

# OUTERANCHURCH of the HOLY COMFORTER

P. O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, December 14, 2014  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**

## *The Hanging of the Green*



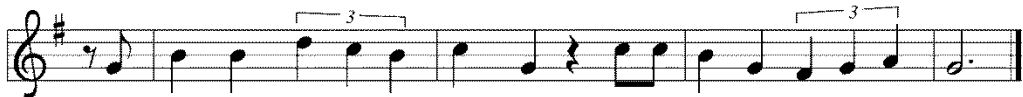
Greg Cline  
Organist/Choirmaster

### GATHERING/WELCOME

**PRELUDE:** *He Came Down* ..... All Sing



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;  
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;  
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;  
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;

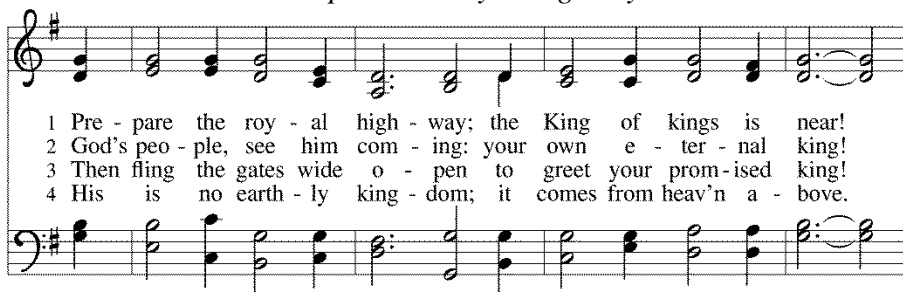
Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

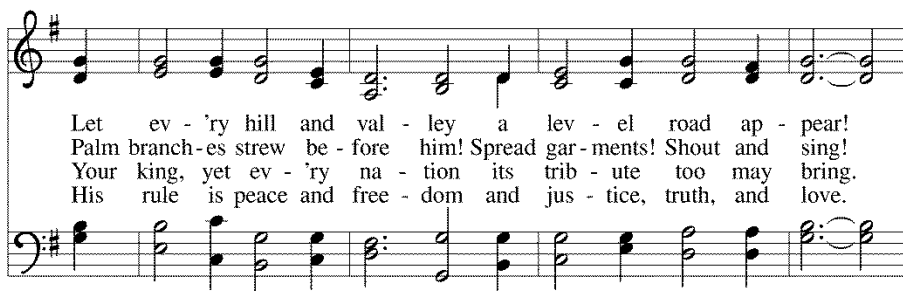
*Tolling of the Bell*

**THE PROCLAMATION:** Isaiah 40:3-5a

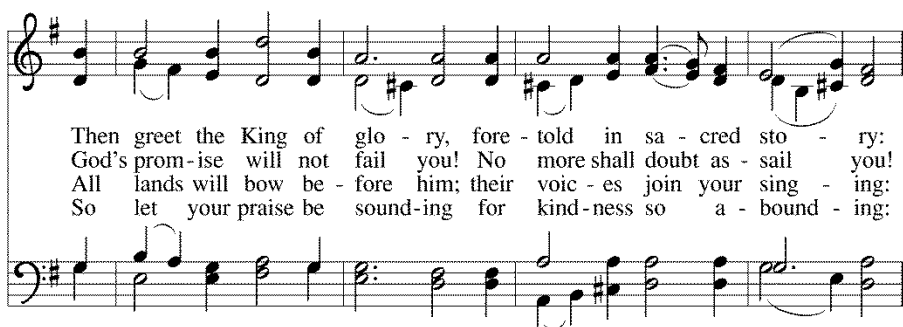
# PROCESSIONAL CAROL: *Prepare the Royal Highway . . . . . All Stand & Sing*



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!  
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

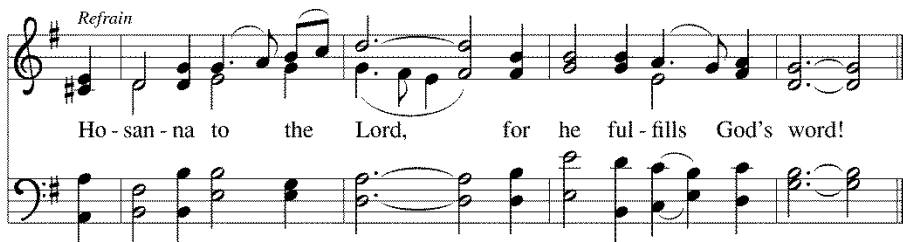


Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. 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:** *Sing Softly* ..... Children's Ensemble

## THE MEANING OF THE SERVICE

## THE INVITATION

**THE ANTHEM:** *The Awaited One* ..... Church Choir

**THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:** The third candle represents **JOY**. There is everlasting joy in our hearts because of the birth of our Savior.

**THE ANTHEM:** *Then Mary Said* ..... Chamber Choir

## THE CHRISTMAS BELLS

**THE ANTHEM:** *Come, O Come, Emmanuel* ..... 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:** *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing* . . . . . Church Choir



**THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA**

**THE CAROL:** *Angels We Have Heard on High* . . . . . **All Sing & Remain Seated**

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing over the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.



## THE NATIVITY

**CHRISTMAS CAROL:** *Away in a Manger* . . . . . **All Sing, Remain seated**

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
And fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

## THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS

## THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES



**ANTHEM:** *O Holy Night* . . . . . Church 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!**

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2014 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24292.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council  
of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

## **PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE**

Pastor: Micah Kearney

Music: Greg Cline

Director: Leslie Crist

Children's Ensemble Co-Director: Beth Brittain

Co-Direct: Barbara Kasmer

Fran Holland

Proclamation: Beth Brittain

Altar Flowers: Pat Koehler

Maria Carr

Banners: Emily Koehler

Arden De Nicholas

Acolytes: Noah Rawlins

Alec Via

Crucifer: Madison Carr

Garland for Advent Wreath: Shirley Causby

Greg Byrum

Door Wreaths: Beverley & Charles Mauney

Handbell Choir

Church Choir

Chamber Choir

The Children of Holy Comforter

Readers: Rebecca Yount

Lyn Miller

Brad Milton

Brandi Milton

Susan Woodcock

Brian Achor





## POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS 2014

### GLORY TO GOD:

Dianne Lail  
Kurt & Cynthia Scholler (2 poinsettias)

### IN HONOR OF:

Greg Byrum in honor of Mrs. Olin S. (Libby) Byrum, Jr.  
Greg Cline in honor of Tom & Shirley Causby  
Greg Cline in honor of Faye & Warren Heller  
Carmen, Arden & Merritt De Nicholas in honor of our grandmothers  
Russell & Ellen Fleming in honor of our family  
Chuck, Ginger & Jake MacDonald in honor of our families  
Beverley & Charles Mauney in honor of our children & grandchildren  
Paul & Tracey Nault in honor of Caroline, Aaron & Ashton Nault  
Paul Outlaw in honor of Ann Featherstone and Becke & Ned Featherstone  
Mark & Anne Reese in honor of Jim & Barbara Reese and Jim Robertson  
Khloe Tench with love in honor of her godparents Tim & Shelia Kelly  
Khloe Tench with love in honor of Auntie Sarah  
Elizabeth & Khloe June Tench with love in honor of Nana & Papaw Tench  
Bob & Denise Wiegand in honor of their family  
Rebecca & Mark Yount and Luke & Alec Via in honor of Myra & Bill Hollar  
Rebecca & Mark Yount and Luke & Alec Via in honor of  
Paul Outlaw & Ann Featherstone

### IN MEMORY OF:

Donna Bean in memory of Faye Hamilton Bean  
Greg Byrum in memory of Olin S. Byrum, Jr.  
Jill Cassel in memory of Al Allen  
Jill Cassell in memory of Dick Michael  
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  
Russell & Ellen Fleming in memory of Myrtle, Gerald & Dick Bryan  
Kathy Graves in memory of husband, Bill Graves  
Dean & Diann Halvorson in memory of John Padgett  
Tim & Shelia Kelly in memory of Robert & Mary Kelly, Tim's parents  
Tim & Shelia Kelly in memory of Ken Hedrick, Shelia's dad  
Marsha Kinley in memory of May Cloninger  
Marsha Kinley in memory of Thelma Kinley

John & Sonja Kreitzer in memory of Caroline & Stewart Petterson (2 Poinsettias)  
Chuck, Ginger & Jake MacDonald in memory of Heather Mauney Yount  
Lynn Martin in memory of Adam Kijewski  
Charles & Beverley Mauney in memory of Mary McCoy, Betsy & Ray Mauney,  
and Heather Mauney Yount  
Paul Outlaw in memory of Judy Outlaw  
Nancy Powell in memory of her parents James & Margaret Sipe  
Mark & Anne Reese in memory of Shirley Marie Robertson  
Gary & Karen Rogers in memory of Harry & Helen Laver  
Lynne Sudarich in memory of her parents Leonard & Marie Sudarich  
Elizabeth Tench in memory of Howard Tench and Dorothy Thulin  
Deb Williams in memory of Bob Williams  
Mark & Rebecca Yount, Luke & Alec Via in memory of Heather M. Yount  
Mark & Rebecca Yount, Luke & Alec Via in memory of Betty "G" King

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

**A CORDIAL WELCOME** is extended to all of our visitors on this **Third 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. 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.

---

**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.**

---

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the Christmas Season by Beth Brittain.

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

***Greg Byrum, Worship & Music***

---

**Offering and Attendance Report for Sunday, December 7, 2014:**

Attendance: 157

**Budget Report**

**December 7, 2014**

Current Offering Received 12/7/14	\$ 6,432.39
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 4,504.60
Offering, YTD	\$201,951.20
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	(\$ 2,069.56)
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	(\$ 17,260.13)

---

**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.

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:**

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye, Jr., Julia Gunter

**ACOLYTES:** Becca Gatlin, Alec Via

**CRUCIFERS:** Madison Carr, Noah Rogers

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 2)

Louise Day, Co-Captain

Brenda Daly, Co-Captain

Donna Bean

Nancy Powell

Becky Richards

**NURSERY:** (9:30 – 11:45 am)

Jill Cassell + Makayla Brooks

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:**

Shelia Kelly + Helper

**GREETER:** Pat Koehler

**TELLERS:** Janet Achor, John Koehler

**USHERS:** Need Volunteers

---

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK:** December 14-20

December 15 Greg Cline

December 19 Dennis Tucker



---

**THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**

**Today, December 14**

9:30 am Sunday Church School

10:10 am Church Choir Prep

10:30 am *Hanging of the Green* Service

2:00 pm **HCY** activities for Kids

4:00 pm Children's Ensemble

5:00 pm Adult Handbells

6:00 pm Church Choir

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

**Tuesday, December 16**

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

**Wednesday, December 17**

11:00 am ***Morning Circle***

Christmas Potluck lunch at  
home of Shirley Causby

5:45 pm Meal

6:30 pm **Vespers Worship**

Chamber Choir after

**Saturday, December 20**

1:00 pm Children **play practice**

2:00 pm *Christmas Caroling...*  
leave from parking lot

3:00 pm **Kids' Club** meets for  
Hot cocoa, cookies

---

**Sunday, December 21** our **children will present their Christmas Play** during the service at 10:30 am. We will also have Holy Communion.

---

**THE ANGEL IS ADDED TO OUR CRECHE** this morning to remind us that in the Advent Season, the angels announced the birth of John the Baptist to the old priest, Zechariah, and the foretelling of Jesus' birth in the fields of Bethlehem. Our Hymn of Praise, "Glory to God in the highest," is our recognition of the beautiful message the angels proclaimed.

## The 2015 Flower Chart is now available in the narthex.

Please *print your name* at the date you wish to furnish the altar vases (1 vase 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.

If you would be willing to serve as a ***Communion Assistant, Eucharist Presenter, Greeter, Lector, and/or Usher*** during **2015**, please sign your name at the date you wish to serve on the sign-up sheets located in the narthex.

**2015 Offering Envelopes are available in the narthex for you to pick up.**



### SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES:

**December 14:** 10:30 am ***Hanging of the Green*** Service  
**December 16:** 5:45 pm Meal; 6:30 pm Vespers  
**December 21:** 10:30 am ***Children's Christmas Program***  
With Holy Communion  
**December 24:** 1:30 pm **Children's Christmas Eve Service**  
10:45 pm Prelude  
11:00 pm ***Candlelight Service with Holy Communion***  
**December 28:** 10:30 am Regular Service with Christmas Carols

### Sunday School Attendance December 7, 2014



	<u>Children</u>	<u>Adults</u>
Nursery	3	1
Pre-K	3	2
God's Eden	11	1
Youth	2	1
Seekers		11
Adult Bible Class		14
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>30</b>

# **The 2015 Congregational Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25** before the worship service.

**All year-end reports from committee and church group chairpersons are  
due to Dianne in the church office by Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.**

---

## **PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER**

Louise Austin  
Daniel Dowd  
Monique Estelle  
Ferrie Hedrick  
Richard Holden

Dot Holland  
Zac Hullander  
Bill & Pauline Joye  
Chase Lineberger  
Carol Posey

Mabel Ratchford  
Mark Reese  
Beverly Reynolds  
George Roberson  
Marguerite Shive

## **GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

Harriett Ange  
Paige Beaver  
Jenny Beer  
Father Frank Cancro  
Tina Capwell  
J. Don Devine  
Poss Garrett  
Ronnie Garrison  
Lewis Gilbert Family  
Brian Hedrick

Dennis Jordan  
Steven Keating  
Marshall Kinley  
Lance Kirkland  
Terry Mahaffey  
Steve Mathis  
Kenadee Nelson  
Mark Outlaw  
Alicia Overton  
Jean Peters

Taylor Propst & Family  
David Prouty  
Joe Reynolds  
Anna Rudder  
Megan Sigler  
E. Taylor & Family  
Gloria Ward  
Pastor Gary Weant  
Olivia Wilcox

## **OUR SERVICEMEN**

Matt Cisek

Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer



Jeremy Shaver

## **OUR MISSIONARIES**

Austin & Tanya Propst (Young Adults in Global Mission)

Please remember these people in your prayers.

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

The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at [www.holyc.org](http://www.holyc.org).



*Prayers of Sympathy & Hope  
Are offered to  
Rick & Debbie Neagle & Family  
on the death of Rick's mother  
Mrs. Virginia Neagle*



*Prayers of Sympathy & Hope  
Are offered to Jo Anne de la Vega & Family  
on the death of her mother  
Mrs. William (Betty) Kannapel*

**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

P.O. Box 666 Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 [holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:MicahKearney@gmail.com)

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager