Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, October 7, 2018 •

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE:	Fanfare	For a New	Day						Kerr
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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 for reflection and self-examination.

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: All Creatures, Worship God Most High! All Stand & Sing



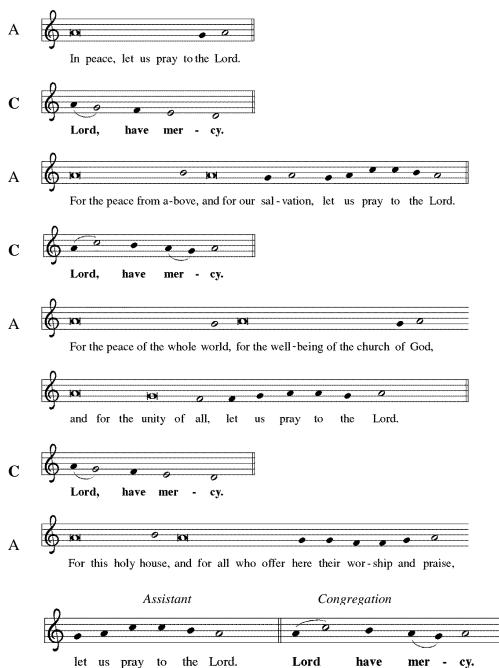
Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623 Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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.

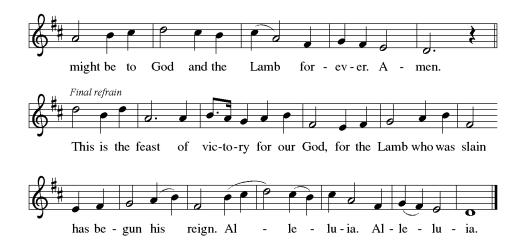
KYRIE





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

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



SALUTATION

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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 20minute (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

A reading from the second chapter of Genesis.

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other "one flesh." The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;

this one shall be called Woman,

for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

- A The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

A reading from the first and second chapters of Hebrews.

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the

exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them,

or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

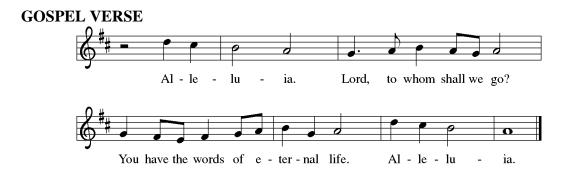
¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL

P The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to

them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."



¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

P The gospel of the Lord.

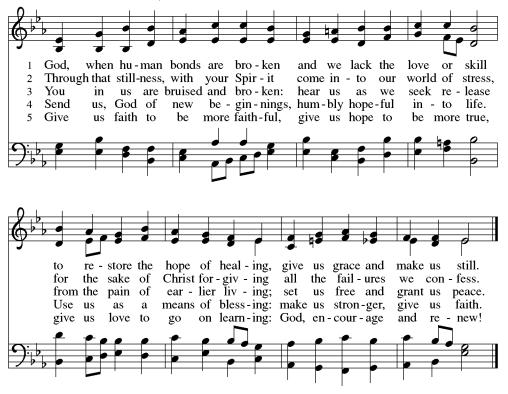
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation is seated.

SERMON Pastor Micah

Silence is Kept for Reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: God, When Human Bonds Are Broken All Stand & Sing



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188, All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

Longing for God's will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, send your blessing out into the world through missionaries, evangelists, and servants of your church. Through them spread good news to all who need it. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We praise you for the animals of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and all the works of your hands. Let our care for all you have made reflect your desire for the health of all creation. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Rule the nations of this world with the same grace you employ to align planets, stars, and moons. Where there is disorder, move us toward righteousness and justice. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Deliver your care to your children who feel unworthy of care. Bend down low to lift up people who struggle to find others who will embrace them in time of need. We pray especially for Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Bring reconciliation among this community. Heal relationships that are broken. When we face division, open our eyes to signs of new life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Along with all the saints, form us into a holy and loving community in which people can find abundant compassion and peace. Through us bring others into your unbreakable covenant. Lord, in your mercy,

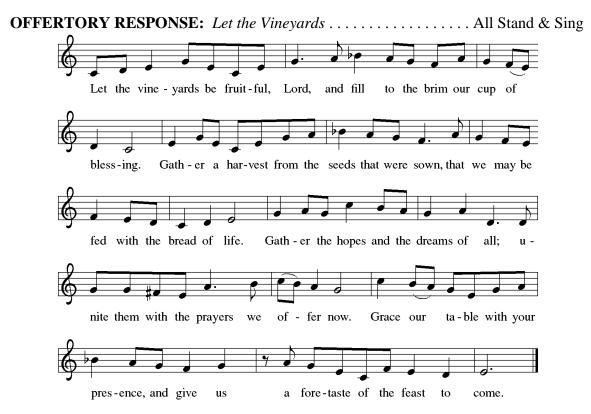
hear our prayer.

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

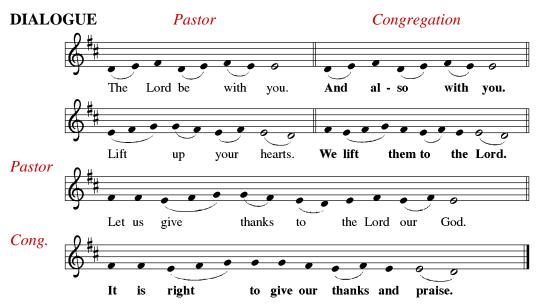
OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Without Seeing You Children's Ensemble & Church Choir



OFFERING PRAYER

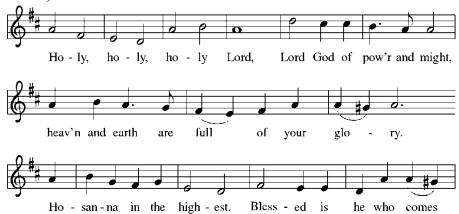
A Let us pray.

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.



PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

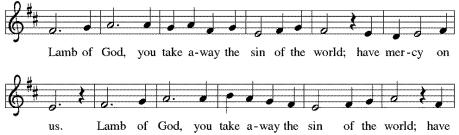
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

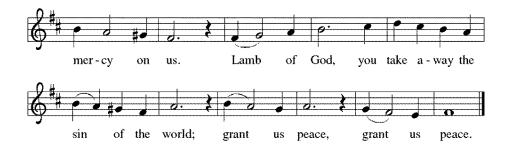


INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- 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





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: Now We Join in Celebration All Sing





Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

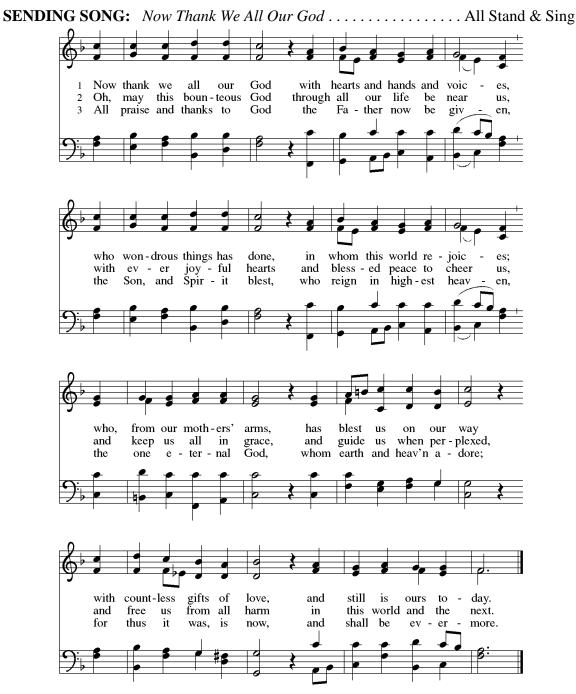
А Let us pray,

С 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

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the Ρ 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.

С Amen.



Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878 Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

SENDING

- A Go in peace. Sound the good news.
- C Thanks be to God.

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<u>A CORDIAL WELCOME</u> is extended to all our visitors on this **The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**. 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.



<u>KIDS' WORSHIP CENTER:</u> 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 form on line at www.holyc.org.

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Donna and Horace Bean in memory of Faye Hamilton Bean.

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

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, September 30, 2018: Attendance: 110

<u>S</u>	eptember 30, 2018	Year-to-Date
	\$ 8,778.00	\$209,294.03
	<u>\$ 5,551.17</u>	<u>\$210,461.70</u>
	\$ 3,226.83	(\$ 1,167.67)
ses		216,231.41

Expected (Budgeted) Expenses Offering less Expected Expenses

ASSISTING MINISTERS: **LECTOR:** Billy Jove

Offering less Expenses

Budget Report

Offering

Expenses

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: Volunteers

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team C) Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1) Bev & Charles Mauney, Co-Captains Carmen De Nicholas Deb Williams

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS: Volunteers

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, October 7:

- 8:45 am Children's Ensemble
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 10:10 am Church Choir prep
- 10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion Trunk or Treat planning meeting after the service
 - 2:00 pm Confirmation
 - 5:00 pm Handbells, HCY
- 6:00 pm Church Choir Practice

Tuesday, October 9:

7:00 pm Chamber Choir Nar-Anon

GREETER: Katie Kessen

TELLERS: Fran Holland Trudy Whitener

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Jill Cassel

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

USHERS: Volunteers

Wednesday, October 10: 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

Thursday, October 11:

11:30 am Prime Timers lunch Meet at JAI Asian Fusion & Sushi Bar, Gastonia



6.937.38)

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: October 7-13

Today, October 7 Catherine Carr October 8 Brenda Daly October 10 Tim Kelly October 11 Evan Howard Pat Roberson





PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen Tim Baker Cynthia Buchanan Carmen Buell Brenda Dabrowski Becke Featherstone Zac Hullander Jo Irwin Ben Moose Holly Peche Sherry Perry Pat Roberson

Kathie Schaumburg Scott Schaumburg Marguerite Shive Denise Taylor Beverly Reynolds Jerri Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Bobbie Bingham Amy Beale Blythe Doug Brewer Karen de la Vega Carol Fox Larry "Poss" Garrett Brandi Hager Ruth Lail Beverly Lineberger Jennifer Lineberger Ronnie Lunsford Clarence McLain Anne Murdy George Rogers Tommy Smith Brody Thornburg Dennis Yates

OUR SERVICEMEN



Beau Carroll Tom Kasmer

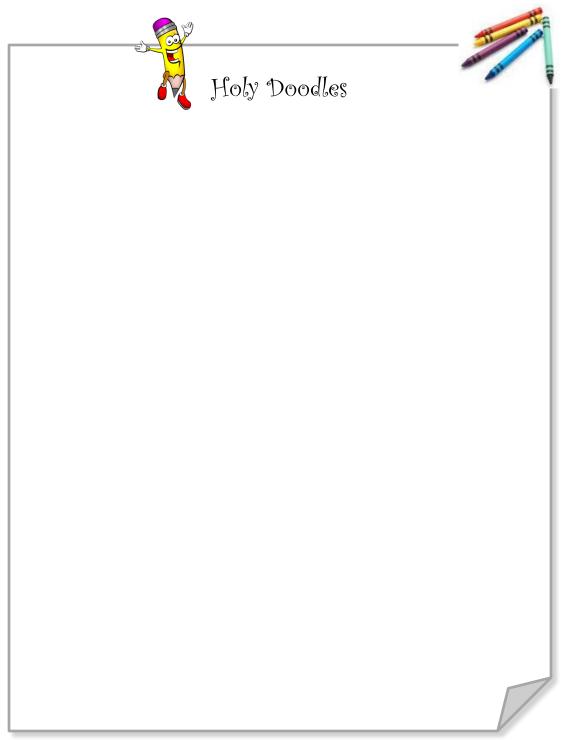
Leo Kasmer

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.





DID YOU KNOW?...

300,000 out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrests happen yearly. Out of those 300,000, 80% happen AT HOME! 70% of Americans say they feel helpless to act during a cardiac emergency because they either do not know how to administer CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) or their training

has lapsed. This statistic could hit close to home because that is where cardiac arrest is most likely to happen! Sudden cardiac arrest is the not the same as a heart attack. During sudden cardiac arrest electrical impulses in the heart become rapid or chaotic, which causes the heart to suddenly stop beating. A heart attack occurs when the blood supply to part of the heart muscle is blocked. A heart attack may CAUSE cardiac arrest, but you can save your loved one by just learning easy hands-only CPR. Sign up now for the CPR/first aid/AED class being offered November 17 from 9am-1pm.

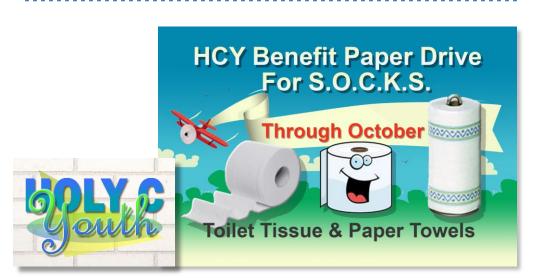
Contact Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse, at 717-329-8507 or <u>parishnurse0407@gmail.com</u>. Save a life NOW!





Children's Church Volunteers Desperately Needed!

Contact Beka at rforst@holyc.org



After getting the opportunity to serve in Houston at the Youth Gathering, and service projects through Agape Day Camp, *HCY* has been interested in ways to serve our community. One of the organizations that have caught and kept our attention is S.O.C.K.S. S.O.C.K.S. is a local food bank in Belmont. They provide food for families who need it. One thing that is not often donated, if at all, is paper products, such as toilet paper and paper towels. This bit of information really stuck with us and so *HCY* would like to start a paper product drive for them! The **entire month of October** we will be collecting **toilet paper and paper towels.** You can leave your donations in the hallway by the coffee table. There will be a sign to indicate were to leave your items.

Thank you! *HCY*



Children and youth grade 4 and up may register for handbell ensemble this fall. This group would accompany evening vespers during the Advent season. We will meet after worship on October 14 in the fellowship hall to determine best rehearsal times for the remainder of October and November. Children interested in participating, as well as their parents, are asked to attend this meeting. It is important that we find an hour that we can all rehearse together! There can be positions for up to 12 ringers in this new liturgy

entitled, Behold Our Light.

<section-header><text><image>

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:mkearney@holyc.org Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager