

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, October 14, 2018

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue* Harbach

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Source of all life,

C we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.

Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation.

Amen.

P God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ☩ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *What Is This Place* All Stand & Sing



1 What is this place where we are meet-ing? On - ly a house, the
 2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in
 3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,
 us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders
 liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,



win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives
 sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak
 we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive



when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
 a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.
 what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

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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

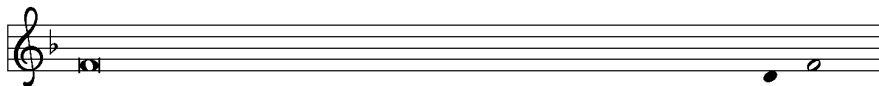
Pastor

Congregation



Lord, have mer - cy.

P



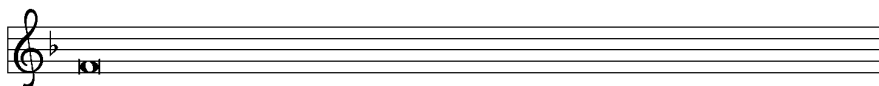
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C

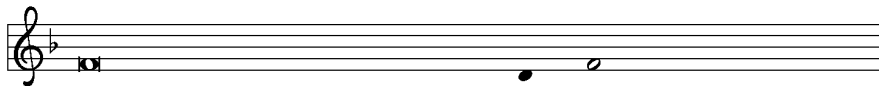


Lord, have mer - cy.

P



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



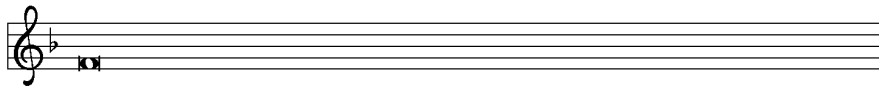
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C



Lord, have mer - cy.

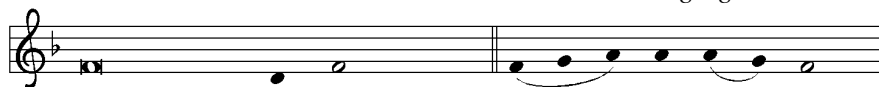
P



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

Pastor

Congregation

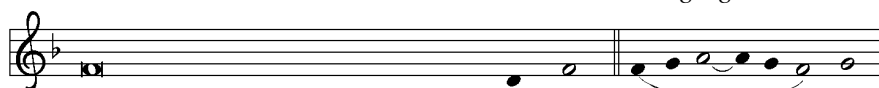


let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor

Congregation



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Pastor



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 and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, 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 nurseries.**

FIRST READING

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

A reading from the fifth chapter of Amos.

Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God’s call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God’s demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God’s wrath.

⁶Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

⁷Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!

¹⁰They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;

you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins—

you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.

¹³Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.

¹⁵Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 90:12-17 All Sing

¹²So teach us to num- | ber our days
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

¹³**Return, O LORD; how long | will you tarry?**
Be gracious | to your servants.

¹⁴Satisfy us by your steadfast love | in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad | all our days.

¹⁵**Make us glad as many days as you af- | flicted us**
and as many years as we suf- | fered adversity.

¹⁶Show your ser- | vants your works,
and your splendor | to their children.

¹⁷**May the graciousness of the Lord our God | be upon us;**
prosper the work of our hands; pros- | per our handiwork.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 4:12-16

A reading from the fourth chapter of Hebrews.

We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Mark 10:17-31

P The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.

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

Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God's eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.

¹⁷As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’ ” ²⁰He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶They were greatly



astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

²⁸Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” ²⁹Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.


The assembly is seated

SERMON Seminarian Tara Fleck


Silence is Kept for Reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Take My Life, That I May Be All Stand & Sing*


Refrain



Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



let them flow in cease - less praise.



- 1 Take my hands and let them move
- 2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing
- 4 Take my will and make it thine;



at the im - pulse of thy love;
 not a mite would I with - hold;
 al - ways, on - ly for my King;
 it shall be no lon - ger mine;



take my feet and let them be swift and
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
 take my lips and let them be filled with
 take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

Refrain



beau - ti - ful for thee.
 pow'r as thou shalt choose.
 mes - sag - es from thee.
 be thy roy - al throne.

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.

PEACE

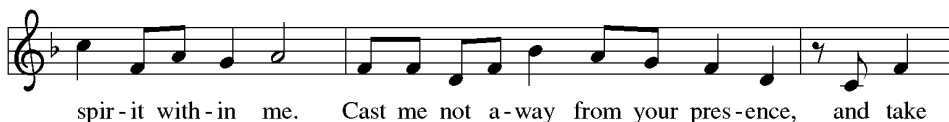
P The peace of Christ be with you always.

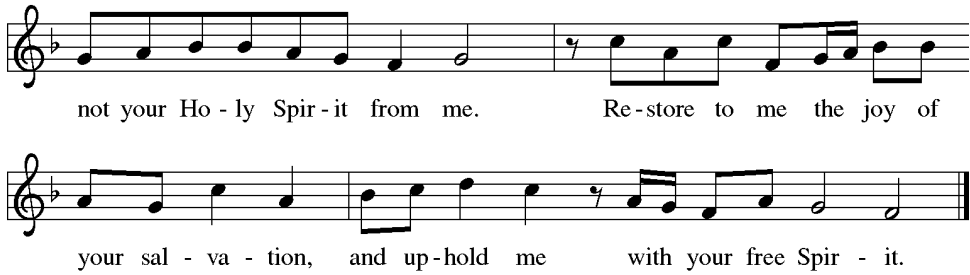
C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Glory to God* Church Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Create In Me* All Stand & Sing





OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray,

C Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Longing for God's will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

Almighty God, holy and righteous, cut our hearts open by your living word. Break down our pride and self-assurance, and transform us by your gentle mercy. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bless workers who clear fields to prepare for the barren season to come. Bring the harvest of your creation to completion, even as we look forward to the blossoming of new life. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Exercise and establish your true justice in courtrooms, in prisons, and in neighborhoods. Guide those who manage great wealth to do so with generosity and compassion. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Pour out favor this day upon those who are afflicted and feel far removed from you (*especially*). Send them companions who will show them you are ever near. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Build up relationships among people of different beliefs and backgrounds. Use the cooperation between this congregation and others in our community to reveal your goodness. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gather us with all the saints whom you have made righteous in the death and resurrection of Christ. Through him give us all the gifts of your kingdom and life eternal. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve* All Stand & Sing



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy - like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

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SENDING

P Go in peace. Sound the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this **Twenty-first 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.

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. Nurseries for children (**infants through 3 years old**) are in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance.



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

PRAYER REQUESTS: A notebook has been placed in the narthex for your prayer requests during the week. The book will be in the narthex on Sundays and in the church office during the week. **If you wish a name to be added to our prayer board, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in the online form at www.holyc.org.**

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Warren & Faye Heller in honor of Shirley Causby and Greg Cline; and by Jane Howard in honor of Jeff Howard.

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

Carmen Buell, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, October 7, 2018:

Attendance: 113

<u>Budget Report</u>	<u>October 7, 2018</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offering	\$ 3,577.00	\$209,964.03
Expenses	\$ 5,551.17	\$215,734.90
Offering less Expenses	<u>(\$ 1,974.17)</u>	<u>(\$ 5,770.87)</u>
Expected (Budgeted) Expenses		<u>222,046.92</u>
Offering less Expected Expenses		<u>(\$ 12,082.89)</u>

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye

GREETER: Carmen Buell

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:

Volunteers

TELLERS: Fran Holland

Trudy Whitener

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1)

Bev & Charles Mauney, Co-Captains

Carmen De Nicholas

Deb Williams

NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am)

Jill Cassel

SOLOIST: Melissa McGinnis**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:**

Rebecca Yount

USHERS: Volunteers

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**Today, Sunday, October 14:**

8:45 am Children's Ensemble

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service

Youth Handbells meeting after

In the fellowship hall

5:00 pm Handbells, **H**CY

6:00 pm Church Choir Practice

Tuesday, October 16:

7:00 pm Chamber Choir

Christian Ed meeting

Health Ministry meets

Nar-Anon

Wednesday, October 17:

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: October 14-20

Today, October 14 Jean Ferguson

Linda Grimsley

Stephanie Hinrichs

Jeff Howard

October 18 David Koehler



Children and youth grade 4 and up may register for handbell ensemble this fall. This group would accompany evening vespers during the Advent season. **We will meet in the fellowship hall today after worship** to determine best rehearsal times for the remainder of October and November. Children interested in participating, as well as their parents, are asked to attend this meeting. It is important that we find an hour that we can all rehearse together! There can be positions for up to 12 ringers in this new

liturgy entitled, ***Behold Our Light.***



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Tim Baker
Cynthia Buchanan
Carmen Buell
Brenda Dabrowski
Becke Featherstone
Zac Hullander

Jo Irwin
Sue Lahr
Ben Moose
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry
Pat Roberson
Kathie Schaumburg

Scott Schaumburg
Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Beverly Reynolds
Jerri Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Bobbie Bingham
Amy Beale Blythe
Doug Brewer
Karen de la Vega
Carol Fox
Larry "Poss" Garrett

Brandi Hager
Ruth Lail
Beverly Lineberger
Jennifer Lineberger
Ronnie Lunsford
Clarence McLain

Anne Murdy
George Rogers
Tommy Smith
Brody Thornburg
Dennis Yates

OUR SERVICEMEN



Beau Carroll Tom Kasmer Leo Kasmer Colton Parker

Please remember these people in your prayers.
**If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list,
please inform the church office.**

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



Holy Doodles



Cold and flu season is once more upon us! Here are a few tips to help you avoid falling ill: Avoid close contact with people who have a cold. *Wash your hands!* Keep your fingers away from your nose and eyes. *Wash your hands!* Keep the humidity in your home near 50% so your sinuses don't dry out and get your flu shot! *Wash your hands!* If you do get a cold or flu, be courteous to others - use a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw away the tissue and *wash your hands!* Have a care...don't share! And did you hear me say...**WASH YOUR HANDS?** (The #1 way to spread germs is through our hands!)

Contact Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse, at 717-329-8507 or parishnurse0407@gmail.com. Save a life NOW!

A Halloween-themed poster with a dark blue, textured background. In the top left, there is a large, glowing yellow full moon with a black bat silhouette flying in front of it. To the right of the moon, the words "Trunk OR Treat" are written in a stylized, colorful font. "Trunk" is in orange, "OR" is in yellow, and "Treat" is in purple. Below the text, there is a jack-o'-lantern and a cupcake with purple frosting and a witch figurine on top. In the top right corner, there are several autumn leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and red. The text on the poster reads: "Trunk or Treat is right around the corner. We are looking for spook-tastic volunteers to make this a success on October 27 from 3:00-5:00 pm. If you dare to be a part of this event, a sign up sheet for 'trunks' will be available on October 14. Candy donations accepted now."

Trunk or Treat is right around the corner.
We are looking for *spook-tastic* volunteers to make this a success on October 27 from 3:00-5:00 pm.
If you **dare** to be a part of this event, a sign up sheet for "trunks" will be available on October 14.
Candy donations accepted now.



**Children's Church Volunteers
Desperately Needed!**

Contact Beka at rforst@holyc.org



After getting the opportunity to serve in Houston at the Youth Gathering, and service projects through Agape Day Camp, *HCY* has been interested in ways to serve our community. One of the organizations that have caught and kept our attention is S.O.C.K.S. S.O.C.K.S. is a local food bank in Belmont. They provide food for families who need it. One thing that is not often donated, if at all, is paper products, such as toilet paper and paper towels. This bit of information really stuck with us and so *HCY* would like to start a paper product drive for them! The **entire month of October** we will be collecting ***toilet paper and paper towels***. You can leave your donations in the hallway by the coffee table. There will be a sign to indicate where to leave your items.

Thank you!
HCY

This morning we welcome Seminarian Tara Fleck to the pulpit.



Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

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

holycomforter@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am The Service

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am — 3:00 pm

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: MicahKearney@gmail.com

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager