# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, August 25, 2019

## The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

#### WELCOME/GATHERING

**PRELUDE:** Prelude in G Minor . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . J. S. Bach

#### 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,  $\pm$  one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

#### C Amen.

P Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

### Silence is kept for reflection.

### P God of mercy,

C we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us + all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news!

#### C Amen.

**GATHERING SONG:** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* . . . . . . . All Stand & Sing

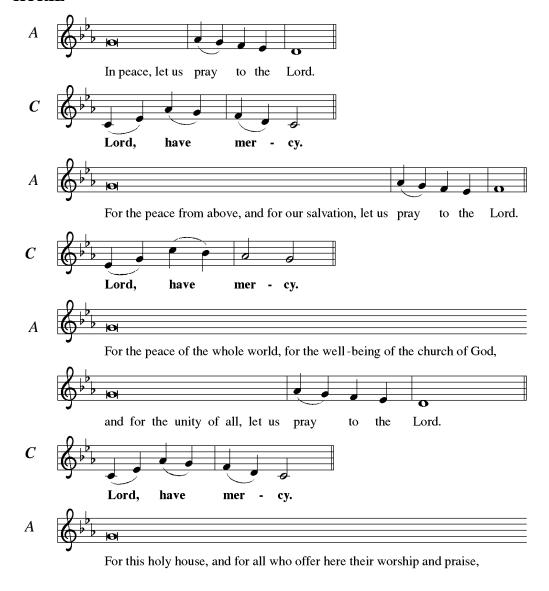


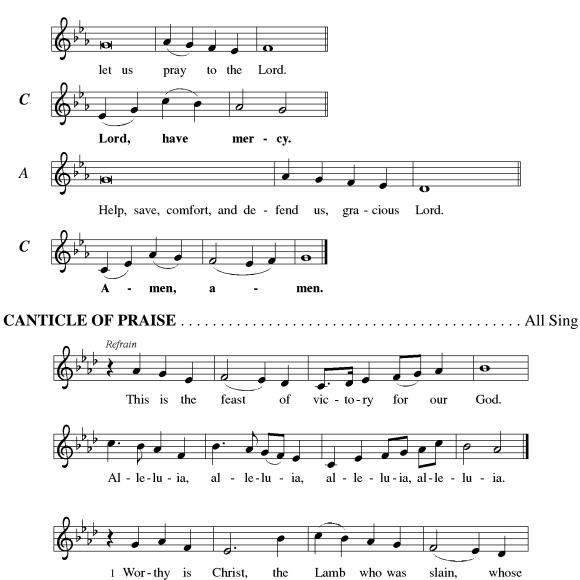
Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

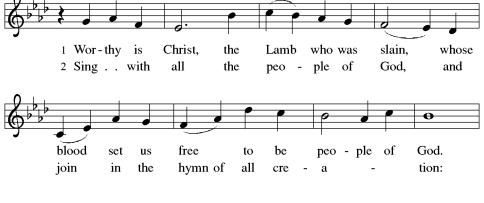
#### **GREETING**

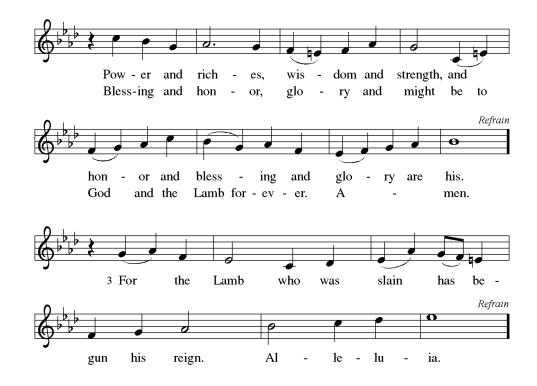
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

### **KYRIE**









#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Congregation is Seated and are 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 58:9b-14

A reading from the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah.

The Lord promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

<sup>9b</sup>If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, <sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. <sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. <sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. <sup>13</sup>If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; <sup>14</sup>then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

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

A reading from the twelfth chapter of Hebrews.

Using images of Moses from the Old Testament, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

<sup>18</sup>You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, <sup>19</sup>and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup>(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." <sup>21</sup>Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") <sup>22</sup>But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup>and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup>and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

<sup>25</sup>See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! <sup>26</sup>At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." <sup>27</sup>This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup>Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; <sup>29</sup>for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

### **GOSPEL VERSE**



GOSPEL Luke 13:10-17

- P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.

<sup>10</sup>Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. <sup>11</sup>And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was

bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. <sup>12</sup>When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." <sup>13</sup>When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. <sup>14</sup>But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." <sup>15</sup>But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his



donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? <sup>16</sup>And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" <sup>17</sup>When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

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

The assembly is seated.

SERMON ..... Pastor Micah

Silence for Reflection is Kept.

### **HYMN OF THE DAY:** Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life . . . . All Stand & Sing



- 5 O Master, from the mountainside make haste to heal these hearts of pain; among these restless throngs abide; oh, tread the city's streets again;
- 6 Till all the world shall learn your love, and follow where your feet have trod; till glorious from your heav'n above shall come the city of our God.

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

#### 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.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation.

### A brief silence.

Lord of mercy, we cry to you for help, trusting in your compassion for your whole creation. Raise up the baptized to offer Christ's healing and forgiveness to all in distress. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

We rejoice in your creation: water that nourishes lands and creatures, gardens and fields with a diversity of plants. Bless scientists and artists who show us new ways of understanding the complex beauty around us. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

We seek the kingdom that cannot be shaken. Come to the rescue of those who are displaced by war, famine, or other disasters. Bless diplomats, peacekeepers, rescue workers, and all who are given aid through their efforts, so that peace and plenty prevail. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

You provide deliverance and justice for all who are oppressed. Free those in bondage to substances, gambling, or other forms of addiction. Release victims of human trafficking and bring them to safety. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

You know our needs in this community. Heal the hurts of all bent over with sickness, aging, or suffering (*especially*). Accompany those who visit homebound members, the hospitalized, and those who are in prison. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

You raise up witnesses in every generation. As we remember those who have passed into your peace before us, comfort us in the sure hope of your Son's resurrection. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

#### **PEACE**

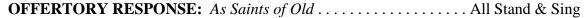
P The peace of Christ be with you always.

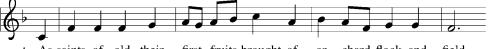
C And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

#### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** Spirit of the Living God . . . . . . . . . . . . Church Choir





- 1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or chard, flock, and field
- 2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la bor, love, and give; 3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



- to God, the giv er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield, to make our life an of fer ing to God, that all may live.
- to serve your cause and share your love with all a long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land, The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:

O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, a world re-deemed by teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

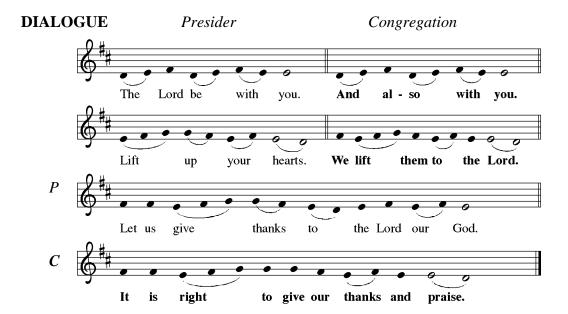
Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

A Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O God, for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine. Transform us to be the body of Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

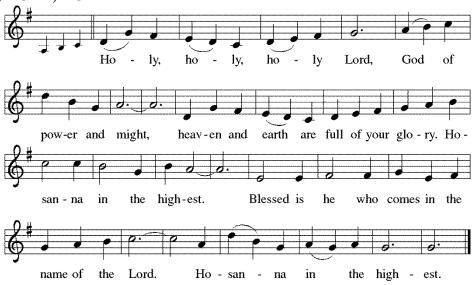
#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



#### **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 God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.

C Thanks be to God.



#### 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: Healer of Our Every Ill . . . . . . . . . . All Sing





give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row





Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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- P The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

C O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### BLESSING

P Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving; and the blessing of the holy Trinity, + one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C Amen.



Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt. Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

#### **SENDING**

- A Go in peace. Christ is sending you.
- C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this Eleventh 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. 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 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 board, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in the online form at <a href="https://www.holyc.org">www.holyc.org</a>.

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God by John & Leslie Crist in honor of their 24<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

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

Julia Gunter, Worship & Music

### Offering and Attendance Report for August 18, 2019:

Attendance: 111

<u>Budget Report</u>	<u>te</u> (Unfavorable)	<u>s Week</u> <u>Year-t</u>	(Unfavorable)
Offering	7 1,044.28	\$191,0	1,044.28
Expenses	<u>1 ( 111.52)</u>	5,774.35 \$190, <sup>2</sup>	<u>( 111.52)</u>
Offering less Expenses	<u>6</u> 932.76	496.65 \$	932.76
Offering less Expenses	<u> </u>	<u>496.65</u> \$ <u>    \$</u>	_

Sanctuary Roof and HVAC Status as Of: 8/18/19

Goal: \$225,000 Received to Date: 162,577 Additional Amounts Promised: 35,000 Remaining Needed: \$27,423

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: August 25-31** 

August 27 Dillon Kasmer August 30 Tim McGinnis

August 29 Matthew Bruchon

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Jim Buell GREETER: Volunteer

ACOLYTE: Merritt De Nicholas TELLERS: Fran Holland, Trudy Whitener

CRUCIFER: Matthew Carr CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Jenn Kearney

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 4) NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am)

Katie Howard, Captain Rebecca Yount

Dean & Diann Halvorson

Barbara Kasmer EUCHARIST PRESENTERS: Volunteers

Tuesday, August 27

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: USHERS: Volunteers

Volunteers

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

<u>Sunday, August 25</u> 9:30 am Adult Sunday School

9.30 ani Addit Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir

Monday, August 26

8:00 am Prayer in Stowe Park for 1st day of school in Gaston County



**Recovery Mission** The average adult develops 1-3 colds yearly and children even more! Getting back to school brings on those colds fast as the children are all clustered together in classrooms, sharing germs, and then they bring it home to their parents! Here's what you can do when the sniffles get you:

- Saltwater great for a sore throat as it reduces the swelling in the membranes. Stir ½ teaspoon of salt into a cup of warm water and gargle for several seconds.
- Lemon slices dryness makes a sore throat feel worse and can hinder healing. The most obvious way to keep the throat moist is to sip plenty of fluids. Another is to boost the body's saliva production by flavoring tea or water with a squeeze of lemon or sucking on a lollipop.
- Steam mucus contains virus particles, so the more you expel the more easily your immune system will win. Drape a towel over the back of your head and position your face over a large bowl of steaming water for 5 minutes then blow, blow, blow! There are also products such as Neti Pots, nasal spray, or commercial steamers that work well, too.
- Chicken soup a recent study showed that the combination of ingredients in chicken soup inhibits the inflammatory white blood cells that travel through the respiratory tract and ramp up mucous production.

So, while we can't CURE the common cold, we sure can feel better while we get over one!





### PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Ellen Fleming Cathleen Allen Marguerite Shive Sarah Tench Helms **Denise Taylor** Cynthia Buchanan Shirley Causby Kay Holden Beverly Reynolds Jerri & Mike Wesson Brenda Dabrowski Zac Hullander Merritt De Nicholas Ben Moose Becke Featherstone Sherry Perry

#### **GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

Margaret Barbee Earl Gardner Linda Nichols Mike Barbee Larry "Poss" Garrett Robert Nichols Sue Barbee Meredith Hovis Sarah Nichols Steve Leonard Amy Beale Blythe Tommy Smith **Doug Brewer** Ruth Lyerly **Brody Thornburg** Dennis Yates Ron de la Vega Jane Marino Nancy Dickson Clarence McLain

Anne Murdy

Carol Fox

#### **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.



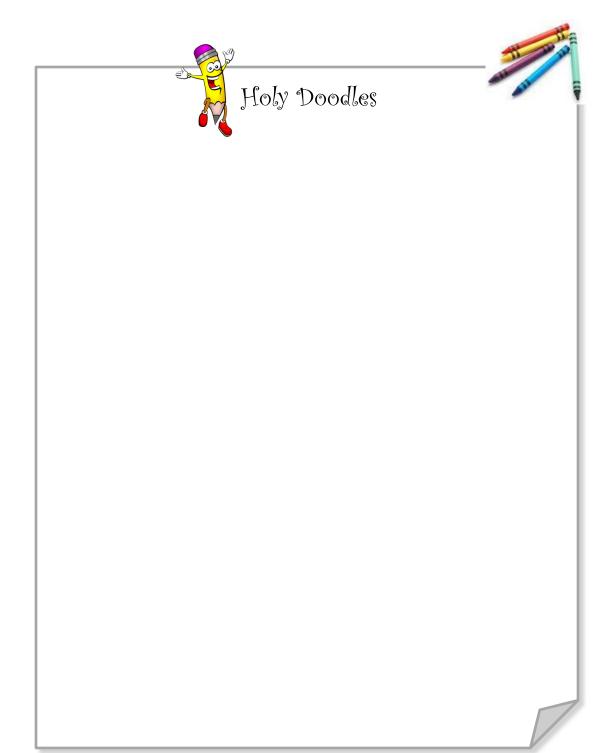
# **Teachers Needed! Pre-K thru Adult**

To volunteer contact Beka at rforst@holyc.org

A signup sheet for volunteer Sunday School Teachers is available in the narthex.

For any questions that you may have contact Beka.





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

### **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