Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, April 14, 2019

The Sunday of Passion/Palm Sunday



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

- P Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C Hosanna in the highest.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Mark 11:1-11

- P The processional gospel according to St. Mark, the eleventh chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

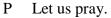
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

- P The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF PALMS

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.





We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

PROCESSION

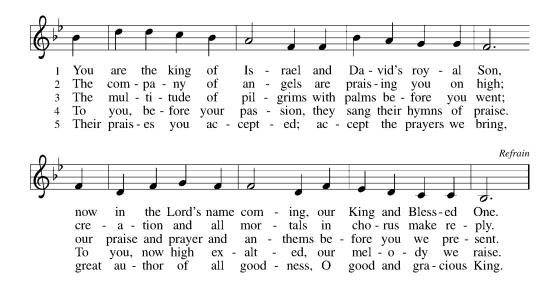
- P Let us go forth in peace,
- C in the name of Christ. Amen.

The assembly follows the ministers into the church.

GATHERING SONG: All Glory Laud and Honor All Stand & Sing







Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

- P Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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 nursery**.

FIRST READING Isaiah 50:4–9a

A reading from the fiftieth chapter of Isaiah.

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me

the tongue of a teacher,

that I may know how to sustain

the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens —

wakens my ear

to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,

and I was not rebellious,

I did not turn backward.

6I gave my back to those who struck me,

and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face

from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

8he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

A reading from the second chapter of Philippians.

Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

8he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death —

even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

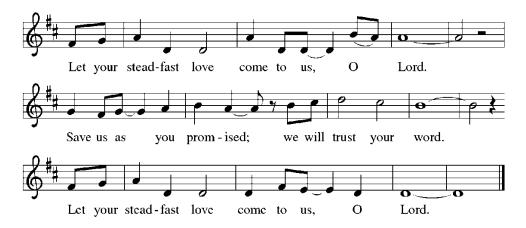
to the glory of God the Father.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





GOSPEL Luke 23:1–49

P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Through the teachings and events of the passion story we see and hear the great contradictions that characterize the coming of God's reign. The leader serves, the empty disciples are able to fill others, proud Peter is revealed in his cowardice, and Jesus—the innocent bringer of life—is arrested, beaten, executed, and buried.

¹Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ²They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." ³Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." ⁵But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. ⁹He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. ¹²That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

¹⁸Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" ¹⁹(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; ²¹but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" ²²A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." ²³But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

²⁶As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³²Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.
³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."] And they cast lots to divide his clothing.
³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into

your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." ⁴⁸And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

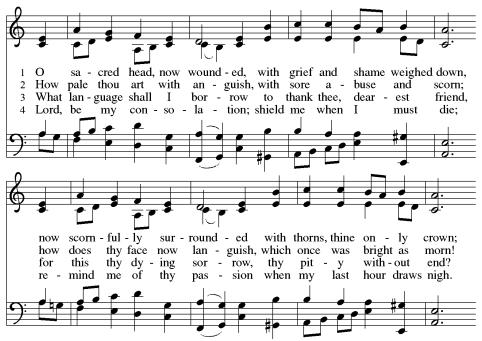
- P The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation is seated.

SERMON Pastor Micah

Silence is Kept for Reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded All Stand & Sing





Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

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.

the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in Christ's passover from death to new life, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

God, most holy and humble, plant in your church Christ's spirit of humility. Remove any barriers preventing us from seeing his saving work on the cross. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You reveal your will for all creation through stones, seas, mountains, and meadows. In the splendor of what you have made, show us your care for everything, both great and small. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rescue those who suffer torture, and free those held captive by others. Bring to light the hidden systems that perpetuate injustice among your people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pour courage and hope into people who feel like they are wasting away in distress and grief. Bring healing and wholeness to your people who are sick or suffering (*especially*). Restore their trust in you, even as you meet their every need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Open our hearts and minds to receive the words that you speak. Give us words to encourage the weary and to sustain one another in word and deed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gather your saints into the new covenant that Christ has established for all creation. When we fall into sin, continually renew us until Christ dwells with us again in fullness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Attend to the needs of the whole world with your saving grace, and lead us all into new life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Crown the King With Praise Church Choir **OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** *Let the Vineyards* All Stand & Sing Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble all:

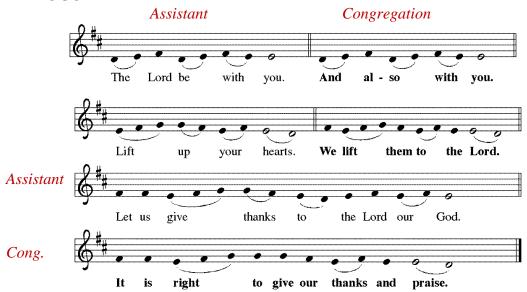
OFFERING PRAYER

with your pres - ence,

- A Let us pray.
- C Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen.

and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

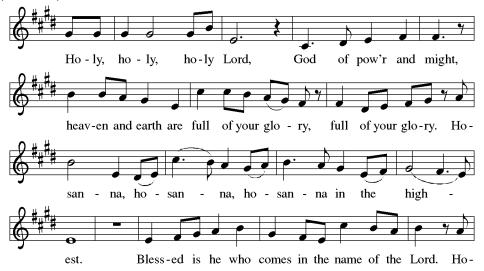
DIALOGUE



PREFACE

P ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

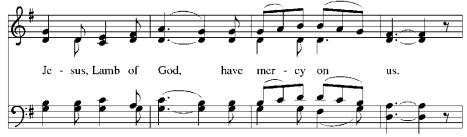


INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Christ has prepared the feast. Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG: Jesus, Lamb of God All Sing





Music: Deutsche Messe, Franz Schubert, 1797-1828; adapt, Richard Proulx, b. 1937 Adapt, © 1985, 1999 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.gianusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

COMMUNION

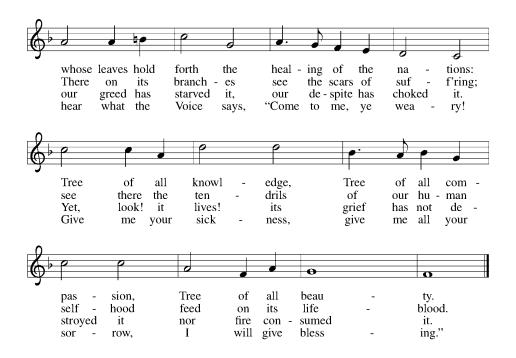
A cordial invitation is extended to all persons to participate in the celebration of the real presence of the Risen Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:

. Justin Koehler All Sing



- Its name is Je sus,
- Thorns not are See how its branch - es
- name that says, "Our
- tan gled in its
- Sav ior!" fo liage;
- reach to us in wel come;



Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590-c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917-1982

Music: Shades Mountain, K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

Text © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

Music © 1987 Birnamwood Publications, a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers. Inc.

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

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

C Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

BLESSING

P God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, + bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: Love Consecrates the Humblest Act All Stand & Sing Love consecrates the humblest act and haloes mercy's deeds; it sheds a benediction sweet and hallows human needs.

When in the shadow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet, of his disciples he gave us, a sign of love complete.

Love serves and willing stoops to serve; what Christ in love so true, has freely done for one and all, let us now gladly do!

Text: Silas B. McManus, 1845-1917

SENDING

- A Go in peace. Remember the poor.
- C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this Sunday of Passion/Palm Sunday. 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**) are in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance.

<u>KIDS' WORSHIP CENTER:</u> 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 or fill in the form on line at www.holyc.org.

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Andrew & Beverly Robinson in honor of Rita Robinson's 91st birthday and in memory of Adolph & Thelma Moss.

<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.

Julia Gunter, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, April 7, 2019:

Attendance: 135

Budget Report	This Week	Year-to-Date
Offering	\$ 5,160.50	\$ 71,662.51
Expenses	\$ 5,774.35	\$ 80,657.56
Offering less Expenses	(\$ 613.85)	(\$ 8,995.05)
Expected Expenses		\$ 80,840.85
Offering less Budgeted Expenses		(\$ 9,178.34)

Sanctuary Roof and HVAC Status as Of: 4/7/19

Goal: \$225,000 Received to Date: 148,489 Additional Amounts Promised: 35,000 Remaining Needed: \$41,511 **ASSISTING MINISTERS:**

LECTOR: Billy Joye GREETER: Jill Cassel

ACOLYTE: Lucy Bocchino TELLERS: Rochelle & Danny Potter

CRUCIFER: Alec Via CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Melissa Bocchino ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)

Fran Holland, Co-Captain

Tracey Nault, Co-Captain

NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am)
Jill Cassel

Rebecca Yount

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Volunteers **USHERS:** Volunteers

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS: Volunteers

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS: Today, Sunday, April 14

8:45 am Children's Ensemble

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

HCY provides lunch for council

5:00 pm Adult Handbells

6:00 pm Church Choir practice

7:15 pm Adult Handbells (round 2)

Tuesday, April 16

6:45 pm Chamber Choir practice 7:00 pm Christian Ed meeting

Health Ministry meeting

Nar-Anon

Thursday, April 18

7:00 pm Maundy Thursday service w/Holy Communion

Friday, April 19

12 Noon Community Cross Walk 7:00 pm Good Friday service

Saturday, April 20

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt



Lunch served HCY helps with the hunt

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: April 14-20

Today, April 14 Rianna Nance

Ian Ince

April 16 Misty Koehler

Debbie Neagle

April 19 Jake MacDonald April 20 Carly Caldwell





NOTE: Easter Sunday is the deadline for submitting balance payments for the *Isle of Palms* Retreat.

Make checks payable to Holy Comforter; memo line = IOP Retreat

REMEMBER:

DEADLINE for submitting your application for the *Lineberger Scholarship* is **April 30**th. Email the church office and request an application form.





MISSION TRIP: Shelia Kelly is part of a team heading to Kitwe, Zambia April 25 - May 6. The team is busy preparing duffle bags of clothes, shoes, and much needed baby items for the poor.

Contact Shelia or Tim Kelly to purchase raffle tickets to raise funds for the trip.

Purchasing and installing a water tank for the village is the big project the team is doing. That is where most of the cost of the tickets will go.

NOTE: To insure inclusion in the bulletin all information is due to Dianne in the office by **12 Noon on Wednesdays**.





Join us for Holy Comforter's annual Easter Egg Hunt!
Bring your Easter Baskets.



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen Cynthia Buchanan Brenda Dabrowski Becke Featherstone Sarah Tench Helms Kay Holden Zac Hullander Sue Lahr Ben Moose Sherry Perry Marguerite Shive Denise Taylor Beverly Reynolds Jerri & Mike Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Amy Beale Blythe
Doug Brewer
Ron de la Vega
Nancy Dickson
Carol Fox
Earl Gardner
Larry "Poss" Garrett

The Family & Friends of Dallas Foscue Meredith Hovis Steve Leonard Jennifer Lineberger Ronnie Lunsford Ruth Lyerly Cookie Lynn Jane Marino
Clarence McLain
Anne Murdy
Richard Peters
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.



Prevent "Ear Pops" Vacations will soon be coming for some of us and, if you'll be riding in a plane, your ears might feel full during takeoff and landing, then suddenly "pop." Ear pops result from pressure changes in the middle ear as a plane changes altitude, or sometimes even as we go up/down mountains. You may feel pain or only mild discomfort. And if you have a head cold, ear pops can promote an ear infection. For this reason, most physicians will advise not flying if you've already got an

ear infection, a severe head cold, or sinusitis. But what can you do to alleviate this problem if you must fly? Try these tips:

- Swallow frequently, yawn, chew gum, or gently blow through your nose while pinching the nostrils shut to equalize the pressure.
- If you have a mild head cold, talk to your doctor about the use of nasal saline spray to keep your nostrils clear, or possibly a decongestant.
- For infants, have them suck on a pacifier or bottle (or nurse the baby) during takeoff and landing. Or ask your doctor about a mild decongestant or antihistamine to give 1 hour before take-off and 1 hour before landing.

While the "ear pops" can be annoying and mildly uncomfortable, you should never have to deal with real pain, so try these measures.

Remember the Health Ministry meeting is April 16 at 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Interested in joining us? Please come, we'd love to have you. See you then!

Join us for the last session of P.E.P. on April 25.

We get ready for Tai Chi, which starts May 2nd.





Holy Doodles





We will be setting up for outdoor worship for our Sunrise Service (weather permitting). The setup will take place in the South courtyard during the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday at 10:00 am.

Reach out to Greg Cline if you could assist.

April 21: Easter Sunday Schedule

7:00 am Sunrise Service w/Holy Communion

Breakfast after

Flowering of the Cross (bring fresh flowers from your lawn/garden)

9:40 am Handbells

10:00 am Church choir prep

10:15 am Children's Ensemble in the Choir room

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

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: MKearney@holyc.org Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse