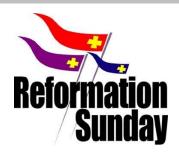
# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, October 30, 2016 •



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

#### WELCOME/GATHERING

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\oplus$  one God, the only Sovereign, who dwells in light; Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners; the Holy Spirit, who lives within us.
- C Amen.
- **P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

# Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of overflowing grace,

we come to you with repentant hearts. Forgive us for shallow thankfulness. Forgive us for passing by the ones in need. Forgive us for setting our hopes on fleeting treasures. Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness. Bring us home from the wilderness of sin, and strengthen us to serve you in all that we do and say; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P There is joy in heaven over every sinner who repents. By the grace of God in  $\oplus$  Christ Jesus, who gave himself up for us all, your sins are forgiven and you are made free. Rejoice with the angels and with one another! We are home in God's mercy, now and forever.

#### C Amen.





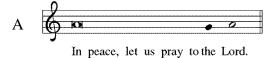
Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

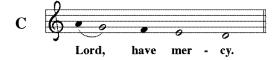
# **GREETING**

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**

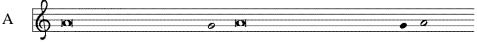






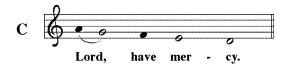
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.

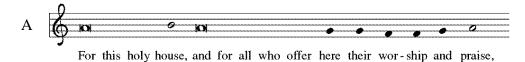




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

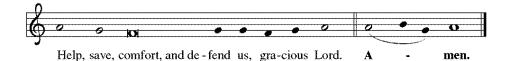




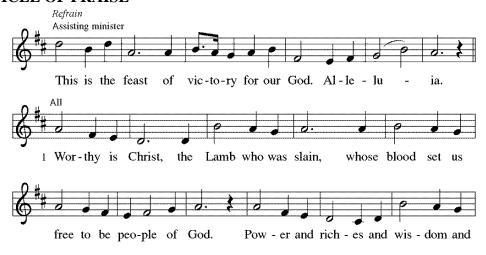


Assistant Congregation





# **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**





#### 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.

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It 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. <sup>33</sup>But 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. <sup>34</sup>No 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 the 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.

<sup>19</sup>Now 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. <sup>20</sup>For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

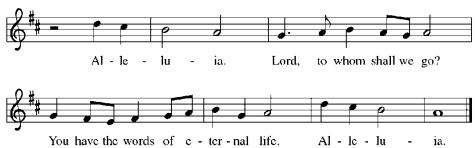
<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom 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; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For 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 VERSE**



GOSPEL John 8:31-36

- P The holy gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

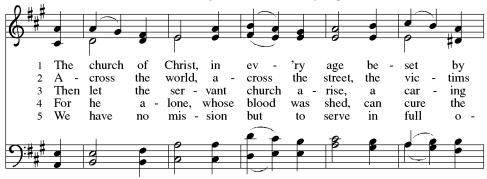
Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

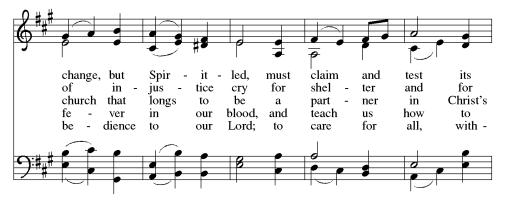
<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." <sup>33</sup>They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

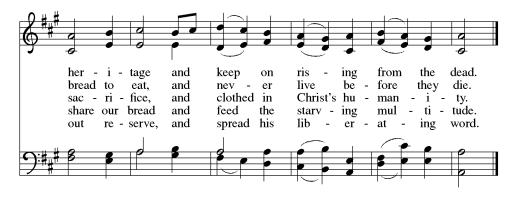
<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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

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







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/her baptism.

# Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Garrett, Mallory, and Claire, 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 sisters and 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/her faith, guide his/her life, empower him/her in his/her serving, give him/her patience in suffering, and bring him/her to everlasting life.

Amen.

Let us rejoice with these sisters and 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

Set free by the truth of God's gracious love, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

Righteous God, write your law on our hearts. Unite your church. Let your word spread throughout the earth. Empower our new Confirmands through the gift of your Holy Spirit, that they might grow in faith and love toward you and for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Earth-maker, show your power and goodness in the mountains, the depths of the sea, the rivers, and all of your creation. Teach us how to care for our earthly home. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

Source of hope, you make wars to cease in all the world. Visit places devastated by war and conflict. Break the bow, shatter the spear, and bring your perfect peace. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

God our refuge and strength, you are a very present help in trouble. Comfort those who are sick or in pain, the lonely and grieving, those without a home or meaningful work. Especially we pray for . . . . Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

Faithful God, call this assembly to remember the everlasting covenant you have made with us. Shape us to live in the freedom Christ gives us and to welcome others into this way of life. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

God our stronghold, the saints from every age gather around your throne. Help us to wait with patience and joy until that day when we too see you face to face. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Into your hands, faithful God, we place ourselves and our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

#### Amen.

#### **PEACE**

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

# **OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring . . . . All Stand & Sing



- 1 Ac cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up on your ta ble.
- 2 The vines were plant ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea-sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble. What once was com - mon, dail - y food be-comes a ho - ly trea-sure. Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum-bly we a - dore you.

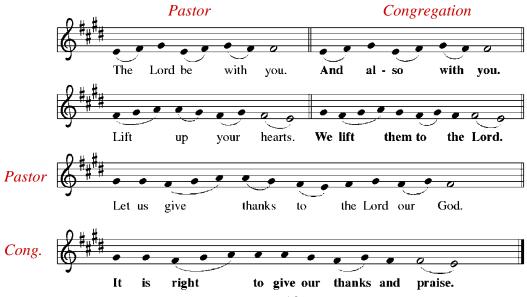
Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957 Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

#### OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

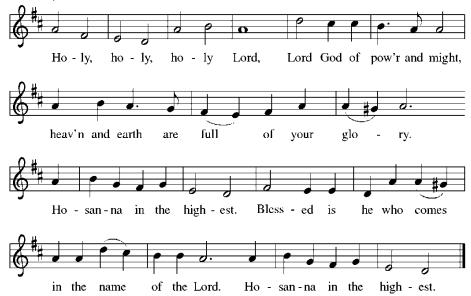
# **DIALOGUE**



#### **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,

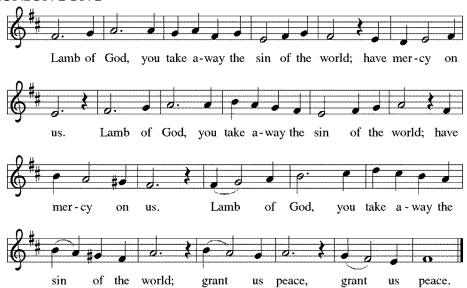
and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

# **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

- P Take hold of the life that really is life. Come, take your place at the table.
- C Thanks be to God.

# **COMMUNION SONG**

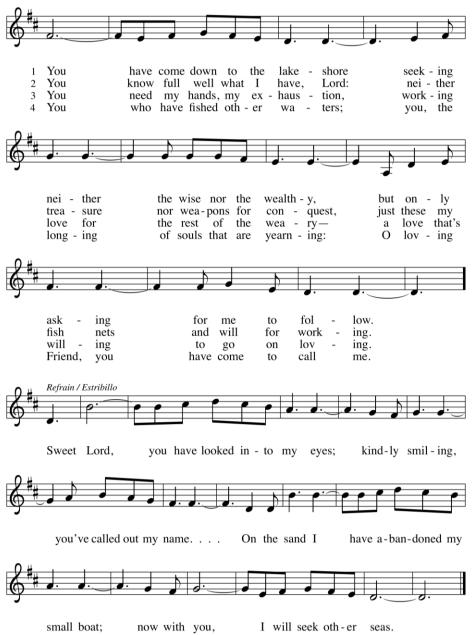




# **COMMUNION**

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: You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore . . All Sing



Text: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1936–1991; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946 Music: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES, Cesáreo Gabaráin

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

#### SONG AFTER COMMUNION



# PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A We come again to you, O God,

C giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### BLESSING

P God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the 🕂 Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

#### C Amen.

**SENDING SONG:** Sent Forth By God's Blessing . . . . . . . . . All Stand & Sing God's bless-ing, our Sent forth by faith fess - ing, true con -2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing liv - ing, to God ev er God from this the dwell - ing peo - ple of take leave. the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face-The sup - per is faith ev - er end - ed. Oh, be tend - ed now ex our shar - ing, in love ev er car - ing, the fruits of this ser - vice all who be - lieve. in em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race. The of seed Christ's teach - ing, re souls feast With your you feed us, with your light now reach-ing, shall blos - som ac - tion for God and for all. in share. lead us: u - nite us as one in this life that we Your grace shall in - cite us, your shall love nite us u the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing Then may all work for king - dom call. to your and an - swer your give hon - or to Christ and his name that bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt. Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune Text © 1964 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All rights reserved.

#### DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Remember the poor.
- C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of 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 located 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.

<u>PRAYER REQUESTS</u>: 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 form on line at www.holyc.org.

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God by Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in loving memory of John Yount; and by Fran Holland in honor of Will Starnes.

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

Carmen Buell, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, October 23, 2016:

Attendance: 108

Budget ReportOctober 23, 2016Current Offering Received\$ 2,750.00Weekly Budget Expenses\$ 5,019.46Offering, Year-To-Date\$ 213,470.17Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD\$ 13,872.87Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD\$ 1,222.58

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye, Jr. **GREETERS:** The Potters

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: Volunteers TELLERS:

Danny & Rochelle Potter

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)

Fran Holland, Co-Captain

Welinda Lingerfelt, Co-Captain

Danny & Rochelle Potter

USHERS: Volunteers

Melissa Bocchino NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am) *Infants:* Staff

Toddlers: Volunteer

Stephanie Hinson Tracey Nault

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**Beka Forst + 2 Volunteers **EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:**Danny & Rochelle Potter

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: October 30-November 5** 

Today, October 30 Shawn DeNicholas November 1 Donna Bean

Bill Joye November 2 Beckham Bryant Micah Kearney November 3 Brad Milton

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

October 31 Cody Koehler November 5 Debbie Mendez

Gary Rogers
Kurt Scholler

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, October 30 Tuesday, November 1

9:30 am Adult Sunday School 7:00 pm Chamber Choir 10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room Nar-Anon

10:30 am The Service with

Holy Communion

Celebration Lunch

Wednesday, November 2
6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

Children's Ensemble after lunch

5:00 pm Handbells Saturday, November 5
6:00 pm Church Choir 7:00 pm Staying Connected
Meets at the Sarrazin's home



### PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Holly Peche Cathleen Allen Ardean Ewing Elizabeth Bruchon Dot Holland Sherry Perry **Shirley Causby** Zac Hullander Marguerite Shive **Tommy Causby Denise Taylor** Tom Irwin Brenda Dabrowski Chase Lineberger Mark Reese Shawn De Nicholas Ann Outlaw & Family Beverly Reynolds

### **GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

Father Frank Cancro Jennifer Lineberger Bruce Zander Parker Holland Capt. Basil Jeff Marett

Matt Cisek Leo Kasmer



# **OUR SERVICEMEN**

Jason Gardner Dillon Kasmer
Tom Kasmer Mike Kelso

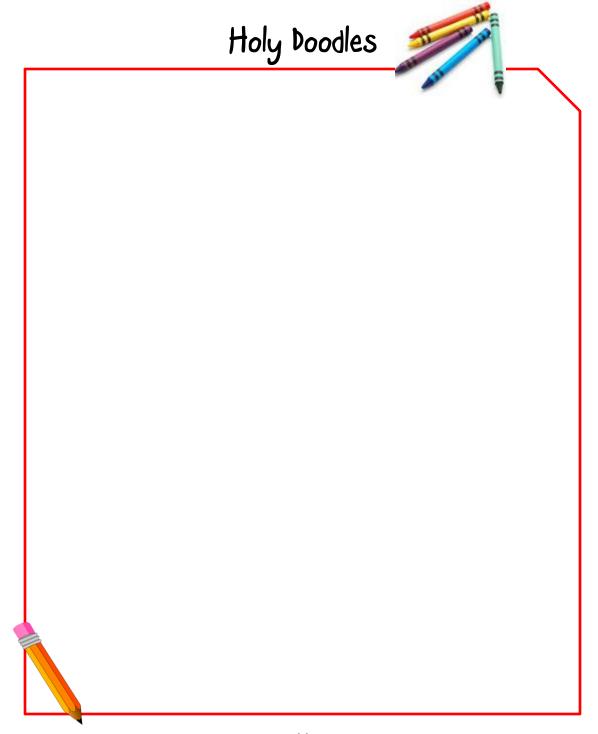
# **OUR MISSIONARY**

Alyssa Buchanan in Manzini, Swaziland Africa

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 located in the narthex and online at <a href="https://www.holyc.org">www.holyc.org</a>.

# BCO OCTOBER ITEMS OF THE MONTH: Jelly + Rice + Mac & Cheese





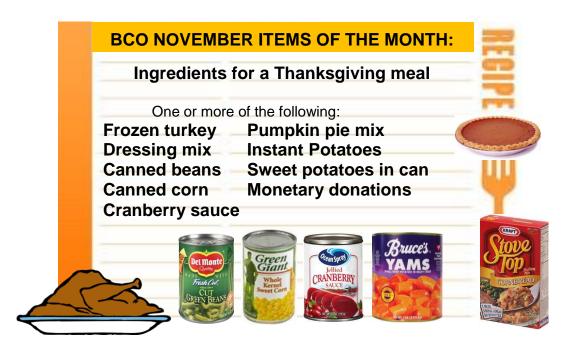
The congregation and visitors are invited to stay after worship for a meal celebrating both *Reformation* and the *Confirmation* of three of our Holy Comforter youth:

Mallory Morton, Garrett Fox and Claire Mitchell.

# **SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: October 23, 2016**

	KIDS	<b>ADULTS</b>
Nursery:	2	2
Preschool:	5	2
Elementary:	8	2
Middle School:	2	2
High School:	0	0
Adults:		<u> 17</u>
Totals:	17	25





NOTE: Frozen turkeys can be put in the church's freezer in the kitchen. Please inform Rebecca Yount or Tom Bocchino that you have brought and stored a turkey in the freezer.

# **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