

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, May 18, 2014

The Fifth Sunday of Easter



Confirmation Sunday

John Propst  
Interim Pastor

Greg Cline  
Organist/Choirmaster

## GATHERING/WELCOME

**PRELUDE:** *It is Well With My Soul* ..... Duet

## 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, + one God, the life beyond all death, the joy beyond all sorrow, our everlasting home.

**C Amen.**

P Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death, let us come before God who calls us to repentance.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

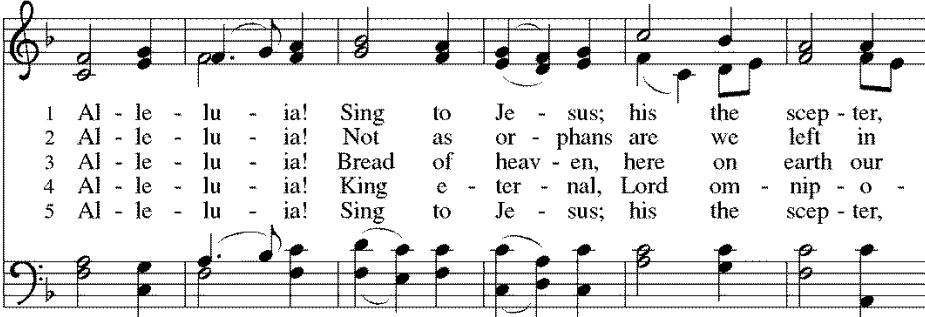
P God of life,

**C by the resurrection of your Son you make everything new. Newness scares us, and we confess to shutting our doors in fear. We have not listened to voices that challenge us. We have resisted the Holy Spirit moving us in new directions. Our hearts are slow to believe your promises. Forgive us, O God, and renew us to embrace without fear the new life you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.**


P People of God: Christ is alive, and death has lost its power. Through the waters of baptism you have been born anew by the living word of God. Know that your sins are forgiven in + Jesus' name and that the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive in you both now and forever.

**C Amen.**

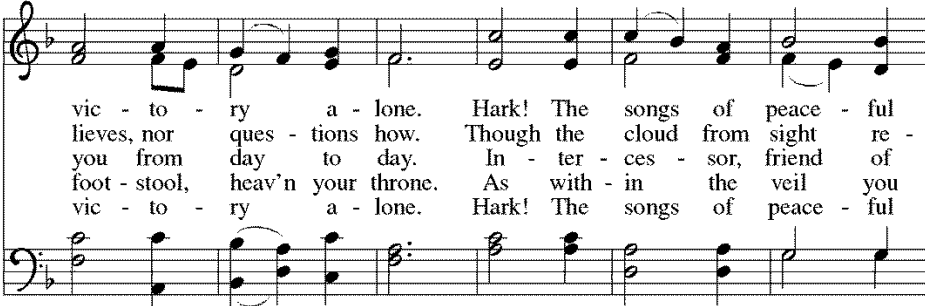
# GATHERING SONG: *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* ..... All Stand & Sing



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our  
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -  
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -  
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to  
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your  
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful  
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of  
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you  
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood; "Je - sus  
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our  
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the  
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on  
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus

out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."  
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"  
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.  
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

## GREETING

**P** From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace 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**

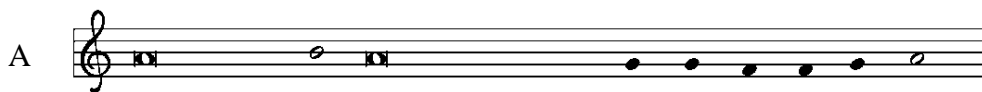
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



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



! 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, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHILDREN'S TIME

**Children ages 4 to 8 years-old** are invited to join **Beth Brittain immediately after the Children's sermon** as we go to the Education building for a 20-minute (or so) time together. *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 nursery**.

## FIRST READING

**Acts 7:55–60**

A reading from the seventh chapter of Acts.

*Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.*

<sup>55</sup>But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>Look, he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

**1 Peter 2:2–10**

A reading from the second chapter of 1 Peter.

*Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation — <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

<sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious;  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup>To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,  
"The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,"  
<sup>8</sup>and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They  
stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order  
that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his  
marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL VERSE



## GOSPEL

**John 14:1–14**

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

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

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the

truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

<sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON:** *The Toughest Question to Ask God* (Notes on page 21) . . . . . Pastor John

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord* . . . . . All Stand & Sing

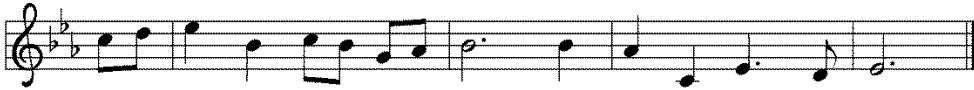


1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;  
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - fresh - ed, re - stored,  
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind  
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,  
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,





that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.  
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM/CONFIRMATION PRESENTATION

I present, *Gage Gatlin and Luke Via*, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.



*The presiding minister may continue with prayer.*

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these men, 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 from confirmands and congregation:*

**I renounce them.**

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

*Response from confirmands and congregation:*

**I renounce them.**

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

*Response from confirmands and congregation:*

**I renounce them.**

*The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.*

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. Amen.**

\* catholic with a small "c" refers to the whole Christian church throughout the world.

## **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

P 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.**

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

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

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

P 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 Gage 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.

C **Amen.**

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Luke 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.

C **Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Made alive in Christ and filled with his Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

God our salvation: you have made us your living stones in the waters of baptism. We pray for the church and its leaders; for the newly baptized; for the newly confirmed; for missionaries around the world. *(Pause)* Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our home: your Spirit dwells with creation. We pray for the earth; for clean water and air; for the earth's foundation; for the lands all creatures inhabit. *(Pause)* Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our way: you call us to paths of justice. We pray for nations and leaders; for courts and legislatures; for strife torn communities; for our enemies. *(Pause)* Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our refuge: you deliver us in times of trouble. We pray for the rejected and persecuted; for neglected infants and children; for the sick; for all in need. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our father: we pray for and honor the senior ministries of Lutheran Services Carolinas. Bless their residents and participants, as well as the caregivers and volunteers, so that all may know Your love. Help us to cherish and practice the traditions that honor You by remembering and supporting those who are most vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our shelter: you draw all people to yourself. We pray for those who are homeless and those with inadequate housing; for all who come to this building seeking a safe haven. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God our life: you prepare a place for us. We give thanks for the witness of your saints. Lead us also in Christ's way and truth. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, merciful God, and dwell in us richly, through Jesus Christ, our life and our redeemer.  
**Amen.**

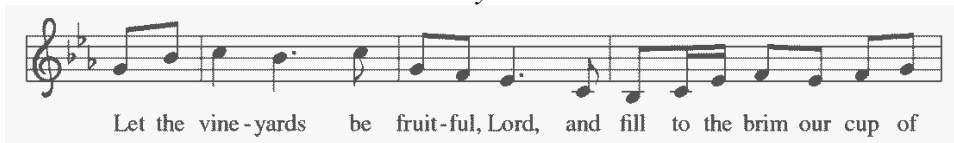
## PEACE

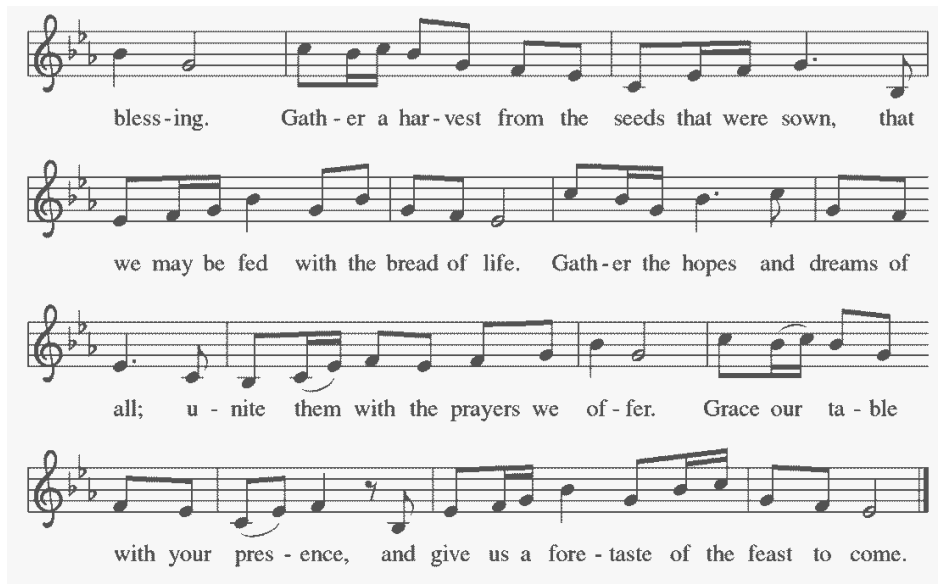
P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** *Here I Am, Lord* . . . . . Church Choir

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** *Let The Vineyards* . . . . . All Stand & Sing





bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**A** Let us pray.

**C** Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.


## DIALOGUE

*Pastor*

*Congregation*

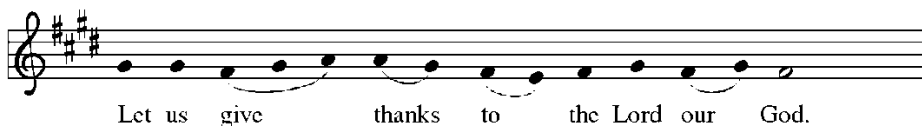


The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.



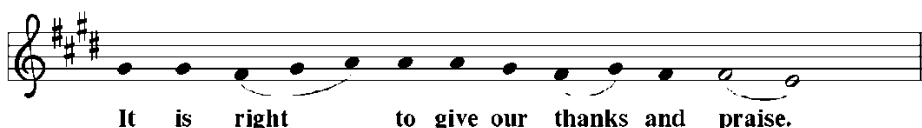
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Pastor*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Cong.*

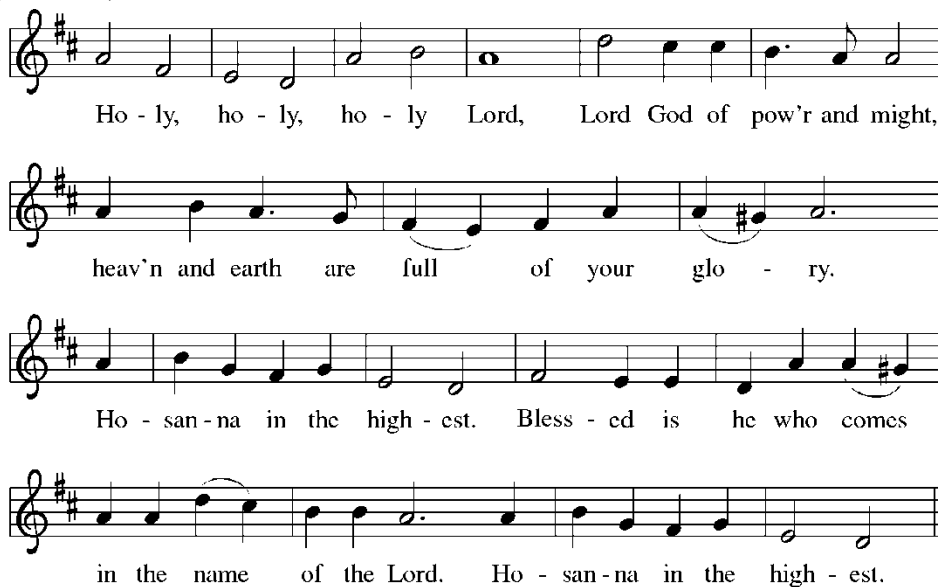


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

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

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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** The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Come to this table where you are known and loved.

**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**

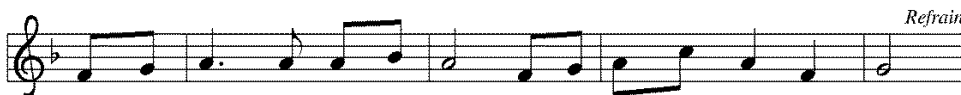
*A cordial invitation is extended to all baptized persons to participate in the celebration of the real presence of the Risen Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:** *All My Spirit* ..... Chamber Choir  
*Show Me Thy Ways, O Lord* ..... Chamber Choir

*I Received the Living God* . . . . . All Sing



- 1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;
- 2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
- 3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
- 4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,



you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.  
 so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.  
 You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.  
 but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

Text: Anonymous  
 Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous

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

**C** Amen.

**SONG AFTER COMMUNION**



Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry - one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.





## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**A** Let us pray.

**C** Loving God, by your Spirit we are born anew, and you nourish us like newborns with this holy food, by which we grow into salvation. Give us grace to live as your risen daughters and sons, shining in the world with your marvelous light, until you gather all creation to the heavenly table where Christ reigns in glory forever. Amen.

## BLESSING

**P** The God of all grace, who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, restore, support, strengthen, and + bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

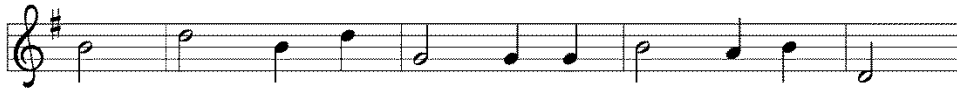
# SENDING SONG: *How Firm A Foundation* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



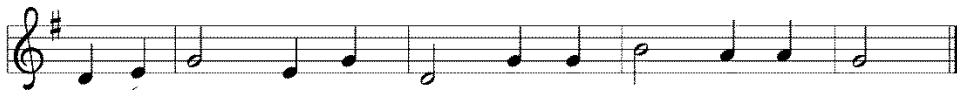
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.  
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign,  
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."  
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.  
 Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

## DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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

**CHILDREN** are welcome in worship. Jesus said, "let the children come to me!" Parents are encouraged to utilize the Kids Worship Kits found in the Narthex for older toddlers through early elementary age. A nursery for children (**infants through 3 years old**) is located in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance finding it.



**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 list, please fill out a form from the prayer book.**

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God by Lynn Martin in honor of Jessica's wedding.

**Those who have placed flowers on the altar** may use containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church. ***Greg Byrum, Worship & Music***

**Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, May 11, 2014:**

Attendance: 160

**Budget Report**

**May 11, 2014**

Current Offering Received 5/11/14	\$ 4,290.00
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 4,504.60
Offering, YTD	\$ 80,645.58
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	\$ 5,637.18
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	(\$ 4,505.69)

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:**

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye + Louise Day

**ACOLYTES:** Garrett Carpenter  
Garrett Fox

**CRUCIFERS:** Aaron Nault  
Ashton Nault

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:** (Team B)

Sherry Alexander      Fran Holland  
Charles Mauney      Volunteer

**EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:**

Tracey & Caroline Nault

**DUET:** Elizabeth Bruchon, Gayla Foscue

**GREETERS:** The Naults, Kathy Graves

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 4)

Diann Halvorson, Co-Captain  
Dean Halvorson, Co-Captain  
Barbara Kasmer

**CANTOR:** Janet Achor

**PERCUSSION:** Elizabeth Bruchon

Diann Halvorson

**TELLERS:** Courtney Gatlin, Bill Hollar

**USHERS:** Need Volunteers

**NURSERY VOLUNTEER:** Today, Melissa Bocchino

**THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**

**Today, Sunday, May 18**

9:30 am    Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am    Church Choir  
10:30 am    The Service with **Holy Communion**  
6:00 pm    Church Choir  
8:00 pm    Nar-Anon

**Tuesday, May 20**

7:00 pm    Nar-Anon

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK:** May 18 – May 24

May 21    Natalie Hullander

May 22    Billy Joye

Chuck MacDonald

May 23    Jennifer Miller

May 24    Mandi Kline



**We welcome our new confirmands, Gage Gatlin and Luke Via!**

## ***The Toughest Question to Ask God + Sermon Notes:***

*“But who do you say that I am?”* Jesus from Mark 8:29 (NRSV)

### **Five Central Faith Practices that Grow out of our Life in Jesus as a Believer**

(The Marks of a Disciple of Jesus) ...

- ✓ 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,
- ✓ to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

*“Like newborn infants, long for the pure, Spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good....like living stones, let yourselves be built into a Spiritual house ... but you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God’s instruments to do His work and speak out for Him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference He made for you”*

(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading from 1 Peter - NRSV & The Message)

### **A hopeful response from all of Jesus’ disciples ...**

Here I am Lord  
Is it I Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night  
I will go Lord  
If You lead me  
I will hold Your people in my heart.

+ + + + +

*“The kingdom of God is among you”* Luke 17:21 (Luke’s Confirmation verse)

*“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Romans 8:38-39

(Gage’s Confirmation verse)



## **PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER**

Louise Austin  
Scott Caldwell  
Virginia Crump  
Brenda Dabrowski  
Daniel Dowd

Cher Grant  
Ferrie Hedrick  
Richard Holden  
Zac Hullander  
John Kreitzer

Chase Lineberger  
Rochelle Potter  
Mabel Ratchford  
Mark Reese

## **GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

The Abernethy Family  
Harriett Ange  
Kathy Beam  
Dale Burris  
Ronnie Hagy  
Brian Hedrick  
Kathy Helton  
Betty Fox  
Claudia Frazier  
Donald Freeman  
Ronnie Hersey  
Dennis Jordan

Wesley Jordan & Family  
Betty Kannapel  
Becky Knick  
Laura Lanuto & Family  
Pierce Lee  
Peggy McKenney & Family  
Grady Nichols  
Sandra Nix  
Roger Norris  
Jean Peters  
Leland "Lee" Peterson  
Taylor Propst & Family  
David Prouty

Mara Rappleyea  
Earl Riedley  
Steve Sanford  
Megan Sigler  
Ramona J. Sinclair  
Jimmy Surratt  
Harrison Swindell  
Buck Weatherford  
Beverly F. Wall  
Gloria Ward  
Bryan Wayburn

## **OUR SERVICEMEN**

Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer



Jeremy Shaver

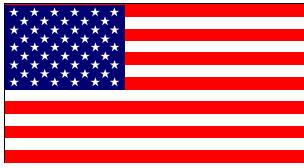
## **OUR MISSIONARIES**

Austin & Tanya Propst (Young Adults in Global Mission)

Please remember these people in your prayers.

**If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please let Trudy Whitener know or tell Dianne in the church office.**

The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at [www.holyc.org](http://www.holyc.org).



**May 25 Memorial Day**  
**Outdoor Worship Service**  
*(Weather Permitting)*



**June 8 Pentecost Sunday**  
***Pig Pickin'*** after the Service

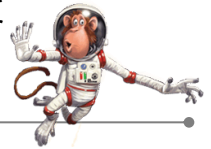
Bring side dish and/or dessert  
 Meat & drink provided

**HELP NEEDED:** Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7 volunteers are needed to assist with the Pentecost BBQ. Contact Tom Bocchino via email [tbocchino@hotmail.com](mailto:tbocchino@hotmail.com) or cell phone 704-616-3049 if you are willing to help.



**SAVE THE DATE:** June 27-28 (Friday evening and Saturday) is the date for our **Vacation Bible School** for **Pre-K through Grade 5**. We will begin on Friday with a pizza supper and will end just before lunch on Saturday so everyone can go on their way for the rest of the Saturday afternoon.

**Make plans now to attend.**



**NOTE:** After getting input from the parents of our children, the decision has been made to **NOT have Sunday school for all children after May 25**. We will start fresh with Rally Day on August 24. **Children's Church** will continue through the summer as volunteers are available to lead. ***Beth Brittain, Christian Education***



**Senior Services Month May 2014**

*"I praise you for remembering me in everything and for holding to the traditions just as I passed them on to you."*

*1 Corinthians 11:2*

Older adults have cultivated and maintained traditions for generations and established strong foundations for their families. This verse from 1 Corinthians reminds us to cherish and practice those traditions that honor God. Lutheran Services Carolinas works as God's hands in the world to make sure older adults are not forgotten. You can help us in our mission by partnering with our ministry. With your support, we can truly make a difference to those entrusted to our care. For more information on the ministries of LSC, visit [www.LSCarolinas.net](http://www.LSCarolinas.net) or call 1-800-HELPING.



## ***Camp Agape, July 14-18*** Rising 1st Graders — Rising 8th Graders!

**This year we are expanding the day camp to include 6th-8th graders.** The kids in this age group will participate in service projects throughout the week at Holy Comforter as well as off site. **We must have a minimum of 6 middle school aged kids in order to offer this expanded camp.**

Registration forms are available at the back of the church or from Misty Koehler. The cost is \$125 per camper and is due at the time of registration. Please contact Misty if you have any questions about camp. ***Misty Koehler, Holy Comforter Camp Coordinator***



**SAVE THE DATE: July 31** will be **Zac's Day** at the *Grizzlies* baseball game. The Grizzlies schedule says this is "Turn Back the Clock Night!" with 1930's era prices and fun!

Sign-up sheet for game tickets to be available later.

**Contact Tom Bocchino** at 704-616-3049 with any questions.



### **Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

P.O. Box 666 Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 [holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto: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**

John Propst, Interim Pastor; email: [JohnCPropst@gmail.com](mailto:JohnCPropst@gmail.com)

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Kristen Clanton, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager