

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, September, 25, 2016

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Brandon Heavner
Guest Seminarian

Jo Irwin
Guest Pianist

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins:*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the only Sovereign, who dwells in light;
Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners; the Holy Spirit, who lives within us.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

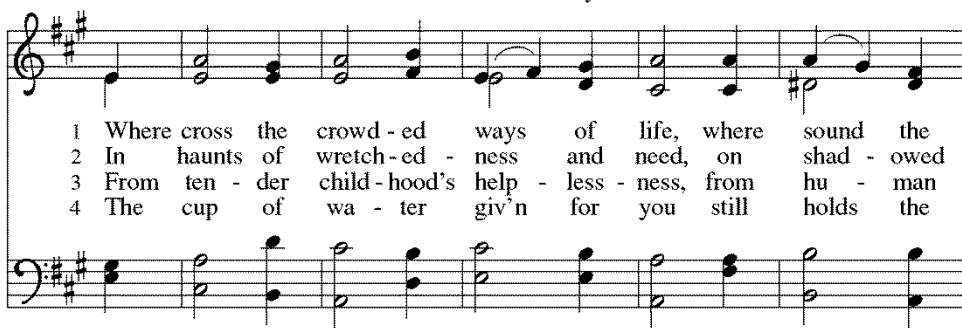
P God of overflowing grace,

C **we come to you with repentant hearts. Forgive us for shallow thankfulness.
Forgive us for passing by the ones in need. Forgive us for setting our hopes on
fleeting treasures. Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness. Bring us home from
the wilderness of sin, and strengthen us to serve you in all that we do and say;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

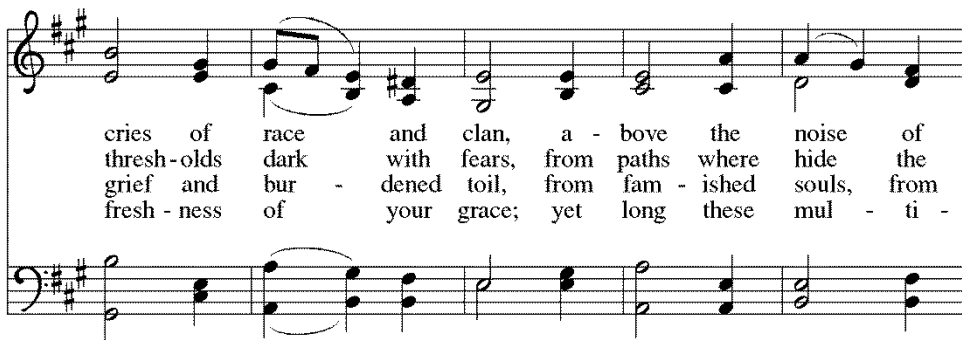
P There is joy in heaven over every sinner who repents. By the grace of God
in ☩ Christ Jesus, who gave himself up for us all, your sins are forgiven and you are
made free. Rejoice with the angels and with one another! We are home in God's mercy,
now and forever.

C **Amen.**

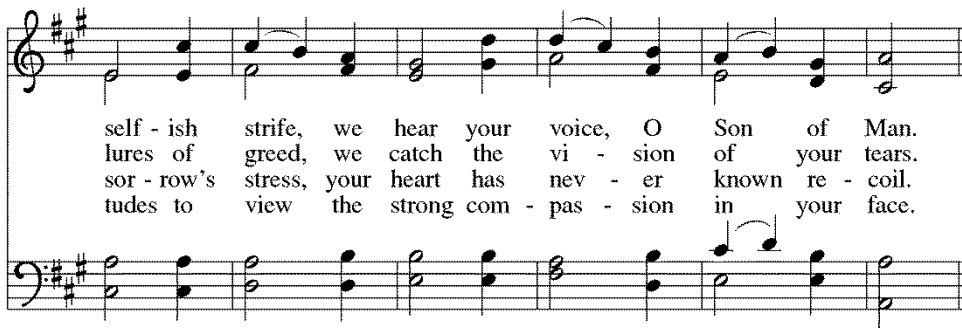
OPENING HYMN: *Where Cross the Crowded Ways* All Stand & Sing



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
 4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850–1935, alt.
 Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ; the love of God Who shelters us and cares for us;
 and the companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

^{1a}Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,

⁴Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,

and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;

⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,

and like David improvise on instruments of music;
⁶who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
⁷Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

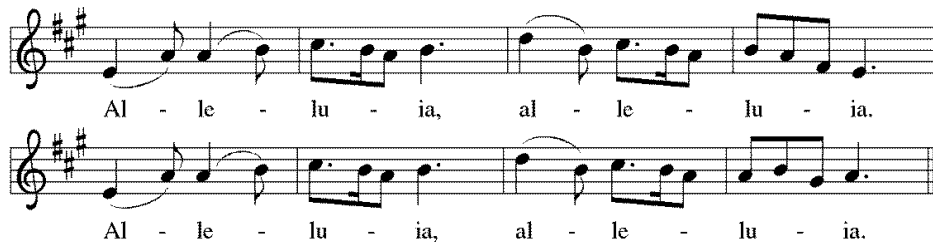
⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Luke 16:19-31

P The Holy Gospel according to the St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.
C **Glory to you O Lord.**

Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is “lifted up” and the rich one is “sent away empty.” Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades,



where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has

been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone

goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON..... Brandon Heavner

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Son of God, Eternal Savior* All Stand & Sing

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

APOSTLES CREED

**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.**

**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.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

A 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

Rejoicing in the Spirit's work among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God, we thank you for the church, its mission, and its ministry. Help us to be examples of the faith and to pursue righteousness in all we say and do. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the well-being of all creation. Make us wise stewards of your rich and beautiful world. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Ruler of the nations, we pray for peace in places of conflict and war. We pray for exiles, refugees, and those far from home. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who are lonely or homebound, those who are trapped in any kind of prison of body, mind, or spirit, and for those who are sick or injured. Especially we pray for those we name now, on our lips or in our hearts Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God who sits high but looks low, we pray for our brothers and sisters who struggle to make ends meet. Provide for all of our physical and spiritual needs. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We remember and give thanks for all your saints in light and for those who have recently died. Thank you for the good foundation of their lives and witness. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy;
through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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 Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *God of Grace* All Stand & Sing

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) on two staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#), indicating D major or B minor. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with Tenor and Bass providing harmonic support. The lyrics are as follows:

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this **Nineteenth 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. If you are without a church home, we invite you to investigate membership in this family of God.

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Kathy Graves in honor of son, Blaire's birthday; and by Jeffrey & Brooke Martin in memory of Jack Miller and in honor of Collin's 3rd birthday.

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

Carmen Buell, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, September 18, 2016

Attendance: 122

Budget Report

September 18, 2016

Current Offering Received 9/18/2016	\$ 5,742.07
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 5,019.46
Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)	\$ 190,567.46
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	\$ 13,223.20
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	\$ 3,660.13

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, September 25

10:30 am The Service

Wednesday, September 28

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, September 27

7:00 pm Chamber Choir

Christian Education meets in fellowship hall
Nar-Anon

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: September 25 - October 1

Today, September 25 Harold Singleton

September 29 Barbara Beale

September 26 Warren Heller

Claire Mitchell

Henrik Sarrazin

October 1

Ellen Fleming

September 28 Leo Kasmer

Andres Mendez

James Milton

Elizabeth Passer

George Roberson



Sympathy & Hope
are offered to the friends and family of
Louise Austin

BCO OCTOBER ITEMS OF THE MONTH:



Jelly + Rice + Mac & Cheese

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



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Shirley Causby
Brenda Dabrowski
Shawn De Nicholas
Ardean Ewing
Dot Holland

Zac Hullander
Tom Irwin
Chase Lineberger
Ann Outlaw & Family
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry

Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Mark Reese
Beverly Reynolds

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Richard Abernethy
Paige Beaver
Jenny Beer
Barbara Bingham
Emma Davis Bremer
Graham Brezler
Libby Byrum
Father Frank Cancro
Tina Capwell
Clell Davis
J. Don Devine
Zachary Evans
Carol Baker Fox
Poss Garrett
Ronnie Garrison

Tammy Gordon
Brian Hedrick
Stacy Hunsucker
Dennis Jordan
Steven Keating
Marshall Kinley
Laura Lanuto
Jennifer Lineberger
Terry Mahaffey
Amy McGinnis
Gene McRorie
Don Moore
Jean Peters
Jim Poag
Taylor Propst & Family
David Prouty

Julio Quiros
Tim Reid
Dan Robinson &
Daughters Breanna & Mikayla
Anna Rudder
Megan Sigler
E. Taylor & Family
Carson Thomas
Sally Vanhoy
Bill Walker
Gloria Ward
Olivia Wilcox
Jeff Wiles
Bruce Zander

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek
Leo Kasmer

Jason Gardner
Tom Kasmer

Dillon Kasmer
Mike Kelso



OUR MISSIONARY

Alyssa Buchanan in Manzini, Swaziland Africa

In order to ensure an up-to-date prayer list, a new list for the *Greater Family of God* will start on October 1. Please email or call the church office to add any name you wish to appear on the *Greater Family of God*. Also give us an "end date" for that name, or the name will remain for just one month.