



Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 7, 2025 • 10:30 a.m.

Restoring all people to unity with God
and each other in Christ.

*We invite you to prepare for the service in quiet meditation and prayer.
Hymns are found in the blue Hymnal 1982.
“BCP” refers to pages in the red Book of Common Prayer.*

Praise to the living God **Hymn 372 v.1,3,4**

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.**

The Celebrant continues

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.**

Shout to the Lord **Insert**

The Collect of the Day *(Proper 18)*

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

The Celebrant continues

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the book of Jeremiah

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings. *[Jeremiah 18:1-11]*

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

A brief period of silent reflection follows the reading.

Psalms 139:1-5, 12-17 *(Read responsively by whole verse)*

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 **You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.**
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 **You press upon me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.**
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 12 **For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
- 14 **My body was not hidden from you,
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.**
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the
womb; all of them were written in your book;

they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.

16 **How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
how great is the sum of them!**

- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number
than the sand; to count them all, my life span would
need to be like yours.

A Reading from the Letter to the Philemon

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-- and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother-- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your

owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

[Philemon 1-21]

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

A brief period of silent reflection follows the reading.

Footsteps of Jesus	Insert
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The Gospel	
Gospeler	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.
People	Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, `This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

[Luke 14:25-33]

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

The Sermon	Fr. Allen
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The Nicene Creed	BCP 358
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Anniversary of a Marriage	Bill and Pat Reineking
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The Prayers of the People, Form IV	BCP 388
<i>At the end of each petition</i>	
People	Hear our prayer.

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

Confession of Sin	BCP 360
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The Peace	BCP 360
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Announcements

Offertory

If you are worshipping with us in person, we encourage you to place your gift in the offering plates as they are passed in the pews. For instructions on online and text giving, see the back panel of this bulletin.

Take My Life	Insert
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The Doxology *(sung)*

People	Praise God, from whom all blessings flow Praise him all creatures here below Praise him above, ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
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Eucharistic Prayer A	BCP 361
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At the Breaking of the Bread, we say

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.

Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion at Holy Comforter. Approach the altar in a double line in the center aisle. Stand or kneel at the rail and receive the bread in your hand. You may sip the wine directly from the common cup or dip the bread in the cup.

If you do not wish to receive the bread or wine for any reason, we encourage you to come forward for a blessing instead. Fold your arms across your chest to indicate to the priest that you prefer this option.

If you would like to receive Communion but are unable to walk to the rail, tell a greeter and a minister will be happy to bring Communion to you at your pew.

God is love, and where true love is	Hymn 577
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Glory to the Lamb	Insert
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Prayer After Communion	BCP 365
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The Blessing

Take up your cross, the Savior said	Hymn 675, V. 1,2,3,5
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The Dismissal	BCP 366
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The altar flowers this Sunday are given by Bill and Pat Reineking in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Welcome!

At Holy Comforter, we strive to follow and obey Christ as our Savior and Lord. Everyone is welcome in our church. Whatever your background may be, whether you have some faith or no faith, whether you're looking for a church home or just wanting to see what a church is like, we're glad to have you with us.

Your Gift Makes a Difference



HCEC runs solely on the generosity of its members. Give today via the offering plate; or text **GIVE to (844) 462-8754**; or scan this code with your phone to give online. You can also mail your gift to Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, Attn: Finance, 2015 Fleischmann Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32308.

Childcare

Free, professional childcare is provided from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm each Sunday. Please see Ms. Hannah or Ms. Caitlin in the Narthex.

Prayers of the Church

Pray for: Celeste, Mae, Cynthia, Herb, Rhonda, Bonnie, Lee, Russell, Marcie, Sterling, Marcie, Valerie, Suzy, Kayleigh, Elizabeth, Patsy & Lew, Susan, Pat, Diane, Marguerite, Diane, Dennis, Christine, Josepha, Natalie, Corinne and Skyler.

Pray for those who have died: especially Jan.

Pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially Susan, Karen, and Phyllis.

Pray for those celebrating anniversaries, especially Bill and Pat, Charles and Genny, and Michael and Jean.

Rector: Rev. Dr. Allen Hill (rev.allenhill@hc-ec.org)
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