

JANUARY 7, 2024 8:15AM | 10:30AM | HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS

Please complete the information card and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of the ushers.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF HOLY COMFORTER

Though very diverse politically and socially, care for each other and care deeply for how our faith is manifested in the community. We believe all people are equal in God's hand. Our nurturing congregation has an appreciation for diverse perspectives and opinions. We grow through a continually evolving and questioning discussion regarding our faith, God, and society. We welcome all, without reservation, into our Christian body to be part of a loving and sharing family.

WE CARE

Please call the church office at (336) 227-4251 if you or someone you know needs visitation, prayers or other assistance because of illness or inability to attend worship service.

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

To worship God, revealed to us as Creator, as Jesus the Christ, and as the Holy Spirit, and experience God's presence within the church family, nurturing each other through a comprehensive parish program while affirming each other's individual ministries and responding to Jesus' continuing call to minister to others. We Three Kings

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN | 124

What star is this, with beams so bright



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OfficiantBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.

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.

GLORIA | S-280



People

COLLECT

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All children are invited to follow the crucifer to Godly Play in the Children's Chapel.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

Deus, judicium

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE | S-409

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14



- 1 Give the King your justice, O <u>God</u>, * and your righteousness to the King's <u>son</u>;
- 2 That he may rule your people <u>righteously</u> * and the poor with <u>justice</u>.
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the <u>people</u>, * and the little hills bring <u>righteousness</u>.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the <u>people</u>; * he shall rescue the poor and crush the op<u>pressor</u>.

- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon en<u>dure</u>, * from one generation to a<u>nother</u>.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown <u>field</u>, * like showers that water the <u>earth</u>.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous <u>flourish</u>; * there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no <u>more</u>.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay <u>tribute</u>, * and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer <u>gifts</u>.
- 11 All kings shall bow down be<u>fore him</u>, * and all the nations do him <u>service</u>.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in dis<u>tress</u>, * and the oppressed who has no <u>helper</u>.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and <u>poor</u>; * he shall preserve the lives of the <u>needy</u>.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and <u>violence</u>, * and dear shall their blood be in his <u>sight</u>.

THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN | 128

We three kings



GospelerThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

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.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Melanie Barbarito

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

Officiant and People

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

Form I | BCP 383

The Reader and People pray responsively Deacon or other leader With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord,

have mercy."

Reader For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. Reader For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People Reader For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in Reader authority, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People For this city (town, village,_____), for every city and Reader community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of Reader the earth, let us pray to the Lord. People Lord, have mercy. For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom Reader and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air [or through Reader outer space], let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People Reader For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People Reader For , let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the Reader destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People Reader For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People Reader For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People Reader For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering Reader and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. People Reader Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace. People Lord, have mercy. Reader and of all the] saints, let us In the communion of [commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. People To thee. O Lord our God.

Silence.

The celebrant may add a concluding collect before the following.

A TRANSITION PRAYER FOR HOLY COMFORTER

Ever-present God, You call us on a journey to a place we do not know. We are not where we started. We have not reached our destination. We are not sure where we are or who we are. Transition is not a comfortable place. May we continue to remind ourselves of the wonderful resources of this Church Sanctuary and a warm and welcoming congregation. Be among us, we pray. Calm our fears, save us from discouragement. Encourage us to care for one another. And help us to stay on course. Open our hearts to your guidance so that our journey toward calling a new Rector continues as a journey of trust, and faith and love. **Amen**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect, or the following Doxology

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

GENERAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People

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 concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

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

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Three Kings from Persian Lands

In Bethlehem, that noble place Of Virgin Mary, full of grace, Within a stable all forlorn, The Savior of the world is born.

> Refrain: Be ye merry in this feast In which the Savior Christ is born.

Three Kings from Persian lands afar To Jordan follow the pointing star: And this the quest of the travellers three, Where the new-born King of the Jews may be. *Refrain*

The star shines out with a steadfast ray; The kings to Bethlehem make their way, And there in worship they bend the knee, Unto the child they'd come to see. *Refrain*

The star of mercy, the star of grace, Shall lead thy heart to its resting place. Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring; So give thy heart unto the king. *Refrain*

DOXOLOGY | 380 V.3

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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
Eucharist Prayer C

The people remain standing.

People	And also with you.
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.

Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.

Old 100th

BCP 369

Gustav Holst

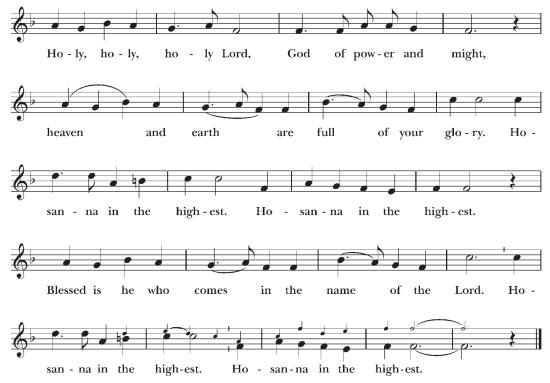
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

Celebrant	God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
People	Glory to you for ever and ever.
Celebrant People	At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. By your will they were created and have their being.
Celebrant	From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
People	Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.
Celebrant	Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
People	By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.
Celebrant	And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all

SANCTUS | S-125

(Sanctus lyrics on the next page)



The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Celebrant	Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
People	We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.
Celebrant	Lord God of our Ancestors; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.
People	Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

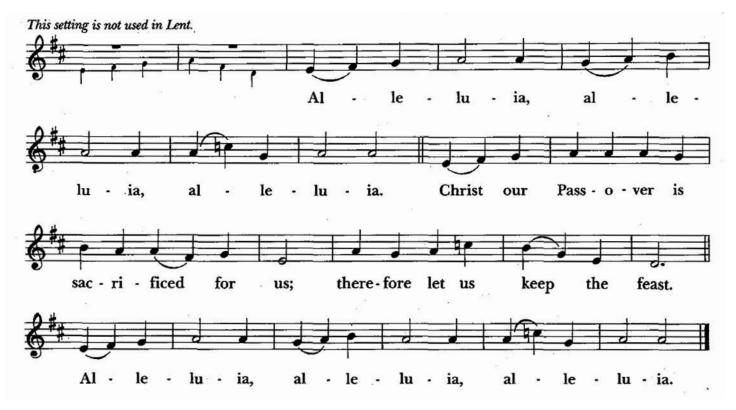
Officiant and People

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

The Officiant breaks the consecrated Bread. The choir will immediately sing the fraction anthem.

FRACTION ANTHEM | S-155



Facing the people, the Officiant says the following Invitation. The Gifts of God for you, who are also gifts of God.

Persons wanting a blessing instead of receiving bread or wine at the Altar may cross their arms over their chest.

BCP 364

BCP 364

COMMUNION HYMNS

118 | Brightest and best of the stars of the morning



114 | 'Twas in the moon of wintertime



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

For those attending in person.

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**

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

For those attending remotely.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL | 119

As with gladness men of old

(Recessional lyrics on the next page)

DISMISSAL

OfficiantGo in peace to love and serve the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Dietrich Buxtehude



ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Gene and Connie Griner in thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren.

OFFICIANT	The Rev. Melanie Barbarito
LAY MINISTERS VERGER	Steven Swanner
ORGANIST	Christin Baker
USHERS	8:15am Paula Boyd 10:30am Peter and Susan Klopman
READERS	8:15am Julie Smith 10:30am Meredith Patterson, Jocelyn Safrit
ACOLYTES	8:15am Julie Smith 10:30am Chalicist - Meredith Patterson Crucifer - Max Newbauer Left Torch Bearer - Adriane Newbauer Right Torch Bearer - Annagrace Newbauer Gospel Bearer - Holden Newbauer
CHILDREN'S CHAPEL	Jim Romer, Mourine Todd
VESTRY COUNTERS	Shara Partin, Leslie Haines
FLOWER GUILD	Connie Griner
ALTAR GUILD	Audrey Deadmon , Leslie Haines, Elizabeth Hood, Jane Spencer, Bea Swajkoski
SUNSHINE COMMITTEE	Susan Klopman, Betty Adams, Judy Driscoll, Beth Glidewell, Julie Tighe
COMMITMENT TO MIN	NISTRY COMMITMENT TO FAITHFULNESS

DEC. 31 SERVICE COUNT 10:0Z0AM 102 | REMOTE 26

GENERALFUND	095.00
PLEDGED	+,154.52
OTHER	,928.43
TOTAL	9,177.95

_

CONTACTS

BISHOP DIOCESAN The Rt. Rev. Sam Rodman | sam.rodman@episdionc.org ASST. BISHOP The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson | jennifer.brookedavidson@episdionc.org Steven Swanner | jsswanner@gmail.com VERGER Christin Baker | cbaker@hb-c.org MUSIC DIRECTOR FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR Julia Buffington | jbuffington@hc-b.org PARISH ADMINISTRATOR Cat Sykes | csykes@hc-b.org Kelvin Bradsher | gareth.bradsher@yahoo.com **SEXTON** NEWLIN PARTNERSHIP ADMIN. DIRECTOR Mindy Robinson | newlinpartnership@gmail.com Jocelyn Safrit | safritr@bellsouth.net **ASSISTANT FOR YOUTH & FAMILY PROJECTS** NURSERY STAFF Jan Kelly | jankelly159@gmail.com EmmaLee Murphy emma.murph26@icloud.com NURSERY STAFF The Rev. David R. Williams | david@davidrwilliams.org **RECTOR EMERITUS**

VESTRY CONTACTS

SENIOR WARDEN JUNIOR WARDEN CLERK FINANCE STEWARDSHIP PERSONNEL PASTORAL CARE WORSHIP CHRISTIAN FORMATION PARISH LIFE VESTRY AT LARGE Mark Thomas | mdthomas6@hotmail.com George Blaisdell | gblaisdell13@gmail.com Shara Partin | sharapartin1919@gmail.com Max Newbauer | maxnewbauer@yahoo.com Larry Stevens | samspenser@gmail.com Tom Mclean | tmclean2@me.com Paula Boyd | paulahboyd@gmail.com Diana Wallace | wallaced2000@yahoo.com Leslie Haines | lesliehaines2@gmail.com Joanne Mcclusky | jmcclusky@triad.rr.com

WAYS TO CONNECT

OFFICE PHONE WEBSITE OFFICE HOURS INSTAGRAM FACEBOOK PAGE FACEBOOK GROUP YOUTUBE



www.hc-b.org Monday-Thursday | 8am-2:30pm - Friday | 8am-12pm www.instagram.com/holycomforterburlington www.Facebook.com/holycomforterburlington www.Facebook.com/groups/holycomforterburlington www.youtube.com/ECHCBurlington

