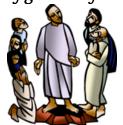
Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, March 2, 2014

The Transfiguration of Our Lord



John Propst Interim Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING: *The Story of the Blind Man* Children's Ensemble

There was a man who could not see.

He called to Jesus, "Please Help Me."

Faith made you well, go on your way.

He followed Jesus from that day!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presiding minister begins:

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy and faithful God,

C we so often choose our own way instead of yours. We think we can evade your commandments. We have spoken in ways that kill, strayed with our hearts, betrayed friends, and hated enemies. We have broken our promises. Search us deeply and create us anew. Lift the heavy burden of our sin and free us to follow your way of life. Amen.

P "Call upon me," says the Lord, "and I will answer." Our God has come among us to loose every bond and set us free from all that weighs us down. Receive the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of + Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior.

C Amen.



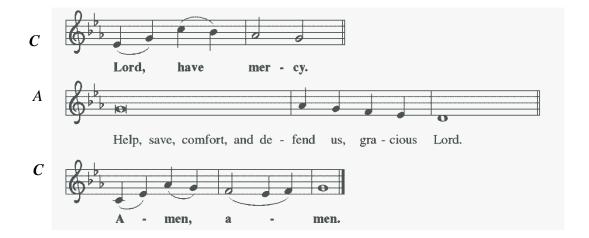
Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

GREETING

- P Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
- C And also with you.

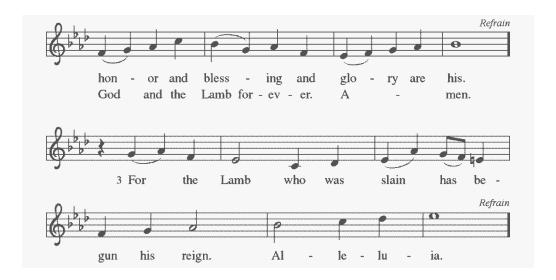
KYRIE





CANTICLE OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The assembly is seated.

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 Exodus 24:12–18

A reading from the twenty-fourth chapter of Exodus.

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The "glory of the Lord" settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

¹²The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING 2 Peter 1:16–21

A reading from the first chapter of 2 Peter.

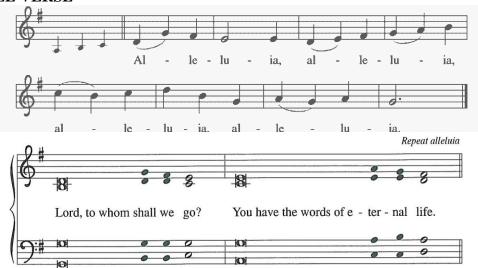
At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL Matthew 17:1–9

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to his disciples in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

P The gospel of the Lord.

\mathbf{C} Praise to vou, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON: Advice from Emily Post and Jesus (Notes: Page 19) Pastor John

HYMN OF THE DAY: He Comes To Us All Stand & Sing



- 2 He comes when souls in sì - lence lie and thoughts of day
- sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and He in comes to us
- He comes in love once he came by flesh and blood and as truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a comes in



heard; as though with - in heart of a stone, or part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, foam; vet small and still up - on the breeze, a birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as shriv-eled seed in fall - ing star a wind that stirs the life. a death, a vet un - seen, but



dark-ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be-ing stirred. heart, of night with-in the heart. cross the sky of night with-in the tops of trees, a home, a voice to call us home. voice to call us say - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth. not un-known, our Sav-ior and our Lord, our Sav-ior and our Lord.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926 Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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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

Guided by the light of Christ, who has been made known to the nations, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

God of glory and grace, you call us to wait upon your name. Give your church on earth the strength and patience to be the people you would have us be. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You created mountains and hills, caverns and valleys. Help us to be good stewards of the heights and depths of your creation. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Raise up leaders in this day with wisdom like Moses, so that all will know your peace and justice. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You provide us with mercy and love through your beloved Son. Shine the light of his love to heal the sick, feed the hungry, and comfort the grieving. Be with all who suffer. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You raise up your children and counsel us not to be afraid. Help this community of faith to be fearless in proclaiming the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

^{*} catholic with a small "c" refers to the whole Christian church throughout the world.

Holy Spirit, keep us in your care until you gather us with all the saints from every time and place in the company of our sovereign God. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Radiant God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who has made his dwelling among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

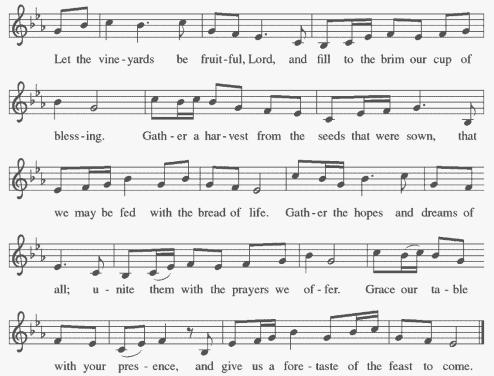
- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Go Up To the Mountain Church Choir

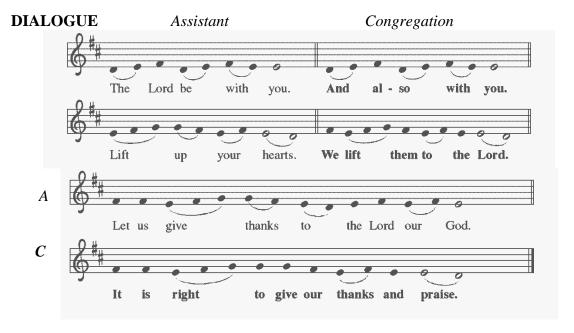
OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Let the Vineyards All Stand & Sing



OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

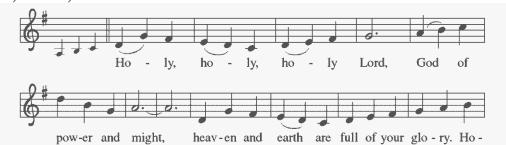


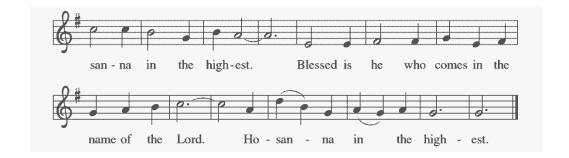
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

PREFACE

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





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.

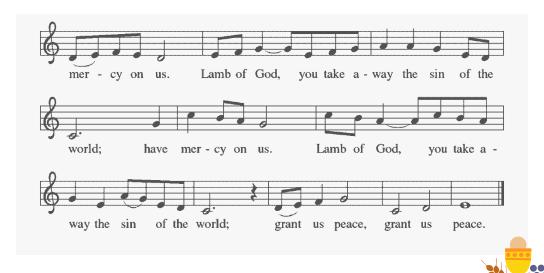
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Blessed are all who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG

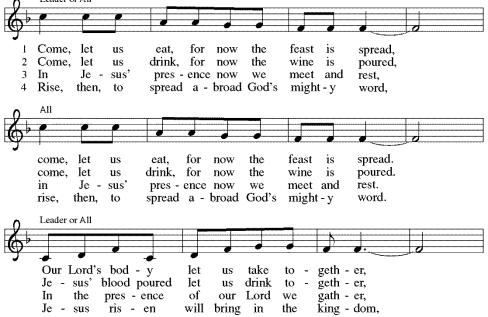




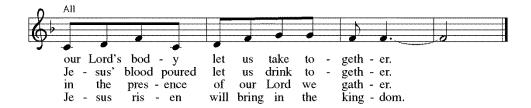
COMMUNION

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

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: Come, Let Us Eat All Sing



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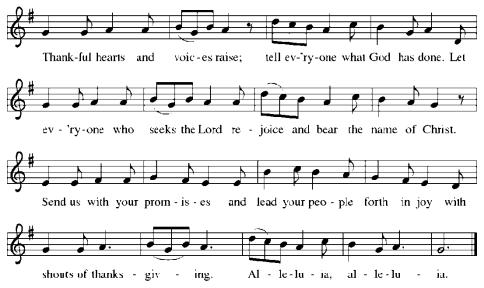


Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt. Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1–3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

- P The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

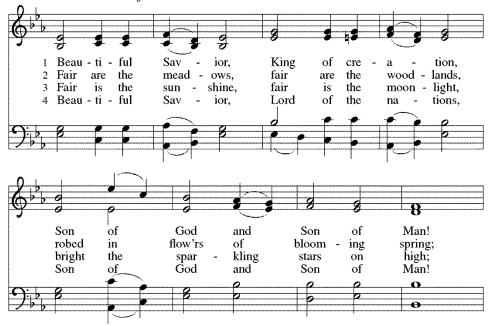
A Let us pray.

C Lord, it is good for us to be here, for we have tasted your glory in this holy meal. Continue your goodness as we go out from here. Open our eyes to see your face shining in every person, and send us to be your servants in every place, for you are the life and light of all, both now and forever. Amen.

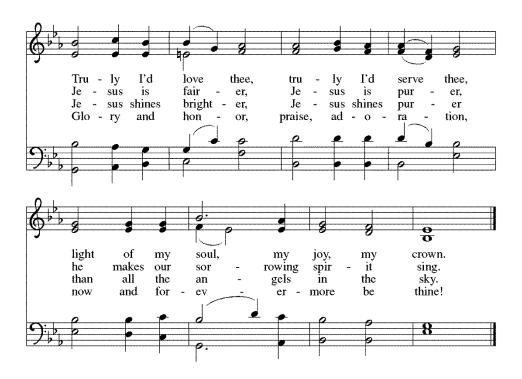
BLESSING

P May the God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

C Amen.



Continued on next page...



Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is your light.

C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this The Transfiguration of Our Lord 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. A nursery for children (infants through 3 years old) is located in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance finding it.

<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.

<u>PRAYER REQUESTS</u>: 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 Bob & Denise Wiegand in memory of "Opa" Hank Wiegand; and by Jack, Laura, Elizabeth & Sarah Tench in honor of Khloe June's 2nd birthday.

<u>Those who have placed flowers on the altar</u> 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, February 23, 2014:

Attendance: 170

Budget Report

Current Offering Received 2/23/14

Weekly Expenses

Offering, Year-To-Date

February 23, 2014

\$ 2,417.71

\$ 4,504.60

\$ 28,057.21

The Current Offering Received for the year through February 23, 2014 is \$ 1,461.38 more than Holy Comforter's expenses through that date.

ASSISTING MINISTERS: FLUTE: Julia Gunter

LECTOR: Billy Joye, Jr. +

Steve Bingham GREETERS: The Tuckers

ACOLYTES: Claire Mitchell NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am)

Nathan Baakko Today, Ginger & Chuck MacDonald

March 9: Sherry Alexander &

CRUCIFERS: Cody Koehler, Gage Gatlin Becca Gatlin

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)

Fran Holland, Co-Captain

Melinda Lingerfelt, Co-Captain

Courtney Gatlin

Stephanie Hinson

Tracey Nault

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team C)

Sherry Alexander Greg Garrison

Courtney Gatlin

+ Volunteer

USHERS: Nancy Powell + Volunteers

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS: Shelia & Tim Kelly

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, March 2

9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

4:00 pm Children's Ensemble

5:00 pm Handbell Choir

6:00 pm Church Choir

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

Tuesday, March 4

5:45 pm **Shrove Tuesday** dinner 7:00 pm Chamber Choir, Nar-Anon

Wednesday, March 5

7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service

with Holy Communion &

Disposition of Ashes

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: March 2 - 8

Today, March 2 Khloe June Tench March 6 Ann Ashe

> Debbie Baker Jo Singleton

Gappy Spiteday

March 8 Graham Baakko Crystal Neagle Hughes

Eligible members for **2013 Thrivent Choice Dollars** reminded to have your designations in by March 31, 2014. **Questions?** Call Myra Hollar 704-825-5885.



Camp Agape Rising 1st Graders — Rising 8th Graders!

It is hard to believe, but it is time to start planning for summer camp again. Holy Comforter is hosting *Camp Agape July 14-18*. *Agape* is a day camp for rising 1st to rising 8th graders sponsored by Kure Beach Ministries.

This year we are expanding the day camp to include 6th-8th graders. The kids in this age group will participate in service projects throughout the week at Holy Comforter as well as off site. We must have a minimum of 6 middle school aged kids in order to offer this expanded camp.

Registration forms are available at the back of the church of from Misty Koehler. The cost is \$125 per camper and is <u>due at the time of registration</u>. There is only room for 20 campers, so register soon. **The spaces will be filled on a first come, first served basis**. Please contact Misty if you have any questions about camp.

Misty Koehler, Holy Comforter Camp Coordinator

"Holy Comforter Café - Yummy!!!!" - Sermon Notes

1) God owns; God loans

<u>Summary of today's Genesis reading</u> (from <u>Today's NIV</u> & <u>The Message</u>): God created humankind, blessed God's creation and charged humankind to be responsible for the fish, the birds, the cattle, and yes, the earth itself!

2) As God's stewards (managers) we are called to follow the Master Builder's blueprints

"Or, to put it another way, you are God's house. Using the gift God gave me as a good architect, I designed blueprints; Apollos is putting up the walls. Let each carpenter who comes on the job take care to build on the foundation! Remember, there is only one foundation, the one already laid: Jesus Christ."

(1 Corinthians 3:10-11 from *The Message*)

3) To God be the glory ... so pray & serve

"What a huge harvest!' Jesus said to His disciples. 'How few workers! On your knees and pray for harvest hands!" (Matthew 9:38 from <u>The Message</u>)

Our Response to God through the HolyC Café' (application):

- 1. Be a responsible caretaker
- 2. Build on Jesus, THE foundation
- 3. Be God's "harvest hands"

+ + + + + + +

"The Lord has made everything for His own purposes." (Proverbs 16:4)

"God doesn't call the qualified; God qualifies the called."

"Life on earth is a temporary assignment."

~Rick Warren, The Purpose Driven Life

"With God, every day matters, every person counts. And that includes you."
~Max Lucado, Cure for the Common Life

"We should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count."

~ Neil A. Maxwell



If you are concerned, due to inclement weather, as to whether we will have church services or planned activities, please check the following for information:

- ♦ Call the church office at 704-825-2483 and listen to recorded message
 - ◆ Check the church website at www.holyc.org
- ♦ Check your email. Please give us your email address if we do not have it.



Contributions to Women's Auxiliary of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary will be accepted on Sundays, March 9 & 16. A life membership to honor or memorialize someone is no longer available. All contributions will be just contributions...no lifetime memberships included.

On May 20, 1940, a large group of women, brought together by Mrs. E. C. Cooper, wife of the president of the Seminary at that time, met in the Seminary Reception Room and organized an auxiliary to be known as the Women's Auxiliary of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. **The auxiliary provides for non-budgeted needs through this membership.**

Please see Barbara Beale or Beverly Reynolds after church on March 9 or 16 to make your contributions. Please make your check payable to Holy Comforter with a notation that it is for LTSS Auxiliary. Thank you, Beverly Reynolds & Barbara Beale

The Lillian E. Lineberger



Scholarship Forms Available Soon!

To apply, you must meet the following requirements:

- Be a member of The Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter for at least one year
- Participate in Communion and contribute to the church during the time you are receiving the grant
- Submit the following by the deadline of April 24th:
 - 1. Your completed application
 - 2. A transcript from your most recently completed semester
 - 3. A typed essay (at least one paragraph) describing yourself, career plans, and life goals

Application forms available via email after March 1.

(Email the church office at holycomforter@gmail.com and request Lineberger Scholarship Form.)

Our best wishes to you in your educational journey.

Your Scholarship Ministry, Carmen De Nicholas



Shrove/Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, March 4 at 5:45 pm In the Fellowship Hall



Lent 2014: Midweek Worship on Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm

(Following our Lenten meal at **5:45 pm**)

Ash Wednesday is March 5 – that's the day we begin our pilgrimage to the cross. 7:00 pm Service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes!

As part of our midweek worship on <u>Tuesday evenings</u>, 5 people will be sharing a brief (2-5 minutes) "testimony of grace." Our theme will be the Lord's Prayer. Below are the petitions, dates and those who will be sharing. THANKS friends, for answering God's call to meditate on one of the petitions! You are a blessing to God AND to those who will hear God's Word through you!

March 5 Ash Wednesday Pastor John

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

March 11 Beth Brittain

thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

March 18 Jo Singleton

Give us this day our daily bread;

March 25 Mandi Kline

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;

April 1 Mark Kline

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

April 8 Julia Gunter

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise AustinFerrie HedrickLiz PropstDeborah BinghamRichard HoldenMabel RatchfordVirginia CrumpZac HullanderMark ReeseDaniel DowdChase Lineberger

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Kathy Beam Laura Lanuto & Family Steve Sanford Kelly Shoe Dale Burris Ruth Lail Ronnie Hagy Dan Martin Shore Family Megan Brian Hedrick Peggy McKenney & Sigler Kathy Helton Ramona J. Sinclair Family Betty Fox **Grady Nichols** Jimmy Surratt Claudia Frazier Sandra Nix Harrison Swindell Ronnie Hersey Jean Peters Charmaine Townsend Dennis Jordan **Taylor Propst & Family** Buck Weatherford Wesley Jordan & Family Mara Rappleyea Beverly F. Wall Betty Kannapel Joel Rivers (NY) Gloria Ward

Jason Gardner

OUR SERVICEMEN

Dillon Kasmer Jeremy Shaver

OUR MISSIONARIES

Austin & Tanya Propst (Yount Adults in Global Mission)

Please remember these people in your prayers.

If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please let Trudy Whitener know or tell Dianne in the church office.

The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org.



Prayers of Sympathy & Hope Are offered to Emma Passailaigue On the recent death of her husband Dutch Passaílaígue

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 666 Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 holycomforter@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Adult Sunday School, 10:30 am The Service Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am — 3:00 pm