# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, November 5, 2017

# All Saints' Sunday

We remember Tommy Causby, Daphne Hansen, Tom Irwin, Pauline Joye, and Stan Lahr, members of Holy Comforter;

and others who have died in the Lord since last All Saints' Sunday.

Micah Kearney Pastor



Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

## WELCOME/GATHERING

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, Leaning on Everlasting Arms.

What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, Leaning on Everlasting Arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Leaning on Everlasting Arms.

I have a blessed peace with my Lord near. Leaning, safe and secure from all alarms.

## 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 calls us into an everlasting hope, who guides us to springs of the water of life, who enlightens us with the spirit of wisdom.

C Amen.

P One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

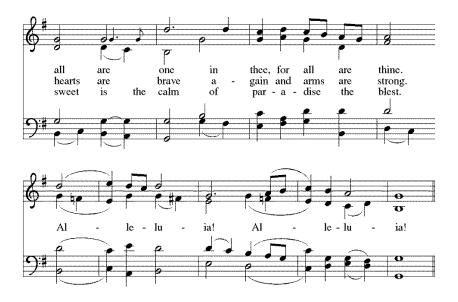
P O God, our merciful redeemer,

C we confess the ways we live only for ourselves. We fail to see you in our neighbor's face. We turn our ears from voices that cry out. We pass by the hungry and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sin and strengthen us for service to all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for + his sake, God forgives you all your sin. Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God.

C Amen.





Text: William W. How. 1823–1897 Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*. © Oxford University Press 1906.

## **GREETING**

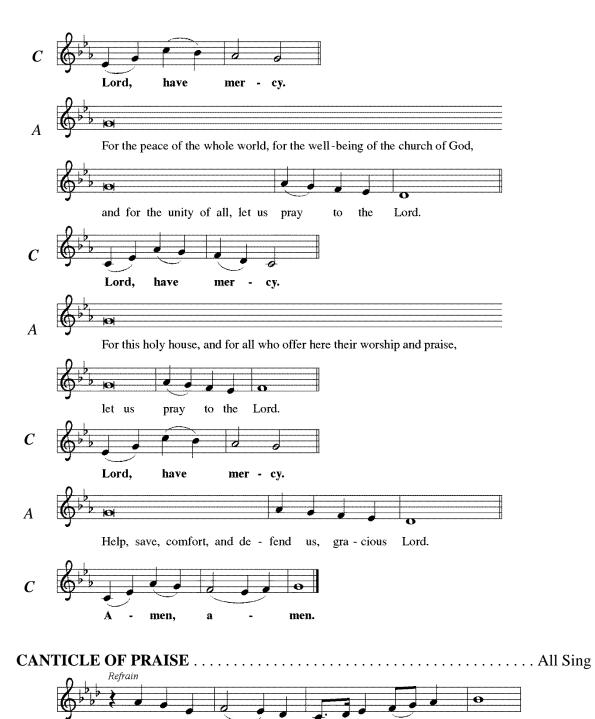
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

# C And also with you.

## **KYRIE**



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



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#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, 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 Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from the seventh chapter of Revelation.

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading provides a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer responds to the faithful with the assurance of God's protection and a vision of eventual victory.

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." <sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
<sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;
<sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-3

A reading from the third chapter of 1 John.

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he∖ is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

## **GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL**

(Congregation turns to face procession and remains standing for Gospel & Gospel verse)

### GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL Matthew 5:1–12

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

In the beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

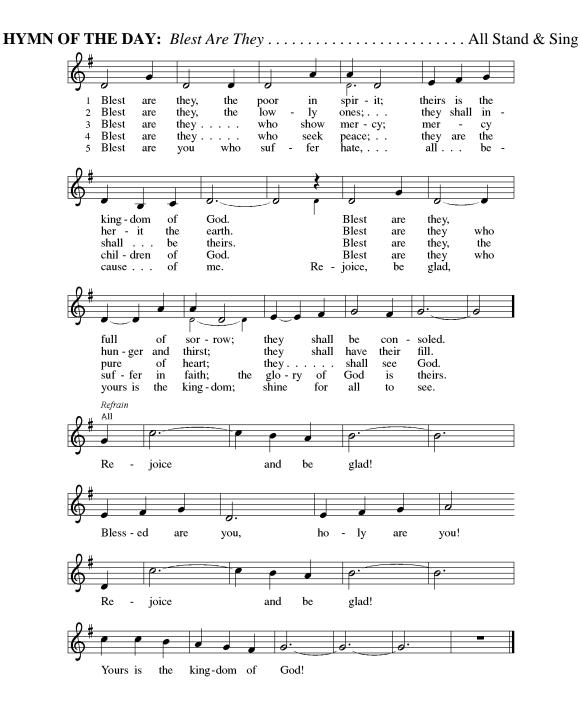
<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>1</sup>1"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

The assembly is seated.



Text: David Haas, b. 1957
Music: BLEST ARE THEY, David Haas
Text and music: © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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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

Welcoming God's reign of righteousness and mercy, let us pray with people of every time and place.

# A brief silence.

Gather your church from every nation, tribe, people, and language to proclaim your salvation. Defend and preserve those who are persecuted because of their faith. Lord, in your mercy,

# hear our prayer.

Reveal your will for your creation, mighty God. Renew waters, lands, and skies that are threatened by our carelessness. Teach us to honor and care for the works of your hands. Lord, in your mercy,

# hear our prayer.

Move the hearts of all who participate in upcoming elections. Give courage, generosity, and vision to candidates and voters alike. Guide elected officials to answer the call of those who cry out for fair and just policies. Lord, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

Soothe the pain of those who suffer (*especially*). Comfort those who mourn through the ministry of nurses, those who provide hospice care, visitation ministers, chaplains, and caregivers. Lord, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

Seek the lost, those who hunger and thirst with questions of faith, and those absent from our worship today. Make us ready to receive newcomers you send to our congregation. Lord, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

We remember with thanksgiving the blessed saints whom you have received into your glory, especially Tommy Causby, Daphne Hansen, Tom Irwin, Pauline Joye, Stan Lahr and all others we lift to you now. Guide us with them to the springs of the water of life. Lord, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers and the hopes and concerns of our hearts, O God, as we entrust into your loving care all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **PEACE**

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

The assembly is seated.



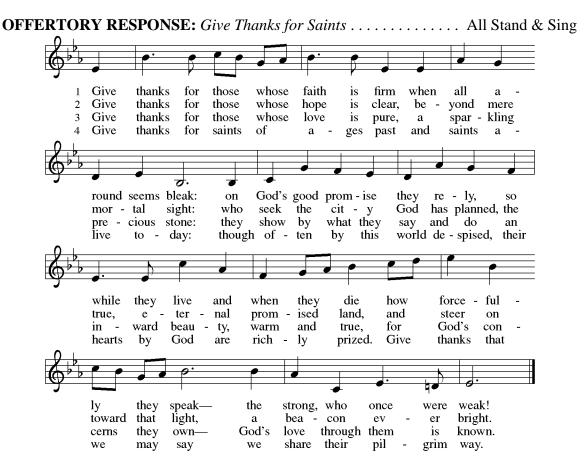
### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** All Shall Be Amen and Alleluia . . . . . . . . . Keesecker All shall be Amen and Alleluia. We shall rest and we shall see.

We shall see and we shall know. We shall know and we shall love.

We shall love and we shall praise. Behold our end which is no end.

Behold our end which is no end.

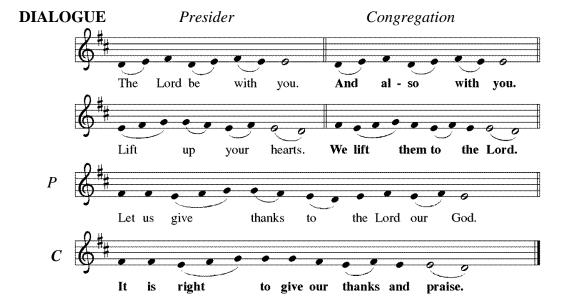


Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, b. 1962 Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918 Text © 2003 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission.

### OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Creator God, you made everything, and you provide for every need. The bread we break and the wine we pour come from you. As we eat and drink with thanksgiving, fill us with your love; let that love flow through us to others; and join us to the saints before us in a holy and boundless communion; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

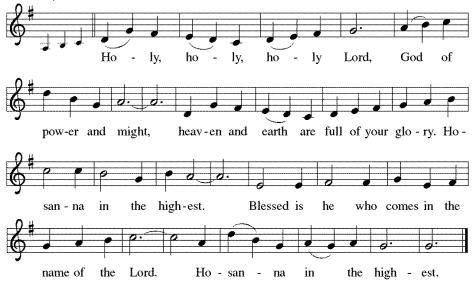


## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## **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.

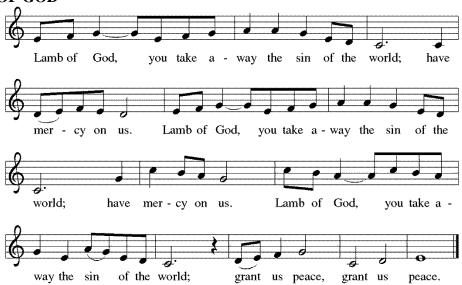
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.



#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P Hunger no more. Thirst no more. Come to the banquet of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

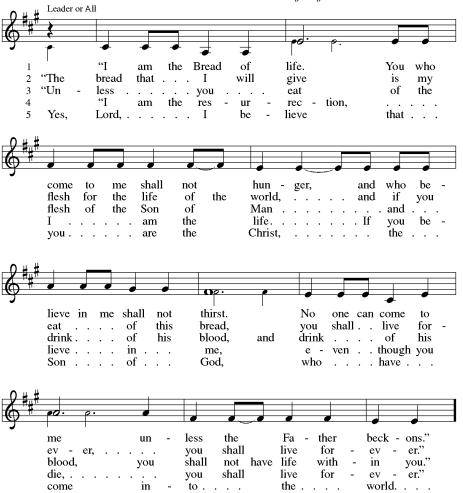
## **LAMB OF GOD**



#### 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:** *I Am the Bread of Life.....* All Sing



## Refrain:

And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, And I will raise you up on the last day.

Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6
Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM
Text and music: © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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<i>Here I Am Lord</i>	. Handbells
<i>In Our Day of Thanksgiving</i>	mber Choir

In our day of thanksgiving one psalm let us offer for the saints who before us received the reward; when the shadow of death fell upon them, we sorrowed, but now we rejoice that they rest in the Lord.

In the morning of life, and at noon, and at evening, they were gathered to heav'n from our worship below; but not till God's love, at the font and the altar, had clothed them with grace for the way they should go.

Sing praise, then, and thanks that God's love here has found them whose journey is ended, whose perils are past; they believed in the light; and its glory is round them, where the clouds of earth's sorrow are lifted at last.

Text: William Henry Draper, 1855–1933 Music: ST. CATHERINE'S COURT, Richard Strutt, 1848–1927

- 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 Sovereign God, in this meal you give us a foretaste of the great feast to come. Keep us faithful to you, that we, with all your saints, may at length celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**THE CONGREGATION** will follow the procession out the sanctuary doors and around to the Columbarium for the blessing.

#### DEDICATION OF COLUMBARIUM

P Sisters and brothers in Christ, we are gathered to ask God's blessing as with thankfulness we dedicate this columbarium to the glory of God, and in memory of Tommy Causby.

Psalm 84:1-4

<sup>1</sup>How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

<sup>2</sup> My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

<sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself. where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts,

my King and my God.

- <sup>4</sup> Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
- P The Lord be with you.
- $\mathbf{C}$ And also with you.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- P It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for your abundant gifts. P

Your days are without number;

a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past.

You are the Lord of the past, the present, and the future;

you hold eternity in the palm of your hand.

We remember with thanksgiving

all the saints and witnesses to your goodness who have gone before us, who by their lives have testified to the love of God.

Give us grace to follow them in faith as your beloved children,

maturing into the likeness of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,

by whose death and burial you have sanctified the graves of all who sleep in you.

Send your blessing upon us and upon this columbarium,

which we set apart today to your praise and honor.

As you raised up your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the first fruits of those who sleep, so also by your Spirit make us to be partakers of that new life

which you have promised to those who believe;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

P The love of God surround you; the grace of + Christ release you; and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and forevermore.

C Amen.

**SENDING SONG:** *Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In* . . . . . . . . All Stand & Sing

Oh, when the saints go marching in Oh, when the saints go marching in Oh, Lord I want to be in that number When the saints go marching in.

Oh, when the stars fall from the sky Oh, when the stars fall from the sky Oh, Lord I want to be in that number When the stars fall from the sky.

Oh, when the trumpet sounds its call Oh, when the trumpet sounds its call Oh, Lord I want to be in that number When the trumpet sounds its call.

Oh, when the fire begins to blaze Oh, when the fire begins to blaze Oh, Lord I want to be in that number When the fire begins to blaze.

Oh, when the saints go marching in Oh, when the saints go marching in Oh, Lord I want to be in that number When the saints go marching in.

#### **SENDING**

- A Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this All Saints' 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.

**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 www.holyc.org.

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God by Jo & Harold Singleton in honor of Angela Singleton Bunney's birthday; and by Shirley Causby in memory of Tommy Causby and Margaret Sparks.

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

Carmen Buell, Worship & Music

## Offering and Attendance Report for October 29, 2017:

Attendance: 120

October 29, 2017 **Budget Report** Year-to-Date Offering 6,453.00 \$ 225, 090.93 \$ 5,656.42 236,740.29 Expenses Offering less Expenses (\$ 11,649.36) 796.58 **Budgeted Expenses** \$ 244,032.04 Offering less Budgeted Expenses (\$ 18.941.11)

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:** 

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye **GREETER:** Pat Long

TELLERS: Rochelle & Danny **ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:** 

Volunteers Potter

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: **ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 4)

Dean & Diann Halvorson, Co-Captains Krystyna Sarrazin Carmen Buell

**NURSERY:** (9:30-11:45 am) Barbara Kasmer

Infants: Staff: Toddlers: Volunteers **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:** 

Volunteers **USHERS:** Volunteers

**EUCHARIST PRESENTERS: Volunteers ANTHEM ACCOMPANIST:** 

Jo Irwin

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: November 5-11** 

Today, November 5 Debbie Mendez November 8 Jim Buell

November 6 Deborah Bray Matthew Heilig Jenn Kearney November 11 Ashley Ange

Richard Holden

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

6:00 pm Church Choir

Today, Sunday, November 5 Tuesday, November 7 9:00 am Handbells 7:00 pm Chamber Choir

9:30 am Sunday School Nar-Anon 10:10 am Church Choir

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion. Wednesday, November 8 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study Dedication of Columbarium

Catered Lunch, Tour of former parsonage 5:00 pm **HCY** with Dinner at church

#### COLUMBARIUM

Today, All Saints' Sunday, we will have the dedication of the church columbarium. Following the dedication there will be a catered luncheon for everyone. You do not have to bring anything but your appetite. This is a gift from the organist/choirmaster in celebration of All Saints' and in thanksgiving for our Centennial Year. Please plan to join us.

After the luncheon we are invited to tour our former parsonage, which is located directly across the street at 211 North Main Street. There will be a police officer stationed between the sidewalk gates to slow traffic, and err on the side of safety. Chris & Julie Cristy purchased the home from the Causbys a year ago, and graciously offered to open their doors to us. Prior to the Causby purchase in 1989 the house served as our parsonage for over a quarter of a century.

Blessings, Greg Cline

## PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Carmen Buell
Brenda Dabrowski
Ardean Ewing
Becke Featherstone
Ned Featherstone
Kay Holden

Dot Holland Zac Hullander Jo Irwin Chase Lineberger Holly Peche Sherry Perry Marguerite Shive Denise Taylor Jack Tench Beverly Reynolds Kathie Schaumburg Jerri Wesson

## **GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

Jeanne Bernhardt Barbara Bingham Amy Beale Blythe Karen de la Vega Carol Fox Larry "Poss" Garrett Brandi Hager John McDermid Jennifer Lineberger Anne Murdy Brody Thornburg Dennis Yates



OUR SERVICEMEN

Tom Kasmer Leo Kasmer

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 <a href="www.holyc.org">www.holyc.org</a>.

# BCO November Items of the Month



# PB&J CAMPAIGN

**The North Carolina Guardian ad Litem Program** is conducting its annual **Peanut Butter & Jelly Campaign**. Peanut butter is something all food banks need. The collection of jelly was added because we were all once children, and we fondly remember peanut butter & jelly sandwiches as a staple of a happy childhood.

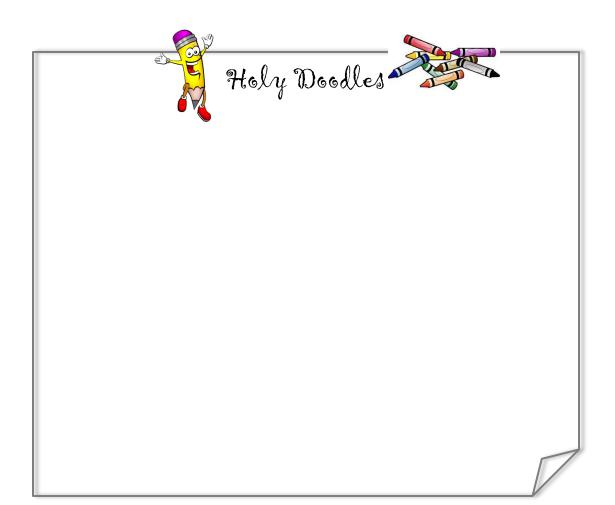
Please place your donations of peanut butter and/or jelly in the labeled box located in the fellowship hall. Your donations will be taken to the Guardian ad Litem office in the Gaston County courthouse. Donations will then be distributed to the food banks in the county.

The collection of peanut butter and jelly runs through January 12.





**REMINDER:** The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 12**. Ballots for the council election will be handed out to the congregation at the annual meeting.



# **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



# Advent Wreath Order Form

With Advent right around the corner it is now time to order your family an Advent wreath. The following wreaths are \$10 each, and that includes 4 candles and a brass ring. Please place your order form with your check written to Holy Comforter (with a notation that it is for an *Advent Wreath*) in the offering plate or give to Beka.

## Deadline to place your order is Sunday, November 19th.



Name:	
Number of wreaths ordered:	Total cost @ \$10 each:
Payment by check:	Payment by cash: