

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, June 22, 2014

The Second Sunday after Pentecost



John Propst
Interim Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

PRELUDE: *Trumpet Tune* Wolff

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 forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P In the presence of God, who sees our hearts and our minds, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God our strength,

C we confess that we are captive to the power of sin that dwells within us. We put ourselves first and others last. What we think will make us happy leaves us longing for more. Even when we want to do what is good, we find ourselves doing the opposite. Rescue us from death's grip on our lives, and raise us up day by day, that we may be alive to God in Christ Jesus. Amen.

P Sisters and brothers,

all have fallen short of the glory of God; therefore we are justified by God's grace as a gift. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in + Christ Jesus, in whom we have forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Give to Our God Immortal Praise! All Stand & Sing*

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and
 3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of

truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to
 dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
 kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
 Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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.

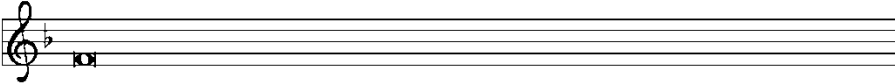
Assistant For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Cong.

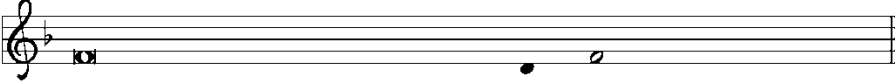


Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant



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



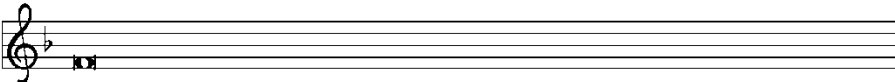
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Cong.



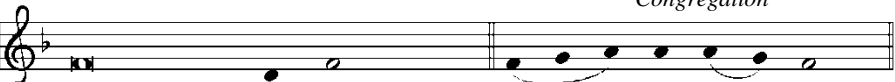
Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Congregation is Seated

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

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-15

A reading from the twenty-fourth chapter of Joshua.

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God.
²And Joshua said to all the people,

¹⁴ 'Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.'

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:9-10

A reading from the second chapter of 1 Peter.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 15:9–17

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

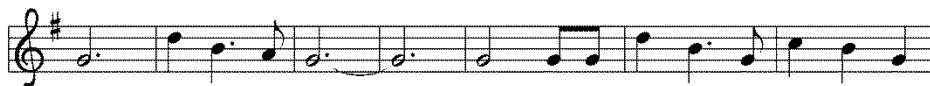
¹²‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: “Choices” (Sermon notes, page 15) Pastor John

HYMN OF THE DAY: *We Are Called* All Stand & Sing



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no
 sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



Refrain
 We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: WE ARE CALLED, David Haas

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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

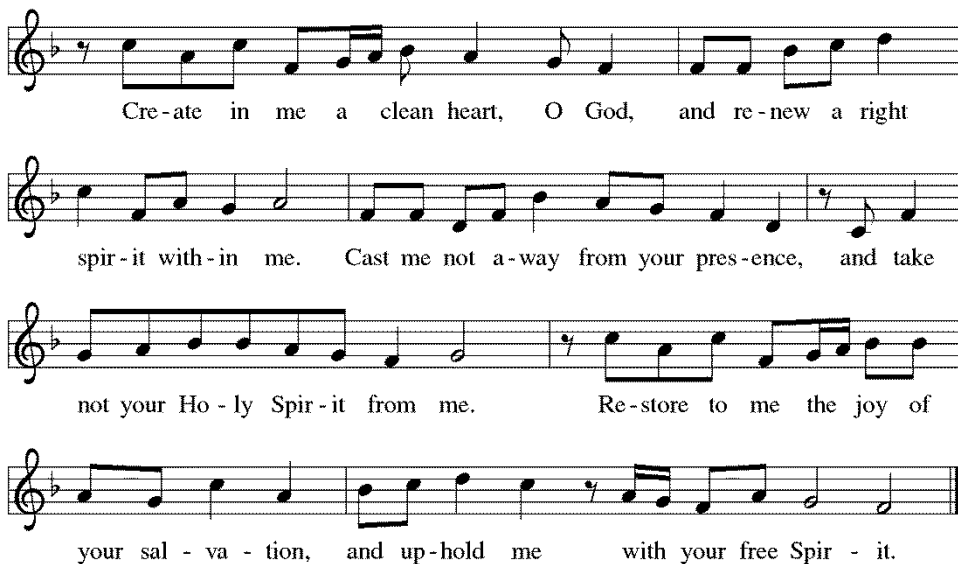
P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *We Praise You* Church Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE All Stand and Sing



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Strengthened by the Spirit who gives us words to speak and hearts that care, let us bring our hopes and needs to God who listens.

A brief silence.

We pray for healing worship, that your love will fill our hearts through our songs and prayers and give us strength to spread your word. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for healing growth, that this land you have made will continue to sustain life of all kinds—plants, animals, and people. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for healing words among peoples and places where violence, mistrust, anger, and division reign. Send your Spirit to bring much-needed peace to our relationships and our world. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for healing rest for those whose bodies and spirits are weary and in pain (*especially*). Surround them with your care and love. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for healing time, when we can focus on you and your renewing love. Amidst our busy lives, help us to stop, focus, and rest in you. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for healing hope for those whose loved ones have died, and give thanks for the lives of those who have gone before us in faith. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, God of mercy, confident that all things are in your hands. In Jesus' name we pray.
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 May God the sower make you good and fertile soil. May Christ the seed bloom and grow in your words and actions. May the fruitful Spirit bring forth a bountiful yield in your lives. God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Let All Things Living* All Stand & Sing

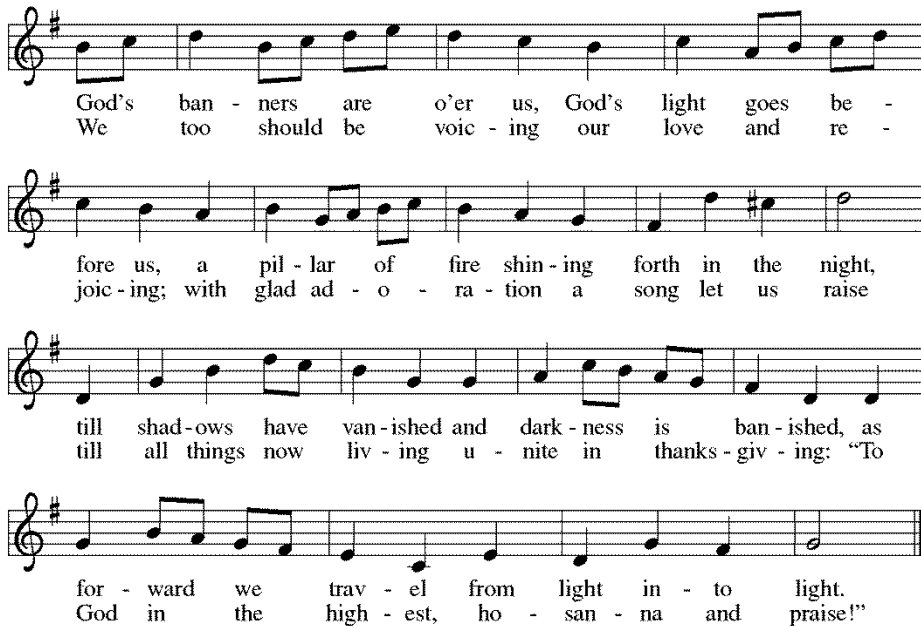


1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
 2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
 sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
 the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the

still guides us on to the end of our days.
 deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -
fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise
till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To
for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION OFFERED immediately after the congregational meeting.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this **Second 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. 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 online at www.holyc.org.**

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Debbie Mendez in memory of her parents Alice & Mark Lyerly; and by Lynn Martin in honor of Jeffrey & Brooke's anniversary.

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

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, June 15, 2014:

Attendance: 125

Budget Report

June 15, 2014

Current Offering Received 6/15/14	\$ 4,588.00
Weekly Budget Expenses	\$ 4,504.60
Offering, Year-To-Date	\$ 98,696.23
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	\$ 3,752.69
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	(\$ 8,554.30)

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye, Jr. + Brenda Daly

GREETERS: Brenda Daly,
Louise Day

ACOLYTES: Claire Mitchell
Nathn Baakko

TELLERS: Raini Kimball
Dennis Tucker

CRUCIFERS: Cooper Burwell, Madison Carr

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)
Fran Holland, Co-Captain
Melinda Lingerfelt, Co-Captain
Tracey Nault Courtney Gatlin
Stephanie Hinson

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

USHERS: Need Volunteers

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: June 22-28

June 25 Wil Carpenter
June 26 Erin Jenkins Busler
June 27 Reid Passer
June 28 Stephanie L. Hinson



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, June 22

9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room
10:30 am The Service
8:00 pm Nar-Anon

Friday, June 27

5:30 pm ***Vacation Bible School***
Begin with pizza supper

Saturday, June 28

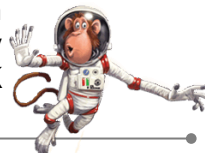
9:00 am -12 Noon ***VBS*** continues

Tuesday, June 24

7:00 pm Nar-Anon



June 27-28 (5:30 pm Friday evening we begin with a with pizza supper; and continue from 9:00 am Saturday morning-12 Noon) **Vacation Bible School** is for **Pre-K through Grade 5. See you Friday and Saturday!**



THE CONGREGATION OF
HOLY COMFORTER LUTHERAN CHURCH
IS CORDIALLY INVITED
TO THE WEDDING OF
MAKAYLA FELIZ & MITCH BROOKS
SUNDAY, JUNE 29
2 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

We will receive new members on June 29. If you are interesting in joining Holy Comforter contact Pastor John Propst at JohnCPropst@gmail.com.



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin
Scott Caldwell
Virginia Crump
Brenda Dabrowski
Daniel Dowd

Cher Grant
Ferrie Hedrick
Richard Holden
Hughes Family
Zac Hullander

John Kreitzer
Chase Lineberger
Mabel Ratchford
Mark Reese
Bob Williams

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Harriett Ange
Kathy Beam
Dale Burris
Ronnie Hagy
Brian Hedrick
Kathy Helton
Betty Fox
Claudia Frazier
Donald Freeman
Ronnie Hersey
Dennis Jordan
Wesley Jordan & Family

Betty Kannapel
Marshall Kinley
Becky Knick
Laura Lanuto & Family
Pierce Lee
Peggy McKenney & Family
Grady Nichols
Sandra Nix
Jean Peters
Leland "Lee" Peterson
Scott Phillips
Steve Pletsas
Taylor Propst & Family

David Prouty
Mara Rappleyea
Earl Riedley
Steve Sanford
Megan Sigler
Ramona J. Sinclair
Jimmy Surratt
Buck Weatherford
Beverly F. Wall
Gloria Ward
Bryan Wayburn

OUR SERVICEMEN

Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer



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 let Trudy Whitener know or tell Dianne in the church office.

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

"Choices" + Sermon Notes

"If you decide that it's a bad thing to worship GOD, then choose a god you'd rather serve—and do it today ... as for me and my family, we'll worship GOD." – a **choice** ... to worship God or another god

(Joshua 24:14-15 from The Message)

"But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do His work and speak out for Him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference He made for you" – a **choice** ... to tell or not tell of God's goodness!

(1 Peter 2:9-10 from The Message)

*"You did not choose Me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last," ummm...Jesus made the first **choice**; and our **response/choice** ... to allow the Spirit to bear fruit through us or not!*

(John 15:16 from NRSV)

When Making a Weighty Decision, you might consider to ...

- Unclutter your life
- Ask the right questions
- Trust God more

+ + + + + + +

When your values are clear to you, making decisions becomes easier.

~Roy Disney

Sometimes it's the smallest decisions that can change your life forever.

~Keri Russell

We're not like robots. God promises to guide us by the Holy Spirit, but He gives us the freedom to make our own decisions

~Joyce Meyer



Camp Agape July 14-18

Rising 1st Graders — Rising 8th Graders!

This year we are expanding the day camp to include 6th-8th graders. The kids in this age group will participate in service projects throughout the week at Holy Comforter as well as off site. **We must have a minimum of 6 middle school aged kids in order to offer this expanded camp.**

Registration forms are available at the back of the church or from Misty Koehler. The cost is \$125 per camper and is due at the time of registration. There is only room for 20 campers, so register soon. **The spaces will be filled on a first come, first served basis.** Please contact Misty if you have any questions about camp.

Misty Koehler, Holy Comforter Camp Coordinator

Meet & Greet Micah Kearney and Family was held this morning.

The congregation will meet **immediately after the worship service this morning to vote** on acceptance of Micah as our new pastor. Please remain in the sanctuary after the service to receive a ballot and vote.

Tim Baker, Church Council Chair

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

John Propst, Interim Pastor; email: JohnCPropst@gmail.com

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Kristen Clanton, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager