# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, December 16, 2018

The Third Sunday of Advent



Micah Kearney Pastor

Organist/Choirmaster



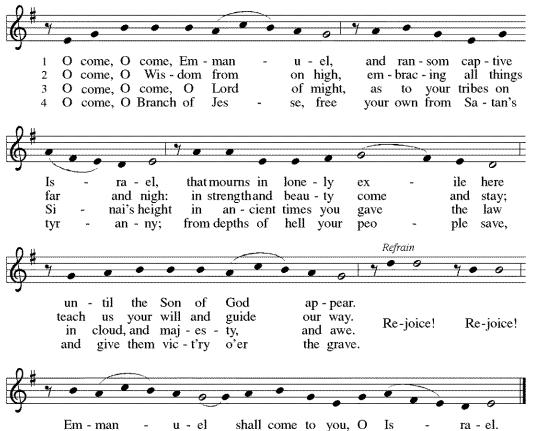
By Emily Koehler & Catherine Carr

## **GATHERING/WELCOME**

Tolling of the Bell

THE PROCLAMATION: Isaiah 40:3-5a

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



- 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*
- 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: Psalteriolum Cantionum 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.

#### PRESENTATION FOR HOLY BAPTISM

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

## The presiding minister addresses parents:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Winters Thomas Hogge III baptized into Christ?

## Response:

I do.

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

to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that Winters 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.

Do you promise to help Winters grow in the Christian faith and life?

## Response:

I do.

## *The presiding minister addresses the assembly:*

People of God, do you promise to support Winters by praying for him in his new life in Christ?

C We do.

### The assembly stands.

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C I renounce them.

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 Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## The assembly may be seated.

#### **BAPTISM**

- P Winters Thomas Hogge III, 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 Sustain Winters 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.
- C Amen.

P Winters Thomas Hogge III, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C 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.

#### 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

### THE INVITATION



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 CHRISTMAS BELLS

#### 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,

#### THE CRISMON TREE



## THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA





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

what

yet

can

I

him—

give

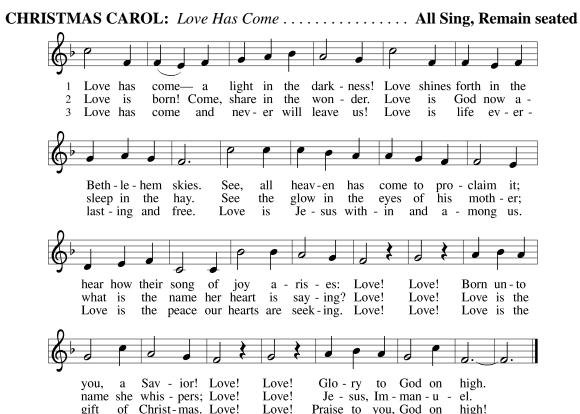
my

heart.

give

#### THE NATIVITY





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



- 1. Silent night, holy night!
  All is calm, all is bright
  Round you 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.)



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 2016 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.

Reprinted by permission under One License #A-724639

## 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 or 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 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. Nurseries for children (infants through 3 years old) are 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 loving memory of Heather Mauney Yount by Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via.

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: No Service on the 9<sup>th</sup> due to ice and snow.

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

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:** 

**NURSERY:** (10:30 – 11:45 am)

Lauren Shoemaker

**READERS:** Listed on page 12

**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:** Volunteers

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** 

**Sherry Alexander** 

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 2)

Brad & Brandy Milton, Co-Captains

Amanda Kelly

Donna Bean plus Volunteer

TELLERS: Janet & Brian Achor

**USHERS:** Volunteers

**GREETER:** Jill Cassel

**BIRTHDAYS FOR LAST WEEK:** December 9-15

December 9 Bob Koehler December 11 Beth Brittain
December 10 Caitlan Reese December 12 Janet Achor

Caitlan Reese December 12 Janet Achor Marguerite Shive December 13 Body Alverez

Denise Wiegand December 15 Greg Cline



**BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK:** December 16-22

December 17 Mason Morton

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, December 16
8:45 am Children's Ensemble

9:30 am Christmas play instructions

Handbell Choir

10:10 am Church Choir Prep

10:30 am Hanging of the Green Service

4:00 pm Play performance

5:00 pm Santa

5:00 pm HCY party

6:00 pm Church Choir

7:30 pm Handbell Choir

Tuesday, December 18

7:00 pm Health Committee meeting

Nar-Anon

Wednesday, December 19

5:30 pm Youth Handbells

6:00 pm Meal

6:45 pm Vespers

7:15 pm Chamber Choir



Our children will present their Christmas Play today at 4:00 pm.

**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 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 16: 10:30 am Worship Service

4:00 pm *Children's Christmas Program* (5:00 pm Santa)

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 Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

# **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



**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 2<sup>nd</sup>.





# PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen Tim Baker Cynthia Buchanan Molly Caldwell 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 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.



We welcome to Holy Comforter via Infant Baptism Winters Thomas Hogge III

Son of Matthew & Martha Hogge Born July 19, 2018



Holy Doodles





Ok...maybe I'm getting older, but the cold weather brings to mind **arthritis** (mine is killing me!). What IS **arthritis**? A body's normal reaction to damage or stress is joint inflammation which causes redness, swelling, pain and sometimes loss of motion. This reaction can occur with a traumatic injury or with a virus. Most of the time, the reaction

goes away after the area has healed but, if it doesn't, this is considered **arthritis**. The Miriam-Webster definition of arthritis is: inflammation of joints due to infectious, metabolic, or constitutional causes. Most cases of **arthritis** are not preventable, but awareness of a family history may allow earlier recognition and earlier treatment. What IS the treatment? Well, sometimes simple modifications in daily activities along with adequate rest and exercise can be sufficient. When that isn't enough, heat or cold treatments, joint protection, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen or Advil, warm baths, massage, and stretching exercises may work. As a last resort sometimes corticosteroids or surgery may be needed. In any case, if you have joint pain that persists beyond 3 days or if there is severe unexplained joint pain, especially if it is accompanied by other unexplained symptoms such as fever or weight loss, you should call your doctor for an appointment. Most of all, take good care of yourselves!

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

## **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