

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, October 25, 2015

Reformation Sunday



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Our Lord and Savior Has a Name, and Jesus Is His Name*
Children's Ensemble

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, whose name is majestic in all the earth, who rescues and heals in every time of trouble, who does all things well.

C Amen.

P Let us come before God, seeking forgiveness and life.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Steadfast and saving God,

C have mercy on us. We confess to you all the ways we turn from you and harm one another. In your compassion, forgive our sins and heal our hurts. Bring forth from us a harvest of righteousness, the fruits of gentleness and peacemaking, the sheaves of wisdom and justice; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P In the name of ☩ Jesus, the Son of God, receive mercy and find grace in your time of need. Your transgressions are forgiven; God's love is healing balm for your wounds. Rejoice, for God raises you up to new life in Christ.

C Amen.


GATHERING SONG: *A Mighty Fortress* All Stand & Sing

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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

A



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C




Lord, have mer - cy.

A



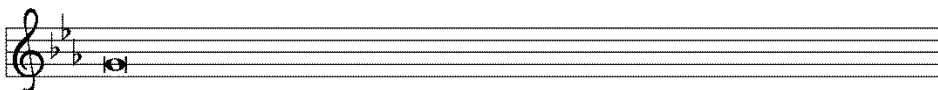
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C



Lord, have mer - cy.

A



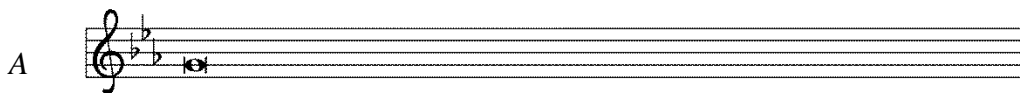
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

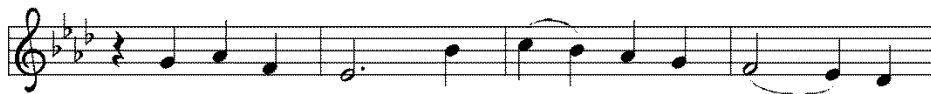
CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



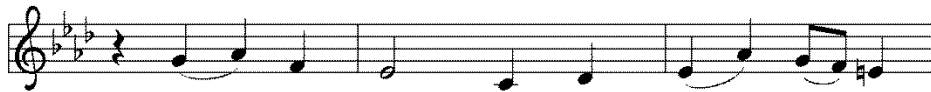
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



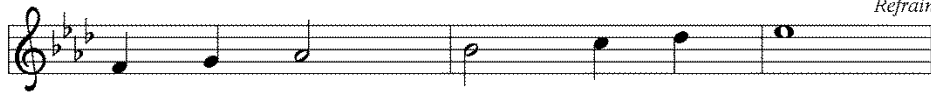
Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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 nurseries**.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from the thirty-first chapter of Jeremiah.

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

A reading from the third chapter of Romans.

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and the other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and

empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

John 8:31–36

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON Guest Pastor Darrell Golnitz

HYMN OF THE DAY: *A Time to Serve* All Stand & Sing
(Sung to “Children of the Heavenly Father)

Jesus hears his children crying.
Sees them hungry, lost, and dying;
Who will comfort all their sorrows?
Who will brighten their tomorrows?

When we aid the poor and lonely,,
We’re not caring for them only;
When our love some suffering eases,
We have done the same for Jesus.

When we join our Savior's service,
He will strengthen and preserve us;
He will guide our daily living,
And He'll bless the love we're giving.

Jesus pleads with us to reach them
With our gifts of love, and teach them
That the kindness we are giving
Is the Christian's way of living

Rise and follow! He will lead us;
Heed the cries of those who need us!
And when life has ended for us.
Heaven's glories lie before us.

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

Made alive with God in Christ, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Reforming God, renew the covenant you have made with your people. Write your law on our hearts so that all we say and do proclaims the grace you have shown us. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Reinvigorate those places that have become desolate and barren through human intervention or natural disaster. Breathe new life into plants, animals, and watersheds. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Reconcile the nations to one another. Where long-standing disputes remain, raise up new generations to foster understanding. Bring peace where there is deep-rooted conflict. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Revive those who live under the weight of anxiety, despair, or illness (*especially*). Carry their burdens, and uplift them by your compassionate Spirit. We thank you for the ministry of Food for the Poor and all organizations that care for those in need. Continue to turn our hearts toward caring for our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Redeem your church from self-serving sins. Turn our hearts to people outside our walls, and transform our communities into places where all may find redemption and hope. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

As we remember the witness of your saints, we pray you remember your promise of mercy for us. Reunite us with all your holy ones when you come in fullness. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gather these concerns and all who are in need into your abundant care, O God, remembering your promise of mercy, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM & RESPONSE: *Church of God*. Costello
(Congregation Stands & Joins in Song on Verse 4)



1. Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly
 2. God has called you out of dark - ness In - to
 3. Once you were an a - lien peo - ple, Stran - gers
 4. Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, be the

na - tion, cho - sen race, Called as God's own spe - cial
 his most marv - lous light, Brought his truth to life with -
 to God's heart of love, But he brought you home in -
 peo - ple he in - tends, Strong in faith and swift to

peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of grace:
 in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to sight.
 mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
 an - swer each com - mand your Mas - ter sends;

Know the pur - pose of your call - ing, Show to
 Let your light so shine a - round you That God's
 Let his love flow out to oth - ers, Let them
 Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing Through your

all his might - y deeds; Tell of love that knows no
 name is glo - ri - fied, And all find fresh hope and
 feel the Fa - ther's care, That they too may know his
 sac - ri - fice and prayer, Give your lives in joy - ful

lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
 pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
 wel - come And his count - less bless - ings share.
 serv - ice, Sing his praise, his love de - clare.

Text: Based on 1 Peter 2:9-12; James E. Seddon, and copyright © 1982 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission.
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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.

DIALOGUE

Presider

Congregation



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

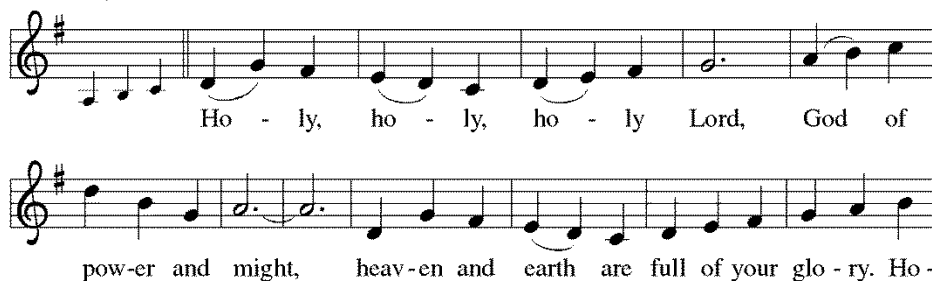
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

PREFACE

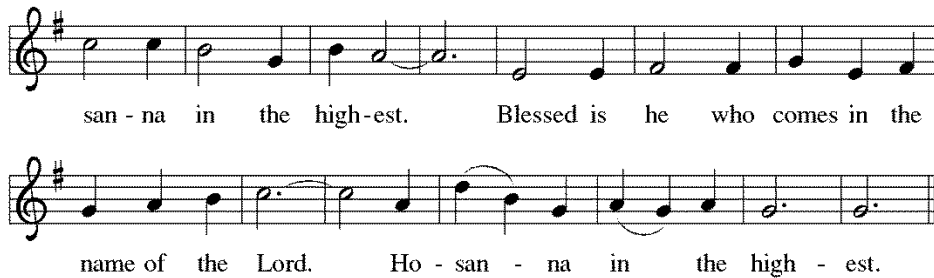
P ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

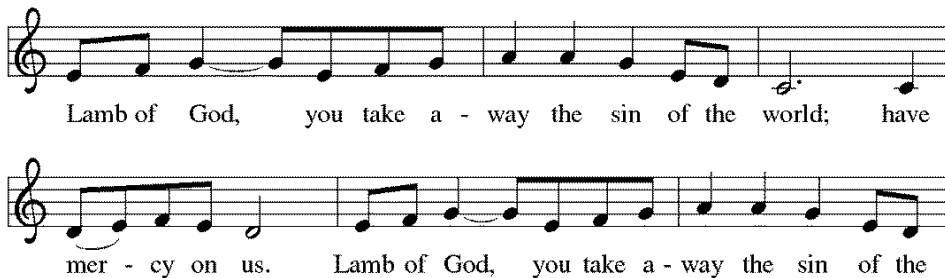
P God gives food to those who hunger. Come, be fed, be healed.
C Thanks be to God.



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.

LAMB OF GOD



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: *O Lord, We Praise You* Chamber Choir
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word All Sing

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

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

C Amen.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let

ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.

Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

C We give you thanks, O God, that you welcome us to your table and satisfy our deepest hunger and thirst. By your gifts of word and holy meal, strengthen us to take up the cross as we go about our callings in this world, following after Jesus Christ, our servant Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P Like children in the arms of Jesus, receive blessing:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *The Church's One Foundation* All Stand & Sing

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won,

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

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 **Reformation 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.

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 located in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance finding either.



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 form on line at www.holyc.org.**

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Danny, Rochelle & Perri Potter in honor of Carson's birthday.

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

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, October 18, 2015:

Attendance: **97**

Budget Report**October 18, 2015**

Current Offering Received 10/18/15	\$ 4,272.00
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 4,598.27
Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)	\$201,195.91
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	(\$ 9,700.28)
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	(\$ 10,046.49)

ASSISTING MINISTERS:**LECTOR:** Billy Joye, Jr.**NURSERY:** (9:30-11:45 am)*Infants:* Brandy Milton*Toddlers:* Jenn Kearney**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:**

Need Volunteers

GREETER: Becky Richards**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 1)

Bev Mauney, Co-Captain

Charles Mauney, Co-Captain

Carmen De Nicholas

Deb Williams

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team A)

Donna Bean

Jack Tench

Jo Singleton

MUSICIAN IN TRAINING: Lucy Bocchino**CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS:** Today: Bocchinos & Klines

Next Sunday: Maria & Madison Carr

EUCCHARISTS PRESENTERS: Danny & Rochelle Potter**PERCUSSION:** Elizabeth Bruchon**TELLERS:** Rochelle & Danny Potter**USHERS:** Volunteers

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**Today, Sunday, October 25**

9:30 am Sunday School
10:10 am Choir meets in choir room
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion
Meal after worship
Children's Ensemble after the meal
5:00 pm Handbells
6:00 pm Church Choir
8:00 pm Nar-Anon

Tuesday, October 27

7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Nar-Anon

Wednesday, October 28

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: October 25-31

October 27 Kay Holden

October 28 Sarah Reese

Rodger Walker

October 30 Shawn De Nicholas

Bill Joye

October 30 Micah Kearney

October 31 Cody Koehler

Gary Rogers

Kurt Scholler



Today we welcome guest Pastor Darrell Golnitz to the pulpit of Holy Comforter.

Attendance October 18, 2015



	<u>Children</u>	<u>Adults</u>
Nursery	2	1
Pre-K	7	2
God's Eden	7	1
Youth	1	1
Seekers		9
<u>Adult Bible Class</u>		13
Totals:	17	27

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 666 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 Mandi Kline, Christian Education

Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager



Please remember these people in your prayers.

If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please inform Kathy Graves.
The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org.

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin
Brenda Dabrowski
Shawn De Nicholas
David Dowd
Dot Holland

Holly Peche
Zac Hullander
Chase Lineberger
Marquerite Shive

Mark Reese
Beverly Reynolds
Anna Spike
Kevin Washle

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Richard Abernethy
Harriett Ange
Paige Beaver
Jenny Beer
Mike Butler
Father Frank Cancro
Tina Capwell
Clell Davis
J. Don Devine
Zachary Evans
Jamey Gardner
Poss Garrett
Ronnie Garrison
Lewis Gilbert Family
Brian Hedrick

Stacy Hunsucker
Dennis Jordan
Steven Keating
Buddy Kircus
Marshall Kinley
Karin Larsen
Terry Mahaffey
Lynn McFarland
Al McCoy
Clay McCoy
Gene McRorie
Susan Nichols
Mark Outlaw
Alicia Overton
Ramesh Patel

Jean Peters
Beverly Howe Poag
Jim Poag
Taylor Propst & Family
David Prouty
Julio Quiros
Anna Rudder
Megan Sigler
E. Taylor & Family
Carson Thomas
Gloria Ward
Pastor Gary Weant
Olivia Wilcox
Jeff Wiles

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek
Leo Kasmer

Jason Gardner
Alex Norris



Dillon Kasmer
Jeremy Shaver