortable distance from one another.

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. Gregory B.F. Brown*  
Rector

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*BCP refers to the Book of Common Prayer, found in your pen.*

VOLUNTARY

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659 (J. S. Bach, 1685-1750)*

WELCOME

### THE WORD OF GOD

THE GREAT LITANY (*see insert, please kneel*)

✙ (10:00 only) *At the beginning of The Great Litany, children ages 3 to the 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. ✙*

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 2:1-5

*A reading from the book of Isaiah:*

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the Lord!

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

10:00: Sung by the choir. The congregation is invited to sing the refrain, as directed.



I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

from *Gradual Psalms for the RCL*, ed. Bruce E. Ford, Church Publishing Incorporated

**Refrain**

I was glad when they said to me, \*  
 "Let us go to the house of the Lord."  
 Now our feet are standing \*  
 within your gates, O Jerusalem. **Refrain**  
 Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
 that is at unity with itself;  
 To which the tribes go up,  
 the tribes of the Lord, \*  
 the assembly of Israel,  
 to praise the Name of the Lord.  
 For there are the thrones of judgment, \*  
 the thrones of the house of David. **Refrain**  
 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*  
 "May they prosper who love you.  
 Peace be within your walls \*  
 and quietness within your towers. **Refrain**  
 For my brethren and companions' sake, \*  
 I pray for your prosperity.  
 Because of the house of the Lord our God, \*  
 I will seek to do you good." **Refrain**

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 13:11-14

*A reading from the letter to the Romans:*

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL PROCESSION (10:00 only)

#68 Rejoice, rejoice, believers!

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Cat H.V. Connolly

THE NICENE CREED (*please stand*)

BCP, Page 358

CONFESSION OF SIN (*please kneel*)

BCP, Page 360

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

*Birthdays for the Week:*

11/27 Remy Efremoff; 11/29 Karen Crane, Anna Regan, Elaina Lampke;  
11/30 Alison Cook; 12/1 Kathy Pristash, Ben Brooks, Andrew Hinson

*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:*

11/28 Jeanne & Jim Muse, Chris & Erika Ravenberg; 11/29 Jenny & Mike Turner

*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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

OFFERTORY

10:00: *He shall come down like rain* (Sam Batt Owens, 1928-1998)

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

*Doxology* (Veni Emmanuel)

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here— be -  
6 low. Praise God a-bove, ye heav'n - ly hosts; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly  
12 Ghost. Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP, Page 367

SANCTUS

S122 (Martens)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
power 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.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. For all of you here present, and all of you viewing this at home, not able to participate but in a distanced Celebration of Holy Eucharist.

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.

COMMUNION MUSIC (10:00 only)

#61 *Sleepers, wake! A voice astounds us*  
*Wait for the Lord* (from the Taizé Community)  
*Sung several times.*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
 Wait for the Lord; be strong, take heart!

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.**

GENERAL THANKSGIVING (*please kneel or stand*)

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**Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.**

**We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.**

**We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.**

**We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.**

**Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.**

**Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.**

BLESSING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#539 *O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling*

DISMISSAL

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, BWV 661 (J. S. Bach, 1685-1750)

**HOLY COMFORTER PRAYERS THIS WEEK**  
**NOVEMBER 27-DECEMBER 3, 2022**

CURRENT PRAYERS

**Of thanks**

**Of support** *for parishioners* Tim Whitmire  
*for family and friends* Mary, Debbie, Magali Ylarraza, Scout Simmons  
*For those who have died*

ON-GOING PRAYERS

*Of support for* Vicky Adkins, Denise Allen, Jackie Auville, Garry Berardi, Taylor Brown, Bobbie Burnett, Linda Carr, Mary David, Jean Davis, Hope Diaz, Lee Dixon, Peter Estes, Brad Follett, Patti Follett, Alice Forbis, Jeffrey Freed, Connie Guthery, Shelton Hall, Hoover Harelson, Bryan D. Jackson, Jayne Johnson, Patsy Jones, Bernard Kane, Tracy Lilly, Cesar Ortiz, Gayle Passons, Vera Payne, Pete Riley, Amy Samonds, Chanel Samonds, Al Sewell, Carolyn Mae Smith, Jim Smith, Linda Shuping Smith, Joey Starnes, Linda Stultz, Katharine Thomas, Tim Thomas, Haynes Wallwork, Betty Webb, Karen Wilson, John Womack  
*for military service* Bryan Alfaro-Gamboa, David Cavins, Stephen DenBoer, McDaniels Bell Durfee, Allen Guthery, Michael Sparta, Chris WarHawk

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November 27  
The Episcopal  
Church of the  
Holy Comforter

# The Sunday Spirit



## This Sunday, Nov. 27

- 8 am Worship in church
- 10 am English Service in church **also shown on Facebook**, with nursery and Children's Chapel
- 1:15 am Old Testament Class, Henry Hall
- 11:15 am Coffee Hour
- 11:15 am Children's Faith Formation
- 12:00 pm La Misa social time
- 12:35 pm La Misa
- 5 pm EYC
- 5 Cozy Compline

## Servers this Week:

**Celebrant:** Fr. Barry

**Preacher:** Rev. Cat

**Verger:** Leo Frei

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Nancy English Johnson

**Lectors:** Lelsie Perlick, Kirt Hibbitts, Mary Cox

**Flower Delivery:** Jane Cox

**Eucharistic Visitor:** Jim Stewart

## Visit our website!

[www.holycomfortercharlotte.org](http://www.holycomfortercharlotte.org)



## Sharing God's Love

As we approach Thanksgiving next week, we are reminded of how blessed we are by each other and how grateful we are for your generosity. **So far this year, 97 households have claimed Holy Comforter as their own** with a pledge toward our 2023 Sharing God's Love Annual Giving Campaign.

If you have not yet pledged, please do so now. You may bring your pledge card to church on Sunday, mail it in, reach out to [Holly Williams](mailto:Holly.Williams), or [pledge online anytime at this link: https://www.holycomfortercharlotte.org/pledge-now/](https://www.holycomfortercharlotte.org/pledge-now/)



## Father Barry's Old Testament Class

Father Barry will teach an introduction to the Old Testament. It will meet after the 10 am service in Henry Hall on Nov. 27 & Dec. 18. The class will cover the following topics: background to the Old Testament, the history of Israel, the Torah, prophecy in ancient Israel, Wisdom literature, and the Gospel and the Old Testament.

## Cozy Compline

Cozy Compline will be on Sunday November 27, at 6 pm in Henry Hall. Starting with a potluck dinner (bring a dish to share if you are able!), there will be conversation, seasonal beverages, a story, and Compline. It will have a cozy feel to wind down the day in fellowship and prayer. All are welcome!

## Senior Luncheon on Dec. 8

Our holiday tradition is back! Come out for a delicious lunch, carols and cookies! Featuring musicians Amy Whitehead, flute, Patrick Pope, piano, and Hollis Ulaky, oboe. Dec. 8 at noon. Please RSVP to [Holly](mailto:Holly). (Please note, there will not be a Eucharist at this luncheon.)



### Foundation Focus

Over the next 3 weeks, we'll answer some common questions about our Holy Comforter Foundation.

**Q.** What has the Holy Comforter Foundation funded?

**A.** Payment in full (\$4,400) for new equipment to broadcast online church services due to COVID and continuing today.

**Are you interested in learning more about The Holy Comforter Foundation?** Visit our website or reach out to Foundation President Joe Mynatt at 704-451-3982 or [joemynatt2@gmail.com](mailto:joemynatt2@gmail.com). **Want to make a donation?** Give Holly a check made out to Holy Comforter Foundation and specify the Building and Grounds fund or Mission and Ministry fund.

## Advent Lessons and Carols on December 11

During this season of waiting and anticipation of Christ's birth, music and scripture can provide us with moments of reflection and inspiration. On Sunday, December 11 at 10:00 a.m., the Holy Comforter Choir, Handbell Choir, instrumentalists, and lectors will lead us in a service of Advent Lessons and Carols. This kind of worship service originated more than a century ago in Truro, England. Communion will also be celebrated at this service, and Eucharists will be celebrated as usual at 8:00 am and 12:30 pm.

## Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to place a Poinsettia in the church for the Christmas Season in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please fill out a form in church or online at <https://tinyurl.com/mscmmbuj>. You can place the form and payment in the offering plate, give to Richard Stutts or mail to Holy Comforter, 2701 Park Rd. Charlotte, NC 28209. Make check payable to The Church of the Holy Comforter with a note in the memo line Christmas Poinsettia. The price is \$20 each.

Deadline to Order **December 20, 2022**

### Help Make Dinner!

For more than 25 years, Holy Comforter members and friends have prepared and served dinners each month for our neighbors at Charlotte Rescue Mission and the Roof Above Men's Shelter.

Charlotte Rescue Mission, 907 W. 1st Street, Charlotte NC 28202; first Tuesdays; 3-6 pm

Roof Above Men's Shelter, 1210 N. Tryon Street, Charlotte NC 28206; first Fridays 4-7 pm

Join us! Contact [Beth Hardin](mailto:behthardin@mindspring.com) at [eahardin@mindspring.com](mailto:eahardin@mindspring.com) to be added to the reminder emails.

### L Gifts for Life

Need a gift for the person on your list who "has everything"? Consider honoring a friend or relative with Gifts for Life from Episcopal Relief and Development's gift catalog; Gifts for Life offer ways to connect families with sustainable sources of food and income, invest in women-owned businesses, or offer children opportunities to thrive. Choose your gifts at <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/gifts/catalog>

### lunch Bags needed for Roof Above Lunches in December

Holy Comforter will once again be providing much-needed lunches for neighbors through Roof Above this coming winter. We have signed up for 2 Saturday dates in each of December, January and February. We are looking for parishioners to supply 1-gal clear plastic lunch bags (sliding closure preferred) with a bottle of water and a piece of fruit, a fruit cup or a snack. 200 lunch bags are needed each time. Please sign up for batches of 10. A small group will make 400 sandwiches, complete the bags and deliver them. The dates are: December 3rd and 17th, January 14th and 28th, and February 11th and 25th. Visit our website for sign up links. Questions? Contact Sharon or Brad Patterson at [patintin180@yahoo.com](mailto:patintin180@yahoo.com).

### Food Drive

We all know that rising food and housing prices are stretching family budgets, but even more so for our neighbors in need. Loaves & Fishes/Friendship Trays is also feeling the impact.

Thanksgiving might be over, but the need continues! You can help nourish neighbors with food and compassion by donating much needed food items. They are especially in need of pantry staples such as these priority needs items:

- Canned Meat: Tuna, Chicken, etc...
- Canned Fruit: low sugar or in juice
- Pastas – Canned or Dry Boxed
- Low Sodium Canned Vegetables
- Peanut Butter

NO GLASS PLEASE!

They are collecting food donations at our warehouse, located at 648 Griffith Rd, weekdays 8:30am-4:00pm.

### Gingerbread Construction Supplies Needed

Help us make gingerbread dreams come true (for children of all ages)!

**We need volunteers** - ADULTS to help on December 11 (wear apron!), set up 1:30-2:30, "production" 2:30-4:00 and clean up 4-5 PM

**and SUPPLIES.....**

boxes of graham crackers,, containers of white frosting, edible decorative items, (life savers - gummy or candy, licorice sticks and laces, gummy bears and people, cookie ginger bread people and animals, sprinkles, skinny sticks (skewers) for flag poles or to hold up walls, specially shaped cereals) and anything else that looks like fun to add to the project. Drop them in the boxes in Van Every and Atkinson.

**COVID Surge Anticipated.** Thankfully, we have been enjoying relatively good covid conditions over the past several weeks; however, a cold-weather surge in the level of virus transmission and health impacts is anticipated. For now, we don't expect changes to our diocesan or parish covid protocols. Masking and social distancing protocols remain voluntary and both continue to be welcome for those who choose to observe them. **We encourage individuals to monitor covid conditions as they make their own risk assessment for attending in-person church gatherings.** Local CDC Transmission levels help gauge how much virus is circulating while local CDC Community levels help monitor impacts on hospital facilities, and both can be found at <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/>.