

# THE CHURCH of the HOLY COMFORTER

4819 Monument Avenue, Richmond 23230 804-355-3251 ➡ hoco.org in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia

Holy Comforter is a Christian community engaging diversity, empowering through worship, and embracing the spiritual journey in our church, in our community, and in the world, that all may be made whole and fully alive.

# **THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** June 29, 2025

The Church of the Holy Comforter welcomes you to worship. This service leaflet, *The Book of Common Prayer* (red), *The Hymnal 1982* (blue), *Wonder, Love, and Praise* (green), and *Lift Every Voice and Sing* (black) provide the resources needed for participation. The hymns which begin with an "S" are in the front of The Hymnal 1982.

# **WELCOME TO HOLY COMFORTER!**

- **Guest Book** ~ Our guest book is located on a stand at the back of the church. If you are new to Holy Comforter, please sign the guest book. We are so glad that you are worshiping with us today!
- **Receiving Communion** ~ To receive, please come to the platform around the Holy Table, hold your hands out, palms up, and the clergy member will place a piece of bread in them. To receive wine from the chalice, assist the chalice bearer by holding the base and helping to guide it to your lips. We will offer one chalice from which to drink and one for intinction, dipping the bread into the wine. If you do not wish to receive the bread or the wine, we welcome you to receive a spoken blessing. To indicate this, please cross your arms on your chest. Gluten-free bread is available as is a non-alcoholic option chalice; simply ask the clergy.
- **Votive Candles** ~ You may light a candle at the votive stand in the back of the church. Votive candles may be lit before, during, or after the service.
- **Child Care** ~ Even our youngest children are welcome to remain with us in the church for the service. Enjoy our baby/toddler/young child area in the pews. Or ask an usher to direct you to the nursery.
- **Restrooms** are located behind the choir area; go out the doors by the Earth banner and turn left. One of the restrooms contains a **baby-changing station**. Ushers can guide you. Additional restrooms are in the parish house, the building right next door.

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

Hymnal 518 Christ is made the sure foundation

Westminster Abbey

#### **Opening Acclamation**

*Presider* Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be God's kingdom now and forever.

#### The Blessing of the Children

Children are invited to gather with our clergy for a prayer and then go to Children's Chapel or return to sit with their families.

**Song of Praise Hymnal 6** Christ whose glory fills the skies

Christ Whose Glory

#### The Collect of the Day

- *Presider* The Lord be with you.
- People And also with you.
- Presider Let us pray. Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

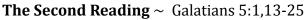
# The Proclamation of the Word

#### **The First Reading** ~ 1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21

The LORD said to Elijah, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place." So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.





For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

**Hymnal 603** When Christ was lifted from the earth

St. Botolph

**The Holy Gospel** ~ Luke 9:51-62

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

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village. As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

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

#### Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff

Prayers at the conclusion of the sermon:

Loving God, who made me in your image, help me to believe that I am enough. Amen.

Creating God, who empowers this congregation to be your hands and feet in the world, help us to believe that we are enough. Amen.

A period of silence follows the sermon

#### **Nicene Creed**

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.** 

#### The Prayers of the People form III, Book of Common Prayer

Presider	Let us pray.	
Intercessor	Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; <b>That we all may be one.</b>	
	Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; <b>That your Name may be glorified by all people.</b>	
	We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; <b>That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.</b>	
	We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; <b>That there may be justice and peace on the earth.</b>	
	Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; <b>That our works may find favor in your sight.</b>	
	Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; <b>That they may be delivered from their distress.</b>	
	Give to the departed eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them.	
	We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; <b>May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.</b>	
	Additional prayers are offered.	
	The Presider adds a concluding Collect.	
The Confession of Sin and Absolution		

*Presider* Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept during which you are invited to bring to mind specifics for which you desire forgiveness and or healing.

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; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

#### Absolution said by the Presider

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.** 

#### **The Peace**

PresiderThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Birthdays and Anniversaries please come to the front during the Peace if you would like a prayer.

Offertory MusicThe Servant SongRichard Gillard; harm PulkinghamPlease consider supporting God's ministry through Holy Comforter. You may leave your offering in the plate<br/>that will be passed or use our Virtual Offering Plate <a href="https://hocorva.churchcenter.com/giving">https://hocorva.churchcenter.com/giving</a>





**The Holy Communion** 

**The Great Thanksgiving,** Eucharistic Prayer B page 367 Book of Common Prayer

**Sanctus S 130** *"S" numbers are in the front of the blue hymnal.* 

#### The Lord's Prayer

*Presider* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray;

All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept. Then all sing S 152

Lift Every Voice and Sing 144	I can hear my Savior calling
136	I have decided to follow Jesus

#### **Postcommunion Prayer**

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 Blessing



#### Dismissal

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

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"The Servant Song" Text and Music: Richard Gillard; harm. by Betty Pulkingham. Text and music © 1977, Universal Music Group/Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing (ASCAP) "Spirit, open my heart" Tune: Arrangement © 1997 The Pilgrim Press Text: © 1996, Wors: Ruth Duck ©1996 The Pilgrim Press.

## 🕸 Serving Today 🕸

Presider and Preacher ~ The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff Director of Music Ministry ~ Jim Bennett Altar Guild ~ Sue Taylor, Peggy Hombs, Steve Van Voorhees Vestry Person of the Day ~ Jamey Hooks Readers ~ Diane Gilkenson, Cheryl Groce-Wright Intercessor ~ Rob Hanayik Eucharistic Ministers ~ Bruce MacAlister, Robin Hurdle Crucifer ~ Dale Davis Ushers ~ Bill Smith, Leslie Smith Streaming Director ~ Rob Hanayik Bread Baker ~ Leslie Smith Recycling ~Next Week

### ✤ Prayers of the Community ✤

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma).

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Pohick, Lorton.

**We pray for** our bishops Mark, Gayle, and Mark, Presiding Bishop Sean, and our parish clergy, Susan Briggett, Heather, and Frank.

For healing in our parish: Joella Rhoades, Deborah Westin, Steven Van Voorhees, Judy, Harris, Larry Wilson, George Collier, Barbara Rose, Barb Davis, Craig Hamblin, Fred and Susan Boze, Gayle Turner, Marie McGranahan-Turner, the Hawes Family, Bonnie Steffey.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Bill Smith, Nancy Smith, and their daughter, Lindsey Smith.

Pray for our family members and friends: Kevin McGranahan (brother of Marie McGranahan-Turner and brother in law of Gayle Turner); We give thanks for the life of Lydia Weber (mother of Bonnie Weber-Lehman, mother in law of David Lehman); Conner (nephew of Marie McGranahan-Turner and Gavle Turner); Luke Barry (son of Mimi Barry); Mike Owen (friend of the MacAlisters'); Beverley Collier, Ursula Smith (friends of Gary and Bonnie Steffey); John Wilson, Teresa Heath (son and friends of Larry and Sheila Wilson); Alison Roussy (daughter of Bill and Leslie Smith); Barry Hawes, Bob Martin (son-in-law and friend of Rob and Cindi Hanayik); Linda and Henry Custis (cousins of Mary Davis); Carolyn Leonard and Jack Gilmore (cousins of Sheila Wilson); Lee Hyden (daughter of Anne Kambourian); Paul Cameron, Svdni Roberson, Cvndi Dour and Pamela Thomas (friends of Steve Van Voorhees and Peggy Hombs); Phyllis Kerr (sister-in-law of John Kerr); Brycon and Riley (great-nephews of Patty Galdun); Jane Smith (mother of Caroline Smith); María Carmen Calderón Viuda de Hencke and Lucera Lourdes Calderon (mother and sister of Eugenia Hencke Calderón); Rev. Ursula Shone and Dr. Eric Albone (friends of John Kerr); John Martin, Lee and Don Switz, Matt Williams, Hal and Gary Land, Uli Robinson, Jeanette Idle, Stephen (friend of Anne Snyder); Joey and Michele (friends and sisters of Patty Galdun); Lauren Breeze; Erin Tagupa (mother of Briana Vineyard); Bill and Lola Custis (cousins of Mary Davis); Eleni (granddaughter of John Kerr); Bob Daraio (friend of Gayle Turner); Sarah Rogers and Eliza Rogers (sister and niece of Ellen Hall); (friend of Patty Galdun); Nancy Chittum, Ella Shaffer Hicks (friends of Patty Galdun); Thomas Quigley (friend of George Collier).

We pray for all leaders of national and local government, especially **Donald** and **JD**, **Glenn**, and **Danny**.

We pray for an end to racism and anti-Semitism.

**Metro Richmond at Prayer**: We pray for the criminal justice system in Metropolitan Richmond: For just institutional policies and programs that foster restorative practices, leading to wholeness and healing.

**Pray for Thomas Jefferson High School** and **Franklin Military Academy,** and their students, faculty and staff.

## 🛚 Announcements 🖷

**Discernment Committee** ~ The Discernment Committee for the next rector has been formed. Parishioners called to serve are: Frank Castellón, Brian Davis, Claire Everett, Peggy Hombs, Deb Love, Joella Rhoades, and Phoebe Winter. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to guide them in their work.

**Important Notice: Email Scams Using Bishop Susan Goff's Name** ~ Please be aware that several members of our community have recently received fraudulent emails or messages that appear to come from Bishop Susan Goff. These messages typically ask the recipient to purchase gift cards or provide other forms of assistance. These emails are scams. Bishop Goff will never contact you personally to request gift cards, money, or sensitive information via email or text.

If you receive such a message please:

- Do not respond.
- Do not click on any links.
- Do not purchase any items requested.
- Report the email as phishing or spam through your email provider.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the church office directly.

**Shrine Mont Weekend HoCo Retreat!** ~ Registration is now available! The HoCo family will join St. Mark's for the annual Shrine Mont parish retreat Friday, October 17 through Sunday, October 19, 2025. Enjoy delicious meals, worship together, attend workshops, hike to the Cross (optional!), and enjoy a bonfire, skits, and sing-alongs. Free time scheduled as well! Friday dinner is 5:30 PM, and Sunday check-out is at 11:00 AM, with lunch before you head home. All ages are welcome. *Register by mail or on-line, brochures are in the Narthex. Contact Melissa Irby mirby1137@outlook.com) for more information.* 

**Shrine Mont Camps is in full swing!** ~ Three ways you can be a part of this important ministry: 1- Pray for the campers, staff, parents, counselors, chaplains, and leadership; 2- send a post card or letter to: "Any Camper" or "Any Staff" Shrine Mont Camps, Orkney Springs, VA 22845; 3- Shrine Mont Camps has an Amazon Wishlist for those who want to support camp with supplies. (amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1BZZYVM03CZAL?ref =wl share)

**Safe Church Certification** ~ We are blessed at HOCO by creative and energetic children. To ensure that they will always be safe and protected in this place, all adults who work with children and youth are certified by The Episcopal Church in Safe Church practices. If you volunteer in any capacity with our younger ones and are not currently certified, or if your certification is not current, please enroll as follows:

To Enroll into the Safe Church Training:

1. Go to https://www.praesidiumacademy.com/redeem

2. Create a new account: Fill in your contact information including First Name, Last Name, Email Address, and desired Password.

3. Enter the registration code for your organization -

reg-ediovirginia-804-holycomforterrichmond

- 4. Click Validate to confirm registration code.
- 5. Click the checkbox to agree to the Terms & Conditions.
- 6. Click Redeem.
- 7. Write down your user login and password for future reference.
- 8. Answer the Registration Questions about your status and role within the organization.
- 9. Click Save & Continue.

10. To begin taking training immediately, scroll down and click a course to start the content.

**More on Safe Church Certification** ~ Thank you everyone who has already taken the Safe Church classes. If you are a key holder, or part of the altar guild, and have not taken safe church classes, please refer to the enrollment information above. The deadline is August 31st, 2025. Please contact Angie Palmer with any questions, <u>angiepalmer730@gmail.com.</u>

**Circles RVA** ~ Circles RVA (circlesrva.org) equips individuals and families to permanently move out of poverty and thrive. Circles RVA was established by several churches, led by Grace and Holy Trinity in The Fan, where we meet on Tuesday evenings. Circles RVA creates intentional relationships that develop strategies for reducing or eliminating the systemic barriers that hinder people from rising out of poverty. These relationships involve a Leader, who is seeking to improve their life, and Allies who support them. We are currently recruiting Allies for the next cohort. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact me, Don Ellison, in person after services or email me at <u>don.ellison.rva@gmail.com</u>.

**Blood Drive** ~ Holy Comforter and the American Red Cross are hosting a blood drive on Saturday, November 29th, 9 am-2 pm. Please join our lifesaving mission and schedule an appointment online at <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u> or contact Angie Palmer at 804-402-9441. We are looking for a coordinator or co-coordinator for this event. Volunteers are also needed to check in donors and provide hospitality.

**New Summer Office Hours** ~ Through Thursday, August 14th, our office hours will be 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Monday - Thursday. We will return to normal office hours, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Monday - Thursday, on Monday, August 18th.

**Pastoral Emergencies** ~ If you have a pastoral emergency, at any time of the day, please contact Bishop Susan Goff. Susan's phone number can be found in the parish directory. Her email address is InterimHOCO@outlook.com

**Parking Information** ~ Church Parking on Staples Mill Rd is "diagonal back-in" parking. A City of Richmond parking representative was present last Sunday to enforce this regulation. Parishioners have noted that these spaces are very narrow. We are making an effort to have them widened. Also note that the two non-diagonal "spaces" are not for parking but for access to the sidewalk; please do not park in those areas. Parallel parking spots on Monument Ave. and Monumental St. are also available.

**Good Samaritan Sunday**, *Social Justice and Outreach* ~ On the first Sunday of the month, we focus on our Food Pantry, celebrating the work that we do and the people we serve. Wondering what to donate to our Food Pantry? **Please see our shopping list on the bulletin board in the parish hall and on our website www.hoco.org**. You are invited to bring food for our food pantry friends to the Altar Table after the Offertory Anthem during our Presentation hymn. The Food Pantry helped 30 families on 6/3/2025,

35 families on 6/7/2025, 37 families on 6/17/2025, and 27 families on 6/21/2025. Thank you for your support. Our next Good Samaritan Sunday will be **July 6th.** 

**Wednesday Worship** ~ **Centering Prayer** ~ 11:45 am - 12:05 pm **Holy Eucharist** ~ 12:15 pm. On July 2nd we will celebrate the First Book of Common Prayer.

**Connection Time** ~ *an important part of growing our community* ~ We suggest that one person take one task on a Sunday 1. Drinks or 2. Putting snacks out that will be provided by Parish Life and will be in the kitchen or 3. Cleaning up after Connections. If you have any questions, or to sign up please email or call the parish office, office@hoco.org or 804-355-3251. You may also use Signup Genius, a link to that is found on our website. Thanks for taking part in this important ministry.

**Informal Artists of HoCo –** <u>**UnFinished Objects</u></u> <b>UFOs** ~ We'll meet in the Conference room from 10:30 – noon (ish) on Tuesdays to work on our own personal projects. Knitting, sketching, drawing, writing...good conversation and busy hands.</u>

# Calendar

#### Sunday, June 29th

Third Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m. ~ Holy Eucharist 4:00 p.m. ~ Let Go and Let God (AA) 7:30 p.m. ~ Back to Basics (AA)

**Monday, June 30th** 6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting 6:00 p.m. ~ Men of NA

#### Tuesday, July 1st

6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting 10:30 a.m. ~ UFO (UnFinished Objects) 5:30 p.m. ~ Food Pantry Open 5:30 p.m. ~ Community Meal 6:30 p.m. ~ NA Meeting Wednesday, July 2nd

6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting 11:45 a.m. ~ Centering Prayer 12:15 p.m. ~ Holy Eucharist

#### Thursday, July 3rd

6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting 12:00 p.m. ~ How Al-Anon Works 6:00 p.m. ~ Drop the Rock (12 Step)

#### Friday, July 4th

*Office Closed, Independence Day* 6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting

#### Saturday, July 5th

8:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting 11:00 a.m. ~ Food Pantry Open

# Sunday, July 6th

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m. ~ Holy Eucharist 4:00 p.m. ~ Let Go and Let God (AA) 7:30 p.m. ~ Back to Basics (AA)



#### Please Join Us! Sunday June 29th, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. A Service in Celebration of the Life and Ministry of The Reverend Dr. Pauli Murray

with a reception to follow. At St Mark's Episcopal Church 520 N. Arthur Ashe Blvd, Richmond, VA 23220