# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, June 30, 2019

# The Third Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

#### WELCOME/GATHERING

#### 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.

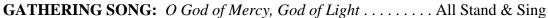
# Silence is kept for reflection.

# 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.





- 5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care, may we each other's burdens share; may we, where help is needed, there give help as though to you.
- 6 And may your Holy Spirit move all those who live to live in love, till you receive in heav'n above all those who live in you.

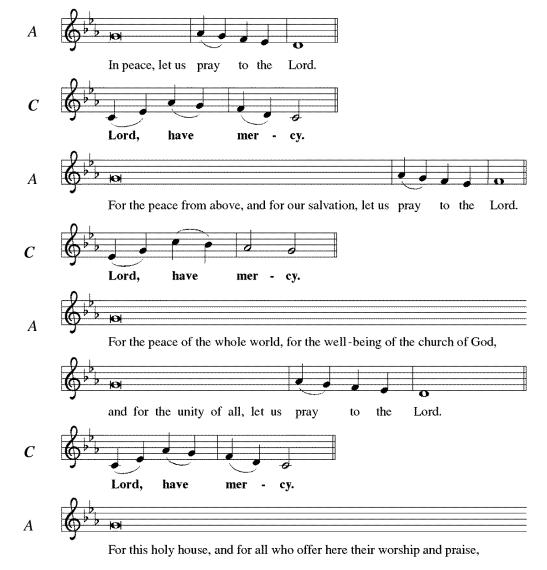
Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt. Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896; arr. hymnal version Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

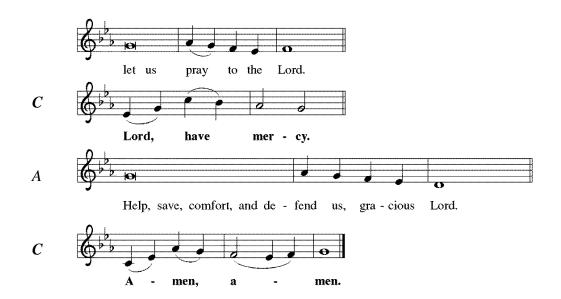
#### **GREETING**

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.







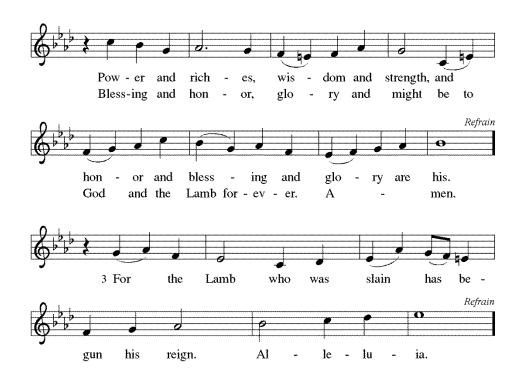












#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of 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 nurseries.

#### FIRST READING

A reading from the nineteenth chapter of 1 Kings.

In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There the Lord reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.

<sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah as prophet in your place.

<sup>19</sup>So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. <sup>20</sup>He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" <sup>21</sup>He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### SECOND READING

A reading from the fifth chapter of Galatians.

**Galatians 5:1, 13-25** 

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

<sup>1</sup>For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

<sup>13</sup>For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. <sup>14</sup>For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup>If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you

are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup>Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. <sup>19</sup>Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup>envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup>By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup>And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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

#### GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL Luke 9:51-62

P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the ninth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

<sup>51</sup>When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup>And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; <sup>53</sup>but they did not receive him, because his face was

set toward Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup>When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" <sup>55</sup>But he turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup>Then they went on to another village.

<sup>57</sup>As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." <sup>58</sup>And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." <sup>59</sup>To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." <sup>60</sup>But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." <sup>61</sup>Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." <sup>62</sup>Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

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

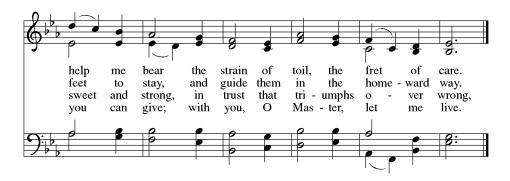
The assembly is seated.

**SERMON** . . . . . . Pastor Micah

Silence for Reflection is Kept.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** O Master, Let Me Walk With You . . . . . . . All Stand & Sing





Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt. Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

#### 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

Joining our voices with God's people around the world, let us offer our prayers for those in need.

## A brief silence.

For all followers of Christ; for the church and its ministers; and for the mission of the gospel, that all will know the gifts of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the wilderness and deserts; for the rain forests and tundra; for native lands and farmland; and for all who tend the land, that God's mighty work be seen in all creation, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those who govern the United States and around the world; for those responsible for peace among people and nations; and for those who strive for freedom, that all are guided by Christ's commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For refugees in need of protection; for the homeless in need of shelter; for those who work in the summer's heat; for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*), that God provide compassionate advocates and skilled medical professionals to aid them, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those who travel this summer; for those celebrating significant events in their lives; and for this community of faith, that the love of Christ be present in our joy and pleasure, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for those who now rest in the hope of the resurrection, that with them we receive assurance that God does not abandon us in any time or place, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, you hear the prayers of your people even before they are spoken. We commend these and all our prayers to you, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

#### **PEACE**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

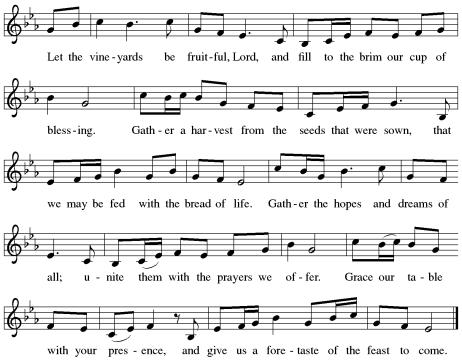
C And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

#### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** This Do In Remembrance of Me........... Church Choir

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** *Let the Vineyard* . . . . . . . . . . . All Stand & Sing

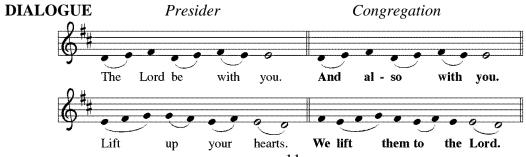


#### OFFERING PRAYER

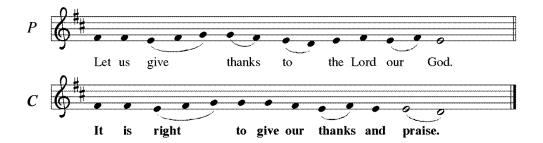
A Let us pray.

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



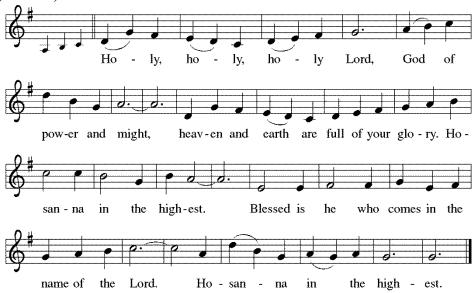
11



## **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:** There's A Wideness in God's Mercy . . . . All Sing



- There's a wide-ness in God's mer cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
- 2 There is wel-come for the sin ner, and a prom-ised grace made good;
- 3 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures of our mind;
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je sus; it is some-thing more than all:



there's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice which is more than lib - er - ty. there is mer-cy with the Sav-ior; there is heal-ing in his blood. and the heart of the E - ter-nal is most won-der-ful-ly kind. great-er good be - cause of e - vil, larg-er mer-cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n. There is grace e - nough for thou-sands of new worlds as great as this; But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own; Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind-ly judg-ment giv'n. there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up-per home of bliss. and we mag-ni - fy its strict-ness with a zeal God will not own. and our lives will be thanks-giv - ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt. Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

- 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: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878 Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

#### **SENDING**

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

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24292.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under One License #A-724639

<u>A CORDIAL WELCOME</u> is extended to all our visitors on this **Third 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 Cher Grant and Linda Grimsley in honor of our church family.

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 June 23, 2019:

Attendance: 110

This Week **Budget Report** Year-to-Date \$ 2,300.00 \$ 126,993.46 Offering \$ 5,774.35 Expenses \$ 146,096.90 Offering less Expenses 3.474.35) (\$ 19,103.44) **Expected Budgeted Expenses** \$ 144,083.68 Offering less Budgeted Expenses (\$ 17.090.22)

Sanctuary Roof and HVAC Status as Of: 6/23/19

Goal: \$225,000 Received to Date: 152,095 Additional Amounts Promised: 35,000 Remaining Needed: \$37,905

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: June 30-July 6** 

Today, June 30 Leah Koehler July 3 Amanda Kelly July 2 Elaine Moose July 4 Ann Miller

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye GREETER: Deb Williams

ACOLYTE: Volunteer TELLERS: Fran Holland

Volunteers Trudy Whitener

CRUCIFER: Catherine Carr CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 2)

Brad & Brandy Milton, Co-Captains NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am)

Donna Bean Beverly Robinson Volunteer

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Volunteers USHERS: Volunteers

**EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:** Volunteers

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS: Sunday, June 30

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

Tuesday, July 2

Jenn Kearnev

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Thursday, July 4
Office closed for
Independence Day



**Make Your Own Happiness.** Happiness isn't an accident! Happiness is something we need to work on and accomplish for ourselves. Establishing a positive habit, like starting or ending your day jotting down three things for which you're grateful and feel blessed, can actually increase your moment-to-moment happiness. And try these other "happy" strategies to lighten your mood:

- 1. Cultivate a circle of "happy" pals research shows that every happy friend you have increases your own chance of happiness by 15%! And when you are lifting up others, you tend to count your own blessings much more.
- 2. Create a happiness budget you can buy happiness but only if you spend it on fun experiences, like a vacation or dance lessons, rather than on materialistic "stuff." Materialistic "stuff" can accumulate around us but not actually make us happy. Make plans, daily, to spend some time on a "happiness" goal.
- 3. Stay engaged Research shows that whatever activity people do, they are significantly less happy when they let their mind wander. So, stay "on task" and you'll find yourself much happier and satisfied with even the most mundane routines.

WWG Participants – I'm needing those miles, but they are coming in slowly. SO...I am adding some incentive:

Miles are due on Sundays, BUT each time you get your miles to me by the following Tuesday I will add five miles to your reported total!

Check out our total on the map in the education wing (437 miles this past week – 820 total)! We are doing great!



# It's Kickball Season.

Let the office or Tom Bocchino know if you are interested in playing.

18 years or older to participate
(16 with parental consent).

Games are on Mondays and Thursday evenings at Belmont Central.



### PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Cynthia Buchanan
Brenda Dabrowski
Becke Featherstone
Sarah Tench Helms
Kay Holden
Zac Hullander
Ben Moose
Sherry Perry
Marguerite Shive

Denise Taylor Beverly Reynolds Jerri & Mike Wesson

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

Sue Barbee
Amy Beale Blythe
Doug Brewer
Ron de la Vega
Nancy Dickson
Qemal Fazlin
(Halide's husband)
Carol Fox

Carol Fox
Earl Gardner
Larry "Poss" Garrett

Bill Hinkle
Meredith Hovis
Adam Kincaid
Steve Leonard
Jennifer Lineberger
Ronnie Lunsford
Ruth Lyerly
Cookie Lynn
Jane Marino
Clarence McLain

Zak Merzouki Anne Murdy Linda Nichols Sara Nichols Tommy Smith Brody Thornburg Dennis Yates Doris Wade

#### **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.

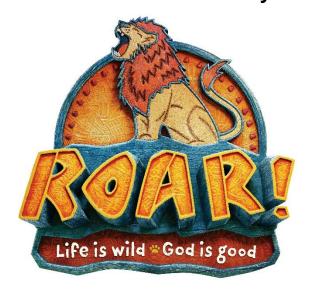
The sign-up prayer forms are in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org.



# If you are looking to register or volunteer for

# Vacation Bible School

July 28-31 for Grades Pre-K through Grade 5 Contact Beka at rforst@holyc.org.



5:45 pm Dinner; 6:15 pm VBS session begins





# **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 Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager