## Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, November 22, 2015

## **Christ the King Sunday**



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

#### WELCOME/GATHERING

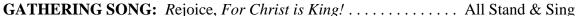
#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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, clothed in majesty ever since the world began, who loves us and frees us from our sins, who leads us with all the saints to everlasting life.
- C Amen.
- P Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God our maker and redeemer,
- C we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We come for refuge to your infinite mercy. You have given your only Son to die for us; have mercy on us, and for his sake, forgive us all our sin. By your Holy Spirit, increase in us true knowledge of you and your will, and true obedience to your word, that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P Almighty God has had mercy on us, and God's only Son has been given to die for us, and for his sake God + forgives us all our sin. Believing in Jesus' name, you have received power to become the children of God; you have received the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



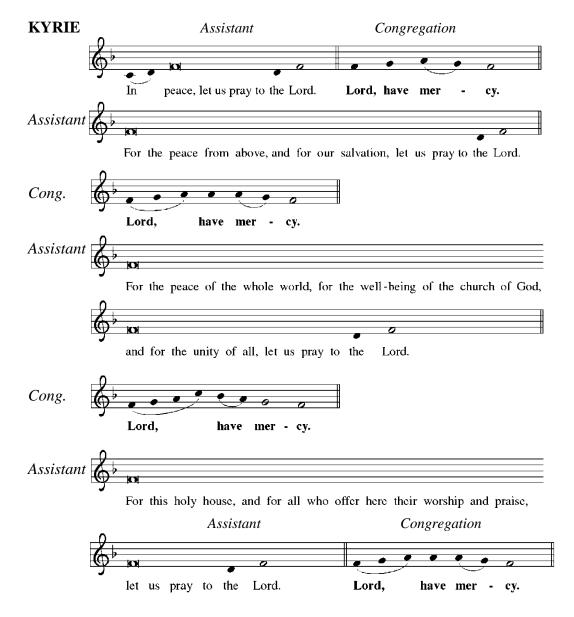


Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

#### **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.





**CANTICLE OF PRAISE** . . . . . . . Refrain All, Women odd verses, Men even verses





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

## P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C Amen.

## Congregation is Seated and are invited to sing "Jesus Loves Me" as the children come forward.

#### **CHILDREN'S TIME**

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

FIRST READING Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

A reading from the seventh chapter of Daniel.

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One who is judge will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

<sup>9</sup>As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. <sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued

and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

<sup>13</sup>As I watched in the night visions,

I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.

<sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages

should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

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

#### SECOND READING

Revelation 1:4b-8

A reading from the first chapter of Revelation.

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

<sup>4b</sup>Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

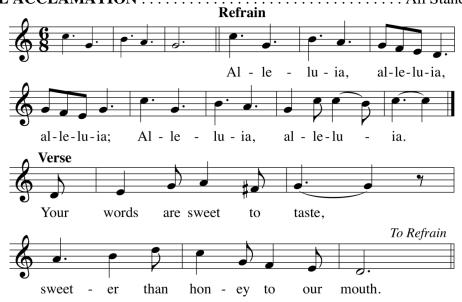
even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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



GOSPEL John 18:33–37

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

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

<sup>33</sup>Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews.

But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** Come, Thou Almighty King . . . . . . . . . . All Stand & Sing



Text: source unknown, c. 1757, alt. Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

## **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 into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray with all God's saints for healing, wholeness, and peace in all the earth.

### A brief silence.

Ancient One, you are beyond our understanding. Forgive us when our imaginations limit the depth of your being. Expand our vision of who you have been, who you are, and who you will be. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Mountain maker, you created Earth and all that is in it. Heal environments damaged by human carelessness. Teach us to honor and care for your whole creation. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Gracious sovereign, your majesty knows no bounds. Bring your kingdom to violent places. Send us out to share your peace in the world. Help us see how we participate in systems of injustice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Divine nurse, you care for all people. Stir us to care for all your children. Be with all who experience unemployment, homelessness, abuse, or who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Holy Trinity, you call some to be prophets and some to be priests. Be with all who discern a call to ministry in your church. Bless the work of call committees and candidacy committees. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Eternal truth, your word goes forth in every generation. We give you thanks for the priesthood of all believers and remember with joy and sorrow the saints who shared the gospel with us. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Into your care, Alpha and Omega, we entrust all for whom we pray. Be with us now and always, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen.

#### **PEACE**

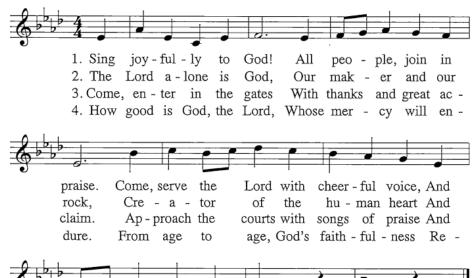
- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

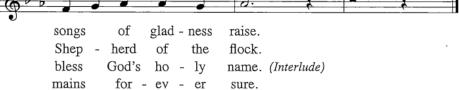
#### **OFFERING**



# **OFFERTORY ANTHEM & RESPONSE:** *Sing Joyfully to God!* . . . . . Congregation Sings all verses with the choir; Stand during the Interlude.

Choir: Sing joyfully to God! (3 times)





Text: "Sing Joyfully to God," James Chepponis, based on Psalm 100, newly authored and copyright © 2015 Birnamwood with this publication.

Tune: FESTAL SONG, SM, William H. Walter, 1825–1893 (PD).

Music: In an arrangement by James Chepponis, newly composed and copyright © 2015 Birnamwood with this publication.

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#### OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

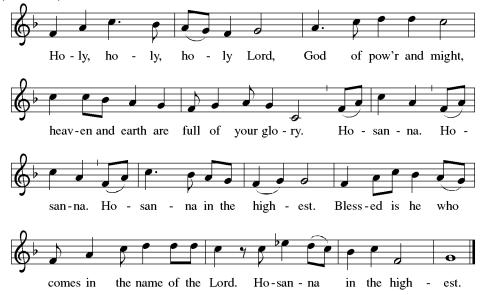
#### **DIALOGUE**

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### **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.

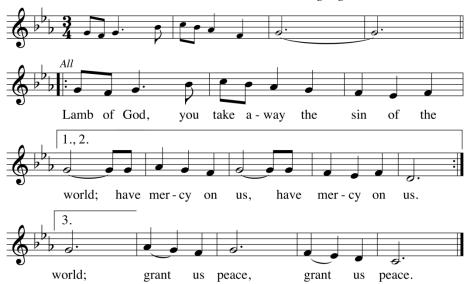
For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Goodness is stronger than evil. Life is stronger than death. Taste the goodness and life of God.

C Thanks be to God.





#### **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.



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt. Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

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

#### SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

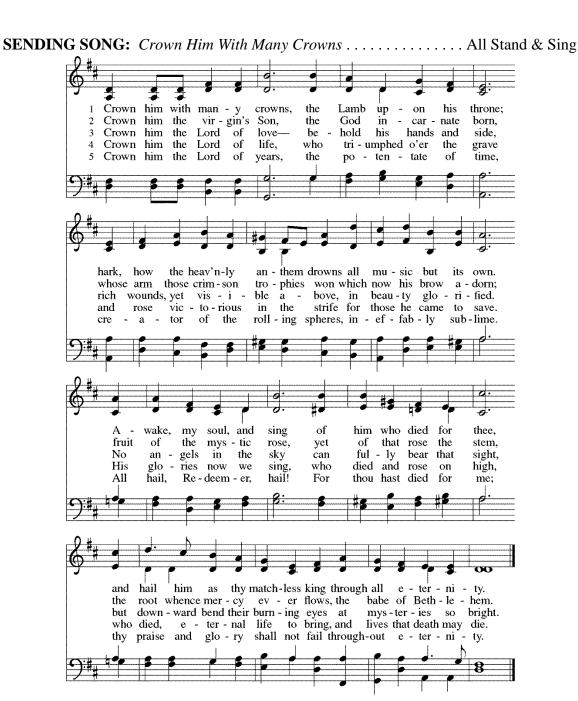
A Let us pray.

C O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

P The love of God who created you, the mercy of ± Jesus Christ who died for you, and the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you, keep you at one with all the faithful, living and departed, and remain with you now and forever.

C Amen.



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

#### **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 Christ the King 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.

<u>CHILDREN</u> 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 finding them.



<u>KIDS' WORSHIP CENTER:</u> 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 list, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in a form online at www.holyc.org.

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God by Beth Brittain in deepest gratitude for all who minister through teaching.

<u>Those who have placed flowers on the altar</u> may use containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church. *Greg Byrum, Worship & Music* 

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, November 15, 2015:

Attendance: 156

**Budget Report** 

Current Offering Received 11/15/2015

Weekly Budgeted Expenses Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)

Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD

Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye, Jr.

**ACOLYTE & CRUCIFER:** Need Volunteers

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP LEADER:

Judy & Mollie Caldwell

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 2)

Brad Milton, Co-Captain Brandy Milton, Co-Captain

Donna Bean + Volunteer

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**: (Team B)

Charles Maunev Fran Holland

+ 2 Volunteers

**MUSICIAN IN TRAINING: Will Kline** 

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: November 22-28** 

November 23 Cheryl Fox

November 25 Mallory Morton

November 27 Sue Lahr

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

**Today, November 22** 

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room

Congregational Meeting

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

Congregational meal & decorate the church for Advent/Christmas

Children's Ensemble meets with Mr. Greg immediately after the meal

5:00 pm Handbells

6:00 pm Church Choir

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

November 15, 2015

\$ 5,700.00

\$ 4,598.27

\$223,302,91

\$ 13.439.13

\$ 14.192.94

**GREETER:** Kathy Graves

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

Rebecca Yount & Veronica Bryant

Toddlers: Need Volunteers

**TELLERS:** Sherry Alexander,

John Koehler

**USHERS:** Volunteers Needed

**EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:** 

Ashley Ange & Trudy Whitener

**PERCUSSION:** Elizabeth Bruchon

Diann Halvorson



7:00 pm Chamber Choir

Nar-Anon

Thursday, November 26

Happy Thanksqiving Day!





#### Please remember these people in your prayers.

If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please inform Kathy Graves.

The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at <a href="https://www.holyc.org">www.holyc.org</a>.

#### PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin Holly Peche Mark Reese
Brenda Dabrowski Zac Hullander Beverly Reynolds
Shawn De Nicholas Chase Lineberger Anna Spikes
David Dowd Marquerite Shive Kevin Washle
Dot Holland

#### **GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

Richard Abernethy Stacy Hunsucker **Beverly Howe Poag** Harriett Ange Dennis Jordan Jim Poag Taylor Propst & Family Paige Beaver Steven Keating Jenny Beer **Buddy Kircus** David Prouty Mike Butler Marshall Kinley Julio Quiros Father Frank Cancro Karin Larsen Anna Rudder Tina Capwell Terry Mahaffey Tangle Shingler Clell Davis Lynn McFarland Megan Sigler J. Don Devine Al McCov Christopher Stowe Zachary Evans Clav McCov E. Taylor & Family Gene McRorie Jorge Frank Carson Thomas Jamey Gardner Susan Nichols Sally Vanhoy Poss Garrett Mark Outlaw Gloria Ward Ronnie Garrison Alicia Overton Pastor Gary Weant Lewis Gilbert Family Ramesh Patel Olivia Wilcox Brian Hedrick Jean Peters Jeff Wiles

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek Jason Gardner

Jason Gardner Tom Kasmer Jeremy Shaver Dillon Kasmer Alex Norris



Leo Kasmer

Holy Comforter will be featured in the first annual *Belmont's Historic Christmas Home Tour* on **Sunday**, **December 6** from 1:00-6:00 pm. The tour will also include 5 historic homes all within walking distance of Holy Comforter. **Our church will be the first stop on the tour** so I need volunteers to help with registration and directing people. I need 20 volunteers from our church, 2 shifts of 10 volunteers each. Volunteer to work a 3-hour shift and spend the other 3 hours touring the historic homes for *FREE*.

On that day we will host live rehearsals from our Sanctuary throughout the afternoon. The schedule is as follows:

2-3 pm Children's Ensemble

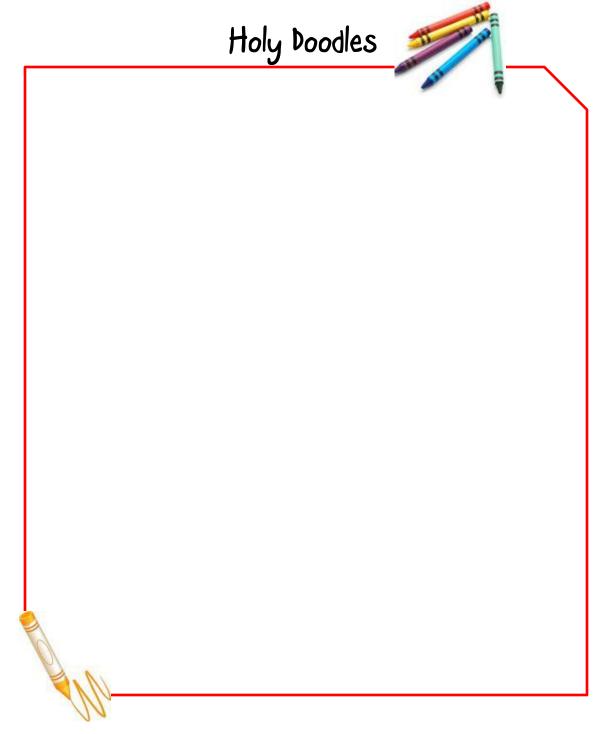
3-4 pm Adult Handbell Ensemble

4-6 pm Church Choir

Our fellowship hall will serve as a "tea room" that afternoon. Please email me if you are interested in volunteering! It is a great way to welcome the Christmas season and see the wonderful historic homes in Belmont.

Thank you, Misty Koehler Mistykoehler@gmail.com 704-266-0023

	Attendance November 15, 2015		
		<u>Children</u>	<u>Adults</u>
	Nursery	3	1
SUNDAY	Pre-K	6	2
	Pre-school (K-grade 2)	8	1
ଓଟାନୁଆନ	Elementary	2	1
HAS A CLASS	Middle School	3	2
Z SYGU	High School	1	1
) OBJ GER	Seekers Class		11
	<u>Adults</u>		12
	Totals:	23	31





**NOTE:** There will be an *Angel Tree* available today. We received <u>25 names from SOCKS</u> this year. If you do not get to the tree in time to take a tag, remember that we will also be asked to provide gifts for the foster children with Lutheran Family Services.



Dianne will provide names (and hopefully be able to add them to the tree) when they become available ...usually sometime in December.

Thank you in advance for taking part in this important ministry.

**REMINDER: Today, November 22** we will have a congregational meeting to vote for our church council. Also, there will be discussion and presentation of the budget for 2016.

Lunch will follow the worship service. Meat and drinks will be furnished by the church. Members of the congregation are asked to bring a side dish and/or dessert.

Following lunch, we are asked to stay and help decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season.

hristmas

## **Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

P.O. Box 666 Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 holycomforter@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am The Service Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am — 3:00 pm

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: MicahKearney@gmail.com
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Mandi Kline, Christian Education
Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager