

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, June 19, 2016 •

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

GATHERING/WELCOME

PRELUDE: *O Day of Rest* J. D. Payne

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Just and gracious God,

C we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P The apostle Paul assures us: “When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross.” Jesus says to you, ☩ “Your sins are forgiven.” Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Drawn to the Light* All Stand & Sing



1 Peo - ple who walk in dark - ness have sought a light in the
2 How can we tell a heav - en from hell if ev - 'ry - one
3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the



heart of the dark - est night. Just when we thought all would be
dwells in the dark of night? Morn - ing dis - pels, gent - ly com -
one who is shin - ing bright, bids us to come! Life has be -



lost, we were drawn to the light of God.
pels, and we're drawn to the light of God.
gun when we're drawn to the light of God.

Refrain



Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the



light and the morn - ing. Glo - rious and bright, oh, what a



sight to be drawn to the light of God.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: LA CROSSE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1990 John C. Ylvisaker.

GREETING

P From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

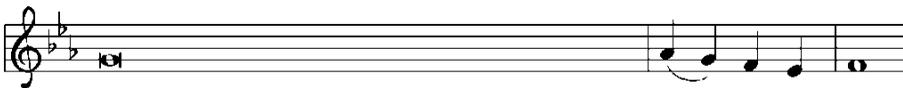
KYRIE

A 

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C 

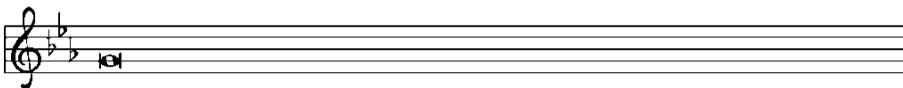
Lord, have mer - cy.

A 

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C 

Lord, have mer - cy.

A 

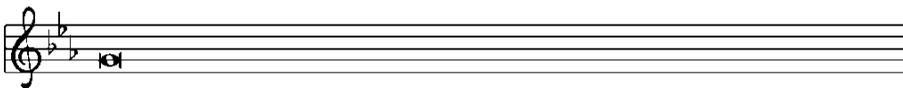
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C 

Lord, have mer - cy.

A 

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

C 

Lord, have mer - cy.

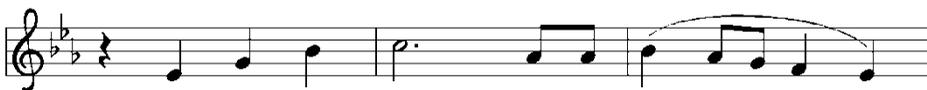
A 

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

C 

A - men, a - men.

GLORY TO GOD



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



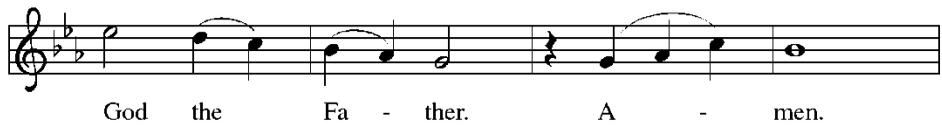
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



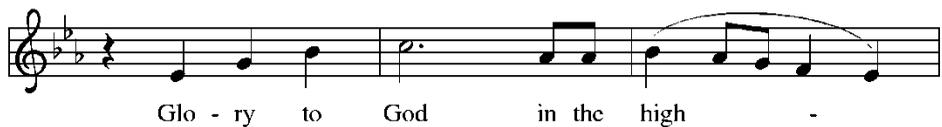
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

*Congregation is Seated and are invited to sing “Jesus Loves Me”
as the children come forward.*

CHILDREN’S TIME

Children ages 4 to 8 years-old are invited to go to the Education building for a 20-minute (or so) time together **immediately after the Children’s sermon**. *Children will return to their parents during the hymn of the day.* Children **birth through 3 years-old** are invited to join others their age **in the nurseries**.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 65:1-9

A reading from the sixty-fifth chapter of Isaiah.

The prophet announces God’s impatience. The people’s self absorption is idolatry, and images from pagan worship fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel’s exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

¹I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, “Here I am, here I am,”
to a nation that did not call on my name.

²I held out my hands all day long
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;

³a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens

and offering incense on bricks;
⁴who sit inside tombs,
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat swine's flesh,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;
⁵who say, "Keep to yourself,
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.

⁶See, it is written before me:

I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their laps

⁷their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,
says the LORD;

because they offered incense on the mountains

and reviled me on the hills,

I will measure into their laps

full payment for their actions.

⁸Thus says the LORD:

As the wine is found in the cluster,

and they say, "Do not destroy it,

for there is a blessing in it,"

so I will do for my servants' sake,

and not destroy them all.

⁹I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,

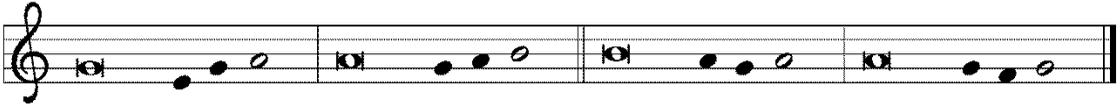
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;

my chosen shall inherit it,

and my servants shall settle there.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 22:19-28. All Sing

¹⁹But you, O LORD, be not | far away;
O my help, hasten | to my aid.
²⁰**Deliver me | from the sword,**
my life from the power | of the dog.
²¹Save me from the | lion's mouth!
From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.
²²**I will declare your name | to my people;**
in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.
²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.
²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is**
the LORD's face hid- | den from them;
but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.
²⁵From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
²⁶**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,**
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!
²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.
²⁸**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,**
who rules o- | ver the nations.

SECOND READING

Galatians 3:23-29

A reading from the third chapter of Galatians.

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that

we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

- A The word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE **All Stand & Sing**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
 Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

Luke 8:26-39

- P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.
- C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus' mission includes foreigners, and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony of God's mercy and power.

²⁶Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a

long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”—²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)³⁰Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.



P The gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: *We Come to You for Healing, Lord All Stand & Sing*

1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in

bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our

Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
 Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824
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APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Behold, How Good* Chamber Choir

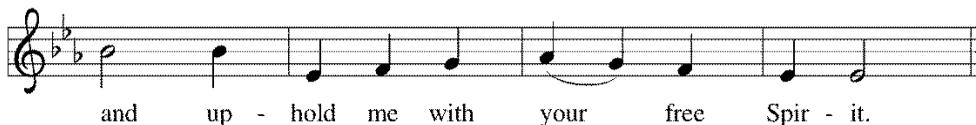
OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Create in Me* All Stand & Sing

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we pray for the church. Keep it faithful to you, so that your people here stand in witness to proclaim how much you have done for us in Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the well-being of creation. Tend and nurture plants and animals, lands, seas, and skies. Restore the vitality of lands and waters suffering from human misuse or natural disaster. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the nations. Work in and through governments, humanitarian organizations, and local partnerships to cast out the forces of evil and establish your life and peace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Be with those who know demons of any kind, and clothe them with Christ's freedom and healing. We pray especially for... Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation. Establish and renew our faith, strengthen our ministries, and bless those preparing for baptism. Bless fathers and all who provide fatherly care in their vocation to raise up our children in love. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, you have called the saints your own. Gather us, with them, into your kingdom, in the promise of life forever with you. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *Let Streams of Living Justice Flow* All Stand & Sing



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
Text © 1989 William Whitla.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**. We pray that you will find a warm fellowship while you are among us and that you will return home with a renewed sense of dedication to Jesus Christ. Please sign our guest register or a visitor's card so that we can become acquainted with you. If you are without a church home, we invite you to investigate membership in this family of God.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP. Jesus said, "let the children come to me!" Parents are encouraged to utilize the Kids Worship Kits found in the Narthex for older toddlers through early elementary age. Nurseries for children (**infants through 3 years old**) are located in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance.



KIDS' WORSHIP CENTER: Pick up kits as you enter for worship! **Please return the tote bag** with the plastic bag of crayons, scratch pads, and pencils to the stand in the narthex. The children may take any papers home with them.

PRAYER REQUESTS: A notebook has been placed in the narthex for your prayer requests during the week. The book will be in the narthex on Sundays and in the church office during the week. **If you wish a name to be added to our prayer board, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in the form on line at www.holy.org.**

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Dean Burwell in honor of Cooper Burwell's birthday; and by Dianne Lail in loving memory of father, A. O. Lail and in honor of all fathers on this Father's Day.

Those who have placed flowers on the altar may use the containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church.

Carmen Buell, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, June 12, 2016:

Attendance: 120

Budget Report

June 12, 2016

Current Offering Received	\$ 5,262.00
Weekly Budget Expenses	\$ 5,019.46
Offering, Year-To-Date	\$125,782.27
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	\$ 9,682.91
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	\$ 8,432.30

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Julia Gunter

GREETER: Fran Holland

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: Volunteers

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:
Maria Carr

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)
Fran Holland, Co-Captain
Melinda Lingerfelt, Co-Captain
Courtney Gatlin Stephanie Hinson

NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am)
Infants: Staff
Toddlers: Volunteer

TELLERS: John Koehler, Sherry Alexander

SOLO: Diann Halvorson

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: June 19-25

Today, June 19 John Koehler
June 23 Eric Scholler

June 25 Wil Carpenter
Kelly Ross



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, June 19

9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room
10:30 am The Service

Tuesday, June 21

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Thursday, June 23

7:00 pm Evangelism Meeting
8:30 pm *Movie Night on the Lawn*
"Inside Out"



BCO items for the month:
Canned tomatoes & Jellies





This summer, Holy Comforter is providing kids an adventure like no other, deep within the mysterious sea. Our Vacation Bible School program will allow children to submerge themselves in God's Word. They will discover that Jesus didn't just see what's on the outside of people. He looked deep down on the inside. So grab your goggles, step into your flippers, and prepare to register your kids for diving below the surface to find the truth!



A quick meal will be provided, then the children rotate through activities of play, studying scripture, singing, and art. Parents are welcome to stay or take this time for themselves. **Registration forms are available** via email to holycomforter@gmail.com or ask Melissa. If you are interested in helping with the program, you would be welcomed, whether it's providing a meal or assisting with one of the activity stations. **More formal guidance and materials will be provided for all volunteers.** Contact Melissa Bocchino at Melissa.bocchino@pwc.com.



Holy Comforter is hosting **Camp Agape the week of July 18-22.** Agape is a day camp for rising 1st to rising 8th graders and is sponsored by Kure Beach Ministries.

This year we will again include 6th-rising 8th graders. The kids in this age group will participate in service projects throughout the week at Holy Comforter as well as off-site. **We must have a minimum of 6 middle school aged kids in order to offer this expanded camp.**

Registration forms are available in the narthex or from Misty Koehler. The cost is \$130 per camper and is due at the time of registration. There is only room for 20 campers, so register soon. The spaces will be filled on a "first come, first served" basis. Contact Misty if you have any questions about camp.

Misty Koehler, Camp Coordinator



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin
Brenda Dabrowski
Shawn De Nicholas
Ardean Ewing
Dot Holland

Zack Hullander
Tom Irwin
Chase Lineberger
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry

Marguerite Shive
Mark Reese
Beverley Reynolds
Kevin Washle

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Richard Abernethy
Paige Beaver
Jenny Beer
Barbara Bingham
Emma Davis Bremer
Graham Brezler
Libby Byrum
Father Frank Cancro
Tina Capwell
Clell Davis
J. Don Devine
Zachary Evans
Poss Garrett
Ronnie Garrison
Tammy Gordon

Brian Hedrick
Sam Holloway
Stacy Hunsucker
Dennis Jordan
Steven Keating
Marshall Kinley
Laura Lanuto
Jennifer Lineberger
Terry Mahaffey
Gene McRorie
Don Moore
Jean Peters
Jim Poag
Taylor Propst & Family
David Prouty

Julio Quiros
Dan Robinson and
Daughters Breanna & Mikayla
Anna Rudder
Tangie Shingler
Megan Sigler
E. Taylor & Family
Carson Thomas
Sally Vanhoy
Pat Via
Gloria Ward
Olivia Wilcox
Jeff Wiles
Bruce Zander

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek
Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer
Leo Kasmer

Tom Kasmer
Mike Kelso



Please remember these people in your prayers.

If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please inform Kathy Graves.

The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org.

Holy Doodles



Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483
holycomforter@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am The Service
Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am — 3:00 pm

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: MicahKearney@gmail.com
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster
Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager