

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, January 13, 2019

The Baptism of Our Lord



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Now We Join in Celebration* Cherwien

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, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

C Amen.

P Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Mighty and loving God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.

P Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *This Is the Spirit's Entry Now* All Stand & Sing

1 This is the Spir - it's en - try now: the wa - ter and the word,
 2 This mir - a - cle of life re - born comes from the Lord of breath;
 3 Let wa - ter be the sa - cred sign that we must die each day
 4 Re - new - ing Spir - it, hear our praise for your bap - tis - mal pow'r

the cross of Je - sus on your brow, the seal both felt and heard.
 the sin - less one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.
 to rise a - gain by his de - sign as fol - l'wers of his way.
 that wash - es us through all our days. Come, cleanse a - gain this hour.

Text: Thomas E. Herbranson, b. 1933
 Music: North American traditional; arr. hymnal version
 Text © Thomas E. Herbranson, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 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.

KYRIE

Pastor

Congregation

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

P

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

C

$$P$$

C

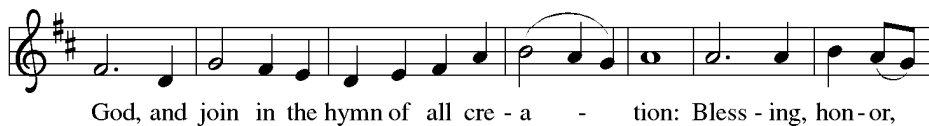
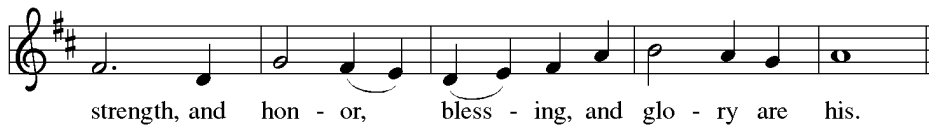
A

Pastor

Congregation

THIS IS THE FEAST All Sing

Refrain



Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, 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 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

Isaiah 43:1–7

A reading from the forty-third chapter of Isaiah.

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring them home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹But now thus says the LORD,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight,

and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east,

and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"

and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away

and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Acts 8:14–17

A reading from the eighth chapter of Acts.

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

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

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

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God’s beloved Son.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

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

SERMON Pastor Micah

Silence is Kept for Reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *You Are Mine* All Stand & Sing



1 “I will come to you in the si - lence,
2 “I am hope for all who are hope - less,
3 “I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
(4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
heal-ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
shad-ows of the night, I will be your light.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here.
Come and rest in me.
all will know my name.
up, now walk and live!

To refrain
To refrain
To refrain



Do not be a-fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol-low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine."

4 "I

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: YOU ARE MINE, David Haas

Text and music © 1991 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

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Pour out your Spirit upon us and enliven us for mission. Draw us together in love that we may be one. Lead us in the way of your beloved Son. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the earth. Sustain oceans and seas, rivers and lakes, marshes and wetlands. Watch over dormant plants and hibernating animals as they rest in your care. Renew your creation and protect all creatures from harm. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the nations. Inspire leaders to work for the common good. Grant courage to those who put themselves at risk to protect others. Turn us away from violence and teach us to live in peace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those in need. Protect children and vulnerable adults who depend on others to provide for their daily care. Uphold those who struggle with depression. Console the grieving and heal the sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For this assembly. Bless the newly baptized. Renew your children in the covenant of baptism. Empower us by your loving Spirit to serve our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died. Hold us safe in your arms of mercy and bring us with them into your promise of life eternal. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *When Jesus Came to Jordan* Chamber Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *The Only Son from Heaven* . . All Stand & Sing vs. 1 & 4



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, fore - told by an - cient seers,
2 Oh, time of God ap - point - ed, oh, bright and ho - ly morn!
3 A - wak - en, Lord, our spir - it to know and love you more,
4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore you with God the Ho - ly Ghost,



by God the Fa - ther giv - en, in hu - man form ap - pears.
He comes, the king a - noint - ed, the Christ, the vir - gin - born,
in faith to stand un - shak - en, in spir - it to a - dore,
and Je - sus, we a - dore you, O pride of an - gel - host:



No sphere his light con - fin - ing, no star so bright - ly
grim death to van - quish for us, to o - pen heav'n be -
that we, through this world mov - ing, each glimpse of heav - en
be - fore you mor - tals low - ly cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly,



shin - ing as he, our Morn - ing Star.
fore us and bring us life a - gain.
prov - ing, may reap its full - ness there.
ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

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

DIALOGUE

Pastor

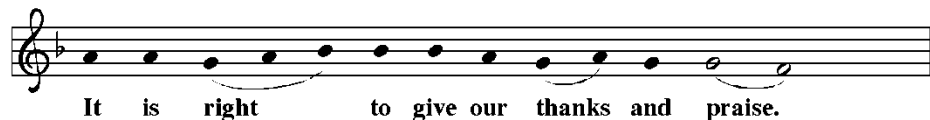
Congregation



Pastor



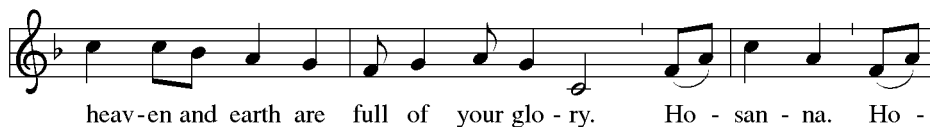
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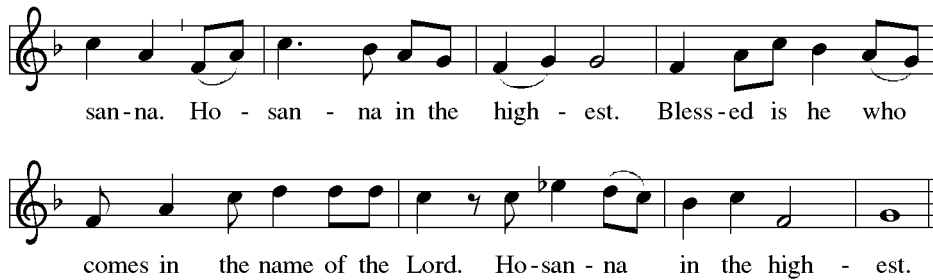


PREFACE

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.

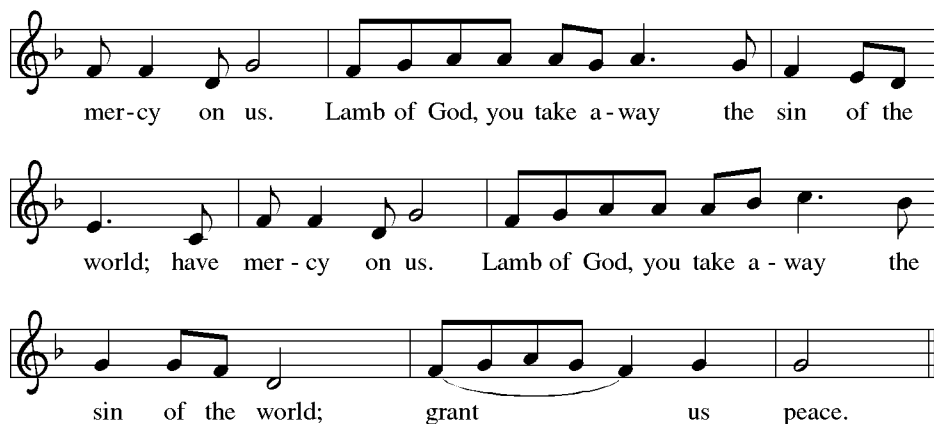
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.

C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG





COMMUNION

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

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: *Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters . . All Sing*



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nur - ture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - im - ag - ined, all your ways!



Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go.
 Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv - ing bread.
 To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re - new us, guide our foot - steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo - ple stand be - fore you, wa - ter-washed and Spir - it - born.



Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
one with Christ in liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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P The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

C We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

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

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Baptized and Set Free* All Stand & Sing



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
 2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
 3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
 4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
 Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
 and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
 All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
 For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
 As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
 Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
 end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
 pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
 one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956
 Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner
 Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

SENDING

P Go in peace. Christ is your light.

C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this **Baptism of Our Lord Sunday**. We pray that you will find a warm fellowship while you are among us and that you will return home with a renewed sense of dedication to Jesus Christ. Please sign our guest register or a visitor's card so that we can become acquainted with you. If you are without a church home, we invite you to investigate membership in this family of God.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP. Jesus said, "let the children come to me!" Parents are encouraged to utilize the Kids Worship Kits found in the Narthex for older toddlers through early elementary age. A nursery for children (**infants through 3 years old**) is 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 Dianne Lail, Arden & Merritt De Nicholas in honor of Carmen De Nicholas' birthday.

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

Worship & Music Committee

Offering and Attendance Report for January 6, 2019:

Attendance January 6: 130

Budget Report*

January 6, 2019

Offering	\$ 3,665.01
Expenses	\$ 4,949.44
Offering less Expenses	<u>(\$ 1,282.43)</u>

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTORS: Billy Joye

GREETER: Debbie Mendez

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:

Volunteers

TELLERS: Fran Holland, John Koehler

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

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:
Volunteers

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

USHERS: Volunteers

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:
Carmen De Nicholas

EUCCHARISTS PRESENTERS:
Volunteers

BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK: January 13-19, 2019

Today, January 13	Abbey Kowalewski	January 18	Carmen De Nicholas
January 15	Zaneta Sarrazin		Jerri Wesson
January 17	Julie Wiegand	January 19	Faye Heller



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, January 13

8:45 am Children's Ensemble
9:30 am Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir prep
10:30 am Worship Service w/Holy Communion
Church council after the service
5:00 pm Handbells
5:30 pm HCY meets at the church
6:00 pm Church Choir

Tuesday, January 15

7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Christian Ed meets
Health Committee meets
Nar-Anon

Wednesday, January 16

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

NEXT SUNDAY, January 20, the congregational meeting will be held before the worship service. The annual report will be presented to the congregation.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 2019

If you are willing to serve as a ***Greeter, Lector, Usher, Eucharist Presenter*** OR help in the **nursery or Children's Church** for the **2019** year, please sign your name on the sign-up sheet for each position you are volunteering for. Each volunteer position is listed on a separate clipboard. The clipboards are in the narthex. If willing to volunteer for the whole month, then sign your name at each date for that month. **The chief lector will serve on festival Sundays.**



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Cynthia Buchanan
Brenda Dabrowski
Becke Featherstone
Sarah Tench Helms
Zac Hullander

Sue Lahr
Ann Miller & Family
Ben Moose
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry
Kathie Schaumburg

Scott Schaumburg
Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Beverly Reynolds
Jo Singleton
Jerri & Mike Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Amy Beale Blythe
Wayne Bradshaw
Doug Brewer
Ron de la Vega
Carol Fox
Earl Gardner

Larry "Poss" Garrett
Steve Leonard
Jennifer Lineberger
Ronnie Lunsford
Clarence McLain

Donna Mooneyhan
Anne Murdy
Tommy Smith
Brody Thornburg
Dennis Yates

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.



Holy Doodles





Oh, That Winter Itch! Does your skin feel rough, dry, and itchy? The basic problem is lack of moisture. Anything that steals moisture from the skin will result in dryness and chapping. The drier the air, the more rapidly moisture evaporates. In winter, heated indoor air tends to be dry and outside we no longer have humidity. Soap can rob the skin of its natural oils, compounding the problem. Add it up and we've got dehydrated cells and a network of painful cracks appearing on your skin. Since you can't change the weather or your age, try these suggestions if you want to prevent winter itch: Bathe or shower only once a day, use mild soap, and lather as little as possible. (Deodorant soaps are hard on the skin. Select a moisturizing soap instead.). Don't apply soap directly to the skin, soap up a washcloth instead and add bath oil to bathwater, then pat your skin dry with a towel instead of rubbing it dry, and apply a moisturizer immediately. Apply lubricating skin cream or lotion several times a day on your hands, elbows, or other areas frequently affected. Avoid immersing your hands in hot water and strong dishwashing detergents - wear rubber gloves when cleaning or washing dishes. Lower the setting on your heating thermostat so you're comfortable, but not toasty. Use a humidifier to add moisture to the air in a room, or have a humidifier connected to your furnace – aim for 50% humidity. Take good care of your skin and you won't be sitting around itching!

Contact Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse, at 717-329-8507 or parishnurse0407@gmail.com.



*Words of Sympathy & Hope
Are offered to Ann Miller & Family
On the recent death of her mother,
Gladys Parlier*

BCO January Items Needed:



Jelly



Tuna



Canned Pasta

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: MKearney@holyc.org

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager

Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse