Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, October 26, 2014

Reformation Sunday



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

GATHERING/WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Sovereign over all the earth, the Wisdom from on high, our merciful Judge and Savior.
- C Amen.
- P Let us boldly approach the throne of grace, trusting in God's mercy and love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Generous and faithful God,
- C we confess to you all the ways, known and unknown, that we reject and undermine your steadfast love. Though you made us your people, we treat strangers with suspicion. Though you forgave our debts, we collect without mercy. Yet we are quick to pass judgment on others. Have mercy on us, O God, and remember your promise to us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
- P The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Through the living Word, + Jesus Christ, God forgives your every debt, your every sin, and gives you a new heart and a new spirit.
- C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God All Stand & Sing



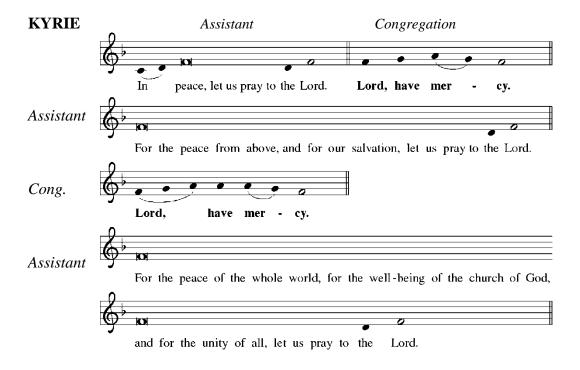


Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

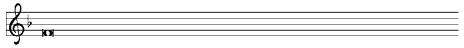
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.



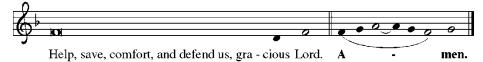


Assistant

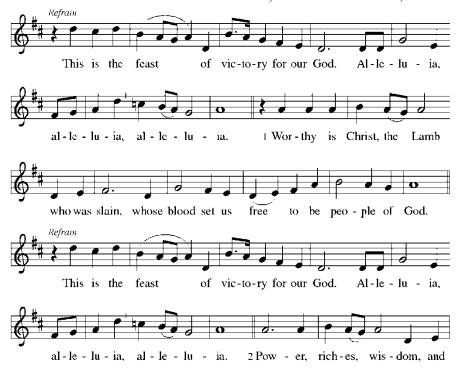


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,





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





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, 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 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: Jeremiah 31:31–34

A reading from the thirty-first chapter of Jeremiah.

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

SECOND READING Romans 3:19–28

A reading from the third chapter of Romans.

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and the other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

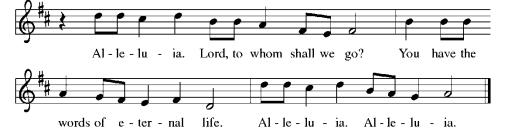
¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL John 8:31–36

The holy gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

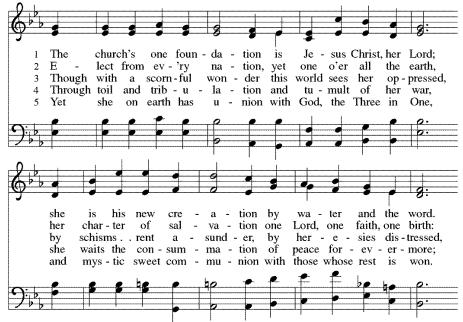
³¹Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

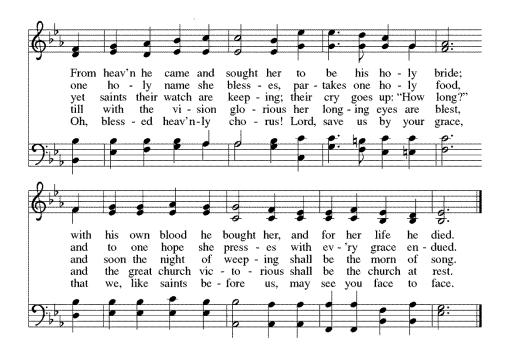
- P The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON..... Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: The Church's One Foundation All Stand & Sing



8



Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

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,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

Make us free to be the church in the world, God of grace. Form our mission and ministry in ways that truly and tangibly give new life, hope, and grace in abundance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Make us free to be one with your creation, God of grace. Fill us with your Spirit and lead us to find better ways to honor what you have given us. Help us to abandon wasteful habits. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Make us free to be brothers and sisters, God of grace. Shatter the distinctions that create hatred and fear. Open our eyes to see one another as people who bear the image and likeness of Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Make us free to be whole and healthy persons, God of grace. Give respite to caregivers, infuse medical workers with skill, inspire scientists to find cures, and make us well in mind, body, and soul. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Make us free to be people of purpose, God of grace. Reform apathy into action, bless us with a determination to let go of those things that keep us stagnant, and drive us to witness to the gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Make us free to be still and know you, God of grace. Join our voices with the saints (especially Philipp Nicolai, Johann Heermann, Paul Gerhardt, and the men and women of the Reformation) who now sing in one heavenly choir. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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

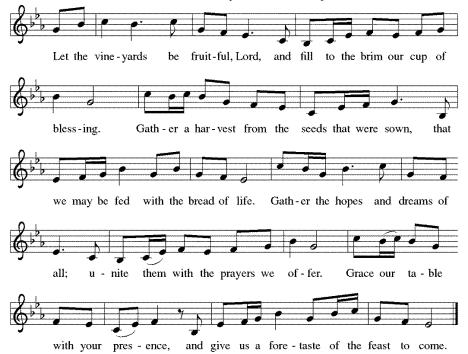
Amen.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Let The Vineyards Be Fruitful All Stand & Sing



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.

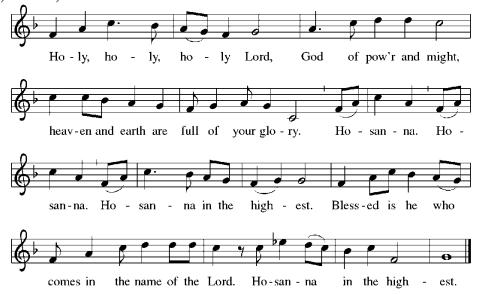
DIALOGUE

- 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,

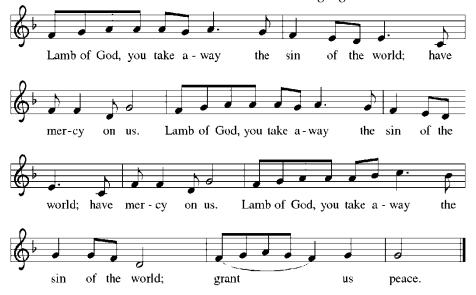
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

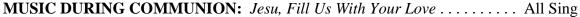
P The reign of God is at hand. Come, taste the joy prepared for you.

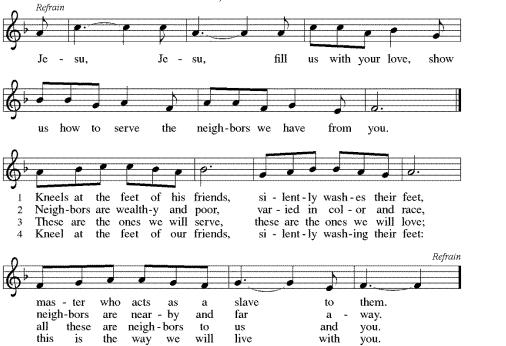




COMMUNION

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.

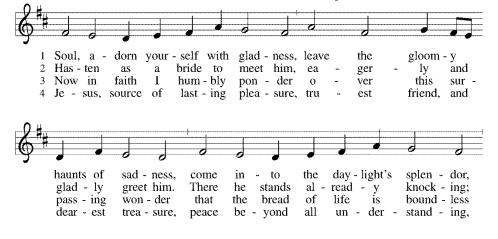




Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanatan folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin
Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: Soul, Adorn Yourself With Gladness All Sing





there with joy your prais - es ren - der. Bless the one whose grace unquick - ly, now, your gate un-lock - ing, o - pen wide the fast-closed though the souls it feeds are count - less; with the choic - est wine of joy in - to all life ex-pand - ing: hum - bly now, I bow be -



bound-ed this a - maz - ing ban-quet found - ed; Christ, though heav'n-ly, por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal: "Come, and leave your heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you; wor - thi - ly let



high, and ho ly, deigns to dwell with vou most low - lv. heart for - ev - er." loved one nev er; dwell with - in my pledge and of my sal - va - tion. con - so - la tion, seal fa - vored, nev - er leave you. me re - ceive you, and, SO

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

C O God, the host at every meal, at this table you spread out a feast for all peoples, the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Send us from this banquet to invite others into these good things, to let justice roll down like waters, and to care for the least of our sisters and brothers; through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

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

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: O Zion, Haste All Stand & Sing







Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834–1923 Music: ANGELIC SONGS, James Welch, 1837–1901

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Christ is with you.
- C Thanks be to God.

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



KIDS' WORSHIP CENTER: Pick up kits as you enter for worship! **Please return the tote bag** with the plastic bag of crayons, scratch pads, and pencils to the stand in the narthex. The children may take any papers home with them.

<u>PRAYER REQUESTS</u>: 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 the Kline family in honor of Eva's birthday; and by Rick & Debbie Neagle in honor of Virginia Neagle's 91st birthday.

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

Greg Byrum, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, October 19, 2014:

Attendance: 125

October 19, 2014
\$ 2,546.00
\$15,527.26
\$14,824.85

The Current Offering Received for the year through October 19, 2013 is \$17,895.84 more than Holy Comforter's expenses through that date.

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye, Jr., Beth Brittain **GREETER:** Debbie Baker

ACOLYTES: Becca Gatlin EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:

Matthew Carr Caroline & Tracey Nault

CRUCIFERS: Cooper Burwell TELLERS: Rochelle & Danny Potter

Madison Carr

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team A)

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1) Cynthia Buchanan Shelia Kelly Bev Mauney, Co-Captain Jo Singleton Jack Tench Brad

Milton, Co-Captain
Charles Mauney

DOUBLE BASS: Steve Bingham

Brandy Milton

Carmen De Nicholas PERCUSSION: Elizabeth Bruchon

Diann Halvorson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS: Beth Brittain

NURSERY: (9:30-11:45am) USHERS: Nathan Kelly + Volunteers

Makayla Brooks

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, October 26Tuesday, October 289:30 am Sunday School7:00 pm Chamber Choir

10:10 am Choir meets in choir room Nar-Anon

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

4:00 pm Children's Ensemble

5:00 pm Handbells Friday, October 31

6:00 pm Church Choir Have a safe & Happy Halloween!

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: October 26-November 1

October 27 Kay Holden October 31 Cody Koehler
October 28 Mitch Brooks Gary Rogers

Sarah Reese Kurt Scholler

Rodger Walker November 1 Donna Bean

October 30 Shawn De Nicholas

Bill Joye

Micah Kearney

	Attendance Octobe	er 19, 2014	
		Children	<u>Adults</u>
·	Nursery	2	2
DUNDOY	Pre-K	4	2
SCHEOL	God's Eden	8	1
HAS A CLASS	Youth	3	1
3 YOU	Adult Bible Class		12
	Senior Adults		8
	Totals:	17	26

Heather Mauney Yount Memorial Playground Project



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

Approximately \$3400 is still needed to complete this project.

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



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise AustinKay HoldenMabel RatchfordDaniel DowdZac HullanderGeorge RobersonCher GrantChase LinebergerMark ReeseFerrie HedrickVirginia NeagleMarguerite Shive

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Harriett Ange Dennis Jordan Steve Pletsas **Taylor Propst & Family** Janice Barker Wesley Jordan & Family Betty Kannapel Kathy Beam David Prouty Mara Rappleyea Dale Burris Steven Keating Father Frank Cancro Marshall Kinley Joe Reynolds Ken Capps Becky Knick Steve Sanford Wesley Coleman Alice Langley Megan Sigler Ronnie Hagy Laura Lanuto & Family Ramona J. Sinclair Brian Hedrick Pierce Lee Jimmy Surratt Kathy Helton Steve Mathis E. Taylor & Family Beverly F. Wall Betty Fox Fay McCarn Claudia Frazier Peggy McKenney & Family Gloria Ward Donald Freeman Sandra Nix Bryan Wayburn Pastor Gary Weant Ronnie Garrison Mark Outlaw

Leland "Lee" Peterson

Scott Phillips

Jean Peters

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek Jason Gardner Dillon Kasmer

Ronnie Hersey

Judy Jackson



Jeremy Shaver

Olivia Wilcox

OUR MISSIONARIES

Austin & Tanya Propst (Young Adults in Global Mission)

Please remember these people in your prayers.

If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please inform Trudy Whitener or Dianne in the church office.

The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org.

The Church Choir dedicates the Offering Anthem To the Glory of Almighty God And to Pastor Micah As he celebrates a Very special birthday this week!





Prayers of Sympathy & Hope Hre offered to Judy Caldwell & Family On the death of Scott Caldwell



Prayers of Sympathy & Hope Hre offered to Pat Long & Family On the death of her mother, Maude Williams

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

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

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 Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education
Kristen Clanton, HCY Advisor
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager