

LUTHERAN CHURCH of the HOLY COMFORTER

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, December 9, 2018

The Second Sunday of Advent

The Hanging of the Green



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster



By Erin Cassel

GATHERING/WELCOME

PRELUDE: *There Is Room for You* Children's Ensemble

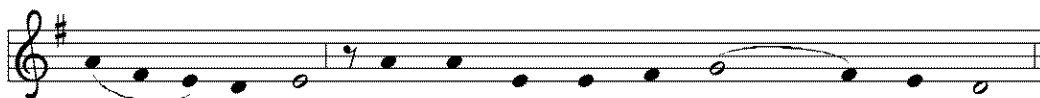
Tolling of the Bell

THE PROCLAMATION: Isaiah 40:3-5a

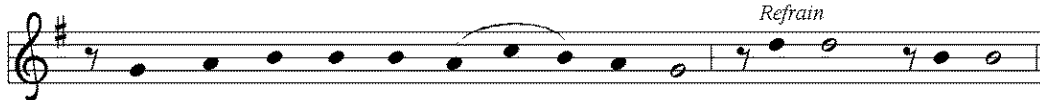
PROCESSIONAL CAROL: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* All Stand & Sing



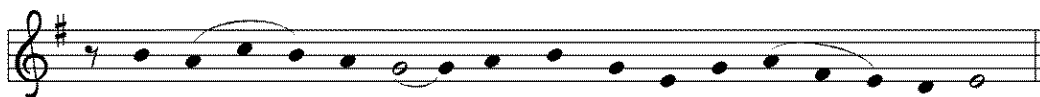
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
 and open wide our heav'nly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

THE INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit

C **Amen.**

THE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS LITANY

P Give glory to the coming King.

C **Oh, come let us worship Him.**

P Blessings on Him who comes in the name of the Lord.

C **Glory to God in the highest and Peace to His people on earth.**

P Blessed are you, Son of God, as you shine with the Father's love, illuminating the whole world.

C **Let heaven and earth shout their praise.**

P With all the creatures on earth, we sing this birth.

C **Praise and honor and glory to you, O Lord most High.**

THE OPENING PRAYER

Please Be Seated

OFFERING: *Longing for the Light* Church Choir

THE MEANING OF THE SERVICE

THE INVITATION

THE ANTHEM: *The King Shall Come* Church Choir



THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: The second candle reminds us that Christ comes to bring **PEACE** to our hearts and minds as we pray for peace in the world.



2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.

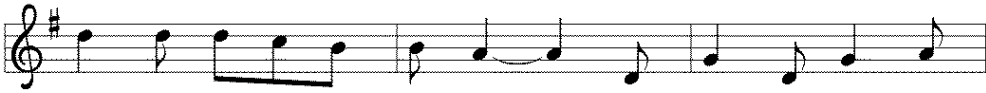


He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.

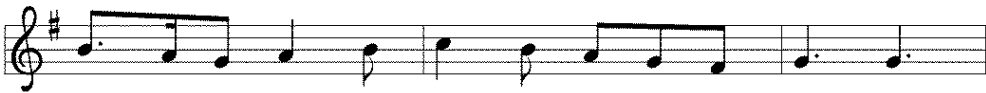
THE HYMN: *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn . . . All Sing & Remain Seated*



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though




an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and
lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
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THE CHRISTMAS BELLS

THE ANTHEM: *Comfort Ye My People* Handbell Choir

THE SANCTUARY EVERGREENS

THE CAROL: *The First Noel* (Congregation Remains Seated)

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
 Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night: **Refrain**

And by the light of that same star,
 Three wise men came from country far;
 To seek for a king was their intent,
 And to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

THE CRISMON TREE

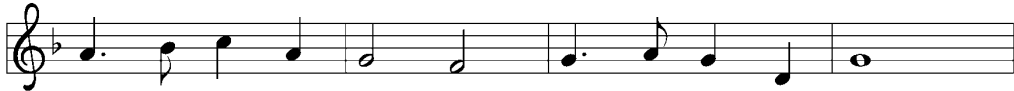


THE ANTHEM: *Joy to the World* Church Choir

THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA



THE CAROL: *In the Bleak Midwinter* All Sing & Remain Seated



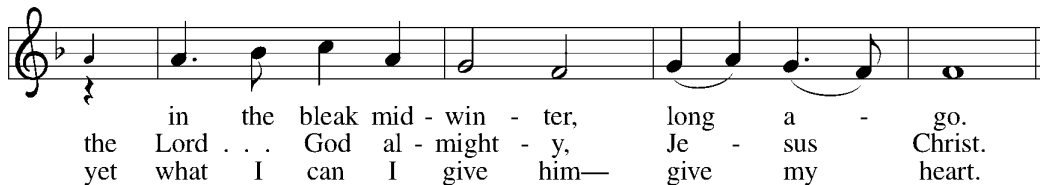
1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894
Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

THE NATIVITY



CHRISTMAS CAROL: *Love Has Come* All Sing, Remain seated



2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950
Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856
Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES



ANTHEM: *I Heard the Bells* Chamber Choir

THE CAROL: *Silent Night* All Stand & Sing
Raise your candle at ***Christ, the Savior & Jesus, Lord***

1. Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

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.




Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885
Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

THE PROCLAMATION

THE BLESSING


THE PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD: *Joy To The World* All Stand & Sing (Please extinguish your candles at beginning of the hymn.)



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 DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Let everyone know the hope and peace that fills you.

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: *Gloria* Wold

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PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Pastor: Micah Kearney

Music: Greg Cline

Director: Leslie Crist

Co-Direct: Beverly Mauney

Proclamation: Julia Gunter

Altar Flowers: Jenn Kearney

Veronica Bryant

Banner: Noah Rawlins

Acolytes: Emily Koehler

Catherine Carr

Crucifer: Matthew Carr

Poinsettia Procession: Children of the Church

Door Wreaths: Mark & Linda Cox

Handbell Choir

Church Choir

Chamber Choir

The Children of Holy Comforter

Bell Toll: Janet Achor

Readers: Brad Milton

Mandi Kline

Tom Bocchino

Charles Mauney

Jill Cassel

Brian Achor

Animals for the Manger: Children of the Church



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS 2018

GLORY TO GOD:

Pastor Micah & Jenn Kearney
Kurt & Cynthia Scholler (2 poinsettias)

IN HONOR OF:

Greg Byrum in honor of his family
Children's Ensemble & Youth Handbells in honor of Greg Cline
Greg Cline in honor of Shirley Causby
Greg Cline in honor of Faye & Warren Heller
Brian Fleming & Peter Marino in honor of Jane & John Marino
Brian Fleming & Peter Marino in honor of Ellen & Russ Fleming
Charles & Beverley Mauney in honor of Ginger & Chuck, Jake, Jimmy & Katie,
Henry & Anna, Laurel & Chris, and Al McCoy

IN MEMORY OF:

Donna Bean in memory of Faye H. Bean
Jim, Alex & Garrett Buell in memory of Carmen Buell (3 poinsettias)
Greg Byrum in memory of Mr. Olin S. Byrum, Jr.
Judy Caldwell in memory of Scott Caldwell
Shirley Causby in memory of Tommy Causby
Carmen, Arden & Merritt De Nicholas in memory of Mocha and Nila
Dr. Raul & JoAnne de la Vega in memory of Dr. & Mrs. William Kannapel
Dr. Raul & JoAnne de la Vega in memory of Dr. & Mrs. Raul E. de la Vega
Dr. Raul & JoAnne de la Vega in memory of Susan K. Misner
Russ & Ellen Fleming in memory of Myrtle, Gerald and Dick Bryan
Fran Holland in memory of Dot Holland
Fran Holland in memory of Willie Holland
Tim & Shelia Kelly in memory of Robert & Mary Kelly
Tim & Shelia Kelly in memory of Ken Hedrick and Norma Dougherty
(Shelia's dad and sister)
Sue Lahr in memory of Stan Lahr
Charles & Beverley Mauney in memory of Sandy McCoy, Betsy & Ray Mauney and Heather
Debbie Mendez in memory of Alice & Mark Lyerly
Nancy Powell in memory of James & Margaret Siipe, parents
Gary & Karen Rogers in memory of Harry & Helen Laver
Lynne Sudarich in memory of her parents Len & Marie Sudarich
Deb Williams in memory of Vivian Lane
Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in memory of Heather Mauney Yount

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

A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this **Second Sunday of Advent**. 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 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 and in memory of A.O. Lail by Dianne Lail and Carmen, Arden & Merritt De Nicholas.

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

Worship & Music Committee

Offering and Attendance Report for Sunday, December 2, 2018:

Attendance: 124

<u>Budget Report</u>	<u>December 2, 2018</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offering	\$ 4,386.41	\$ 250,636.01
Expenses	\$ 5,551.17	258,769.25
Offering less Expenses	<u>(\$ 1,164.76)</u>	<u>(\$ 8,133.24)</u>
Expected (Budgeted) Expenses		<u>\$ 266,191.97</u>
Offering less Budgeted Expenses		<u>(\$ 15,555.96)</u>

ASSISTING MINISTERS:**READERS:** Listed on page 10**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:** Volunteers**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 2)

Brad & Brandy Milton, Co-Captains

Amanda Kelly

Donna Bean plus Volunteer

GREETER: Jill Cassel**NURSERY:** (10:30 – 11:45 am)

Katie Howard

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Rebecca Yount

TELLERS: Janet & Brian Achor**USHERS:** Volunteers**BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK:** December 9-15

Today, December 9 Bob Koehler

December 10 Caitlan Reese

Marguerite Shive

Denise Wiegand



December 11 Beth Brittain

December 12 Janet Achor

December 13 Body Alvarez

December 15 Greg Cline

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**Today, December 9**

8:45 am Children's Ensemble

9:30 am Generational Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir Prep

10:30 am ***Hanging of the Green Service***

Church council meets after the service

5:00 pm Handbells

H CY

6:00 pm Church Choir

Wednesday, December 12

5:00 pm Youth Handbells

5:30 pm Church Choir

6:00 pm Meal

6:45 pm Vespers

7:15 pm Chamber Choir

Thursday, December 1312 Noon *Prime Timers* gathering.

Lunch provided. Bring a

gift (\$10 value) for gift exchange.

7:00 pm ***Holy C Men's Group***

Meet at Bob Koehler's home

Tuesday, December 11

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Friday, December 14

6:00 pm Church Choir Party

Saturday, December 1510:00 am ***Christmas Caroling***



Next Sunday, December 16, our children will present their Christmas Play during a special service at 4:00 pm.

THE FIGURES ADDED TO OUR CRECHE this morning are Mary & Joseph. We are reminded that Mary and Joseph traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem because Caesar Augustus declared that a Census must be taken. Thus, Mary and Joseph ended up in a stall because there was no room for them in the inn.



THE BLUE CANDLE in the crèche reminds us that we are to keep our hearts and minds in confession and prayer this entire Advent Season.

The **2019 Flower Chart** is Now Available in the Narthex.

Please print your name at the date you wish to furnish the altar vases (1 or both).

If you wish to purchase both vases, please sign your name on both lines.

Cost of **both vases = \$45**; One vase = \$22.50.



SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES:

December 12:	6:00 pm	Meal; 6:45 pm	Advent Worship
December 16:	10:30 am		Worship Service
	4:00 pm		<i>Children's Christmas Program</i>
December 19:	6:00 pm	Meal; 6:45 pm	Advent Worship
December 23:	10:30 am		Worship Service with Holy Communion
December 24:	4:00 pm		Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:40 pm		Prelude
	11:00 pm		<i>Candlelight Service</i> with Holy Communion



Thank you for your participation in helping to provide Christmas gifts for the children whose name you chose from the **Angel Tree!** Some of the children are in Lutheran foster care and some are clients of SOCKS. **Both are important ministries that serve our community and that need your support.**



Thank you also for those of you who took a tag for one of our senior neighbors. Know that your gifts may be the only Christmas that they receive.

All year-end reports from committee and church group chairpersons are due to Dianne in the church office by January 2nd.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 2019

If you are willing to serve as a **Greeter**, **Lector** or **Usher** for the **2019** year, please sign your name on the sign-up sheet for each position you are volunteering for. Each volunteer position is listed on a separate clipboard. The clipboards are in the narthex. If willing to volunteer for the whole month then sign your name at each date for that month.

The chief lector will serve on festival Sundays



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Tim Baker
Cynthia Buchanan
The Family & Friends
of Carmen Buell
Brenda Dabrowski
Becke Featherstone

Sarah Tench Helms
Zac Hullander
Sue Lahr
Ben Moose
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry
Kathie Schaumburg

Scott Schaumburg
Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Beverly Reynolds
Jo Singleton
Jerri & Mike Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Amy Beale Blythe
Wayne Bradshaw
Doug Brewer
Ron de la Vega
Carol Fox
Earl Gardner

Larry "Poss" Garrett
Ruth Lail
Jennifer Lineberger
Ronnie Lunsford
Clarence McLain

The Family & Friends of
Susan Misner
Anne Murdy
Tommy Smith
Brody Thornburg
Dennis Yates

OUR SERVICEMEN



Beau Carroll Tom Kasmer Leo Kasmer Colton Parker

Please remember these people in your prayers.

**If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list,
please inform the church office.**

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



Holy Doodles





Cold and flu season is once more upon us! Here are a few tips to help you avoid falling ill: Avoid close contact with people who have a cold, especially during the first few days when they are most likely to spread the infection. Wash your hand after touching someone who has a cold or after touching an object

they may have touched. Keep your fingers away from your nose and eyes to avoid infecting yourself with cold virus particles that you may have picked up. Keep an eye on the humidity of your environment so that your sinuses do not dry out (you can pick up inexpensive humidity monitors at Walmart – aim for close to 50% humidity by running humidifiers, if necessary). Get a flu shot, especially if you are aged 50 or older, have a chronic illness, will be more than 3 months pregnant during the flu season, are living in a group setting, or are an employee in a healthcare facility. If you do get a cold or flu, be courteous to others! When you cough or sneeze, cover your nose and mouth by sneezing into your sleeve, or by using a tissue, then throw away the tissue and wash your hands. Also, stay away from people who are most vulnerable. Have a care...don't share!

Contact Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse, at 717-329-8507 or parishnurse0407@gmail.com.



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

Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager