

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, November 21, 2021 •

## Christ the King Sunday



### GATHERING

### WELCOME

**PRELUDE:** *Gracious Spirit.* ..... Chamber Choir

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, in remembrance of baptism.*

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection.*

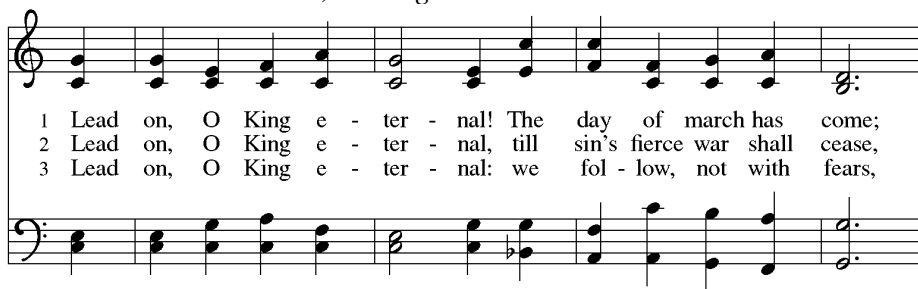
P Have mercy on us, O God.

**C We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger. We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy. Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice. Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need. Amen.**

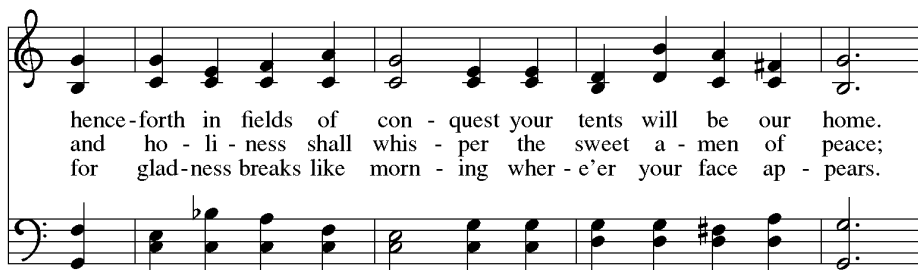
P God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for ☩ Jesus' sake and remembers them no more. Lift up your heads and your hearts. Yours is the kingdom of God.

**C Amen.**

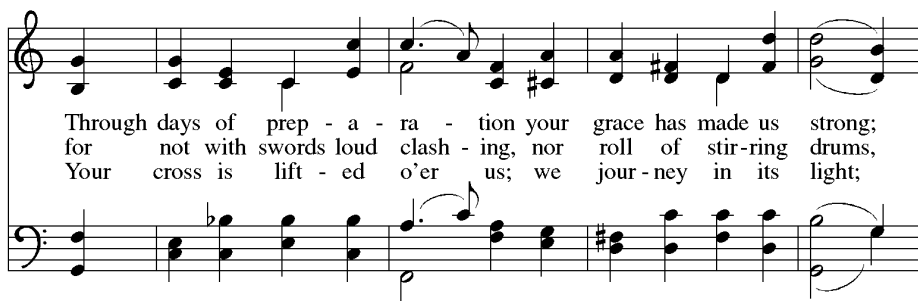
# GATHERING SONG: *Lead On, O King Eternal. . . . . All Stand & Sing*



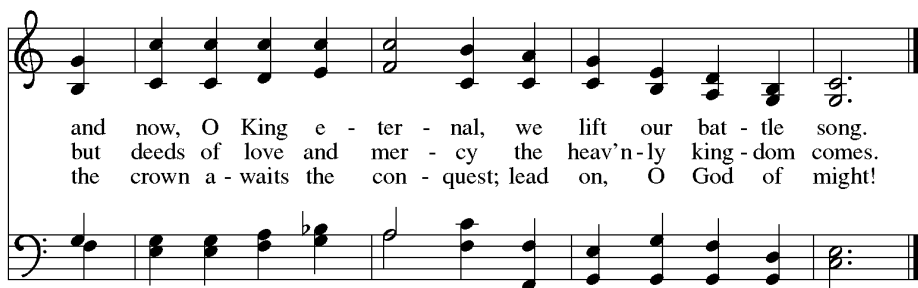
1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;  
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence- forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.  
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;  
 for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;  
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,  
 Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.  
 but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.  
 the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

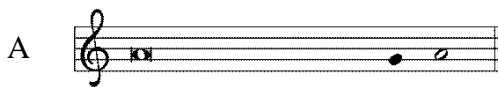
Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917  
 Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

## GREETING

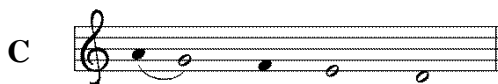
**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

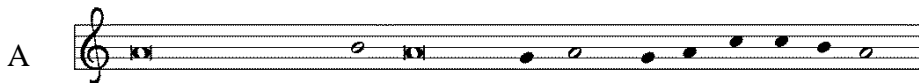
## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



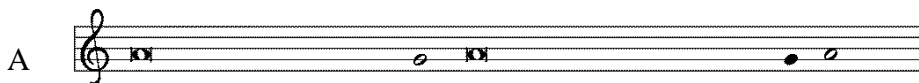
Lord, have mer - cy.



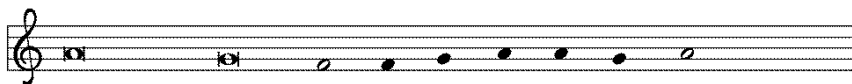
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



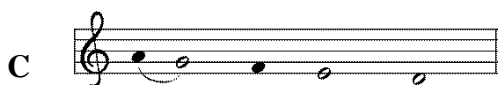
Lord, have mer - cy.



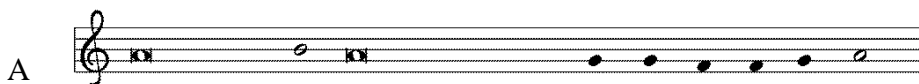
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



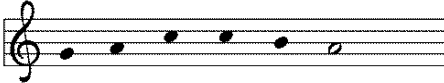


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

<i>Assistant</i>	<i>Congregation</i>
	
let us pray to the Lord.	Lord have mer - cy.
	
Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.	

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

<i>Refrain</i> Assisting minister	
	
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.	
All	
	
1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us	
	
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and	
	
strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.	
<i>Refrain</i>	
	
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.	

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## FIRST READING

**Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14**

A reading from Daniel, the seventh chapter.

*To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient*

*One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to “one like a human being,” the Messiah.*

<sup>9</sup>As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne,  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
<sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand thousands served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgment,  
and the books were opened.  
<sup>13</sup>As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.  
<sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

## Revelation 1:4b-8

A reading from Revelation, the first chapter.

*The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.*

<sup>4b</sup>Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup>Look! 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.

<sup>8</sup>“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



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL

**John 18:33-37**

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

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

*In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.*

<sup>33</sup>Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

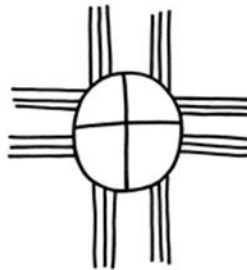
**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Congregation is seated.*

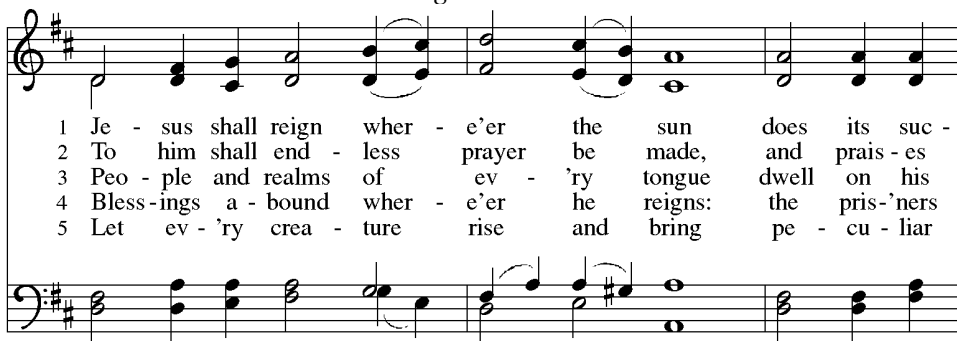
**SERMON** ..... Pastor Micah

*Silence is Kept for Reflection.*

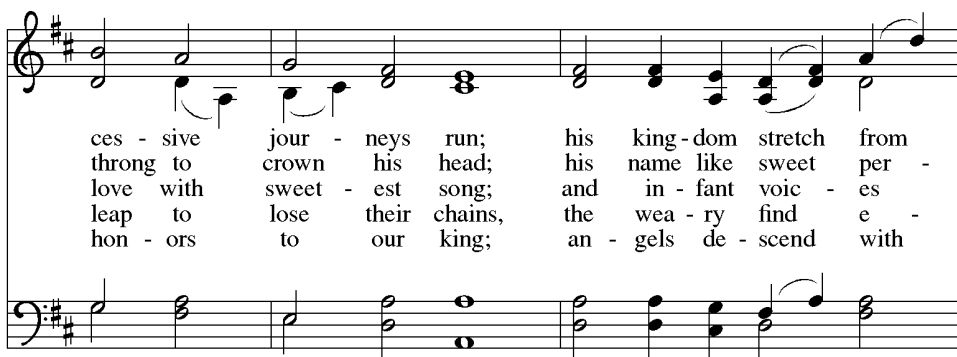




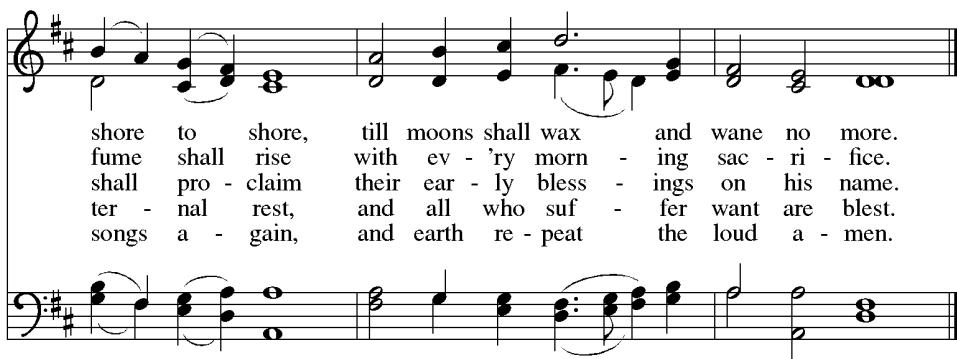
# HYMN OF THE DAY: *Jesus Shall Reign* . . . . . *All Stand & Sing*



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
 thron to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
 hon - or to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

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

## 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

*A brief silence.*

God, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers who carry your forgiveness and love to the world. Fill their words and actions with compassion and kindness so that your truth will shine. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others, especially ministries in our community like BCO and SOCKS. Renew them in their work. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering (*especially*). Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to be our beginning and our ending. We give thanks for those whose lives have given us a glimpse of Jesus' reign of justice and peace. Empower us to join their witness. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

**ANTHEM:** *Give Thanks to the Lord* . . . . . Church Choir

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

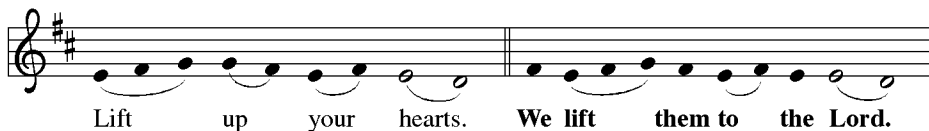
**A** Let us pray.

**C** **Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

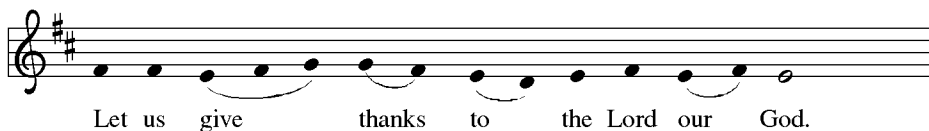
## DIALOGUE

*Pastor*

*Congregation*



*Pastor*



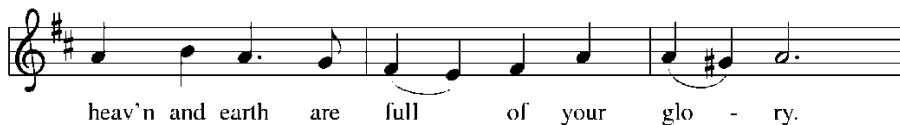
*Cong.*



## PREFACE

P ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### 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.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P A feast of love is offered here for you and for all the saints.

C Thanks be to God.



### COMMUNION

During communion we will be dismissed by rows, starting in the front. You will receive the elements from the table by the door, and take them to your car to eat. We will finish the worship liturgy and be dismissed there. You may stand outside your car or be seated inside. You should be able to hear the worship leader through your radio on 89.5 fm.

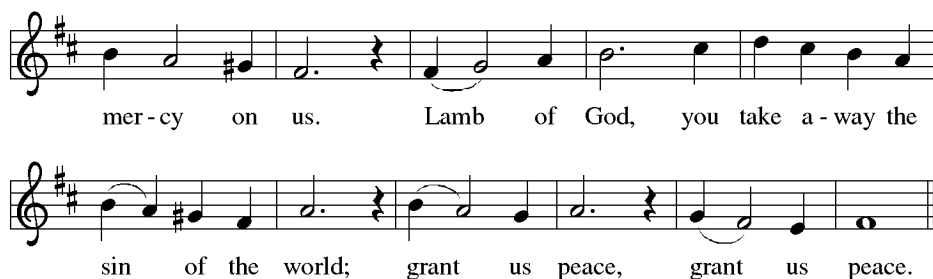
### LAMB OF GOD ..... All Sing



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



**POSTLUDE:** *Praeludium And Fugue in B<sup>b</sup>* - . . . . . J.S. Bach

**P** The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**A** Blessed Jesus,

**C** at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet. Amen.

### BLESSING

**P** God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life, ✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore.

**C** Amen.

### SENDING

**P** Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

- The flowers are given in celebration of Nathaniel Kearney's birthday.
- A special thanks to our lector, Ashley Hyman.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2018 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.



# Holy Doodles



**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483  
[holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto:holycomforter@gmail.com)

**Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 2:00 pm**

Micah Kearney, Pastor - email: [mkearney@holyc.org](mailto:mkearney@holyc.org)

Beka Forst, Deacon of Discipleship - email: [rforst@holyc.org](mailto:rforst@holyc.org)

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Sandra Askey, Office Manager