

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

April 21, 2024

Holy Eucharist Rite II

The good shepherd
lays down his life
for the sheep.



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
Charles Austin Miles



1 I come to the gar - den a - lone, while the
2 He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so
3 I'd stay in the gar - den with Him tho' the



dew is still on the ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing
sweet the birds hush their sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that He
night a - round me be fall - ing; But He bids me go, thro' the



on my ear, the Son of God dis - clos - es. And He
gave to me with - in my heart is ring - ing. And He
voice of woe; His voice to me is call - ing. And He



walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own; And the



joy we share as we tar - ry there none oth - er has ev - er known.

Descant

4 Here vouch-safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
 3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
 4 Here vouch-safe to all thy serv-ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
 God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
 Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
 hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter



in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.
 help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION *(standing)*

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen. †

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

THIS IS THE FEAST OF VICTORY FOR OUR GOD

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
 whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
 and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

Sing with all the people of God,
 and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, honor, glory, and might
 be to God and the Lamb for ever. Amen.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia!

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia.

My Je - sus, my Sav - iour, Lord, there is none - like - You;

4
- All of my days - I want to praise - the won - ders of Your might - y

8
love. - My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;

12
- Let ev - 'ry breath, - all that I am, - nev - er cease to wor - ship

16 **CHORUS**
You. - Shout to the Lord, - all the earth, - let us sing. -

19
Pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise - to the King. - Moun - tains bow down - and the seas

22
- will roar - at the sound - of Your name. -

25
I sing for joy - at the work - of Your hands, - for - ev - er I'll love - You, for - ev -

28
- er I'll stand, - noth - ing com - pares - to the prom -

30
- ise I have - in You. -

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

THE FIRST READING

Acts 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

People **Thanks be to God**

Silence-What indeed is God saying?

PSALM 23 *(Read Responsively)*

1 The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

**2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

3 He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

**4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

**6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

THE EPISTLE

1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence-What indeed is God saying?

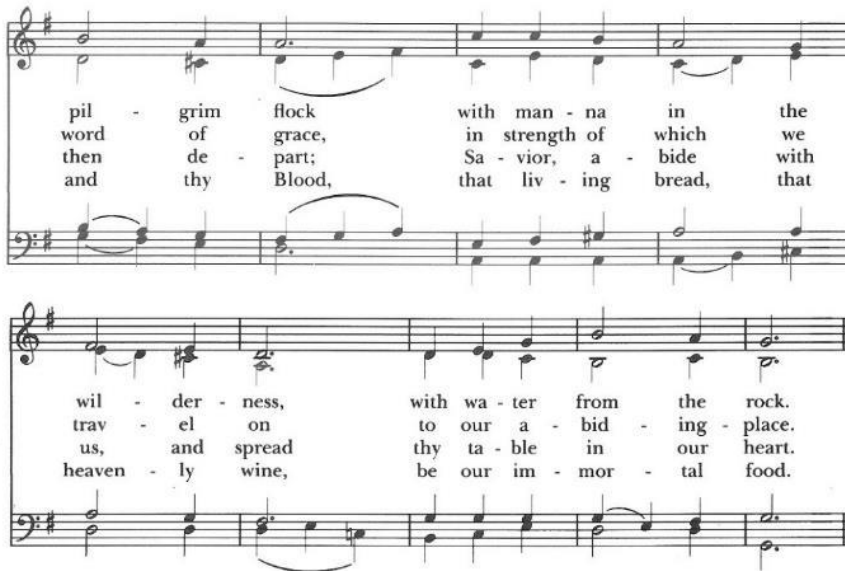
SEQUENCE HYMN

Shepherd of Souls

Hymn 343

1 Shep-herd of souls, re-fresh and bless thy cho-sen
 2 We would not live by bread a-lone, but by thy
 3 Be known to us in break-ing bread, and do not
 4 Lord, sup with us in love di-vine, thy Bo-dy

Continued →



pil - grim flock with man - na in the
 word of grace, in strength of which we
 then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with
 and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.
 trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.
 us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.
 heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt.
 Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937),
 after John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

Reader Alleluia, alleluia! I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

People Alleluia!

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Silence

THE NICENE CREED (*All stand, saying together*)

**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

Leader God of love, we rejoice with angels and with all the host of heaven as we celebrate the resurrection of your Son. Bless our joyful celebration and turn our hearts to you with new delight and commitment.

People **We praise you, Almighty God. Alleluia! Amen!**

Leader God of mercy, bring your church to new life. Awaken in us a faithfulness that manifests itself in joy; in dedication to the work of reconciliation in the world; in care for your creation, and in awe of your glory.

People **We praise you, Almighty God. Alleluia! Amen!**

Leader God of light, bring those in authority to new life in the ways they lead the nations. Show them the path of integrity and truth, that justice may be upheld and that all people may live in peace.

People **We praise you, Almighty God. Alleluia! Amen!**

Leader God of wholeness, bring those who suffer to new life. We pray for all who are in mourning or grief; for those in despair or depression; and for those who struggle with anxiety and fear. Lead us to find ways to be present with them and reflect your love for them.

People **We praise you, Almighty God. Alleluia! Amen!**

Leader God of healing, we pray for healing for all who suffer from physical pain or distress, for the aged and infirm, and for all who are sick and suffering, especially Celeste, Elaine, Roger, David, Walter, Mae, Cynthia, Lee & Bonnie, Herb & Rhonda, Chris, Russell & Marcie, Erin, Charles, Russell, Maria, Sterling, Marcie, Chandler, Pat, Anita, Patty & Bill, Mary Claire, Jan, and Jackie.

People **We praise you, Almighty God. Alleluia! Amen!**

Leader God of eternity, we pray that you would hold in your hands all those who have gone before us and have entered into new and everlasting life in your presence, especially those whom we love. Give us, with all the faithful departed, a share in your victory over evil and death.

People **We praise you, Almighty God. Alleluia! Amen!**

A brief silence is kept. The Celebrant then says the concluding Collect:

Heavenly Father, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant that, as his death has recalled us to life, so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The people kneel (as able)

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor in penitence and faith.

**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. †
Amen.

THE PEACE *(Standing)*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

OFFERTORY

Celebrant

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Shepherd

Sing/Farren/
Robinson/Thompson

Verse

Though I walk through the valley
And I can't see the way
When the shadows surround me
I will not be afraid
For I know You are with me
You will always provide
Though the path may be lonely
You will stay by my side

1 Pre-Chorus

I will rest my soul
I'll trust in You alone

Chorus

For the Lord my Shepherd leads me leads me
And He is all I need
In the darkest valley I know I know
My shepherd is all I need

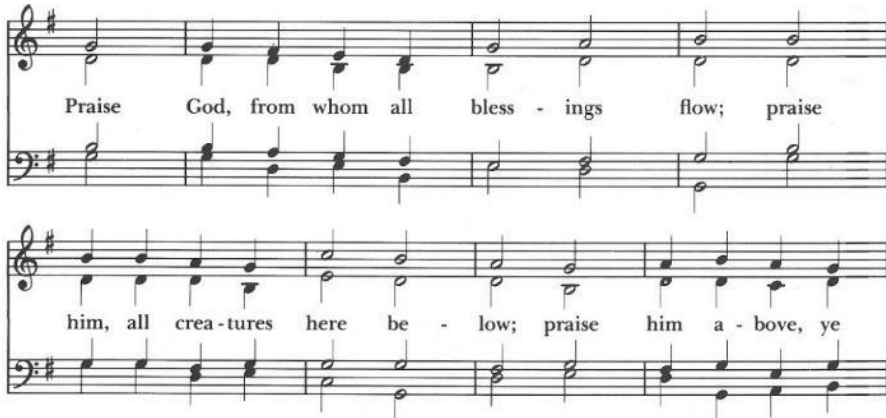
Verse 2

Lord I know that You seek me
When I'm trying to hide
And Your love it pursues me
All the days of my life

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A *(Standing)*

DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise
him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye

heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

A - men.

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.

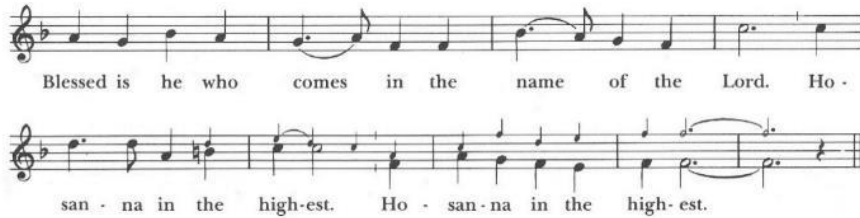
But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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 (All Sing) **S-125**

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.

Continued →



The people stand or kneel, as able.

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.

Celebrant

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,

Music by Clare C. Toy

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven,

Hal-lo-wed be thy name! Thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on

earth as it is in hea-ven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread, and for-

give us our tres-pas-ses, as we for-give those who tres-pass-against us;

and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-li-ver us from

e-vil. For thine is the king-dom, and the po-wer and the

glo-ry, for-e-ver and e-ver!

A-men!

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
People **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Celebrant 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.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All baptized Christian believers are invited to receive Holy Communion. All others are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing. To receive this option, please cross your arms over your chest in front of the priest.

COMMUNION SONG

I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord

Hymn 304

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known: we see and praise him here.
 5 in the world we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt.

Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)

Words: Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

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.

THE BLESSING †

Celebrant The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

All Amen.

1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness

1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. of Psalm 23
 Music: *St. Columba*, Irish melody

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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, Elaine Yaege, Roger Messimer, David Livingston, Walter, Mae, Cynthia Jester, Lee & Bonnie McHugh, Herb & Rhonda Laing, Chris, Russell & Marcie, Erin, Charles, Russell Sepielli, Maria Morales, Sterling Henderson, Marcie, Chandler Gray, Pat Horn, Anita, Patty & Bill Ringland, Mary Claire Janiga, Jan Calvin, and Jackie Montgomery.

Pray for all who have died.

Pray for all who serve in the military, especially Hayden Livingston and Mathew.

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 Peter Klekamp and Mary Laura Bragg.

Pray for those celebrating birthdays.

Pray for those celebrating anniversaries, especially Herb & Rhonda Lang.

***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.
Prayers can be requested by contacting the church office with the information.***

Happenings at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

TODAY

APRIL 21

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

THIS WEEK

Monday, April 22

Tuesday, April 23

Morning Prayer, 8:30 am*

Wednesday, April 24

Morning Prayer, 8:30 am*
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 5:30 pm
Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 pm

Thursday, April 25

Morning Prayer, 8:30 am*
Chair Yoga, 3:30 pm

Friday, April 26

Saturday, April 27

Food Pantry, 9 am



The flowers on the altar today are sponsored by Paul and Susan Robinson in loving memory of Barbara & Bill Gill, and Francis & Lytle Harrell.



Spring
2024



St. John's
Episcopal Church

Schedule

Wednesdays 3:00-4:30pm, Location as noted*

Workshop	Content	Date	Location*
1	Introductions	4/24/23	SJEC
2	Standing Stones	5/1/24	SJEC
3	How we Learn to Mourn	5/8/24	HCEC
4	Four Parts of Morning	5/15/24	SJEC
5	Looking at the Truth	5/22/24	HCEC
6	Examining Change	5/29/24	HCEC
7	We are Still Connected	6/5/24	SJEC
8	How we Have Grown	6/12/24	HCEC

*Location & Parking Notes:

When SJEC is noted, our group is meeting at St. John's Episcopal Church in the Rutledge Room. Parking is available across Calhoun St. from SJEC in the Capital City Bank lot, and in the former SJEC Bookstore, on the corner of Calhoun St & Call St.

When HCEC is noted, our group is meeting at Holy Comforter in the Fellowship Hall. Parking is available onsite. Enter the church (red doors), and use the stairs or elevator to come downstairs to the Fellowship Hall.



There are still a couple of spots left in VBS for your children or grandchildren! Register Now!

Date: June 3-7, 2024

Place: Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 2015 Fleischmann Rd.

Time 9:00 - 12:00

Registration forms on-line: www.hc-ec.org

Contact: Julianne Chester: Children@hc-ec.org

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

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



VESTRY

Rick Wagner, Senior Warden
Robert Efthim, Junior Warden
Sterling Luce
Jackie Watts
Susan Robinson
Jenna Brown
Corinne Johnston
Andy Granger, Treasurer
Patricia Trom, Clerk

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

Contact information for Mother Beth Pessah
MotherBeth@HCES.org

Office 850-877-2712 ♦ Website: <http://www.hc-ec.org>
Office Hours: Mon.-Thu. 8:00-5:00, Fri. 8:00-Noon
2015 Fleischmann Road, Tallahassee FL 32308