

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, April 12, 2015

The Second Sunday of Easter

Micah Kearney
Pastor



Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

PRELUDE

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, who calls us beloved children, who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Faithful and just God,

C we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

P In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *The Day of Resurrection!* All Stand & Sing



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

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

C And also with you.

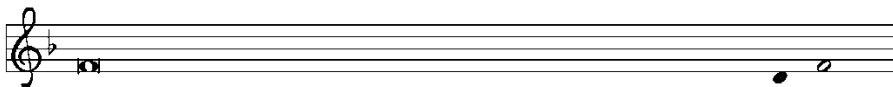
KYRIE

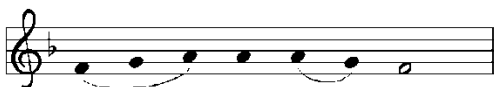
Assistant

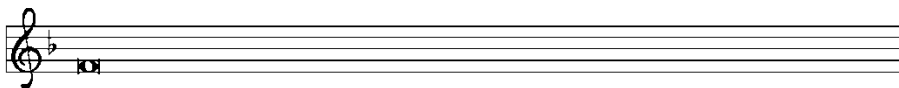
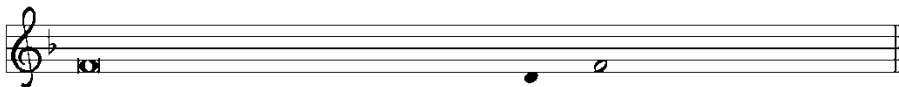
Congregation



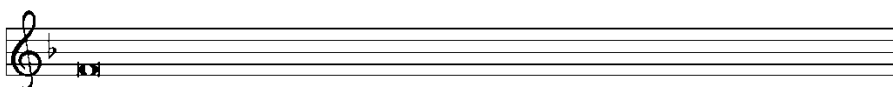
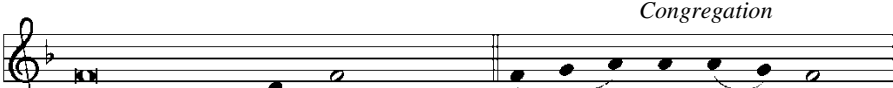
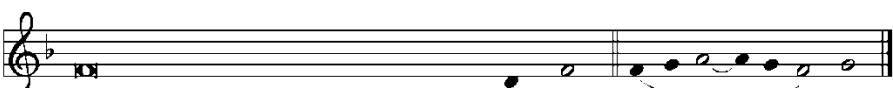
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

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



Cong.  Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant  For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
 and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Cong.  Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant  For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
Congregation
 let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
 Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

GLORY TO GOD

Assisting minister  Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
All  Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, 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 nursery.**

FIRST READING

Acts 4:32–35

A reading from the fourth chapter of Acts.

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 133 All Read Responsively

¹How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!

²**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron,
flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing:
life forevermore.

SECOND READING

1 John 1:1—2:2

A reading from the first and second chapters of 1 John.

The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.

Chapter 1

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — ²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us — ³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

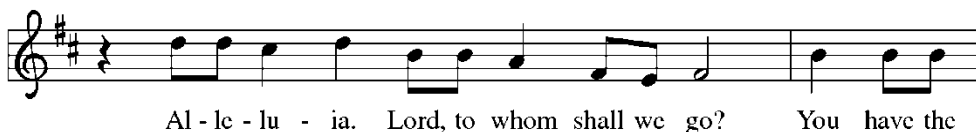
Chapter 2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

The story of Easter continues as the risen Lord appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON..... Guest Seminarian Jared Lee

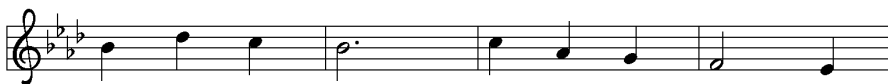
HYMN OF THE DAY: *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen* All Stand & Sing



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
 Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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.

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

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Create In Me* Church Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *In Thee Is Gladness.* All Stand and Sing




1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
2 Je-sus is ours! . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re - deem - er art. Our souls thou wak - est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto - ry tell of his



break - est. Who trusts thee sure - ly has built se - cure - ly
glo - ry with heart and voic - es; all heav'n re - joic - es



and stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
in him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing to see thy shin - ing, dy - ing or liv - ing,
glad - ness, tri - umph o'er sad - ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav - ing; naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident that the resurrection of Christ has defeated sin and death, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus give life to all people, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For sun and moon, land and sea, and all living creatures, that the beauty of creation reveal God's good pleasure, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the leaders of the world and those who work for peace, that all live together in unity and work for the common good, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those who doubt, the sick, the poor, the imprisoned, and those who are in any need (*especially*), that advocates be raised up in their midst to provide healing and wholeness, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those who join in community here, and for those who are absent from our gathering, that all proclaim with Thomas, "My Lord and my God," let us pray. Have mercy, O God.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for those who have died in the faith (*especially*), and for the faith they have made possible in our midst: that Christ has destroyed death and brought eternal life, let us pray..

Have mercy, O God.

Holy God, by the death and resurrection of your Son, you have granted new life, abundant renewal, and salvation. Hear our prayers for the sake of the one who has set us free, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

P Almighty God, who raised our Lord Jesus from death, lift you up and restore you to wholeness.

C Amen.

P Jesus Christ, the Word of life, bless you and send you to be his witnesses.

C Amen.

P God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth, refresh you in the gift of baptism this day and always.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!* All Stand & Sing



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
4 "You see him now, as-cend-ing high up to the por-tals of the
5 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
stand, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! and with his faith-ful fol-l'wers
sky?" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they
sky?" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
cord: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You are, while end-less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
see their Lord as-cend in maj - es - ty.
say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
see re - turn-ing in great maj - es - ty."
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



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

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this **Second Sunday of Easter**. 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.

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.**

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Andrew & Veronica and Jackson & Beckham Bryant in honor of Kristen Williams' 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.

Greg Byrum, Worship & Music Committee

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: April 12=18

Today, April 12 Elizabeth Burwell
Kristen Williams
April 15 Nick Alvarez

April 16 Misty Koehler
Debbie Neagle



ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Jim Buell

GREETERS: Louise Day
Brenda Daly

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: Need Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)

Fran Holland, Co-Captain
Melinda Lingerfelt, Co-Captain
Courtney Gatlin Stephanie Hinson
Tracey Nault

TELLERS:

Danny & Rochelle Potter

USHERS: Need Volunteers

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

Jill Cassel & Tom Bocchino

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, April 12

9:30 am Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room
10:30 am The Service
4:00 pm Children's Ensemble
5:00 pm **HCY**
6:00 pm Church Choir
8:00 pm Nar-Anon

Tuesday, April 14

7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Nar-Anon



The Lillian E. Lineberger Scholarship application forms are due April 24th. Forms are available via email. Just email holycomforter@gmail.com and request an application form. You may fill in the form on-line, but must print it out so it can be signed by both student and parent/guardian.

Only those applications including the required transcript and essay received by the April 24th deadline will be considered.

Carmen De Nicholas, Scholarship Committee



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin
Brenda Dabrowski
Daniel Dowd
Ferrie Hedrick
Dot Holland
Zac Hullander

Bill & Pauline Joye
Chase Lineberger
Rianna & Thomas Nance
Holly Peche
Carol Posey
Mark Reese

Beverly Reynolds
George Roberson
Marguerite Shive
Dennis Tucker

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Richard Abernethy
Harriett Ange
Paige Beaver
Jenny Beer
Father Frank Cancro
Tina Capwell
Clell Davis
J. Don Devine
Jamey Gardner
Poss Garrett
Ronnie Garrison
Lewis Gilbert Family
Brian Hedrick

Eric Herdan
Stacy Hunsucker
Dennis Jordan
Steven Keating
Marshall Kinley
Lance Kirkland
Terry Mahaffey
Al McCoy
Dawn Mitchell
Mark Outlaw
Alicia Overton
Jean Peters
Beverly Howe Poag

Jim Poag
Taylor Propst & Family
David Prouty
Julio Quiros
Anna Rudder
Megan Sigler
E. Taylor & Family
Gloria Ward
Pastor Gary Weant
Olivia Wilcox
Jeff Wiles
Alex Yount

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek

Jason Gardne



Dillon Kasmer

Alex Norris

Jeremy Shaver

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.

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, April 5, 2015:

Attendance both services: 313

Budget Report

April 5*, 2015

Current Offering Received 4/5/2015	\$ 6,215.26
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 4,598.27
Offering, Year-To-Date	\$ 71,373.86
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, Year-To-Date	\$ 8,242.10
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, Year-To-Date	\$ 8,320.88

***Also includes Holy Week services**

**We welcome to the pulpit this morning
Guest Seminarian Jared Lee**

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 Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager