

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, May 17, 2015

## The Seventh Sunday of Easter



Micah Kearney  
Pastor

Greg Cline  
Organist/Choirmaster

### WELCOME/GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### 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,

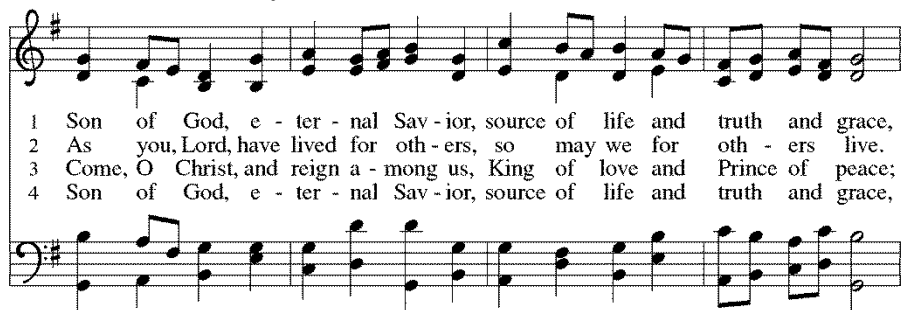
**C we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in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

**Amen.**

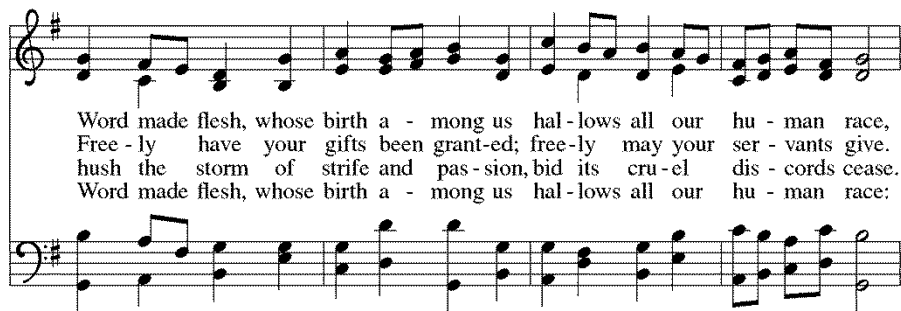
P In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.

**C Amen.**

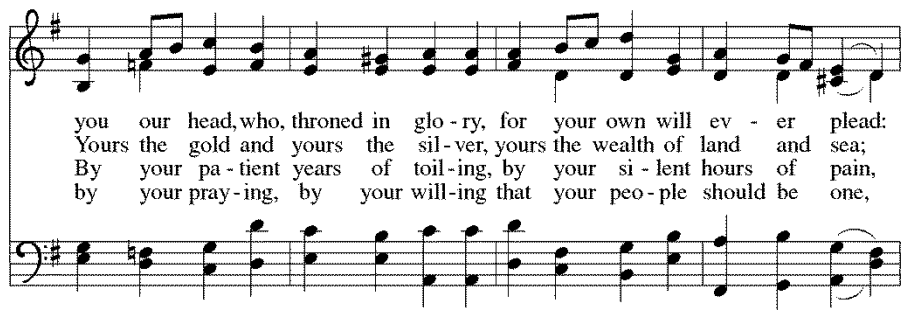
# GATHERING SONG: *Son of God, Eternal Savior* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



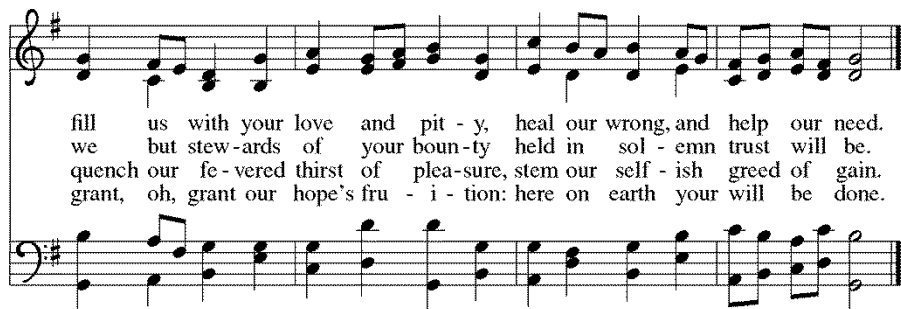
1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,  
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

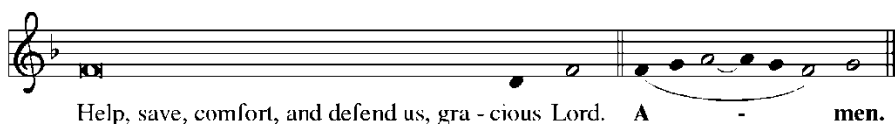
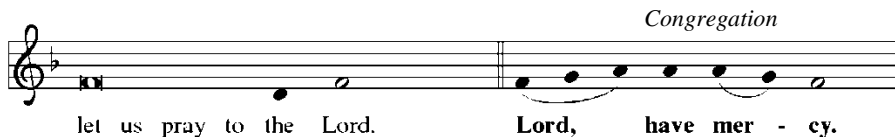
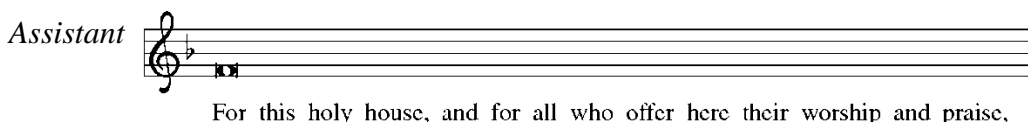
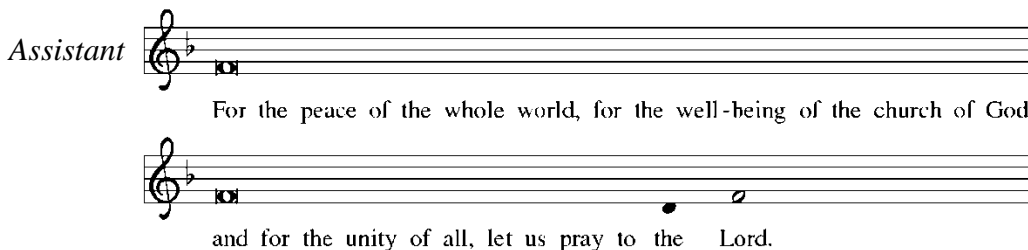
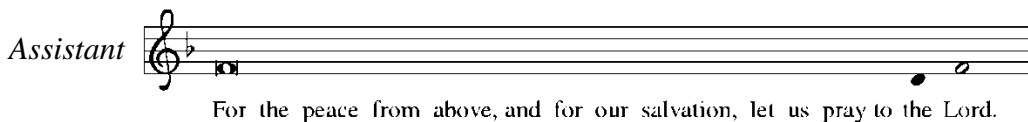
Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

**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*



# 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 scat - 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.

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, 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 1:15–17, 21–26**

A reading from the first chapter of Acts.

*In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.*

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus — <sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us — one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



## PSALM 1 ..... All Sing

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel <sup>|</sup> of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats <sup>|</sup> of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law <sup>|</sup> of the LORD,**  
**and they meditate on God's teaching <sup>|</sup> day and night.**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves  
that <sup>|</sup> do not wither;  
everything they <sup>|</sup> do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>**It is not so <sup>|</sup> with the wicked;**  
**they are like chaff which the wind <sup>|</sup> blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when <sup>|</sup> judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council <sup>|</sup> of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup>**For the LORD knows the way <sup>|</sup> of the righteous,**  
**but the way of the wicked shall <sup>|</sup> be destroyed.**

## SECOND READING

## 1 John 5:9–13

A reading from the fifth chapter of 1 John.

*God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.*

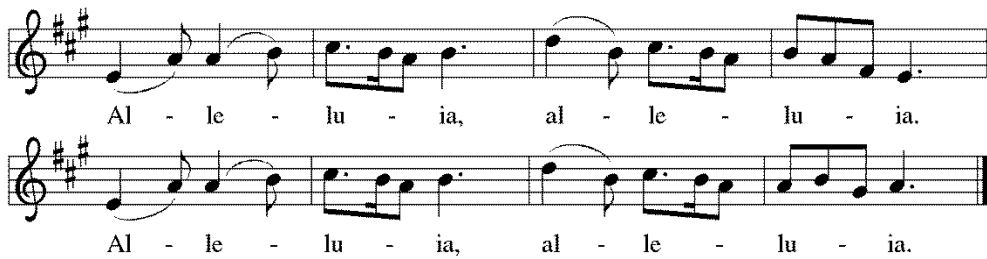
<sup>9</sup>If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. <sup>10</sup>Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL

**John 17:6-19**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death. This gospel reports the words of Jesus' prayer, a prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.*

<sup>6</sup>I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Thine the Amen* ..... All Stand & Sing



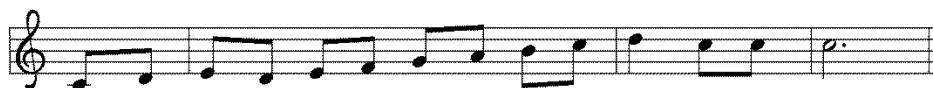
1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise  
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be  
 3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest  
 4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise  
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread  
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee  
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be  
 thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways  
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup  
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry  
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war  
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least  
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.  
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
 Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929  
 Text and music © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, 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.

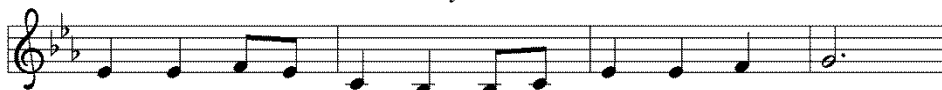
## PEACE

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

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** *Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal* . . . . . Church Choir

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** *Be Thou My Vision* . . . . . All Stand and Sing



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931  
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

## 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 and the ministry of the gospel throughout the world, that the Holy Spirit guide our witness to Jesus Christ as the Son of God, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the creation, for trees and fruit, clean water and air, and all inhabitants of the earth, that God raise up careful stewards of the soil, air, and water, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For local, regional, and national leaders, for those who protect us from harm, and for this community, that we be led to the truth, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the sick and those who provide healing, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for the imprisoned and those who seek justice, for the bereaved and those who provide comfort (*especially*), that God protect all who are in need, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For those completing their studies this academic year, for those who travel and enjoy

recreation, and for those gathered here and those absent, that through our joy we continually offer thanks to God, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for those who have died in the faith, that their witness to the resurrection of Christ inspire our words and our work, 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: *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.  
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional  
 Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

## DISMISSAL

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

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
 Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24292.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council  
 of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under One.License #A-724639

**A CORDIAL WELCOME** is extended to all of our visitors on this **Seventh 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 or fill in a form online at [www.holyc.org](http://www.holyc.org).**

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God by Bob & Denise Wiegand in honor of Jennifer's birthday; and by Beth Brittain in memory of Mildred Brittain.

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

**Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, May 10, 2015:**

Attendance: 160

**Budget Report**

**May 10, 2015**

Current Offering Received 5/10/2015	\$ 4,907.68
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 4,598.27
Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)	\$ 94,677.58
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	\$ 6,770.21
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	\$ 8,410.69

**FLOWER CHART:** We have openings on the flower chart for Sundays beginning in July through the end of November. If you would like to provide flowers for our altar, please choose an available Sunday and sign your name and who you are honoring. The cost of one vase is \$22.50, both vases are \$45.00. The flower chart is in the narthex.

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:****LECTOR:** Billy Joye, Jr., Jim Buell**GREETER:** Pat Long**ACOLYTE & CRUCIFER:** Need Volunteers**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Carmen De Nicholas &amp; Natalie Hullander

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

Melissa Bocchino

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 2)

Brad Milton, Co-Captain

Brandy Milton, Co-Captain

Donna Bean Susan Woodcock

**TELLERS:** Shelia & Tim Kelly**USHERS:** Volunteers Needed**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: May 17-23**

May 21 Natalie Hullander

May 22 Billy Joye, Jr.  
Arch LinebergerMay 23 Chuck MacDonald  
Jennifer Miller**THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:****Today, Sunday, May 17**

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room

10:30 am The Service

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

**Tuesday, May 19**

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

**Saturday, May 23**4:30 pm Nathaniel Kearney's  
Baptism**REMINDER:** Christian Education Committee will meet **May 27 at 7:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. All who are interested are welcome to attend.**Sunday, May 31** the kids of Holy Comforter will take up the “noisy offering” for the ***ELCA Malaria Campaign***. So save up your change and bring with you on May 31.

---

# **ELCA Malaria Campaign**

---



**Sunday School Attendance May 10, 2015:** Nursery=6 children & 2 adults; Pre-K & God's Eden=17 children & 2 adults, Youth=1 adult, Adult Bible=12, Seekers= 12;  
**Totals = 23 Children and 29 Adults**



## PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin  
Nate Baakko  
Brenda Dabrowski  
Daniel Dowd  
Ferrie Hedrick

Dot Holland  
Zac Hullander  
Bill & Pauline Joye  
Chase Lineberger  
Holly Peche

Mark Reese  
Beverly Reynolds  
George Roberson  
Marguerite Shive

## GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Richard Abernethy  
Harriett Ange  
Paige Beaver  
Jenny Beer  
Father Frank Cancro  
Tina Capwell  
Clell Davis  
Jo Anne de la Vega  
J. Don Devine  
Zachary Evans  
Jamey Gardner  
Poss Garrett  
Ronnie Garrison  
Lewis Gilbert Family

Brian Hedrick  
Stacy Hunsucker  
Dennis Jordan  
Steven Keating  
Marshall Kinley  
Karin Larsen  
Terry Mahaffey  
Al McCoy  
Clay McCoy  
Mark Outlaw  
Alicia Overton  
Ramesh Patel  
Jean Peters  
Beverly Howe Poag

Jim Poag  
Taylor Propst & Family  
David Prouty  
Julio Quiros  
Parents of Teresa Rankin  
Anna Rudder  
Megan Sigler  
E. Taylor & Family  
Carson Thomas  
Janie Thompson  
Gloria Ward  
Pastor Gary Weant  
Olivia Wilcox  
Jeff Wiles

## OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek

Jason Gardner



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

**EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:** Eucharist Presenters are needed for the following Sundays: June 28, July 12, July 26 and August 9. If you are willing to serve as a Eucharist presenter, please sign your name at the date you are willing to serve. Sign-up sheet is available in the narthex.

**GREETERS:** Greeters are needed for May 31, June 14, July 12, August 30, September 6, 13 & 27; October 18 & 25; December 20 & 27. If you are willing to serve as a greeter on either of these dates, please sign your name at the date you wish to serve. Sign-up sheet located in the narthex.

**USHERS:** Ushers are needed for the months of June-December. Please sign your name at the date you are willing to serve. Sign-up sheet is available in the narthex.

**VOLUNTEERS FOR NURSERY:** Sign-up sheet for nursery volunteers has been added for August-November. Please sign your name at the date you are willing to serve.



You are Invited to a  
**Service of Baptism with Holy Communion for  
Nathaniel Kearney**  
on  
Saturday, May 23 at 4:30 pm  
Bishop Leonard Bolick will officiate.

**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

P.O. Box 666 Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 [holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:MicahKearney@gmail.com)  
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education  
Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor  
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager