Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, November 15, 2015

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost The Baptism of Amelia Elizabeth Kline

Micah Kearney Pastor



Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: Your Canopy of Vigil Lights from Unfailing Light

GATHERING SONG: I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry All Stand & Sing



- "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old. "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- the mid-dle a ges of your life, not too old, no lon ger young,



re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold. you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be long. be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.

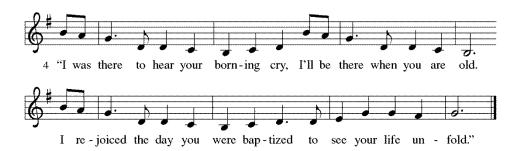


was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one, When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell." I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing I'll be there as I have al-ways been, with just one more sur-prise."

Continued on next page...



Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

PRESENTATION FOR HOLY BAPTISM

P God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors: I present Amelia Elizabeth Kline for baptism.

P Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Millie baptized into Christ?

Response:

I do.

P As you bring Millie to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that Millie may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

P Do you promise to help Millie grow in the Christian faith and life? *Response:*

I do.

P Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Millie in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response:

I do.

- P People of God, do you promise to support Millie by praying for her in her new life in Christ?
- C We do.

The assembly stands

PROFESSION OF FAITH

- P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.
- P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
- C I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
- C I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
- C I renounce them.
- P Do you believe in God the Father?
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C 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.

- P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

BAPTISM

- P Amelia Elizabeth Kline, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- C You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Millie with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

P Amelia Elizabeth Kline, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

WELCOME

A Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

A Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Congregation is seated and 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 Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the twelfth chapter of Daniel.

The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

¹"At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

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



PSALM 16 All Sing in Unison

¹Protect me, O God, for I take ref- | uge in you;

I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good a- | bove all other."

²All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land, upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.

³But those who run after | other gods shall have their troubles | multiplied.

⁴I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods, never take their names up- | on my lips.

⁵O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup; it is you who up- | hold my lot.

⁶My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land; indeed. I have a | rich inheritance.

⁷I will bless the LORD who | gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night | after night.

⁸I have set the LORD al- | ways before me;

because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken.

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices; my body also shall | rest in hope.

¹⁰For you will not abandon me | to the grave, nor let your holy one | see the pit.

¹¹You will show me the | path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for | evermore.

SECOND READING Hebrews 10:11--25

A reading from the tenth chapter of Hebrews.

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

¹¹Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," ¹³and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." ¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. ¹⁵And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶ This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,

and I will write them on their minds,"

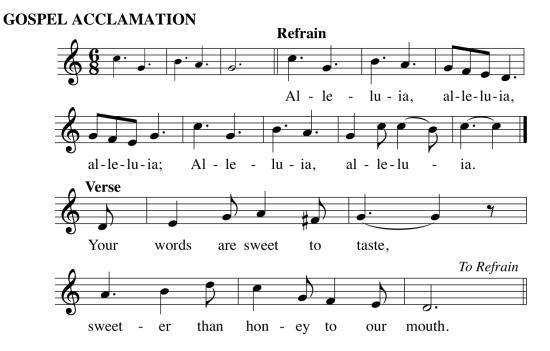
¹⁷he also adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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



GOSPEL Mark 13:1-8
The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.

¹As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ²Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

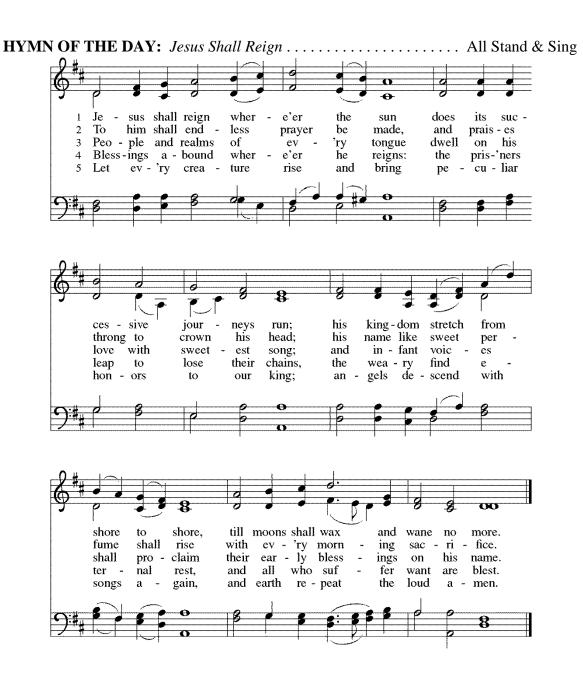
³When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴"Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?"⁵Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs."

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON..... Pastor Micah



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

PEACE

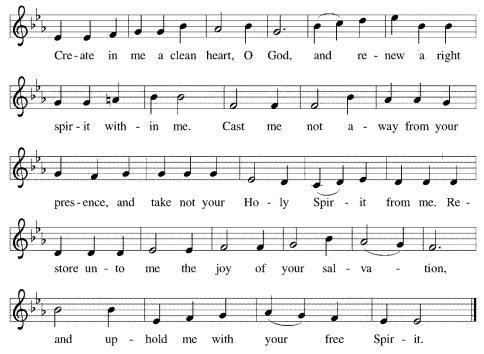
- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

OFFERING



OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Bless We the Name of the Lord Our God . . . Chamber Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Create In Me All Stand and Sing



OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray,

C Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray with all God's saints for healing, wholeness, and peace in all the earth.

A brief silence.

Holy One, we pray for healing in the church; for forgiveness when we are quick to judge; for mercy when we are slow to love neighbors; for an end to racial divisions on Sunday mornings. Let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For stars and planets, black holes, and all the wonders of the universe; for astronomers and aerospace engineers; for science teachers and curious students; for the renewal of all creation. Let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For political refugees and all who seek asylum; for war-torn nations and our global neighbors accustomed to the sound of bombs and gunfire; for our national enemies and for our country. Let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For people living with Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease; for the family, friends, and caregivers who love them; for all who cannot afford medical care when they are sick; for all who mourn and suffer (*especially*). Let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For new parents and grandparents; for families grieving a miscarriage; for foster parents and homeless youth; for families living with domestic violence; for the newly married, recently divorced, and happily single. Let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for all the faithful departed who now sing your glory, that our voices might join with theirs in praise today and always. Let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Into your care, Alpha and Omega, we entrust all for whom we pray. Be with us now and always, 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 love of God who created you, the mercy of ± Jesus Christ who died for you, and the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you, keep you at one with all the faithful, living and departed, and remain with you now and forever.

C Amen.



All Stand and Sing



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876, alt. Text © 1995 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Christ is with you.
- C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this Twenty-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.

<u>CHILDREN</u> 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. A nursery for children (**infants through 3 years old**) is located in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance finding it.



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.

<u>PRAYER REQUESTS</u>: 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 list, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in a form online at www.holyc.org.

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Dianne Lail in honor of Joel Nichols' birthday; and by Debbie Mendez in celebration of Pastor Micah and Jenn Kearney.

<u>Those who have placed flowers on the altar</u> may use containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church. *Greg Byrum, Worship & Music*

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, November 8, 2015:

Attendance: 115	
Budget Report	November 8, 2015
Current Offering Received 11/8/2015	\$ 6,658.00
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 4,598.27
Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)	\$ 217,602.91
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	\$ 12,337.39
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	\$ 13,091.21

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye, Jr., Brian Achor **GREETER:** Kathy Graves

ACOLYTE & CRUCIFER: Need Volunteers NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am)

Jane Howard; Amanda Kelly

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Shelia Kelly + Helper

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 2)

Brad Milton & Brandy Milton, Co-Captains

Donna Bean + Volunteer

MUSICIAN IN TRAINING: Will Kline

John Koehler

TELLERS: Sherry Alexander

USHERS: Volunteers Need

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: November 8-14

Today, November 8 James Buell November 11 Ashley Ange Richard Holden

November 12 Libby Joye



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, November 15

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room

10:30 am The Service

4:00 pm Children's Ensemble

5:00 pm Handbells

6:00 pm Church Choir

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

Tuesday, November 17

7:00 pm Chamber Choir Nar-Anon

Wednesday, November 18

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study



Thursday, November 19

7:00 pm Evangelism Committee

Saturday, November 21

10:00 am *Kids' Club* meets at the church to make Christmas cards for the residents at *Holy Angels*



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.

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin Holly Peche Mark Reese
Brenda Dabrowski Zac Hullander Beverly Reynolds
Shawn De Nicholas Chase Lineberger Anna Spikes
David Dowd Marquerite Shive Kevin Washle
Dot Holland

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Richard Abernethy Stacy Hunsucker **Beverly Howe Poag** Harriett Ange Dennis Jordan Jim Poag Taylor Propst & Family Paige Beaver Steven Keating Jenny Beer **Buddy Kircus** David Prouty Mike Butler Marshall Kinley Julio Quiros Father Frank Cancro Karin Larsen Anna Rudder Tina Capwell Terry Mahaffey Tangle Shingler Clell Davis Lynn McFarland Megan Sigler J. Don Devine Al McCov E. Taylor & Family Zachary Evans Carson Thomas Clav McCov Gene McRorie Jorge Frank Gloria Ward Jamey Gardner Susan Nichols Pastor Gary Weant Poss Garrett Mark Outlaw Olivia Wilcox Ronnie Garrison Alicia Overton Jeff Wiles Lewis Gilbert Family Ramesh Patel

Brian Hedrick

Matt Cisek Leo Kasmer

OUR SERVICEMEN

Jean Peters

Jason Gardner Dillon Kasmer
Tom Kasmer Alex Norris
Jeremy Shaver



We welcome into the membership of Holy Comforter by Infant Baptism Amelia Elizabeth Kline

Daughter of Mandi and Mark Kline, Born on May 26, 2015

Holy Comforter will be featured in the first annual *Belmont's Historic Christmas Home Tour* on **Sunday**, **December 6** from 1:00-6:00 pm. The tour will also include 5 historic homes all within walking distance of Holy Comforter. **Our church will be the first stop on the tour** so I need volunteers to help with registration and directing people. I need 20 volunteers from our church, 2 shifts of 10 volunteers each. Volunteer to work a 3-hour shift and spend the other 3 hours touring the historic homes for *FREE*.

On that day we will host live rehearsals from our Sanctuary throughout the afternoon. The schedule is as follows:

2-3 pm Children's Ensemble

3-4 pm Adult Handbell Ensemble

4-6 pm Church Choir

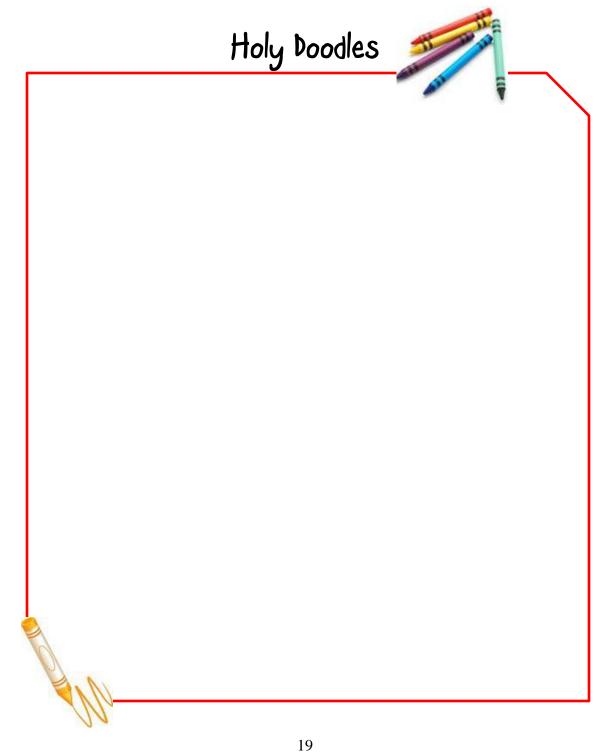
Our fellowship hall will serve as a "tea room" that afternoon. Please email me if you are interested in volunteering! It is a great way to welcome the Christmas season and see the wonderful historic homes in Belmont.

Thank you, Misty Koehler

Mistykoehler@gmail.com 704-266-0023



Attendance November 8, 2015		
	<u>Children</u>	<u>Adults</u>
Nursery	1	1
Pre-K	6	1
Pre-school (K-grade 2)	4	2
Elementary	3	1
Middle School	2	2
High School	4	1
Seekers & Adult Bible Cl	ass	6
Totals:	20	14





NOTE: There will be an **Angel Tree** available on Sunday, November 22. We received only <u>15 names from SOCKS</u> this year, but remember that we will also be asked to provide gifts for the foster children with Lutheran Family Services.



Dianne will provide names (and hopefully be able to add them to the tree) when they become available ...usually sometime in December.

Thank you in advance for taking part in this important ministry.

REMINDER: Sunday, November 22 we will have a congregational meeting to vote for our church council and the NC Synod representatives. Also, there will be discussion and presentation of the budget for 2016.

Lunch will follow the worship service. Meat and drinks will be furnished by the church. Members of the congregation are asked to bring a side dish and/or dessert.

Following lunch, we are asked to stay and help decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season.

Come Decorate for Christmas

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 666 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 Mandi Kline, Christian Education
Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager