

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

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

## The Third Sunday after the Epiphany



John Propst  
Interim Pastor

Greg Cline  
Organist/Choirmaster

### WELCOME/GATHERING

**PRELUDE:** *Holy Manna* . . . . . Tune by William Moore

### 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** Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Holy and faithful God,

**C** we so often choose our own way instead of yours. We think we can evade your commandments. We have spoken in ways that kill, strayed with our hearts, betrayed friends, and hated enemies. We have broken our promises. Search us deeply and create us anew. Lift the heavy burden of our sin and free us to follow your way of life. **Amen.**

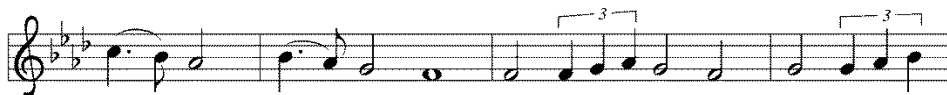
**P** "Call upon me," says the Lord, "and I will answer." Our God has come among us to loose every bond and set us free from all that weighs us down. Receive the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of + Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior.

**C Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG: *Thy Strong Word* ..... All Stand & Sing



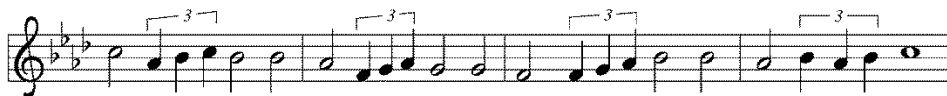
- 1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
- 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
- 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
- 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we  
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -  
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward  
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

- 5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,  
 tongues thy mercy to proclaim,  
 throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
 mouths to speak thy holy name.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 May the light which thou dost send  
 fill our songs with alleluias,  
 alleluias without end!

- 6 God the Father, light-creator,  
 to thee laud and honor be.  
 To thee, Light of Light begotten,  
 praise be sung eternally.  
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
 glory, glory be to thee.  
 Mortals, angels, now and ever  
 praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976

Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

## GREETING

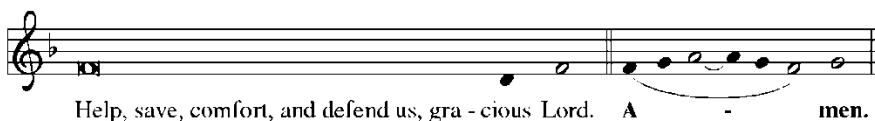
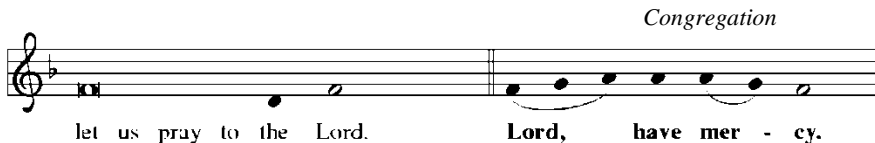
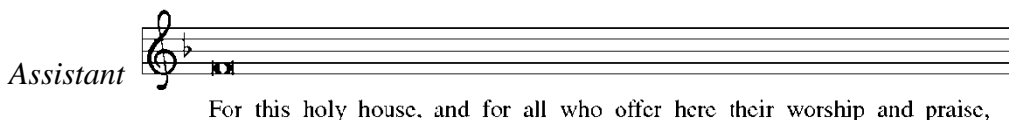
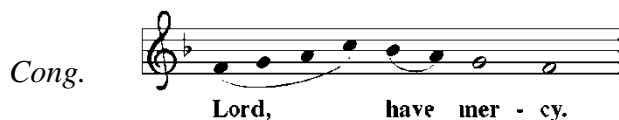
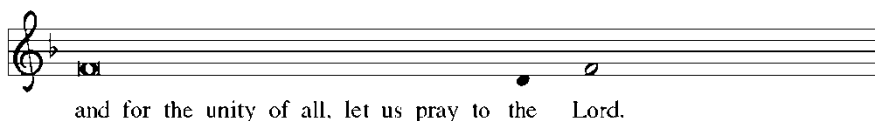
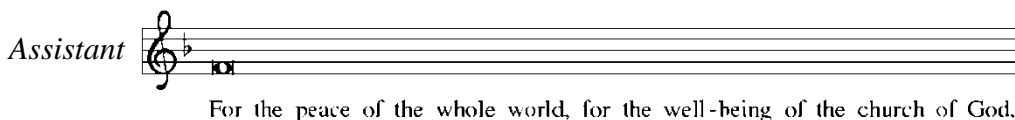
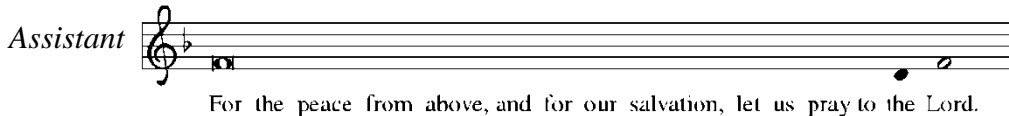
P From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

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 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.

Lord God, your loving kindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, 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

**Isaiah 9:1–4**

A reading from the ninth chapter of Isaiah.

*The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced defeat, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them. The people in the northern parts of Israel have experienced "gloom" and "darkness" because of the destruction wrought by Assyrian military forces. To these people, the prophet announces the shining of a great light of salvation.*

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 27:1, 4–9** . . . . . All Read Responsively

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then <sup>1</sup> shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I <sup>1</sup> be afraid?

**<sup>4</sup>One thing I ask of the LORD; one <sup>1</sup> thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;  
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD  
and to seek God <sup>1</sup> in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble God will <sup>1</sup> give me shelter,  
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary,  
and raise me high up- <sup>1</sup> on a rock.

**<sup>6</sup>Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies <sup>1</sup> who surround me.  
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary,  
sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music <sup>1</sup> to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice, O LORD, <sup>1</sup> when I call;  
have mercy on me and <sup>1</sup> answer me.

**<sup>8</sup>My heart speaks your message— <sup>1</sup> "Seek my face."  
Your face, O LORD, <sup>1</sup> I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- <sup>1</sup> vant in anger.  
Cast me not away—you have been my helper;  
forsake me not, O God of <sup>1</sup> my salvation.

## SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 1:10–18**

A reading from the first chapter of 1 Corinthians.

*Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ who was crucified for us. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.*

<sup>10</sup>Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all

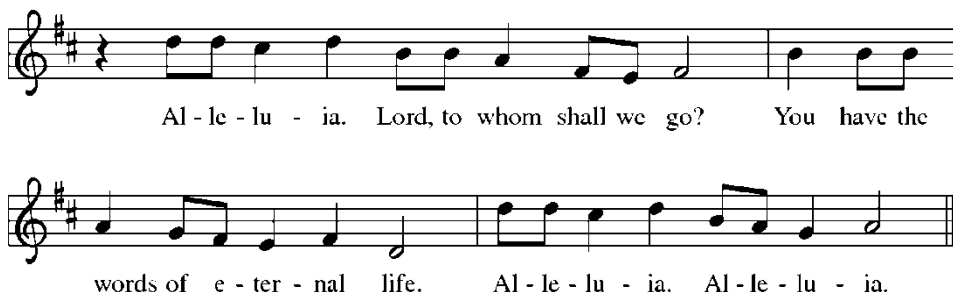
of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

<sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**A** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL

**Matthew 4:12–23**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.*

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup>"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles —

<sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness  
 have seen a great light,  
 and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
 light has dawned."

<sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.



<sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

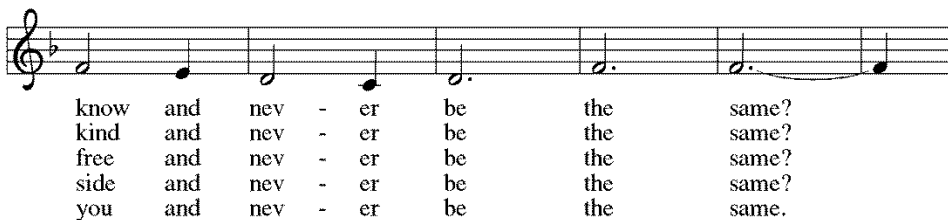
P The gospel of the Lord.  
 C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON..... Guest Pastor Jan Henson

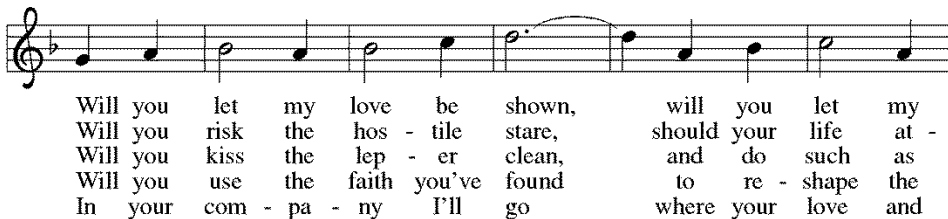
HYMN OF THE DAY: *Will You Come and Follow Me* ..... All Stand & Sing

1	"Will	you	come	and	fol -	low	me	if	I	but	call
2	"Will	you	leave	your -	self	be -	hind	if	I	but	call
3	"Will	you	let	the	blind -	ed	see	if	I	but	call
4	"Will	you	love	the	you	hide	if	I	but	call	call
5	Lord,	your	sum -	mons	ech -	oes	true	when	you	but	call
	your	name?		Will	you	go	where	you	don't		
	your	name?		Will	you	care	for	cruel	and		
	your	name?		Will	you	set	the	pris -	'ners		
	your	name?		Will	you	quell	the	fear	in -		
	my	name.		Let	me	turn	and	fol -	low		





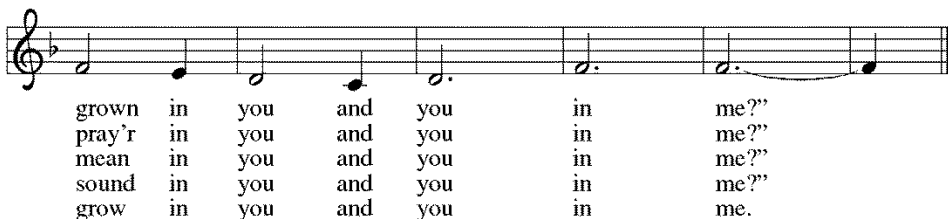
know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?  
 pray'r in you and you in me?  
 mean in you and you in me?  
 sound in you and you in me?  
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949  
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional  
 Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
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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:** *The Lord’s Prayer* . . . . . Church Choir

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** *Create In Me* . . . . . All Stand and Sing

The musical notation is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it."

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Guided by the light of Christ, who has been made known to the nations, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For Christ's church on earth and for those who proclaim the good news of the kingdom, that all divisions cease, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For sky and sea, fish and bird, and the beauty of the whole creation, that God's goodness be seen through our everyday surroundings, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For our political and social leaders, that they use their power justly, and for all the nations of the world, that peace and understanding prevail, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For all who call upon the Lord for help: those dealing with gloom or anguish, those who are afraid, those suffering from malaria or other illnesses, and for those who seek shelter, that God provide them with compassionate caregivers and advocates, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the followers of Jesus Christ gathered here, that we be guided by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the cross as the power of God, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, that their witness to the spread of God's word inspire us in our doings, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Radiant God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who has made his dwelling among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**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 the God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

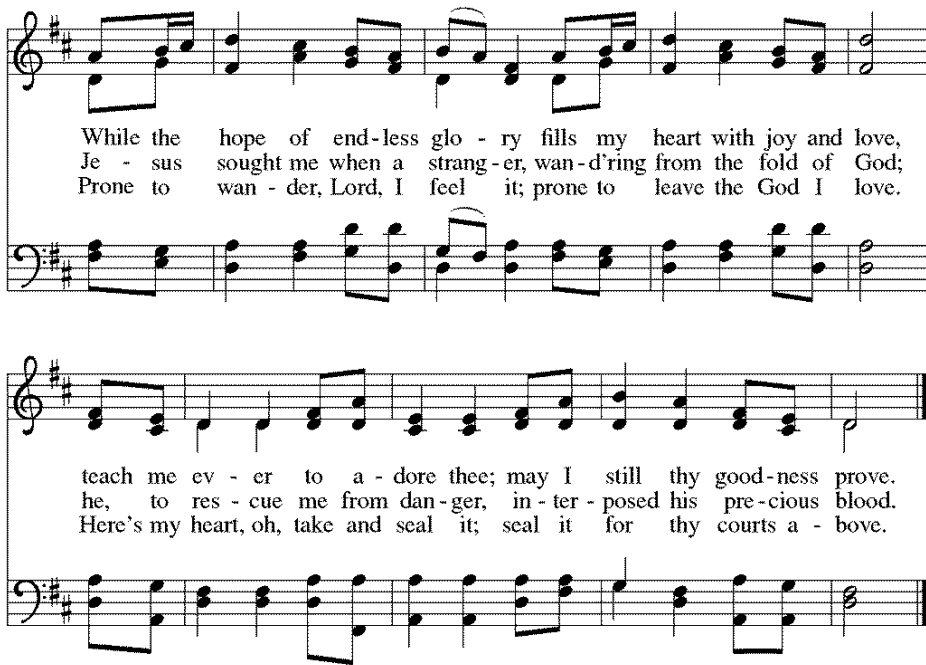
C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.  
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.  
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.  
 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is your light.

C Thanks be to God.

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**A CORDIAL WELCOME** is extended to all of our visitors on this **Third Sunday after the Epiphany**. 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. **If you wish a name to be added to our prayer list, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in the form found at [www.holyc.org](http://www.holyc.org).**

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God by Tracey, Caroline, Aaron & Ashton Nault in celebration of Paul Nault's birthday.

**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, January 19, 2014:**

Attendance: 152

**Budget Report**

**January 19**

Current Offering Received 1/26/14

\$ 2,270.50

Budget Expenses, Month-To-Date

\$ 12,217.95

Offering, Month-To-Date

\$ 13,652.50

The Current Offering Received for the year through January 26, 2014 is \$1,434.55 more than Holy Comforter's expenses through that date.

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:**

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye + Karen Rogers

**TELLERS:** Shelia & Tim Kelly

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 4)

Diann Halvorson, Co-Captain

Dean Halvorson, Co-Captain

Barbara Kasmer      Gayla Foscue

**USHERS:** Need Volunteers

**GREETERS:** The Nault Family

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK:** January 26-February 1

Today, January 26   Matthew Carr

January 31   Philip Posey



## **THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**

### **Today, Sunday, January 26**

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

### **Tuesday, January 28**

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

### **Sunday, February 2**

9:30 am Sunday School  
(**New** 8-week series "Discovering  
God's Vision For Your Life") starts.  
Meet in *Seekers* classroom.

**2014 Offering Envelopes are available in the narthex for you to pick up.**

**USHERS** are needed for 2014. If you would like to volunteer to help as an usher during the worship services, please sign your name to the volunteer sheet found in the narthex.  
**Plenty of Sundays to choose from.** All volunteers are greatly appreciated.



If you are concerned, due to inclement weather, as to whether there will be church services or planned activities, please check the following for information:

- ◆ Call the church office at 704-825-2483 and listen to recorded message
  - ◆ Check the church website at [www.holyc.org](http://www.holyc.org)
  - ◆ Watch WSOC-TV for their list of closings and/or delays
- ◆ Check your email. Please give us your email address if we do not have it.

### **Sunday School Attendance 1/26/2014**

	Children	Adults
Nursery	3	2
Pre-K	3	1
God's Eden	6	2
Youth	2	2
Seekers		5
Adult Bible		14
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>26</b>

**We welcome Pastor Jan Henson to the pulpit this morning.**



**FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER**

Louise Austin  
Deborah Bingham  
Virginia Crump  
Daniel Dowd

Ferrie Hedrick  
Richard Holden  
Myra Hollar  
Zac Hullander

John Kreitzer  
Chase Lineberger  
Liz Propst

**GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

Kathy Beam  
Danny Bess  
Dale Burris  
Ronnie Hagy  
Brian Hedrick  
Kathy Helton  
Betty Fox  
Claudia Frazier  
Ronnie Hersey  
Betty Kannapel

Laura Lanuto & Family  
Jeff Lail  
Ruth Lail  
Dan Martin  
Sandra Nix  
Butch Passailaigue  
Jean Peters  
Taylor Propst & Family  
Mara Rappleyea  
Joel Rivera (NY)

Steve Sanford  
Kelly Shoe  
Shore Family  
Megan Sigler  
Ramona J. Sinclair  
Jimmy Surratt  
Charmaine Townsend  
Buck Weatherford  
Beverly F. Wall  
Gloria Ward



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

**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

PO Box 666 216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483

**[www.HolyC.org](http://www.HolyC.org)**

John Propst, Interim Pastor - [JohnCPropst@gmail.com](mailto:JohnCPropst@gmail.com)

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(Lunch break taken sometime between Noon – 1:00pm, it varies)