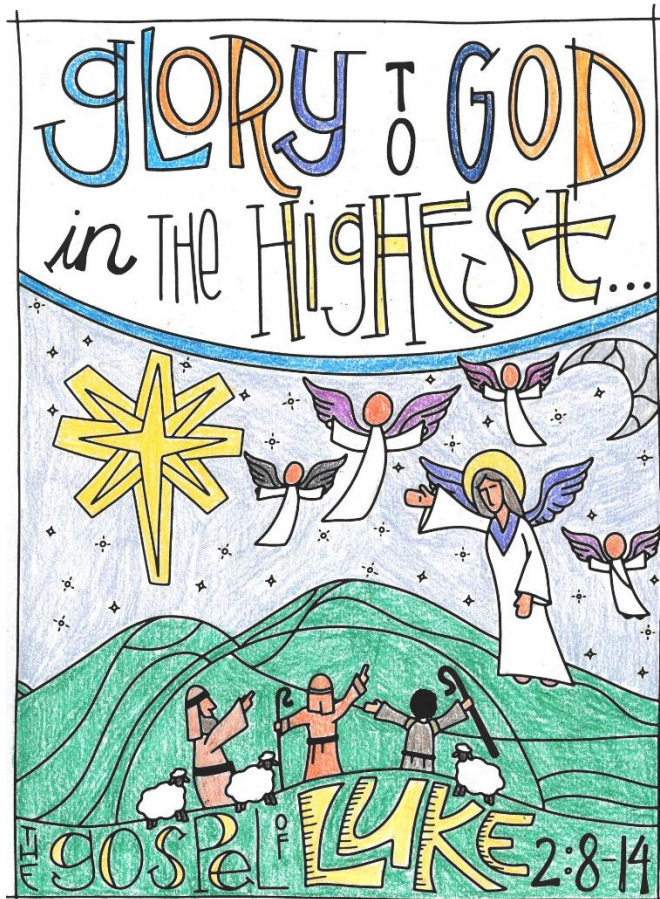


# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

Friday, December 24, 2022 11:00 pm

Candlelight Carol Service of Holy Communion



## GATHERING/WELCOME

*Christmas Time* ..... Church Choir  
*What Star Is This* ..... Church Choir  
*Sing We Noel* ..... Chamber Choir  
*Here We Come A Caroling* ..... Handbell Choir

**PRELUDE:** *O Holy Night* ..... Solo

# KYRIE ..... Stand & Face the Back of The Church

*Assisting Minister*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

*All*

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e -

le - i - son, e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son.

*Assisting Minister*

Petition..... let us pray.

*Assisting Minister*


Help, save, com-fort and de - fend us, O

*All*

God. A -

<i>To the Prayer of the Day</i>	<i>To the Evening Hymn of Praise</i>
men.	men.

# ENTRANCE HYMN: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*. . . . . All Stand & Sing



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

**P** The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, born of Mary, be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**A** Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen

*Assembly is seated.*

**FIRST LESSON:** Isaiah 9:2-7

**ANTHEM:** *Whatcha Gonna Call That Baby*. . . . . Church Choir

**SECOND LESSON:** Titus 2:11-14

*(The congregation stands and turns to face the processional cross.)*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** . . . . . All Stand & Sing

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains

*Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

**HOLY GOSPEL:** Luke 2:1-20

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*(The Reading of the Gospel)*

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

**Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE** . . . . . Pastor Micah

# HYMN: *What Child is This* ..... All Stand & Sing



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.  
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898  
 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

## THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER

(The congregation is invited to kneel and join in the sung responses)

### Refrain

*All*

Watch, O Lord, with all those a -  
wake this night. Watch, O Lord, with all those who  
weep. Give your an - gels and saints  
charge o - ver all who sleep.

### Verses

*Assisting Minister* *All* *Assisting Minister*  
in your love, Lord.  
*All* *Assisting Minister*  
in your love, Lord.  
*All* *To Refrain*  
in your love, O Lord of all.

Text: Prayer by St. Augustine, adapt. Marty Haugen; © 2003, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Music: AUGUSTINE; Marty Haugen, © 2003, GIA Publications, Inc.

## PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** Hallelujah Chorus . . . . . Church Choir  
*Congregation stands on “King of Kings and Lord of Lords...”*

## OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Gracious God,

**C** your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation for 'THE GREAT THANKSGIVING' consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is divided into two parts: 'Presider' and 'All'. The second staff is also divided into 'Presider' and 'All'. The third and fourth staves are for 'Presider' and 'All' respectively.

*Presider* *All*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Presider* *All*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All*  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

*The presiding minister gives God thanks and invites the assembly to join heaven's hymn of Praise: ...” We Praise your name and join their unending hymn”...*

## SANCTUS

*All*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the One who comes, who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on six staves. The first staff is a single line with a treble clef and a common time signature, containing the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,'. The second staff is a single line with a treble clef and a common time signature, containing the lyrics 'God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are'. The third staff is a single line with a treble clef and a common time signature, containing the lyrics 'full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'. The fourth staff is a single line with a treble clef and a common time signature, containing the lyrics 'Bless - ed is the One who comes, who'. The fifth staff is a single line with a treble clef and a common time signature, containing the lyrics 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the'. The sixth staff is a single line with a treble clef and a common time signature, containing the lyrics 'high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.'.

Music: Marty Haugen, © 2004, GIA Publications, Inc.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION





**THE LORD'S PRAYER** ..... Tune: *Away In A Manger*

1. Our Father in heaven,  
All praise to Your name!  
Your kingdom among us,  
Your will done the same.  
By mortals and angels,  
Come, Lord, reign alone;  
Oh, hear us and bless us  
from heaven's high throne.

2. The bread that we yearn for  
Provide us each day;  
As we forgive others,  
Our sins take away;  
In times of temptation,  
Lead us to be near;  
From evil deliver  
Your children most dear.

3. For Yours is the kingdom;  
o're all things You reign.  
And Yours is the power;  
All things You maintain.  
To You be the glory, resounding again  
From all of creation,  
Forever! Amen.

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**COMMUNION**

*All people are welcome at the Lord's Table to receive Christ's real presence and grace.  
You are invited forward to take a cup and then kneel around the altar as you're able.  
You'll receive the bread and eat, then hold your cup to be filled with wine and drink.  
You'll then return to your seat the way you came forward.*

## LAMB OF GOD

*All*

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

1., 2.

world; have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us. *Repeat*

3.

world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:** *Mid Night Clear* . . . . .Chamber Choir

**P** The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen.

*Remain Standing*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**A** We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C** Amen

## CANDLELIGHTING

*The pastor will light his candle from the large Christ Candle, which symbolizes Christ, the light of the world. With the assistance of the acolyte, the light will be passed throughout the congregation.*

## CANDLELIGHTING CAROL: *Silent Night* ..... All Sing

(Raise your candle at “*Christ, the Savior is born*” and “*Jesus, Lord at your birth.*”)

*The first verse will be sung by the choir in Spanish.*

**1.** No-che de paz, no-che de amor!

To-do duerme en de-rre-dor;  
En-tre sus as-tros que espar-cen su luz,  
Be-lla a-nunciando al niño Jesús,

*Brilla la estrella de paz,  
Brilla la estrella de paz.*



**2.** Silent night, holy night!

Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav’nly hosts sing, alleluia!

*Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!*



**3.** Silent night, holy night!

Son of God, love’s pure light  
Radiant beams from your holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,

*Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*



## THE BLESSING

**P** The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

**C** Amen.

*(Please extinguish your candles)*



# SENDING CAROL: *Joy to the World* ..... All Sing

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
 Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

## THE SENDING

P Glory to God in the highest!

C **Peace to God's people on earth!**

P Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** *We Wish You a Merry Christmas* ..... All Sing

**We Wish You a Merry Christmas,  
We Wish You a Merry Christmas,  
We Wish You a Merry Christmas,  
And a Happy New Year!**

**Good tidings we bring to you and your kin  
Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year!**  
Repeat Refrain

*Special Thanks to All our Church Musicians:*

*Church Choir*

*Chamber Choir*

*Handbell Choir*

*Don Robinson: Soloist*

Suzanne Fairbairn: Communion Organist

Julia Gunter: Flute

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\*Special thanks to our Lector, Brian Achor.

\*\* The altar flowers were given by Julia Gunter in celebration of the birth of our Savior and in honor of our Choirmaster and all church musicians for their time, talent and dedication to our music ministry.

**Welcome Christmas friends!** Jesus is born this day. May He be born again in your hearts this night. We especially welcome guests of Holy Comforter. **Please** fill out a card from the rack in front of you. If you do not have a Church home in the community, please consider joining Holy Comforter on Sundays.

**This Week's Schedule:**

**Sunday, December 25th**

No Sunday School

10:30 am - Worship in the Sanctuary

**Monday, December 26th**

Office Closed

***A Special Thank You to Everyone who made this a  
Wonderful Advent & Christmas Season!***

**NOTE: All classes and music activities resume January 8<sup>th</sup>**



## POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS 2022



### TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

Greg Byrum

### IN HONOR OF:

Greg Byrum in honor of Mary (Libby) Byrum  
Greg Bryum in honor of Julia Gunter  
Jill Cassel in honor of Greg Cline, Deacon Beka Forst, Pastor Micah Kearney  
Shirley Causby in honor of Greg Cline  
Greg Cline in honor of Shirley Causby  
Greg Cline in honor of Faye and Warren Heller  
John & Leslie Crist in honor of our grandchildren: Wyatt & Brooklyn Suttentfield, Max & Olive McCotter, Patrick & Jacob Crist  
Jimmy & Ellie Holloway in honor of Jennifer Hass Kearney  
Jack Howard in honor of his cousins: Elizabeth, Emalee, Lily, Charlie & Mackenzie  
Carole Jolley in honor of Pastor Micah, Jenn and boys  
The Kearney Family in honor of the saints of Holy Comforter, past and present  
Leigh & Shari Leverenz in honor of Emmaleigh and Jackson Bears  
Mark & Anne Reese in honor of Barbara Reese  
Harold & Jo Singleton in honor of Angela Bunney and Alan Daniel's Christmas Eve wedding  
Mark & Rebecca Yount in honor of Luke and Alec Via

### IN MEMORY OF:

Donna Bean in memory of Faye H. Bean  
Jim & Jan Buell in memory of Carmen Buell  
Jim & Jan Buell in memory of Carol Terry and Bob Haubenreich  
Shirley Causby in memory of Tommy Causby  
John & Leslie Crist in memory of Ray and Rita Broome, Bill and Rosa Crist  
Raul & JoAnne de la Vega in memory of Dr. & Mrs. Raul E. de la Vega  
Raul & JoAnne de la Vega in memory of Dr. & Mrs. William Kannapel  
Jeff & Abby Featherstone in memory of Ned, Becke, and Ann Featherstone  
Jimmy & Ellie Holloway in memory of Robert Hass, John Hass, Albert and Jean Hass  
Jimmy & Ellie Holloway in memory of Sam and Martha Ann Holloway, and Tom Holloway  
Carole Jolley in memory of Sybil Jolley  
Diana Kooser in memory of family members  
Debbie Mendez in memory of Alice and Mark Lyerly  
Mark & Ann Reese in memory of Jim and Shirley Robertson  
Mark & Ann Reese in memory of Jim Reese  
Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in memory of Heather Mauney Yount  
Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in memory of Paul and Judy Outlaw  
Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in memory of John and Myra Yount

This is the list that the church office received. We apologize if there were any names omitted.



**"Journeying through faith in a joyful, safe community, welcoming and serving Belmont and beyond."**

Our core values are: **Embrace, Grow, Connect, and Give.**

**Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter**

216 N. Main St. Belmont NC 28012 704-825-2483

[holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto:holycomforter@gmail.com)

**Church Office Hours: - Monday – Friday 8:30am-2:00pm**

Micah Kearney, Pastor- email: [Micahkearney@gmail.com](mailto:Micahkearney@gmail.com)

Greg Cline, Organist/Choirmaster

Beka Forst, Deacon of Discipleship

Chelsea Spicer, Office Manager