

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, June 18, 2017 •

The Second Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

GATHERING/WELCOME

PRELUDE

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, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

C Amen.

P Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Eternal God our creator,

C in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ☩ forgives you all your sins.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Rise Up, O Saints of God!* All Stand & Sing

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;

Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936
 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893
 Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

P From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

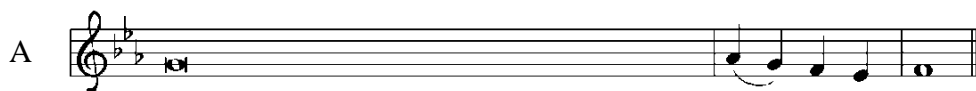
KYRIE

A

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C

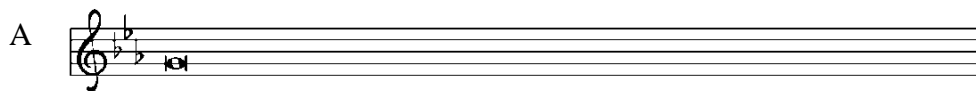
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



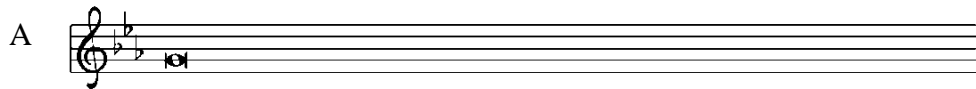
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men, a - men.

GLORY TO GOD

The musical score is written on nine staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The lyrics are: '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.'

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.

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of

your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news 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

Exodus 19:2-8a

A reading from the nineteenth chapter of Exodus.

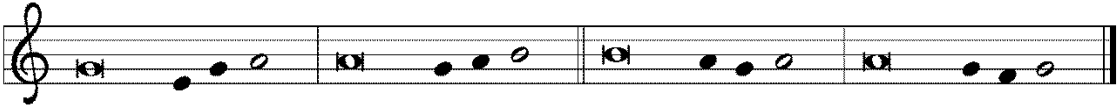
At Sinai God assured Israel, “You shall be my treasured possession,” and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God’s will.

²[The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.³Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

⁷So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ^{8a}The people all answered as one: “Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.”

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



PSALM 100. All Sing

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all you lands!

²Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence | with a song.

³**Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom | we belong;
we are God's people and the sheep | of God's pasture.**

⁴Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the | courts with praise;
give thanks and bless God's | holy name.

⁵**Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is | everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from | age to age.**

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-8

A reading from the fifth chapter of Romans.

We are no longer God's enemies but have peace with God, because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ's death. A tested character has been forged for us which empowers endurance in the midst of suffering and hope for final salvation.

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE All Stand & Sing

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

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

Repeat alleluia

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 9:35-10:8 [9-23]

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth and tenth chapters.

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

The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.

³⁵Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

^{10:1}Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.



⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [⁹Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. ¹¹Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

¹⁶“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; ²⁰for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; ²²and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”]

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises All Stand & Sing*

Refrain— sung twice each time

Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our

hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your

prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness. *End*

1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain

I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
 Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
 English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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.**

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *We Will Glorify* Church Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*
All Stand & Sing



Faithful Creator, protect your earth and breathe life into its future. Stir our hearts to compassion, that we become healers for the sake of your whole creation as it is made new. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Holy One, you desire peace for all nations. Give rulers and citizens wisdom in the use of power, that wars may cease and all who suffer exile, hunger, and terror find safe haven. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate One, you have brought us to yourself. Stay near to all who suffer broken hearts, fearful spirits, and disruptive illness (*especially*). Bring healing and hope to your people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abba, Father, your love for your children is boundless. Bless all who father among us and all who yearn for a protective father. Grant wisdom, patience, and good humor. Thank you for those who have shown us fatherly care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Living Lord, all who live and all who die belong to you. Thank you for all whose lives have witnessed to your glory (*especially*). Comfort all who mourn. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Christ our Lord.

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 May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

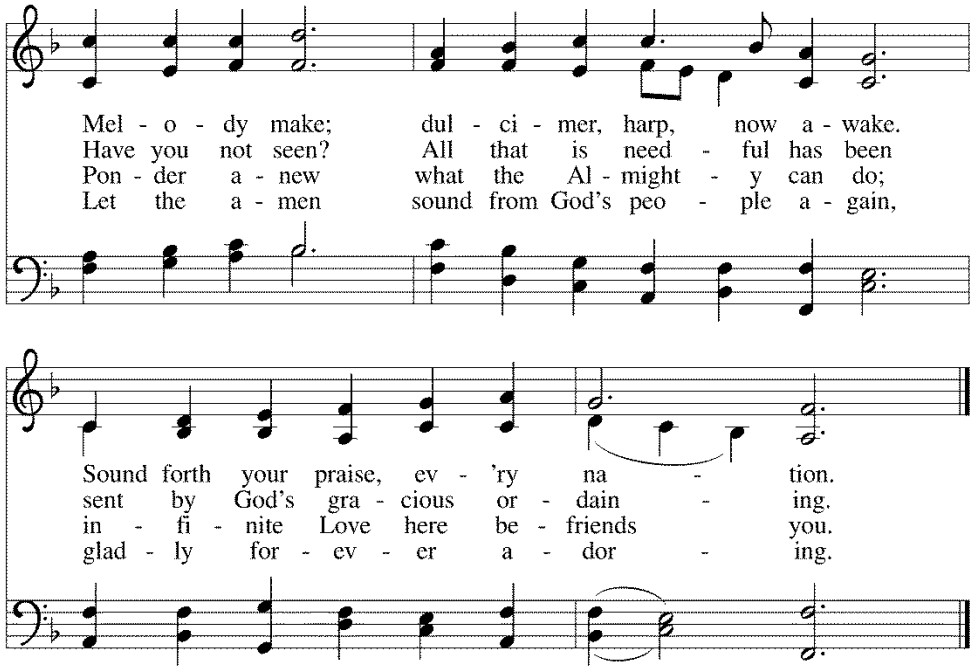
C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* All Stand & Sing

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains four verses of lyrics, and the second system contains a single verse. The piano accompaniment is written in the bass clef, and the vocal parts are written in the treble clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the God of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise the Al - might - y, o'er all life so won - drous - ly reign - ing,
 3 Praise the Al - might - y, who pros - pers your work and de - fends you;
 4 Praise the Al - might - y! In won - der my spir - it is soar - ing!

My heart is long - ing to of - fer up sweet ad - o - ra - tion.
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 see from the heav - ens the show - ers of mer - cy God sends you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es out - pour - ing.



Mel - o - dy make; dul - ci - mer, harp, now a - wake.
 Have you not seen? All that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do;
 Let the a - men sound from God's peo - ple a - gain,
 Sound forth your praise, ev - 'ry na - tion.
 sent by God's gra - cious or - dain - ing.
 in - fi - nite Love here be - friends you.
 glad - ly for - ev - er a - dor - ing.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1690; tr. composite
 Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Erneuertes Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665
 Text © 2000 Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this **Second 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. 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 form on line at www.holyc.org.**

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Shelia & Tim Kelly in honor of Alma Hedrick’s birthday (Shelia’s mom); and by Jane & Jeff Howard in honor of Elizabeth & Emalee Carroll.

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

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, June 11, 2017:

Attendance: 123

<u>Budget Report</u>	<u>June 11, 2017</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offering	\$ 4,681.00	\$ 120,903.75
Expenses	\$ 5,656.42	\$ 129,895.09
Offering less Expenses	<u>(\$ 975.42)</u>	<u>(\$ 8,991.34)</u>
Budgeted Expenses		<u>\$ 131,435.64</u>
Offering less Budgeted Expenses		<u>(\$ 10,531.89)</u>

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Jim Buell

GREETER: Pat Koehler

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: Volunteers

CHILDREN’S CHURCH:
Sherry Alexander

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1)
Bev & Charles Mauney, Co-Captains
Carmen De Nicholas
Deb Williams

NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am)
Infants: Volunteers
Toddlers: Staff

TELLERS: Fran Holland, John Koehler

USHERS: Volunteers

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: June 18-24

Today, June 18 Dawn Fleming

June 23 Eric Scholler



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, June 18

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service

Thursday, June 22

7:00 pm Evangelism Meeting

Friday, June 23

Gastonia Grizzlies, Faith Night

Pregame Festivities

7:00 pm Game starts

Tuesday, June 20

7:00 pm Christian Ed meeting

Nar-Anon



NOTE: ***Baby Bottle Blessings*** bottles will be collected today.

Your loose change collected will go to Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gastonia.



Happy Father's Day!



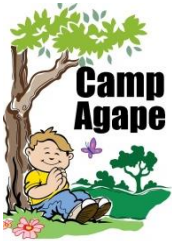
Vacation Bible School 2017

June 25th – June 28th from 6pm – 8pm



This year we will learn how God created each of us through song, bible discovery, games and the imagination station! We are in need of volunteers to help in many capacities through the evening activities. We will also provide a quick meal each evening for all participants & volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering to lead a group of kids, a breakout session or help prepare a meal, please email Melissa Bocchino at melissa.bocchino@pwc.com. Registration forms for children in rising grades K through 5th are available in the narthex (inside front doors of entrance to sanctuary). We invite our middle schoolers & high schoolers to volunteer to help! Please reach out with any questions!



Holy Comforter is hosting **Camp Agape July 17-21.**

Agape is a day camp for rising 1st to rising 8th graders and is sponsored by Agape Kure Beach Ministries.

During a day at camp the kids will participate in Bible study, crafts, games, skits, nature time and lots of other fun activities. The kids in the 6th to 8th grade 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 or from **Misty Koehler.**

The cost is **\$130 per camper and is due at the time of registration.** There is only room for 25 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.**

BCO June Items of the Month...



Grits

Pasta Sauce

Dried Beans





Say Cheese!



Be included in Holy Comforter's 2017 Photo Directory!

Lifetouch (formerly Olan Mills) supplies professional photographers on-site to provide members with the highest quality family photos as well as providing the church with a top-notch Photo Directory. We strongly encourage EVERY FAMILY to participate in this opportunity! Here are a few reasons why:

- **It's 100% FREE!** Lifetouch only requires there be at least 15 families photographed to provide this free service.
- **Each family receives a FREE 8x10, no purchase necessary!**
- **Each family receives a FREE Photo Directory, a professionally bound book of photos and contact information as well as a history lesson celebrating Holy Comforter's Centennial year!**
- **Easy online scheduling!** Visit our website or Facebook for link.
- **For every session scheduled, Holy C receives \$5!** So not only is the session beneficial to your family, but it's a fundraising opportunity!
- **We have coupons! \$10 off any photo package simply for providing your e-mail address!**

We have **FOUR** dates to ensure everyone will be able to participate.

Monday, June 12 2 pm - 9 pm

Tuesday, June 13 2 pm - 9 pm

Friday, June 23 2 pm - 9 pm

Saturday, June 24 10 am - 5 pm

Questions? Contact Katie Kessen at 815.762.5480 or ktkssn112@aol.com



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Brenda Dabrowski
Shawn De Nicholas
Ardean Ewing
Ned Featherstone

Kay Holden
Dot Holland
Zac Hullander
Chase Lineberger
Holly Peche

Sherry Perry
Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Jack Tench
Beverly Reynolds

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Jeanne Bernhardt
Barbara Bingham
Father Frank Cancro
Midge Cunningham
Teresa Beale Davis
Karen de la Vega

Carol Fox
Scott Frisk
Bill Hinkle
Glenda Hinkle
Brian Jackson &
Family

Jennifer Lineberger
Anne Murdy
Karen Wayt
Donnie Yavelak



OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek
Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer
Leo Kasmer

Tom 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 located in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483
holycomforter@gmail.com

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Adult 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