

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, October 12, 2014

## The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney  
Pastor

Greg Cline  
Organist/Choirmaster

### GATHERING/WELCOME

**PRELUDE:** *Thy Holy Wings* ..... Swedish Folk Tune

### 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, the Sovereign over all the earth, the Wisdom from on high, our merciful Judge and Savior.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us boldly approach the throne of grace, trusting in God's mercy and love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Generous and faithful God,

**C** we confess to you all the ways, known and unknown, that we reject and undermine your steadfast love. Though you made us your people, we treat strangers with suspicion. Though you forgave our debts, we collect without mercy.

**Yet we are quick to pass judgment on others. Have mercy on us, O God, and remember your promise to us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**P** The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Through the living Word, + Jesus Christ, God forgives your every debt, your every sin, and gives you a new heart and a new spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG: *Give to Our God Immortal Praise!* . . . . . All Stand & Sing

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and  
 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and  
 3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of

truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to  
 dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to  
 kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
 Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

## 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

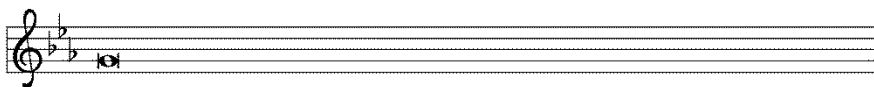
**A**


In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C   
 Lord, have mer - cy.

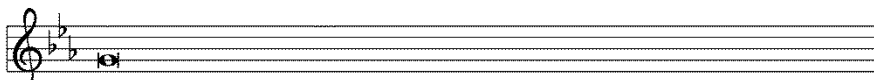
A   
 For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

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.

C   
 Lord, have mer - cy.

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

  
 let us pray to the Lord.

C   
 Lord, have mer - cy.

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

C   
 A - men, a - men.

## GLORY TO GOD



Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C Amen.

*Congregation is Seated and are invited to sing “Jesus Loves Me”  
as the children come forward.*

## CHILDREN’S TIME

**Children ages 4 to 8 years-old** are invited to go to the Education building for a 20-minute (or so) time together **immediately after the Children’s sermon**. *Children will return to their parents during the hymn of the day.* Children **birth through 3 years-old** are invited to join others their age **in the nursery**.

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 25:1–9**

A reading from the twenty-fifth chapter of Isaiah.

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing everyone up—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

<sup>2</sup>For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of aliens is a city no more,  
it will never be rebuilt.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

<sup>4</sup>For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.  
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

<sup>5</sup>the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,

the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

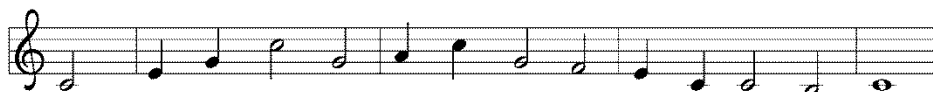
A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

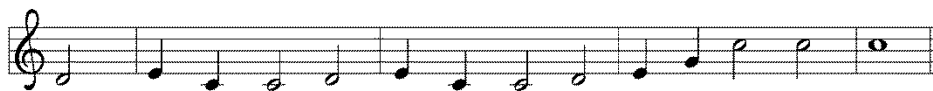
**PSALM 23.** ..... All Sing



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie  
2 My soul he doth re-store a-gain, and me to walk doth make  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
4 My ta-ble thou hast rich-ly spread in pres-ence of my foes;  
5 Good-ness and mer-cy all my life shall sure-ly fol-low me,



in pas-tures green; he lead-eth me the qui-et wa-ters by.  
with-in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com-fort still;  
my head thou dost with oil a-noint, and my cup o-ver-flows.  
and in God's house for-ev-er-more my dwell-ing-place shall be;



He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me the qui-et wa-ters by.  
with-in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake.  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com-fort still.  
My head thou dost with oil a-noint, and my cup o-ver-flows.  
and in God's house for-ev-er-more my dwell-ing-place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650  
Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1895–1984  
Arr. © Oxford University Press.

## SECOND READING

## Philippians 4:1–9

A reading from the fourth chapter of Philippians.

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

<sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

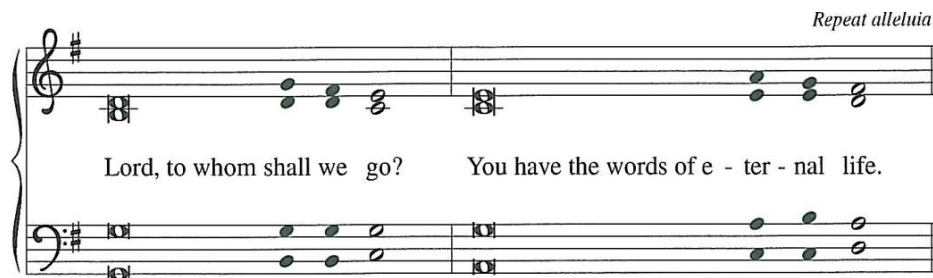
A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL VERSE ..... All Stand & Sing







## GOSPEL

**Matthew 22:1–14**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

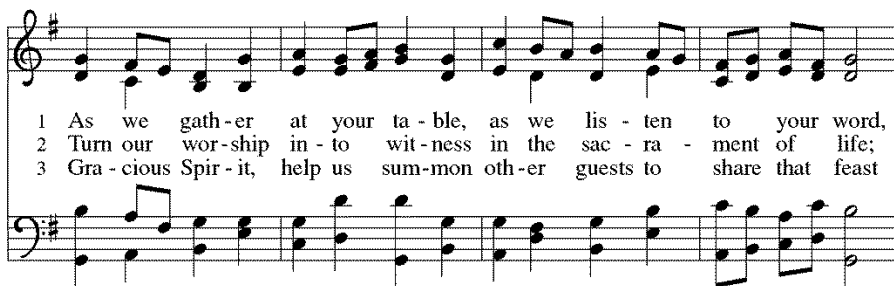
<sup>11</sup>But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen."

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

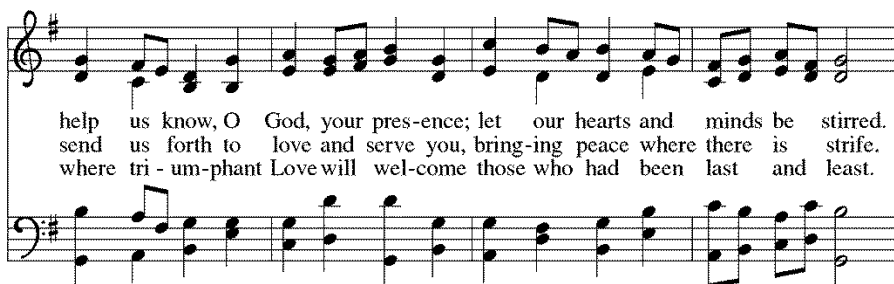
**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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

# HYMN OF THE DAY: *As We Gather at Your Table* ..... All Stand & Sing



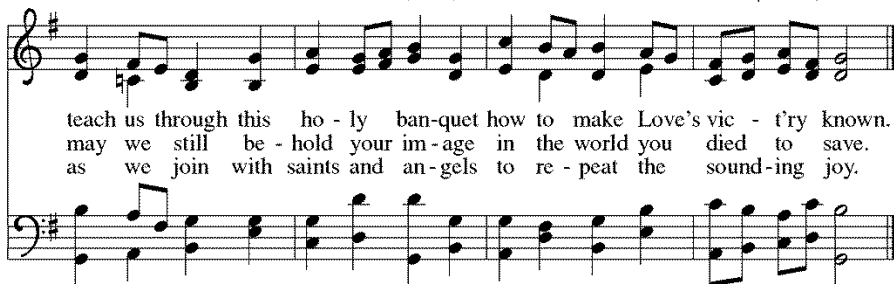
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;  
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;  
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.  
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Folkantse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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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.

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

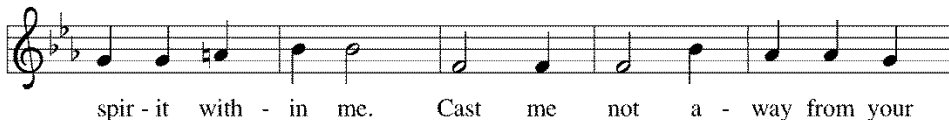
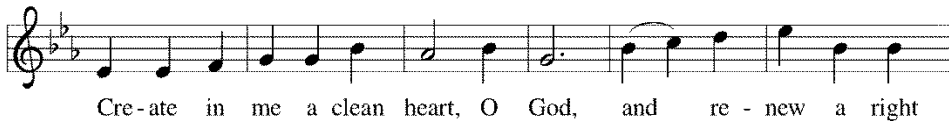
## PEACE

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

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** *Gloria From Now the Feast* . . . . . Church Choir

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** *Create in Me* . . . . . All Stand & Sing





Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

Come near us, Lord God. Let your church rejoice at your banquet where all are invited and welcomed, washed and fed, forgiven and chosen. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Come near us, Lord God. Let your creation rejoice in green pastures, beside still waters, on mountaintops, in harvested fields, along city streets, down country roads, and throughout the valleys. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Come near us, Lord God. Let your world rejoice in peace which surpasses understanding, at tables overflowing with good food and drink, and where shrouds of sorrow are lifted. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Come near us, Lord God. Let your people rejoice with faces wiped free of tears, minds unbound from disgrace, bodies freed from suffering, and souls restored. (*Especially we pray for . . .*) Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Come near us, Lord God. Let your faithful rejoice in every assembly, in praise and

singing, word and deed, unrestrained from worry and unchained from fear. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Come near us, Lord God. Let those who wait for you rejoice with all the saints, whose names are in the book of life and who now sit at the great feast with you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your mercy and goodness, we bring before you these prayers and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of the one who sets us free, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

### **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.**

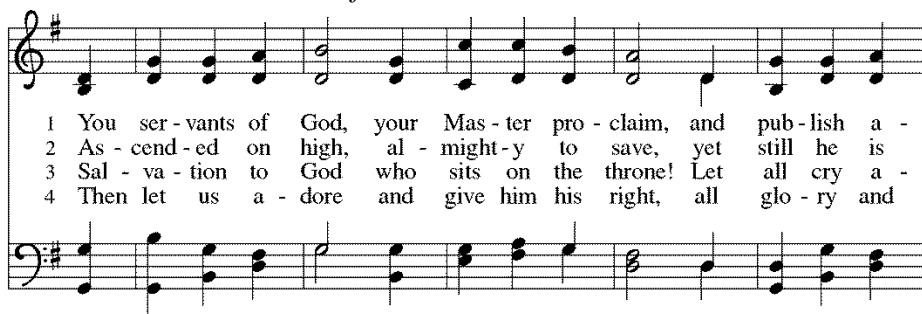
**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

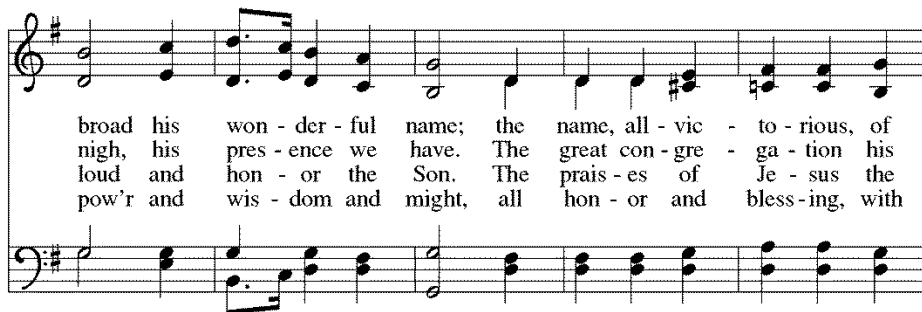
**P** The blessing of almighty God, the Father of glory, + Jesus Christ our peace, and the Spirit of truth, be upon you and remain with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

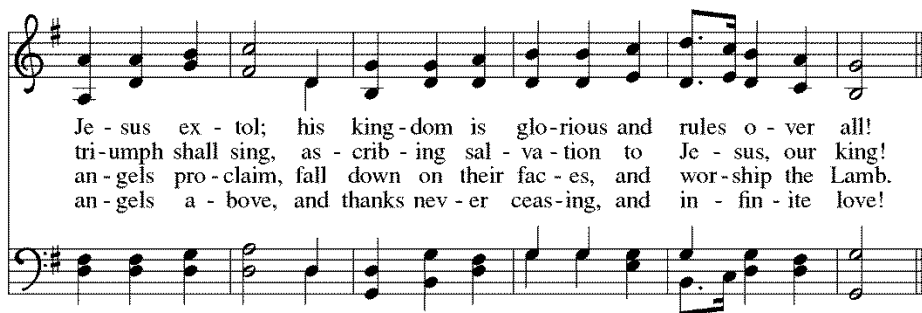
# SENDING SONG: *You Servants of God* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -  
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is  
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -  
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of  
 nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his  
 loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the  
 pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!  
 tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!  
 an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.  
 an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.  
 Music: LYONS, altr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

## DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

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**A CORDIAL WELCOME** is extended to all of our visitors on this **Eighteenth 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 located in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance finding it.



**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](http://www.holyc.org).**

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God by Shelia & Tim Kelly in loving memory of Kenny Hedrick, Mary and Robert Kelly.

**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 5, 2014:**

Attendance: **130**

**Budget Report**

**October 5, 2014**

Current Offering Received 10/5/14	\$ 5,415.93
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 4,504.60
Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)	\$162,617.99
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	(\$ 4,198.37)
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	(\$ 16,270.01)

**Vision Fund Contribution Summary** January 1-September 28, 2014

Vision Fund Contribution (July 1-September 28, 2014 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter) **\$2,808.00**

Vision Fund Contribution Y-T-D **\$9,932.00**

**Reported by: Jack Tench, Financial Secretary**

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:****LECTOR:** Billy Joye, Jr., Beth Brittain**ACOLYTES:** Becca Gatlin,  
Matthew Carr**CRUCIFERS:** Cooper Burwell,  
Madison Carr**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 1)

Bev Mauney, Co-Captain

Brad Milton, Co-Captain

Charles Mauney

Brandy Milton

Carmen De Nicholas

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

Today: Jill Leitner; Next: Need volunteer

**GREETER:** Barbara Kasmer**USHERS:** Nathan Kelly + Volunteers**TELLERS:** Rochelle & Danny Potter**CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS:**

Today: Shelia Kelly + Helper

Next Sunday: Tracey Nault + Helper

**SOLOIST:** Janet Achor**THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:****Today, Sunday, October 12**

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Choir meets in choir room

10:30 am The Service

4:00 pm Children's Ensemble

5:00 pm Handbells

6:00 pm Church Choir

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

**Tuesday, October 14**12:00 Noon *Lunch Bunch*Elliott Williams, Speaker  
with Director of *Faith Farms*7:00 pm Chamber Choir  
Nar-Anon**Saturday, October 18**3:00 pm ***Trunk-of-Treat***

HolyC's parking lot

For children **Toddler-Grade 5**  
Wear Costumes!**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK:** October 12-18

Today, October 12 Dee Tucker

October 14 Jean Ferguson  
Linda Grimsley

October 14 Jeff Howard

Stephanie S. Hinrichs

October 18 David Koehler





### Attendance October 5, 2014

	<u>Children</u>	<u>Adults</u>
Nursery	3	4
Pre-K	9	2
God's Eden	4	1
Youth	3	1
Seekers		0
Adult Bible Class		13
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>

## Heather Mauney Yount Memorial Playground Project



The playground, built on our church grounds, is a commercial structure designed for 2-12 year-olds. We are finishing the construction as funds become available.

**Approximately \$4000 is still needed to complete this project.**

Please join us in making the finished playground a reality  
by indication on your check memo line or offering envelope:

*Playground Project*



## PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin  
Scott Caldwell  
Daniel Dowd  
Cher Grant

Ferrie Hedrick  
Kay Holden  
Zac Hullander  
Chase Lineberger

Virginia Neagle  
Mabel Ratchford  
Mark Reese  
Marguerite Shive

## GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Harriett Ange  
Janice Barker  
Kathy Beam  
Dale Burris  
Father Frank Cancro  
Ken Capps  
Wesley Coleman  
Ronnie Hagy  
Brian Hedrick  
Kathy Helton  
Betty Fox  
Claudia Frazier  
Donald Freeman  
Ronnie Garrison  
Ronnie Hersey  
Judy Jackson  
Dennis Jordan

Wesley Jordan & Family  
Betty Kannapel  
Steven Keating  
Marshall Kinley  
Becky Knick  
Alice Langley  
Laura Lanuto & Family  
Pierce Lee  
Steve Mathis  
Fay McCarn  
Peggy McKenney & Family  
Sandra Nix  
Mark Outlaw  
Jean Peters  
Leland "Lee" Peterson  
Scott Phillips  
Steve Pletsas

Taylor Propst & Family  
David Prouty  
Mara Rappleyea  
Anna Rudder  
Steve Sanford  
Samana Shull  
Megan Sigler  
Ramona J. Sinclair  
Jimmy Surratt  
E. Taylor & Family  
Beverly F. Wall  
Gloria Ward  
Bryan Wayburn  
Pastor Gary Weant  
Olivia Wilcox

## OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek

Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer



Jeremy Shaver

## OUR MISSIONARIES

Austin & Tanya Propst (Young 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 inform Trudy Whitener or Dianne in the church office.**

The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at [www.holyc.org](http://www.holyc.org).



**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

P.O. Box 666 Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 [holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:MicahKearney@gmail.com)

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager