Holy Comforter Episcopal Church FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT March 26, 2023 Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:30 a.m.

> "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live..."



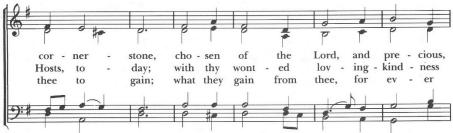
Our Mission "Living Our Faith by Serving God and Others"

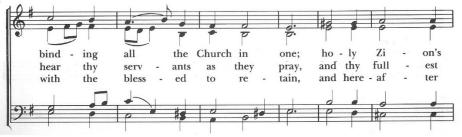
> The Reverend Dr. Allen Hill, Rector The Reverend Beth Pessah, Associate Rector

Words and Music by Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloche









Continued \rightarrow



Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: Westminster Abbey, Henry Purcell (1659-1695), adapt.; desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929)

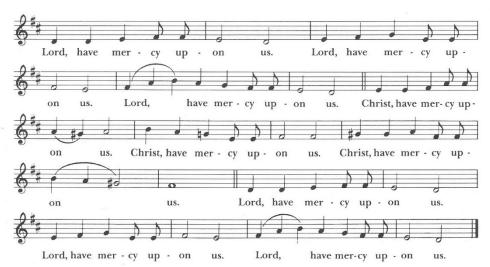
LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION (standing)

Celebrant	Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins; †
People	His mercy endures forever.
Celebrant	Let us pray.

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.

Kyrie



COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Let us pray.

Silence - to collect ourselves before God

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit

within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

ReaderHear what the Spirit is saying to the church.PeopleThanks be to God

Silence-What indeed is God saying?

PSALM 130 (*Read Responsively*)

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice; let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, O Lord, who could stand?

3 For there is forgiveness with you; therefore you shall be feared.

4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; in his word is my hope.

5 My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is mercy;

7 With him there is plenteous redemption, and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

THE SECOND READING

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who

Romans 8:6-11

raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

ReaderHear what the Spirit is saying to the church.PeopleThanks be to God.

Silence-What indeed is God saying?

SEQUENCE HYMN

Lord, I'm Coming Home



THE HOLY GOSPEL

GospellerThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

GospellerThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON (seated)

The Rev. Deacon Rachel Hill

Silence

THE NICENE CREED (Said by all, standing)

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 worshiped 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.

Silence

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 the churches in the Diocese of Florida, especially Bethany Episcopal, Hilliard; St. Thomas, Palm Coast; Holy Trinity, Gainesville; Chapel of St. Dismas, Baker Correctional; Christ Episcopal, Monticello; and Our Savior, Jacksonville. For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael our Presiding Bishop; John our Bishop; Charlie, Bishop Co-adjutor Elect; Father Allen our Rector; Mother Beth our Associate Rector; Father Jim, our Pastoral Associate; and all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence - The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence – The People may add their own thanks givings

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.

Silence - The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.



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 on 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. \dagger Amen.

THE PEACE (*Standing*)

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.AllAnd also with you.The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

If you would like to support the work of Holy Comforter you can text the word GIVE to 844-462-8754 and follow the instructions OR you can make a donation via PayPal.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Eucharistic Prayer A (Standing)

DOXOLOGY



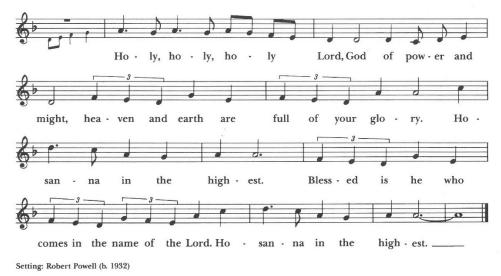
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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.

Celebrant and People sing:



(The people may remain standing or kneel.)

Celebrant

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

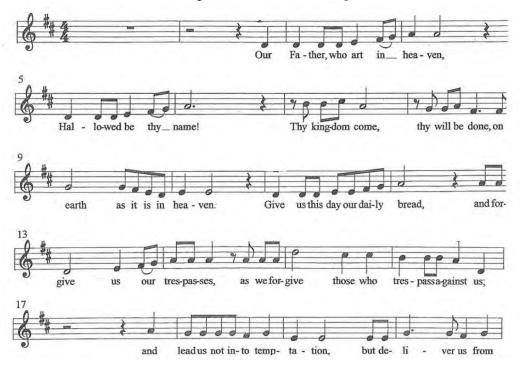
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

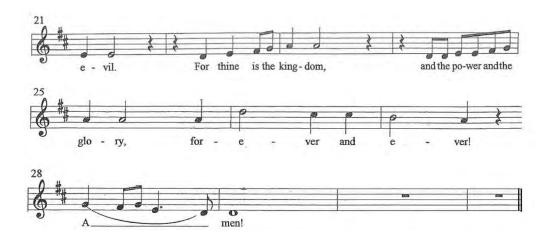
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to *sing*,

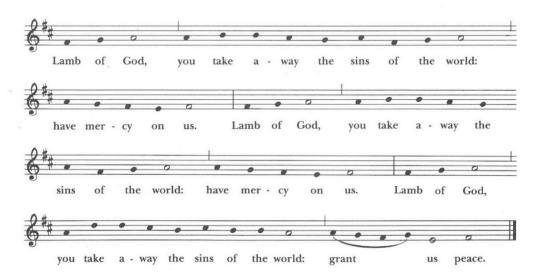




THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Jesus says, I am the bread of life, whoever eats this bread will live forever.**People** Our hearts hunger for you; give us this bread always.

AGNUS DEI

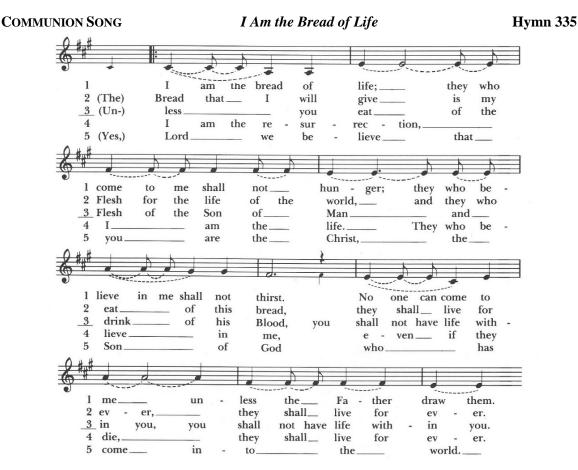


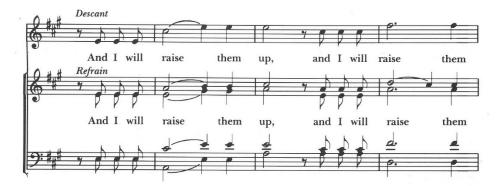
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the children of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

People Thanks be to God.

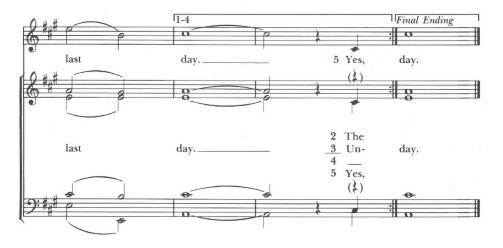
All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.

The bread will be placed in the palm of your outstretched hands. Receive the wine by assisting the Chalice bearer to direct the cup toward you and then drink from the cup. Please do not intinct (dip) your bread into the cup. You are welcome to take only the bread. If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, but would prefer to have God's blessing pronounced over you, cross your arms over your chest in front of the priest. Thank you for your understanding.









Words: Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927); adapt. of John 6 Music: I Am the Bread of Life, Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (All 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.

(Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I 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.People We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.)

THE BLESSING[†]

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Singing Songs of Expectation

CLH 321





WORDS: Bernard Severin Ingemann, 1826; tr. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1867, alt. MUSIC: Ebenezer (Ton-y-Botel), Thomas John Williams, 1890

DISMISSAL

DeaconGo in Peace to love and serve the Lord.AllThanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



WE WELCOME ALL to our services today. Please contact the church office if we may assist you. We would love to hear from you.



Pray for our sick, especially Celeste Rosenau, Lynda Makin, Elaine Yaege, Roger Messimer, Bill Brattain, Charles Scriven, Quinn Toulon, Ken Miller, Sam MacDonell, Fisher Yaney, Linda Zurko, Lisa, Joanne Taylor, and Robert Kimbelle.

Pray for all who have died. Pray especially for Margaret Brinson, mother of Roberta Boyer; pray for her family and all who love her.

Pray especially for Michael May, for his family especially Father Jim & Kathy, his children Alex & Michael Jr., and all who love him.

Pray for our school; for Peter, Head of School; for Amy, Head of Middle School; for Brenda, Head of Lower School; for Michelle, Director of Preschool; and especially for Sarah Myrick.

Pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially Christine Reker, Reggie Perry, Matthew Pessah, Pedro Schlottmann, John Canetta, Pat Hall, Katie Bowman, Paul Brown, and Tommy Culbreath.

> The policy for Prayers of the People is to list a person for one month. Please call or email the office if extended prayers are needed.

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER LILIES FOR EASTER SUNDAY!

Candy still needed for Easter Egg hunt:



Please help the Easter bunny out by bringing small, wrapped candies for stuffing the Easter eggs by April 2nd. There will be a basket in the narthex for your donations. Thank vou!

Welcome to Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

ТОДАУ

MARCH 26

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
- 9 a.m. Centering Prayer
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School

If there is an event that should be added to the church calendar, please send details to <u>admin@hc-ec.org</u> at least 2 weeks prior. Thank you

THIS WEEK

Monday, March 27

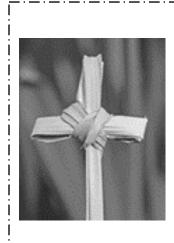
<u>Tuesday, March 28</u> Morning Prayer, 8:30 am – FB Live & in person

> Wednesday, March 29 Holy Eucharist Rite II, 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 pm

Thursday, March 30

Friday, March 31 The Great Litany, 5:30 pm Lenten Fellowship Fish Fry, 6 pm

> Saturday, April 1 Food Pantry, 9 am



It's that time of year again. So, let's have a round of applause for: PALM CROSSES.

Come and enjoy the delightful company of others, try and remember everything you learned from last year, and lend a helping hand to someone in need: me.

This year we are meeting in the workroom upstairs on <u>MARCH</u> <u>29 at 10:00</u>. Bring your scissors and your wonderful personality, and I'll provide the palms, the how-to, and snacks.

I really, really hope to see you there.

-Sara Brunger



Special Events and Service Schedule for the Lenten and Easter Season

March 31st, 5:30 pm - The Great Litany:

Gather for intercessory and penitential prayers that are especially appropriate for the Lenten season.

March 31st, 6 pm - Lenten Fish Fry Fellowship Dinner:

Enjoy a delicious meal and time for fellowship. Food and pricing details to come!

April 2nd, 10:30 am - Palm Sunday Service:

Holy Week begins with the commemoration of Christ's entry into Jerusalem. There will be just one service this Sunday.

April 6th, 7 pm - Maundy Thursday:

Gather and reflect on Jesus' Last Supper, His new commandment, and His institution of Holy Eucharist.

April 7th, 12 pm - Good Friday:

Join us on Good Friday for the reading of Christ's Passion and solemn prayers.

April 7th, 5:30 pm - Stations of the Cross:

Meditate with guided prayer through the 14 stages of Jesus' journey to the cross and tomb.

April 8th, 8 pm - The Great Vigil of Easter:

The first service of Easter, with the lighting of the Paschal candle and the renewal of our baptismal vows.

April 9th - Easter Sunday Schedule

- 7 am Sunrise Service A beautiful service conducted as the sun rises over the horizon.
- 9 am Easter Brunch Come enjoy food and fellowship as we celebrate Easter.
- 10 am Easter Egg Hunt All children through 5th grade are invited to hunt for Easter eggs. (In front of the church adjacent to the Labyrinth)
- 10:30 am Easter Service with special music.



Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Johnson Howard, Bishop The Reverend Dr. Allen Hill, Rector The Reverend Beth Pessah, Associate Rector



VESTRY

Chris Jester Sterling Luce Jackie Watts Judy Shipman Robert Efthim Susan Robinson Jenna Brown

Contact information for Father Allen Hill rev.allenhill@hc-ec.org

Contact information for Mother Beth Pessah <u>MotherBeth@HCES.org</u>, 386-341-8853

Office 850-877-2712 ♦ Website: <u>http://www.hc-ec.org</u> Office Hours: Mon.-Thu. 9:00-3:00, Fri. 9:00-Noon 2015 Fleischmann Road, Tallahassee FL 32308