

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, November 17, 2019

## The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney  
Pastor

Greg Cline  
Organist/Choirmaster

### WELCOME/GATHERING

**PRELUDE:** *Trumpet Voluntary I* ..... Rowan

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, healer of our every ill, source of unending mercy.

**C Amen.**

P Embraced in enduring grace and good hope, let us turn again to God, confessing the truth about ourselves.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

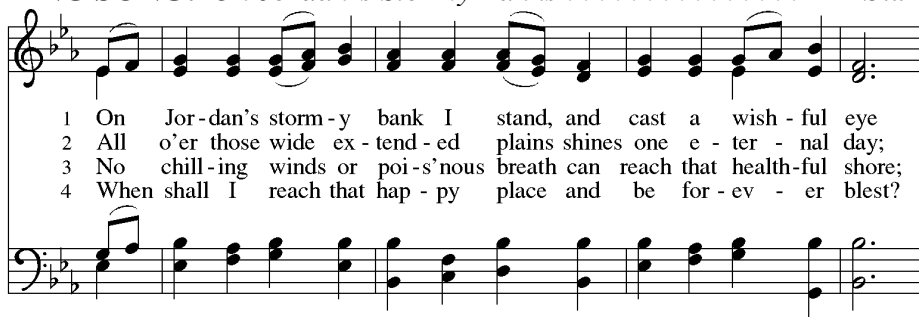
P Merciful God,

**C we come before you, beloved but broken. We have not always treated others as we would want them to treat us. We have not always called out injustice and abuse. We have not always been kind to ourselves. We have not always taken care of the world we share with other living creatures. Remind us of who we are, beloved children bathed in your love. Renew us by your Spirit to live as your holy people, bringing healing to the brokenness around us. Amen.**

P At every moment you are held in existence by the love of God, renewed by the Spirit within and among you, and made alive again in Christ. Receive this assurance in Jesus' name: you are ☩ forgiven and freed to live for the healing of the world.

**C Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG: *On Jordan's Stormy Banks* . . . . . All Stand & Sing

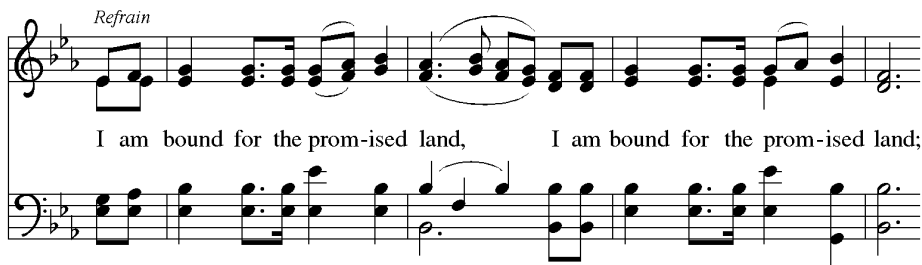


1 On Jor-dan's storm-y bank I stand, and cast a wish-ful eye  
 2 All o'er those wide ex-tend-ed plains shines one e-ter-nal day;  
 3 No chill-ing winds or poi-s'nous breath can reach that health-ful shore;  
 4 When shall I reach that hap-py place and be for-ev-er blest?

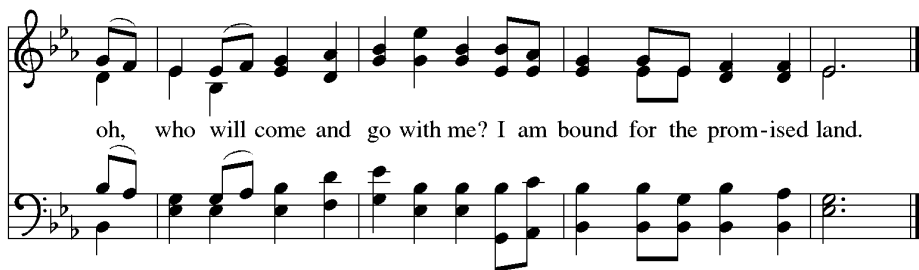


to Ca-naan's fair and hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie.  
 there God the Son for-ev-er reigns and scat-ters night a-way.  
 sick-ness and sor-row, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.  
 When shall I see my Sav-ior's face and in God's bos-om rest?

*Refrain*



I am bound for the prom-ised land, I am bound for the prom-ised land;



oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the prom-ised land.

Text: Samuel Stennett, 1727–1795

Music: PROMISED LAND, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; adapt. Rigdon M. McIntosh, 1836–1899

## 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.

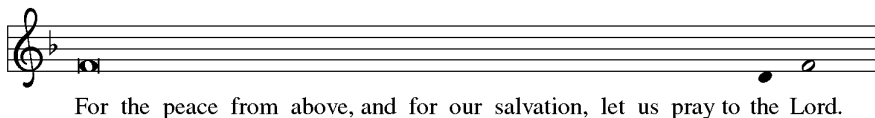
## KYRIE

*Pastor*

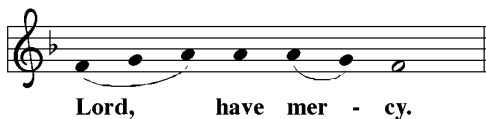
*Congregation*



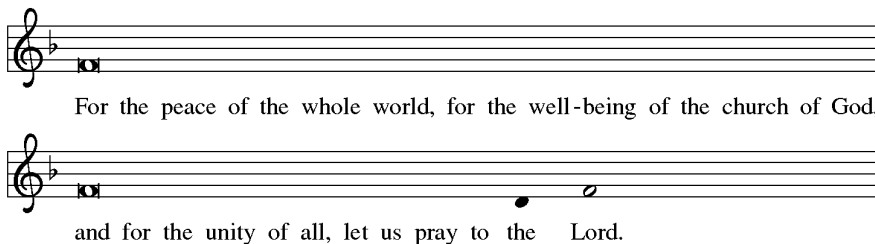
*P*



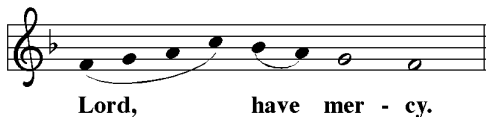
*C*



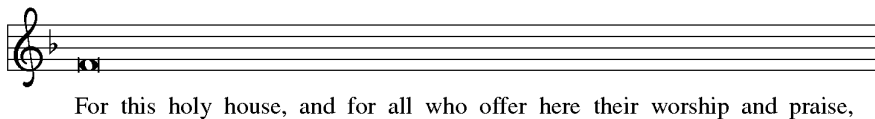
*P*



*C*

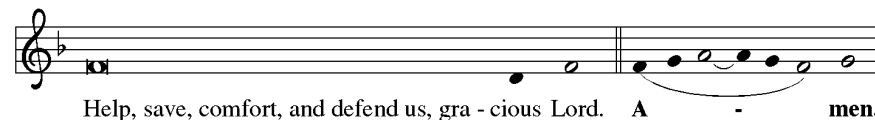
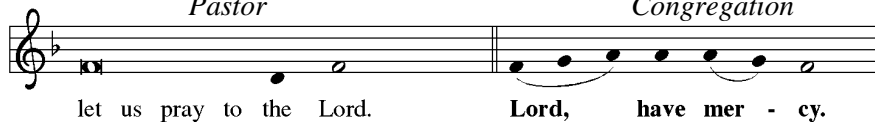


*P*



*Pastor*

*Congregation*



# THIS IS THE FEAST..... Odd vs: Women, Even vs: Men

*Refrain*



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, 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

## Malachi 4:1-2a

A reading from the fourth chapter of Malachi.

*Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that the day of the Lord is coming. On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who fear God.*

<sup>1</sup>See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup>But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

## 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

A reading from the third chapter of 2 Thessalonians.

*The Thessalonian community is facing disagreements about the end-times and what to do in the meantime. This portion of the letter addresses the need to keep working, to hold to the teachings they had received, and to not grow weary in doing what is right.*

<sup>6</sup>Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>and we did not eat anyone’s bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup>This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup>For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup>Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL

**Luke 21:5-19**

**P** The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

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

*As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and shall be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.*

<sup>5</sup>When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup>They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup>And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup>“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup>This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup>So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup>for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

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

*The assembly is seated.*

SERMON ..... Pastor Micah

*Silence is kept for Reflection.*

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Canticle of the Turning* ..... All Stand & Sing



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the





weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat

Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional

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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 with the saints of every time and place, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

Faithful God, when we question the future, you reveal the hope of victory through your Son, Jesus Christ. Give us the wisdom to rely on your words and the courage to witness to your love and faithfulness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our joy, the seas and the hills shout your praise. Inspire us to sing a joyful song to you as we work to preserve and protect your marvelous creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our ruler, you judge the world with righteousness and the people with equity. Grant perseverance to world leaders and elected officials, so that they never grow weary in doing what is right. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, you offer peace to fearful hearts. Heal the hurts of all those who suffer injustice and persecution, those who spend months and years in prisons and in hospitals, and for anyone in need today (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our song, thank you for worship leaders, artists, and musicians who create works of praise and prayer. Guide them in their leadership, and empower them to lift up new voices and works of art among the assembly. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Everlasting God, as we await the dawn of the new heaven and the new earth, we give thanks for your beloved who have died in Christ. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in hope, we lift our prayers to you, most gracious Lord, trusting that you have received them in your care.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** *O Lord, Hear My Prayer.* . . . . . Church Choir

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** *As Saints of Old.* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field  
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;  
3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,  
to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.  
to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,  
The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:  
O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.  
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.  
teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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## OFFERING PRAYER

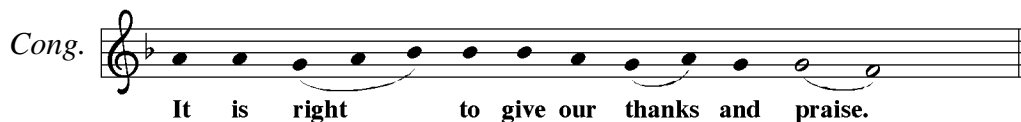
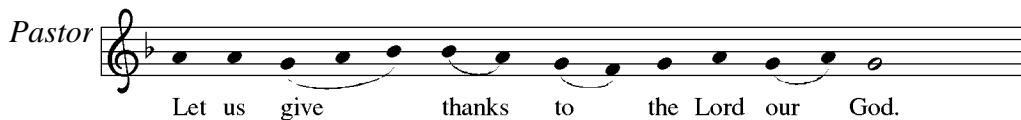
P Let us pray,

C God our creator, you give us all we are, all we have, all we bring, and all we need. Draw us together around your table with all your saints on earth and in your eternal home. Let us eat and drink your promise of new life, that we might be your promise to the world, spoken in Jesus' name. Amen.

## DIALOGUE

*Pastor*

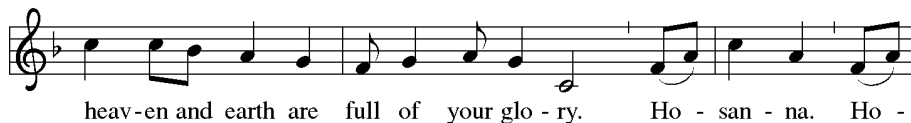
*Congregation*



## PREFACE

P ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### LORD'S PRAYER

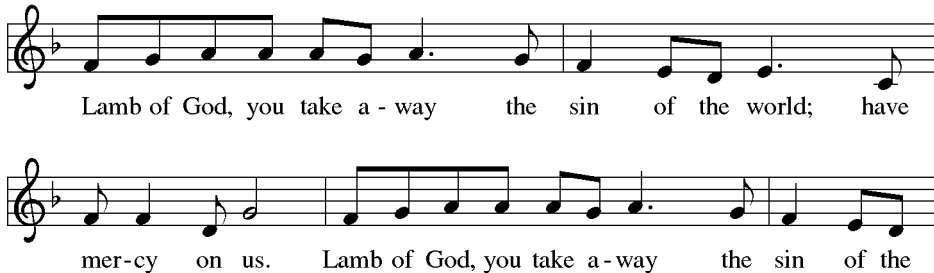
Our Father, who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done,  
     on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses,  
     as we forgive those  
     who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
     but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 forever and ever. Amen.

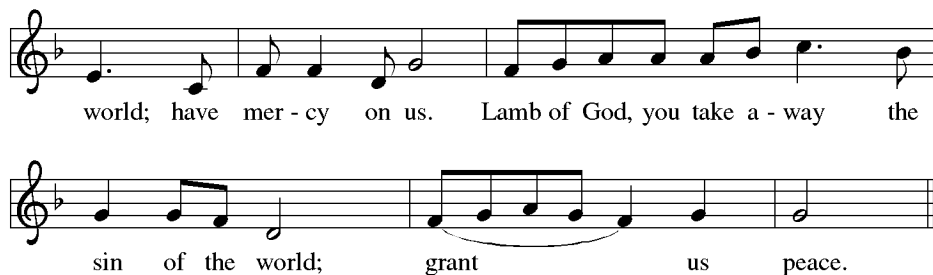


### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P** God keeps adding places to the table. Come to the banquet that has no end!  
**C** Thanks be to God.

### COMMUNION SONG

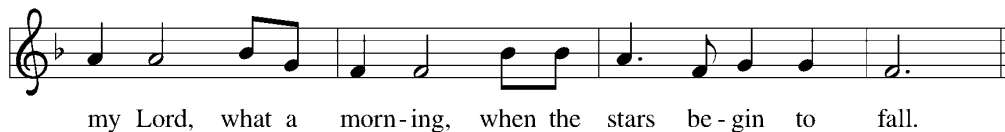




## COMMUNION

*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:** *My Lord, What a Morning. . . . . All Sing*  
*Refrain*



- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



Text: African American spiritual  
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

**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, God our host, for inviting us here to taste the future when you will feed all the hungry at your table. Keep this hope alive in us and in our communities, so that we might bring hope to a suffering world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## BLESSING

P Signed and sealed by the Holy Spirit, you are Christ's message of love for this troubled world, written by the same Sender. May our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ✠ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

C Amen.

## SENDING SONG: *Soon and Very Soon* ..... All Stand & Sing



1 Soon and ver - y soon  
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
3 No more dy - in' there,  
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

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## SENDING

**P** Go in peace. Set your hope on Christ.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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

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**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.

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

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given in honor of Danny Potter's birthday by Rochelle Potter.

**Those who have placed flowers on the altar** may use containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church. ***Julia Gunter, Worship & Music***

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## **Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, November 10, 2019:**

Attendance: 72

<b><u>Budget Report</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Year-to-Date</u></b>	<b>(Unfavorable)</b>
Offering	\$ 4,795.00	\$248,545.77	( 9,924.96)
Expenses	\$ 5,774.35	\$256,174.81	<b>2,295.93</b>
Offering less Expenses	\$ (979.35)	(\$ 7,629.04)	<b>( 7,629.04)</b>

### **Sanctuary Roof and HVAC Status as Of: 10/13/19**

Goal: \$225,000  
Received to Date: 180,802  
Additional Amounts Promised: 35,000  
Remaining Needed: \$ 9,198

### **ASSISTING MINISTERS:**

**LECTOR:** Jim Buell

**GREETER:** Pat Long

**ACOLYTE:** Zenneta Sarrazin

**TELLERS:** Janet and Brian Achor

**CRUCIFER:** Volunteer

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Jill Cassel

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 3)

Bev Mauney, Co-Captain  
Charles Mauney, Co-Captain  
Carmen De Nicholas  
Deb Williams

**NURSERY:** (10:30-11:45 am) Katie Howard

**USHERS:** Volunteers

**EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:** Volunteers

### **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**

Volunteers

### **THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**

#### **Today, Sunday, November 17**

10:10 am Church choir prep  
10:30 am Worship w/ Holy Communion  
Congregational meeting prior  
5:00 pm Handbells  
"Friendsgiving" (kids' club and hcy)  
6:00 pm Church choir practice

#### **Monday, November 18**

6:00 pm Pep Class in Fellowship Hall

#### **Tuesday, November 19**

7:00 pm Chamber Choir  
Christian Education  
Nar-Anon

#### **Wednesday, November 20**

5:00 pm Youth Handbells  
6:45 pm Women's Bible study (down)  
HCY Girls' Bible study  
(upstairs)

## **BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: November 17-23**

November 18 Brian Achor

November 19 Nathaniel Kearney  
Danny Potter

November 20 David Bruchon  
Lucy Mitchell

November 21 Emily Dibiase

November 22 Olivia Sarrazin

November 23 Cheryl Fox



Get Me a Human!! Don't you just hate it when you're trying to call someone and have to go through numerous levels of "options" before you finally – if you're lucky – get to the correct person? Do you find your temper rising as you go through this process or do you just give up and never actually get to that destination? Well now there is help! In order to bypass the options and the automated responses, and actually speak with a human, consult the Get2Human database of secret phone numbers and codes that immediately get an actual, live person on the line for customer service for more than 1000 major companies. It's wonderful! Just check out [www.get2human.com](http://www.get2human.com). It

will take you to a database of over 1000 major companies and tells you how to bypass all those tiring options! Or you can check out another database that will give you the menu options BEFORE you make the call, so you'll know which option to immediately choose and not have to wait. And they give these tips for rapid connection for companies NOT on their site: 1. Interrupt – press 0 or #0 or 0# or \*0 repeatedly. Many automated systems will connect to a human after numerous invalid entries. 2. Talk – Say "get human," raise your voice, or mumble. Sometimes the automated system will connect to a human after things it can't identify. 3. Hold – just hold, pretending you have an old rotary phone. 4. Select Spanish - sometimes selecting Spanish will get you to a bilingual human more quickly than waiting for an English-only operator.

THIS is a "de-stress" message from your Parish Nurse! Take a deep breath and try these techniques next time you have a call to make that you know will require a LOT of patience!



## PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen  
Cynthia Buchanan  
Brenda Dabrowski  
Becke Featherstone  
Ellen Fleming

Sarah Tench Helms  
Kay Holden  
Zac Hullander  
Aaron Mintz  
Ben Moose

Sherry Perry  
Marguerite Shive  
Denise Taylor  
Beverly Reynolds  
Jerri & Mike Wesson

## GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Mike Barbee  
Sue and Jim Barbee  
Janice Barker  
Amy Beale Blythe  
Doug Brewer  
Ron de la Vega  
Nancy Dickson  
Earl Gardner  
Larry "Poss" Garrett  
Mark Glaeser

Meredith Hovis  
Mary Huggins  
Family of  
Mark Lineberger  
Steve Leonard  
Ruth Lyerly  
Jane Marino  
Al McCoy  
Clarence McLain  
Family of Dawn Mitchell

Ann Mundy  
Linda Nichols  
Robert Nichols  
Sarah Nichols  
Tommy Smith  
Brody Thornburg  
Jeff Wiles

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

**NOTE:** To ensure inclusion in the bulletin all information is due to the office by **12 Noon on Wednesdays.**



# Holy Doodles



**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483  
holyccomforter@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

Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse