

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, April 28, 2019

The Second Sunday of Easter



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Spring from the Four Seasons* Vivaldi

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C Amen.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P We give you thanks, O God, O Living One, for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly. Oceans and aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you.

All life is sustained by you, our Source. We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life. Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God. Here, death is washed away forever. Here, we are grafted into the tree of life, with leaves for the healing of the world.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly, into this community, and throughout all creation. Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions. Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Thine is the Glory* All Stand & Sing

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
 where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

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.

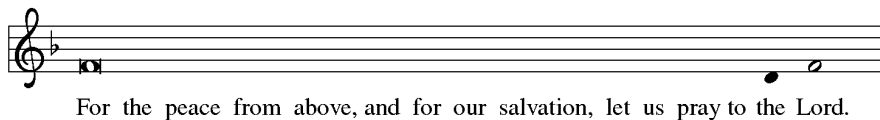
KYRIE

Pastor

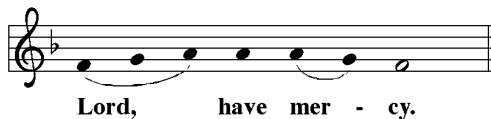
Congregation



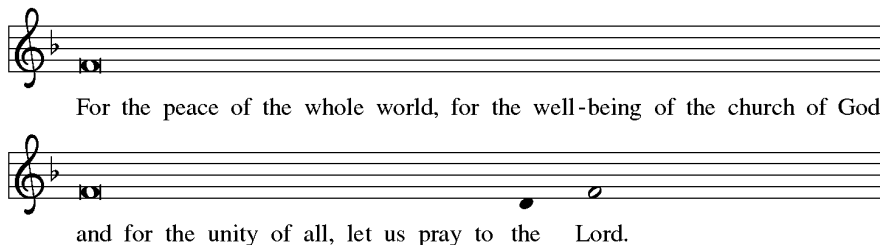
P



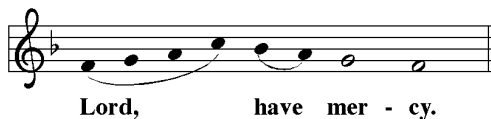
C



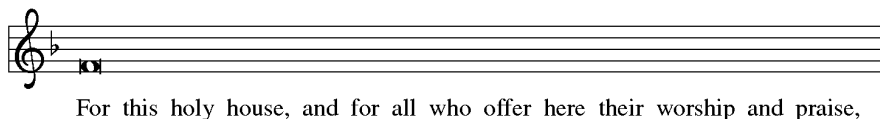
P



C

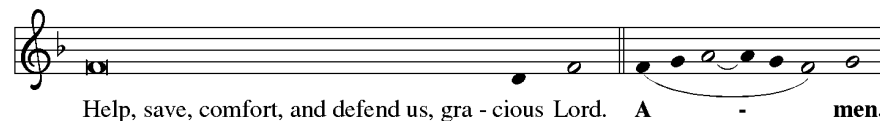
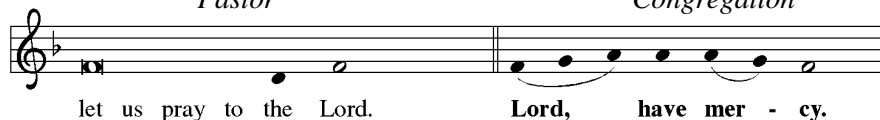


P




Pastor

Congregation



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,



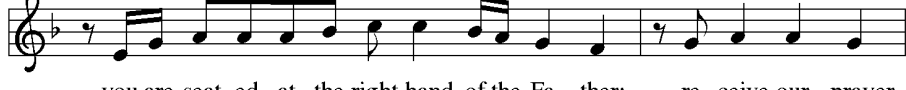
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



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.

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of 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 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

Acts 5:27-32

A reading from the fifth chapter of Acts.

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



**⁶Let everything | that has breath
praise the LORD. | Hallelujah!**

Revelation 1:4-8

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

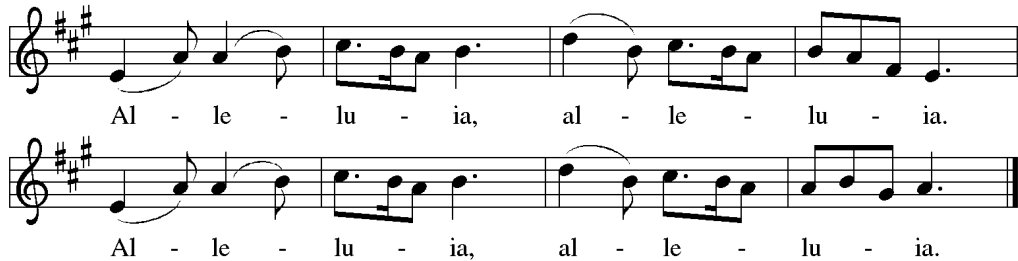
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”

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

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



hand in his side, I will not believe.”

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

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

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON Seminarian Tara Fleck

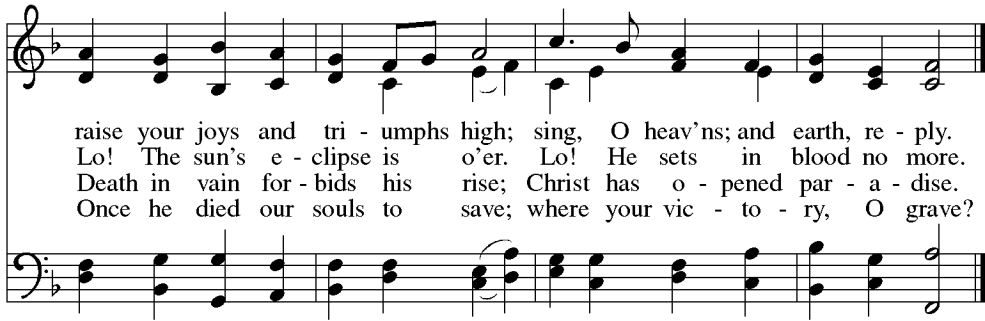
Silence is kept for Reflection.



HYMN OF THE DAY: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!* All Stand & Sing

Musical notation for the hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!" is shown, including a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the notes:

1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" All on earth with an - gels say;
2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, fought the fight, the bat - tle won.
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious king! Where, O death, is now your sting?



raise your joys and tri - umphs high; sing, O heav'ns; and earth, re - ply.
 Lo! The sun's e - clipse is o'er. Lo! He sets in blood no more.
 Death in vain for - bids his rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
 Once he died our souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

5 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
 Praise to thee by both be giv'n.
 Thee we greet triumphant now;
 hail, the resurrection, thou!

6 King of glory, soul of bliss,
 everlasting life is this:
 thee to know, thy pow'r to prove,
 thus to sing, and thus to love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS, Pierre de Corbeil, d. 1222, arr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Arr. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 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.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Christ Is Risen, Alleluia!* Cantor sings 1st
All Sing on Repeated Refrain

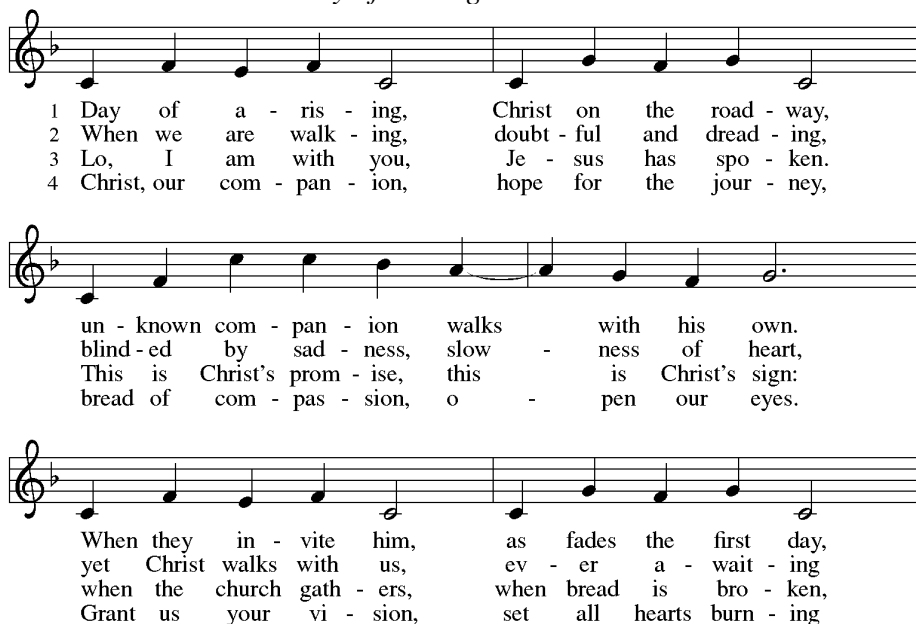


Christ is ris-en, tru-ly ris-en! Al - le-lu - ia.

Christ is ris-en, tru-ly ris-en! Al - le-lu - ia!

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OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Day of Arising* All Stand & Sing



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,
2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,
3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.
4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,

un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,
This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.

When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,
yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing
when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
Music: RAABE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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

Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Strengthen the witness of your church in all corners of the world. Make us visible signs of your grace so others see your goodness and come to believe. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Breathe life and peace into your creation. Protect homes, fields, and communities from damaging winds. Bless environmentalists, engineers, and legislators who work to curb pollution and to ensure clean air for us and for future generations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Give to all government leaders a renewed spirit of humility and servanthood, following the example of Christ, our leader, savior, and ruler. Uphold cease-fires, treaties, and all agreements and agencies that further the cause of peace on earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

By the resurrection of the wounded Christ, draw near to those wounded in body or spirit. Liberate all who are bound by grief, abuse, addiction, or pain. Restore faith to the despairing and hope to the suffering (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Protect and provide for all whom you send out in mission across the world. Empower global mission organizations and partners who provide for the physical and spiritual needs of our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for all the saints who believed in you and who now enjoy eternal life in your name. Sustain us with your everlasting presence, for you are Alpha and Omega, our beginning and our end. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen 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 The blessing of the living God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright All Stand & Sing*

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
 2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
 4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to

sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
 con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
 this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
 you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther

eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
 ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
 strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
 e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

SENDING

P You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this **Second Sunday of Easter**. We pray that you will find a warm fellowship while you are among us and that you will return home with a renewed sense of dedication to Jesus Christ. Please sign our guest register or a visitor's card so that we can become acquainted with you. If you are without a church home, we invite you to investigate membership in this family of God.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP. Jesus said, "let the children come to me!" Parents are encouraged to utilize the Kids Worship Kits found in the Narthex for older toddlers through early elementary age. A nursery for children (**infants through 3 years old**) is 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 Debbie Williams in thanks for God's many blessings; and by Jill Cassel & Tyler in honor of Erin's birthday.

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

Julia Gunter, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, April 21, 2019:

Sunrise Attendance: 72; 10:30 am Service: 207

Budget Report

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offering	\$ 7,596.00	\$ 84,667.01
Expenses	\$ 5,774.35	\$ 92,206.25
Offering less Expenses	<u>\$ 1,821.65</u>	<u>(\$ 7,539.24)</u>
Expected Expenses		<u>\$ 92,389.54</u>
Offering less Budgeted Expenses		<u>(\$ 7,722.53)</u>

Sanctuary Roof and HVAC Status as Of: 4/14/19

Goal:	\$225,000
Received to Date:	148,390
Additional Amounts Promised:	35,000
Remaining Needed:	\$ 40,610

ASSISTING MINISTERS:**LECTOR:** Volunteer**GREETER:** Pat Long**ACOLYTE:** Lucy Bocchino**TELLERS:** Rochelle & Danny Potter**CRUCIFER:** Alec Via**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Jill Cassel**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 3)

Fran Holland, Co-Captain

Tracey Nault, Co-Captain

Rebecca Yount

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

Brandy Milton

USHERS: Volunteers**CANTOR:** Jo Anne de la Vega**THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:****Today, Sunday, April 28**

8:45 am Children's Ens.
9:30 am Sunday School
10:00 am Church Choir prep
10:30 am The Service
5:00 pm Handbells
HCY
6:00 pm Church Choir

Tuesday, April 30

6:00 pm Worship & Music meeting
7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Nar-Anon

Thursday, May 2

7:00 pm *Tai Chi* sessions
Fellowship hall

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: April 28-May 4

Today, April 28 Joseph Mitchell

Ron Speck

Rita Stewart

April 30 Deborah Williams

May 1 Katie Howard

Melissa McGinnis

Krystyna Sarrazin

May 2 Lucy Bocchino

May 4 Dariel Rogers



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Cynthia Buchanan
Brenda Dabrowski
Becke Featherstone
Sarah Tench Helms

Kay Holden
Zac Hullander
Sue Lahr
Ben Moose
Sherry Perry

Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Beverly Reynolds
Jerri & Mike Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Amy Beale Blythe
Doug Brewer
Ron de la Vega
Nancy Dickson
Carol Fox
Earl Gardner
Larry "Poss" Garrett

Meredith Hovis
Steve Leonard
Jennifer Lineberger
Ronnie Lunsford
Ruth Lyerly
Cookie Lynn
Jane Marino

Clarence McLain
Anne Murdy
Richard Peters
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.



Forbidden Fruit? Are you tempted to skip the recommended three to four servings of fruit a day because you're trying to lose weight? Well factor in all the benefits you'd be losing:

- Fruit does contain sugar but it also has water and fiber – both of which help you feel full and eat less.
- Fruit is packed with vitamins and other nutrients essential for health.
- Specific fruits provide some specific benefits: Tart cherries help reduce inflammation (the reason why so many folks with gout and arthritis consume them). They've also been shown to reduce cholesterol and triglycerides in recent studies. Apples also help fight inflammation – studies have shown that those who ate applesauce or drank apple juice tended to have lower blood pressure and lost weight.
- A recent study also showed that folks who drank fruit and vegetable juices had a lower risk of developing Alzheimer's – those that drank juices 3 times a week reduced their risk by 76% and those that drank juice twice a week reduced their risk by 16%.

So don't give up the fruit juice just because you're trying to lose weight – just be sure to look for the words “No Sugar Added” on the product label and reach for the ones that have more pulp...you'll increase the benefit of the fiber.

**AND DON'T FORGET EXERCISE!!
TAI CHI IS COMING SOON!!**



Beginning Thursday, May 2 @ 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall

Six sessions for \$30 (payment due the first week)

A sign-up sheet is on the coffee table in the education wing – if you haven't already signed up, considering doing so...you won't be disappointed!!

WELCOME to Seminarian Tara Fleck who joins us this morning for worship.

REMINDER: *The Lillian Lineberger Scholarship* applications are **due April 30**. Any applications received after that date will not be considered.



NOTE: To insure inclusion in the bulletin all information is due to Dianne in the office by **12 Noon on Wednesdays**.

BCO May Items of the Month



Canned Soups



Mac 'N' Cheese



Mashed Potatoes



Holy Doodles



Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483
holyccomforter@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: MKearney@holyc.org

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager

Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse