



Church of the Holy Comforter

EPISCOPAL

Vienna, Virginia

December 31, 2023 at 10:30 A.M.



The First Sunday after Christmas Day

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia
Festival of Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist, Rite II

December 31, 2023 at 10:30 A.M.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

THE ENTRANCE

CAROL, HYMN 102 (stanzas 1-2, 5-6) “Once in royal David’s city”
Sung by all, standing.

Irby

THE BIDDING

Officiant Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God’s loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

People **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.**

Officiant The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all.

People **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

Genesis 3:1-15

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” Then the Lord God said to the

woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

CAROL, HYMN 88 "Sing, O sing, this blessed morn"
Sung by all, standing.

England's Lane



THE SECOND LESSON [*The people are seated.*]

Isaiah 7:10-15

God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as "God with us."

The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good."

CAROL, HYMN 87 "Hark! the herald angels sing"
Sung by all, standing.

Mendelssohn



THE THIRD LESSON [*The people are seated.*]

Luke 1:26-38

The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

CAROL, HYMN 82 "Of the Father's love begotten"
Sung by all, standing.

Divinum mysterium



THE FOURTH LESSON [*The people are seated.*]

Luke 1:39-56

The Virgin Mary is greeted by Elizabeth and proclaims her joy.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home. Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

CAROL, HYMN 265 “The angel Gabriel from heaven came”
Sung by all, standing.

Gabriel's Message



THE FIFTH LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

Luke 2:1-20

Jesus is born at Bethlehem and is worshiped by angels and shepherds.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

CAROL, HYMN 105 “God rest you merry, gentlemen”
Sung by all, standing.

God Rest You Merry



THE SIXTH LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

CAROL, HYMN 92 “On this day earth shall ring”
Sung by all, standing.

Personent hodie



THE SEVENTH LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

Hebrews 1:1-12

In the fullness of time, God sent his Son whose reign is for ever and ever.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son; today I

have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

CAROL, HYMN 97 "Dost thou in a manger lie"
Sung by all, standing.

Dies est laetitiae



THE EIGHTH LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

John 1:1-18

The Word was made flesh and we have seen his glory.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

CAROL, HYMN 83 "O come, all ye faithful"
Sung by all, standing.

Adeste fideles

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you. *[The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.]*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE


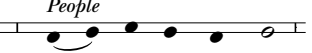
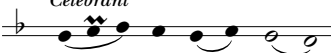
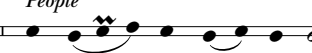
The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM: "Infant holy, infant lowly"
Infant holy, Infant lowly,
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging Angels singing,
Nowells ringing, Tidings bringing,
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Polish carol, arr. David Willcocks
Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new;
Saw the glory, Heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, Greet the morrow,
Christ the Babe was born for you!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer, p. 367

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
	
The Lord be with you.	And al - so with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
	
Lift up your hearts.	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.

The Presider proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*The Presider continues.*]

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, HYMNAL, S 125
Sung by all.

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Presider Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

The Presider continues

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.

Celebrant *People*
 A - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD, HYMNAL, S 152

Ambrosian chant

The Presider sings the first line; the congregation responds by singing the second line.

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

INVITATION [*The People are seated.*]

As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Communion. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God's presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ's ministry of love and reconciliation.

COMMUNION MUSIC [*Sung by all.*]

HYMN 81 "Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming"

Es ist ein Ros

HYMN 112 "In the bleak midwinter"

Cranham

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER [*Said by all.*]

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CAROL, HYMN 99 "Go tell it on the mountain"

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Sung by all, standing.

DISMISSAL [*The people respond,*]

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Prayer List for December 31, 2023

We Pray for those who are sick, in need, preparing for or recovering from surgery, especially the following:

PARISHIONERS AND IMMEDIATE FAMILY

- All youth who are struggling in this uncertain time
- All those looking for work
- David, John and Andrew Kelley as they mourn Kathleen's death
- Catherine Lincoln as she mourns the loss of her cousin
- Carl Reidy's successful recovery from surgery
- Clyde Clark's healing
- Cassandra Bosco's healing following surgery
- Dallas and Gayle Bethea's healing
- Dorothy Doty's healing
- Luanne Obert's successful treatment for leukemia
- Bill Boyle as he recovers from cancer treatment
- Nora El Sebaey's support, healing and comfort
- Ann Streit's healing
- Wesley Harrison's healing
- Tucky Hostettler's healing
- Christine Langford's continued healing
- Dabney Hart's healing
- Quincy Doyle Behning's healing
- Frances Sullinger's continued healing
- Sylvia Kinsolving's healing
- Mark Coppedge's healing and peace of mind

EXTENDED FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND FORMER PARISHIONERS

Prayers for Healing:

Elys McLean; Roger Neighborgall, Jr; Gerry Brinza; Diane Okrent; Carol King and Rich Sapio; Dan and Barbara Smoot; Linda Hakerem; Rossana Carney; Alison Smith; Karen Bigenwald; Mike Siluk; Loretta; Sylvia Sutton; Sandy Nuzum; Emily; Sandy Haslam; Caryl Creswell; Anne Coffey; David Herman; Clare and her son Calvin; Abby; Sally Gorham; Tracey; Larry Boltz; Martha Wilcox; Michael and Georgine.

Prayers for Comfort:

Nancy Anderson; Bill and Mary Ann Arnold; Eileen Krenz; Mary.

Other Prayers:

Sandra's and her family's safety and well-being living in Israel.

We Pray for parishioners and family members, military and civilian, serving our country away from home:

Army First Lieutenant Kyle Coker (son of Elys McLean and Chris Coker); Airman Princess Ann Cordero (daughter-in-law of Barbara Kiser); Midshipman Fourth Class Andrew Turner, USNA (son of David Turner and Liz Williams); Air Force Airman First Class (A1C) Matthew Bacigalupo (son of Debbie and Tom Bacigalupo); Navy Master Chief Petty Officer Jonathan Bertera (son of Bill and Nancy Bertera); Army Captain Chiara Botello (granddaughter of Christine Langford); Navy Petty Officer Charles Boyle (nephew of Linda and John Boyle); Army First Lieutenant Richard Gannon (son of Rich and Sarah Gannon); Air Force Major Cameron Jones (son of Philip and Celestine Jones); Navy Lieutenant Commander Curtis Khol (son of Curtis and Michele Khol); Army Majors Erik and Michael Kiser (nephews of Barbara Kiser); Navy Lieutenant Commanders Lillian and Jack Montana (daughter and son-in-law of Philene and Paul Ware Dunn); and Army Captain Josh Smithers (great-nephew of Ann Buxton). We also remember in prayer the people of Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Isreal, and Palestine and everyone affected by war and violence.

To place names on the Prayer List, please contact Shelia Creswell at screswell@verizon.net. Names will remain on the list for four weeks unless directed otherwise.

Visitors and Newcomers

Thank you for joining us. We hope you'll return often.

- **Holy Eucharist on Saturdays at 5 p.m.** includes readings, prayers, sermon, and communion (gluten-free available).
- **Holy Eucharist on Sundays, at 9:30 a.m.** includes hymns, readings, prayers, sermon, and communion (gluten-free available). Livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook.
- **Holy Eucharist on Sundays, at 11:15 a.m.** includes hymns, readings, sermon, and communion (gluten-free available).
- **Children's Chapel** happens during the 9:30 a.m. service. Before the gospel, children who would like to go are invited to follow the acolyte with the dove cross to the Chapel, where a children's book about faith is read and time for conversation, prayer, and response is given. Children are returned to the Sanctuary for the Peace.
- **The Nursery** for children through age 4 is open Sunday, 9 a.m.–noon. The Nursery is located downstairs and is accessed by the stairwell next to the entry to the Sanctuary.
- **Coffee and Fellowship** follows the 9:30 a.m. service.
- **Sunday School for children 4 years old–6th Grade** meets 10:35–11:30 a.m. Register at bit.ly/HoCoChildRegistration23-24. Questions? Contact Susan McGuire at smcguire@holycomforter.com. **We offer 3 classes:**
 - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** - (4-year olds and kindergarten) Room 309 (3rd floor)
 - Godly Play** - (1st–4th graders) Rooms 310 and 313 (3rd floor)
 - Faith in Action** - (5th and 6th graders) Lilian Croy Room (1st floor)
- **Sunday School for youth 7th–12th Grade** meets 10:35–11:30 a.m. Register at bit.ly/HoCoYouthRegistration23-24. Questions? Contact Denis McMullan at dmcmullan@holycomforter.com. **We offer 2 Clases:**
 - Middle School** - old library (1st floor)
 - High School** - McGill Hall (2nd floor)
- **Parents:** Books and crayons are available at the back of the Sanctuary.
- **Large print** is available at the back of the Sanctuary (Hymnal selections and the Book of Common Prayer and Bibles).
- **Braille** copies of the Book of Common Prayer are in the back of the Sanctuary.
- **Visit our Welcome Center** at www.holycomforter.com or complete a newcomer card found in the pews.
- **Follow us on Facebook.**

Special Holiday Schedule:

New Year's Eve – Sunday, December 31

- **10:30 a.m.** Christmas Lessons and Carols and Holy Eucharist – Extend your Christmas Season with more chances to sing some favorite carols.
Nursery care available for ages 4 and under

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Sunday School or Children's Chapel on December 31. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year! We will resume our regular schedule on Sunday, January 7.

More Worship and Education Opportunities

- **Monday** - Centering Prayer - 1:30 p.m.
 - **Tuesday** - Men's Bible Study - 6:45–7:45 a.m.
 - **Tuesday** - Women's Bible Study - 6:45–7:45 a.m.
- Please visit www.holycomforter.com (Worship>Worship) for more details.

Drive-Thru Communion

If you are unable to come to church on Sunday, and would still like to receive Drive-Thru Communion in your car, please contact the Church Office by Friday the week before.

Communion at Home

If you would like a pair of Eucharistic Visitors to bring Communion to your home once a month or once every other month, please contact the Church Office at 703-938-6521.

Flower Donations for the Sanctuary and Chapel

We welcome the gift of flowers at the Sanctuary Altar for weekly services. The cost is \$50, tax deductible, as a gift to the Church. Following services, the flowers will be delivered to home-bound parishioners. Please download the form at www.holycomforter.com (Worship) and submit to the Church Office two weeks prior to your requested date along with your check. You may pay online at bit.ly/HoCoPayOnline (select "Flowers" from the Fund menu). For questions or if you wish to give flowers for the Chapel, please contact Lolly Mixer at lollymix@gmail.com.

Seeking Young Singers to Join the Chorister Program!

Our Chorister program is open to boys and girls in 2nd through 12th grade. Choristers rehearse on Thursdays, 5–6 p.m. in the Chapel with Minister of Music, Dr. David Kelley and Miss Lolly Mixer—learning music theory and vocal skills—and sing on Sunday mornings with the Adult Choir. We have a fun dinner together once or twice a month following rehearsal. No previous musical experience is required but good reading skills are helpful. More information is available at www.holycomforter.com (Worship>Music) or by contacting David Kelley at dkelley@holycomforter.com.



Use Your Smartphone to Give!

Scan the QR code provided to the right. Just point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then follow the prompts. Give it a try! It's fast and easy! Thank you.



2024 Annual Pledge - Moving Together

Our 2024 pledge campaign calls us to move together in financially supporting the mission of Holy Comforter and our community. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge today. Pledge cards are available in the Narthex. You can also pledge online at bit.ly/HoCoPledge2024.

2nd Saturday Church and Dinner

Saturday, Jan. 13; 5 p.m.

Join us in the Chapel for a family-friendly service including special guitar music! A dinner of spaghetti and meatballs, bread, salad, and fellowship will follow in the Ministry Center. Please RSVP for dinner at [ttsu.me/7z7sce](https://www.ttsu.me/7z7sce) so that we can make sure we have enough. All ages are welcome. We'll also have ways for all to contribute to the service. If you are interested in joining our musicians, please contact Susan McGuire at smcguire@holycorforter.com or Denis McMullan at dmcullan@holycorforter.com.

Senior Saints Meeting, Lunch, and Music

Friday, Jan. 5; 11:45 am; Ministry Center

The OLLI Tallwood Trio will entertain us with Alan Wenberg on piano, David Hurst on drums, Eric Henderson on bass, and accomplished torch singer, Nancy Riley. OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) at George Mason offers learning opportunities in a stimulating environment in which older adults can share their talents, experiences and skills; explore new interests; discover and develop latent abilities; engage in intellectual and cultural pursuits; and socialize with others of similar interests.

Bring your own lunch. Desserts and beverages will be provided.

Six-Session Bible Study on *Philippians*

Thursdays, 7:15–8:15 p.m.; Zoom

(Beginning Jan. 11)

led by Anna Wallich, Th.M.

This study will touch on history and context as we explore St. Paul's words of encouragement and advice to his beloved church in Philippi, seeking to understand what his words mean for us as we live out our own callings in the world today. Please contact Anna Wallich at spdirectionmin@gmail.com if you are interested in joining this study.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

There's been a dramatic increase in the number of individuals seeking FACETS meals. We're now serving around 200 meals at a time, so we really need cooking and delivery volunteers. The time commitment is once per month for about 1.5 hours. **We will be cooking and delivering the next meal Sunday, January 14. To help, please contact Laura Gori at laurasgori@gmail.com.**

Youth Ministries is in need of hats, gloves, and socks for our FACETS delivery on January 14. Please deposit your new and gently used winter hats and gloves, and new socks in the box in Narthex.

Expanded Episcopal 101 Class on Prayer

On Tuesday evening, January 16, the whole parish is invited to an expanded session of Episcopal 101, our introductory class for newcomer and old-timers alike. Parishioner Mike Croghan will offer a survey of various kinds and practices of prayer: individual and corporate, written and extemporaneous, silent, spoken, and sung, for praise, penitence, and petition. We'll meet in person in the Chapel from 7:15 to 8:30, and no advance registration is needed—all are welcome to attend.

Hypothermia Prevention Shelter

Jan. 21–28, 2024

In partnership with FACETS, our Ministry Center will host 30+ guests who live and work without a home. Each day of Holy Comforter's week, we will provide a hot meal for dinner, a warm comfortable space to sleep for the night, breakfast in the morning, and a "to go" lunch. ***Here's how you can help:***

- **First**, visit www.holycorforter.com (Learn & Serve>Outreach) to volunteer (make a meal, serve meals, and greet guests, drive the FACETS van, etc.). A training session with additional details will be held on January 14 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom.
 - **Second**, donate much-needed funds to support our guests for Metro Smart Trip Cards and other needed supplies. Visit www.holycorforter.com (Give<Give Online) and select "Hypothermia Shelter" in the Fund dropdown menu.
 - **Third**, provide much-needed personal supplies (toothpaste/brushes, socks, soap/shampoo, etc.). Look for the big green bin marked "Hypothermia Shelter" in the Narthex.
- Please visit www.holycorforter.com (Learn & Serve>Outreach) to learn more, or contact Alex Graham at agraham160@aol.com.

Last Chance to Apply for Outreach Grants!

The Outreach Team is currently accepting applications for grant funding from organizations that serve God's people in need. Download the short Grant Application Form at www.holycorforter.com (Learn & Serve>Outreach) or pick one up in the Church Office. If you know of an organization that would benefit from our parish's assistance, please share the Grant Application Form with them. **Applications are due December 31!** Questions? Contact Zara Harris at zharris@mac.com.

All-Parish Game Night

Saturday, February 10; 6–9 p.m.

Reserve Saturday, February 10 for the return of our All-Parish Game night! We'll have dinner, dessert, and board games for all ages. And we're excited to offer our first HoCo Chili Cook-off as part of the fun! Watch this space for more details soon.

PENNYWISE Thrift Shop

Created as a fund raising endeavor of Church of the Holy Comforter in 1961, Pennywise Thrift Shop is located at 214 Dominion Road, NE, Vienna, VA.

As 2023 draws to a close, the Pennywise team would like to invite you to volunteer with us in the New Year. There are several ways to participate as a volunteer—sorting donations in the backroom; working in the front of the shop greeting customers and ringing out sales; or helping on Monday mornings to reset the shop for a busy week of visitors and sales. The shifts are short—two hours—and all new volunteers receive training before starting their first shift. If you have visited Pennywise and appreciate the service this mission provides to our church and our community, contact Judy Kilkenny at kilkennyjudy@gmail.com to discuss volunteer options that will work for your schedule.

Ministry Contact List

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Addiction & Recovery Care

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Becoming Beloved Community

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Blood Drive

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Book and Movie Club

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Britepaths

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The Church Office

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