

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, October 29, 2017 •



Reformation Sunday - 500 Years

Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Ein Feste Burg* Festival Setting by Aaron David Miller

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, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Source of all life,

C **we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.**

Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation.

Amen.

P God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ✠ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God All Stand & Sing
1st verse by Choir *singing original tune as sung 500 years ago*
2nd - 4th verses sung by congregation



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg-ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king-dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

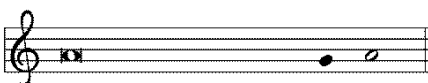
GREETING

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

A



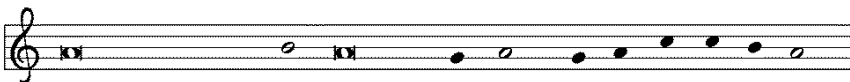
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C



Lord, have mer - cy.

A




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

C

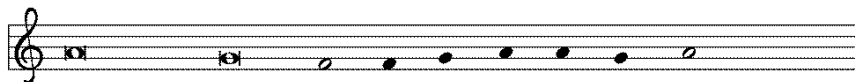


Lord, have mer - cy.

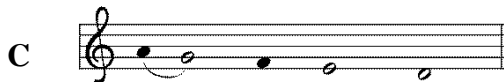
A



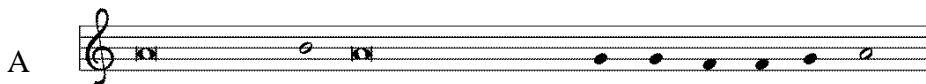
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



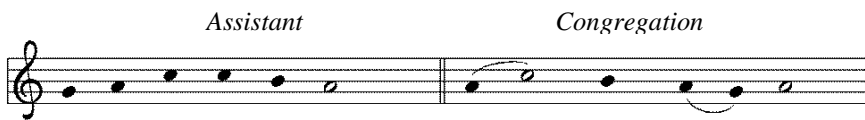
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

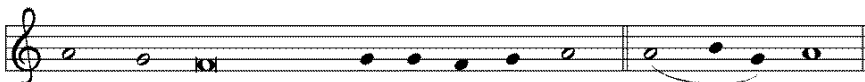


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



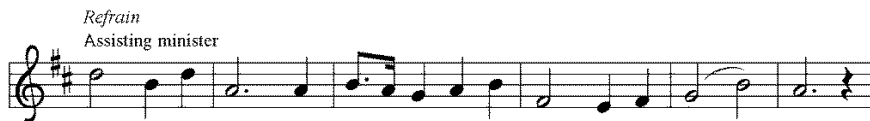
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

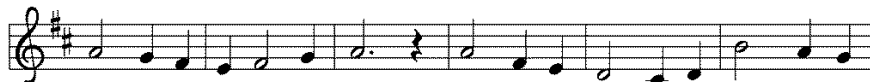
CANTICLE OF PRAISE



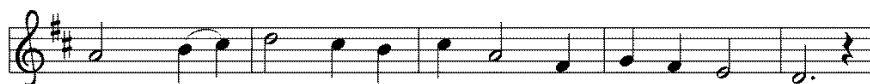
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia.



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



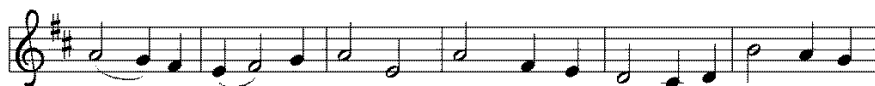
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



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.



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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving 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.

*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 nurseries**.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from the thirty-first chapter of Jeremiah.

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

A reading from the third chapter of Romans.

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

(Congregation turns to face procession and remains standing for Gospel & Gospel verse)

GOSPEL VERSE

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

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

GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

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

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

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Church of Christ, in Every Age* All Stand & Sing

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in five lines, with the first line of the hymn starting on the first line of the staff and the final line ending on the fourth line. The score includes a variety of musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, and full notes, as well as rests and ties. The lyrics are as follows:

1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768
 Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

CONFIRMATION

PRESENTATION

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these confirmands, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

I present _____ who desires to make public affirmation of his baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Garrett, Matthew, and Noah, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.
 The assembly may stand and join in the responses.*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

AFFIRMATION

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support these brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in _____ the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his faith, guide his life, empower him in his serving, give him patience in suffering, and bring him to everlasting life.

Amen.

Let us rejoice with these brothers in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for the unity of your church. Free us to be Christ's one body, graciously receiving his life and boldly offering it to a world in need. Sustain Garrett, Matthew, and Noah, in their lives of faith and discipleship in your name. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the renewal of creation: for a shared, plentiful harvest, for lands unable to bear fruit, for what is neglected or destroyed by our hand, and for the earth's advocates. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all nations of the world: for leaders of villages, cities, states, and nations, for lawmakers and judges, for teachers and students, and for all who work for peace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those who seek refuge and strength: refugees, the imprisoned, and those bound by addictions or burdened by guilt. We pray for the ill or injured (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for continual reformation in this and every assembly. In new beginnings, impart wisdom. In established traditions, inspire creativity. In all ministries, revive our hope in the one who makes all things new. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give thanks for your saints. United with them in the covenant of baptism, increase our faith in your promised life for all. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.
Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

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

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Rise, O Sun of Righteousness* All Stand & Sing

1 Rise, O Sun of righ - teous - ness; with your
 2 Rouse our hearts from slum - ber deep; may your
 3 Gath - er in your scat - tered flock; give us
 4 Burst the bars of stub - born pride; make the
 5 Hon - or, praise, and glo - ry be to the

might cre - a - tion bless. Shine up - on your church to - day,
 word with - in us leap. Give us voic - es to pro - claim
 wa - ter from the rock. Bless the u - ni - ty we share
 heav'n - ly path - way wide. Raise us up from sin and death
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty! May your gra - cious will be done:

show - ing all your gen - tle way. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 prais - es to your ho - ly name. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 in our shep - herd's lov - ing care. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 with your Spir - it's liv - ing breath. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 make us one, as you are one. Have mer - cy, Lord.

Text: Christian David, et al.; tr. Frank W. Stoldt, b. 1958

Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

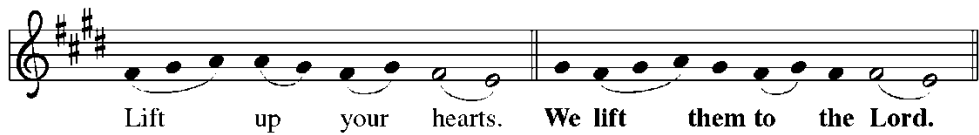
OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

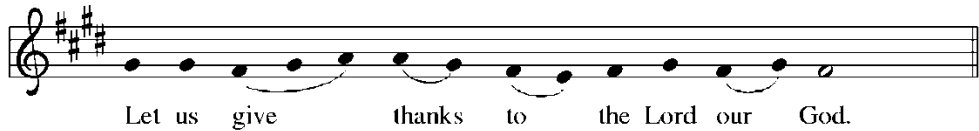
C God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.

DIALOGUE

Pastor The Lord be with you. *Congregation* And al - so with you.



Pastor



Cong.



PREFACE

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

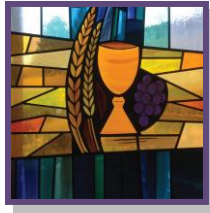
LORD'S PRAYER

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 Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.

C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG



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



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

A cordial invitation is extended to all baptized persons to participate in the celebration of the real presence of the Risen Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: *I Love You Lord* Handbell Choir

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice All Sing



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, with ex-ul-ta-tion
2 Fast bound in Sa-tan's chains I lay, death brood-ed fierce-ly
3 O God, you saw my deep dis-tress be-fore the world's foun-
4 You said to your be-lov-ed Son: "'Tis time to have com-



spring-ing, and, with u-nit-ed heart and voice and ho-ly
o'er me, sin was my tor-ment night and day; in sin my
da-tion, and, with your mer-cy mea-sure-less, you planned for
pas-sion. Then go, bright jew-el of my crown, and bring to



rap-ture sing-ing, pro-claim the won-ders God has done, pro-
moth-er bore me. My own good works all came to naught, free
my sal-va-tion. You turned to me a fa-ther's heart; you
all sal-va-tion; from sin and sor-row set them free; slay



claim the vic-t'ry God has won, how pre-cious was our ran-som!
will a-gainst God's judg-ment fought, so firm-ly sin pos-sessed me.
did not choose the eas-y part, but gave your dear-est trea-sure.
bit-ter death for them that they may live with you for-ev-er."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. hymnal version
Music: NUN FREUT EUCH, *Ellich christlich Lieder*, Wittenberg, 1524
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray,

C Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

BLESSING

P God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *The Church's One Foundation* All Stand & Sing
 Congregation follows the procession outside for the tree dedication.



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

DEDICATION OF TREE

P Friends in Christ: Today we give thanks to God and we seek God's blessing as we gather to dedicate this tree to the praise and glory of God, in commemoration of the centennial of our Holy Comforter congregation, and of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Jeremiah 17:7-8

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

God of creation; you placed Adam and Eve in a beautiful garden. Today you call us together in this time and place. We ask that your blessing of growth may not only rest upon this tree we plant today, but that this tree may be a symbol of our own growth in faith. Help us to see ourselves as “trees planted by streams of water which yield their fruit in due season.” May that fruit give testimony to the grace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We give you thanks, O God,
as we dedicate this tree to your glory and praise.
Grant us faith to know your gracious purpose in all things,
give us joy in them, and lead us to the building up of your kingdom;
through 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.

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✙ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with us all.

C Amen.

SENDING

A Go in peace. Sound the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this **Reformation Sunday**. 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. Nurseries for children (**infants through 3 years old**) are 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 Kay and Richard Holden in honor of their birthdays and their wedding 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.

Carmen Buell, Worship & Music

Offering and Attendance Report for October 22, 2017:

Attendance: 119

Budget Report

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offering	\$ 3,979.50	\$ 218,637.93
Expenses	\$ 5,656.42	\$ 231,083.87
Offering less Expenses	<u>(\$ 1,676.92)</u>	<u>(\$ 12,445.94)</u>
Budgeted Expenses		<u>\$ 238,375.62</u>
Offering less Budgeted Expenses		<u>(\$ 19,737.69)</u>

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: October 29 - November 4

October 30 Shawn DeNicholas

Bill Joye

Micah Kearney

October 31 Cody Koehler

Gary Rogers

Kurt Scholler



November 1 Donna Bean

November 2 Beckham Bryant

November 3 Brad Milton

ASSISTING MINISTERS:**LECTOR:** Billy Joye**GREETER:** Pat Long**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:**

Volunteers

TELLERS: Fran Holland
Trudy Whitener**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 1)

Bev & Charles Mauney, Co-Captains

Carmen De Nicholas

Deb Williams

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Krystyna Sarrazin

NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am)*Infants:* Staff; *Toddlers:* Volunteers**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**

Volunteers

USHERS: Volunteers**EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:** Volunteers**Sunday School Attendance October 22, 2017:**

Preschool: 7

Elementary School: 8

Middle School: 2

High School: 2

Seekers Class: 10

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, October 29

9:00 am Handbells
9:30 am Sunday School (Together)
10:10 am Church Choir
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion,
Confirmation & Noisy Offering
Lunch after
Children's Ensemble
6:00 pm Church Choir

Tuesday, October 31

7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Nar-Anon

Wednesday, November 1

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Carmen Buell
Brenda Dabrowski
Ardean Ewing
Becke Featherstone
Ned Featherstone
Kay Holden

Dot Holland
Zac Hullander
Jo Irwin
Chase Lineberger
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry

Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Jack Tench
Beverly Reynolds
Kathie Schaumburg
Jerri Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Jeanne Bernhardt
Barbara Bingham
Amy Beale Blythe
Karen de la Vega

Carol Fox
Larry "Poss" Garrett
Brandi Hager
John McDermid

Jennifer Lineberger
Anne Murdy
Brody Thornburg
Dennis Yates



OUR SERVICEMEN

Beau Carroll

Tom Kasmer

Leo Kasmer

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.



Holy Doodles





We welcome the following young people via Confirmation:

Garret Carpenter

Matthew Carr

Noah Rawlins

COLUMBARIUM

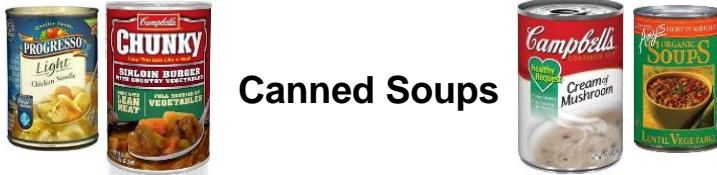
In our August newsletter details regarding the summer/fall construction of our columbarium was outlined in detail. Part of conversations and a dream for a number of years, the completion of the columbarium will result in 192 niches where ashes of loved ones may be inurned. Through a generous gift from Shirley Causby in memory of husband, Tommy Causby, this memorial site will accommodate members of our congregational community for many years to come. The site, designed by member and architect, Mark Kline, was chosen so that future church expansion would not be impacted; thus surrounding the Carillon was perfect location.

A newly formed committee, along with church council, will review future policy and guidelines for the Columbarium, and those will be published in the coming months. In the meantime, we are scheduled to include the dedication as part of our service of worship on **All Saints' Sunday on November 5**. Following the dedication there will be a catered luncheon for everyone. You do not have to bring anything but your appetite. This is a gift from the organist/choirmaster in celebration of All Saints' and in thanksgiving for our Centennial Year. Please plan to join us. No RSVP is necessary!

After the luncheon we are invited to tour our former parsonage, which is located directly across the street at 211 North Main Street. There will be a police officer stationed between the sidewalk gates to slow traffic, and err on the side of safety. Chris & Julie Cristy purchased the home from the Causbys a year ago, and graciously offered to open their doors to us. Prior to the Causby purchase in 1989 the house served as our parsonage for over a quarter of a century. We look forward to the celebratory day of fellowship together.

Blessings,
Greg Cline

BCO October Items of the Month



Canned Soups

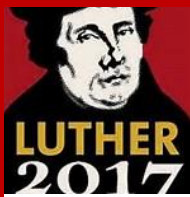
PB&J CAMPAIGN

The North Carolina Guardian ad Litem Program is conducting its annual ***Peanut Butter & Jelly Campaign***. Peanut butter is something all food banks need. The collection of jelly was added because we were all once children, and we fondly remember peanut butter & jelly sandwiches as a staple of a happy childhood.

Please place your donations of peanut butter and/or jelly in the labeled box located in the fellowship hall. Your donations will be taken to the Guardian ad Litem office in the Gaston County courthouse. Donations will then be distributed to the food banks in the county.

The collection of peanut butter and jelly runs through January 12.





Today we abound with celebration! During worship we will celebrate the **Confirmation** of some of our youth, as well as commemorate the **Reformation** and our **own centennial year with the planting of a tree** on the grounds.



We will have a time of food and fellowship together following worship.

All visitors are welcome to join us in these celebrations.



REMINDER: The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 12**. Council nominations **forms must be given to a council member or taken to the church office today**. Ballots for the council election will be handed out to the congregation at the annual meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

In commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation there are two Lutheran services being held today in Gaston County. At 4:00 pm, Philadelphia Lutheran Church in Dallas will host a worship service with many local pastors in leadership. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Gastonia has also invited folks to a worship service at 6:30 pm.

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

216 N. Main Street 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

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: MicahKearney@gmail.com

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager