

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, March 9, 2014

The First Sunday in Lent



John Propst
Interim Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

GATHERING/WELCOME

PRELUDE: *How Precious Is the Book Divine* Shilling

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Kneel/Sit Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C have mercy on us.

P For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:

C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

RESPONSE: *Take, oh, Take Me as I Am* **All Sing on Next page**

RESPONSE: *Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am* All Sing

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: 'Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.' The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

P For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.
(Sing Response)

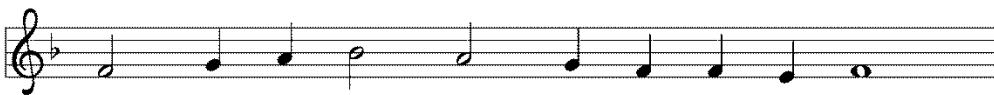
P For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm:

C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.
(Sing Response)

P Brothers and sisters, buried with Christ by baptism into his death, your sins are forgiven. The death Christ died, he died to sin, once and for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also, by the power of the holy Spirit, are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Amen.

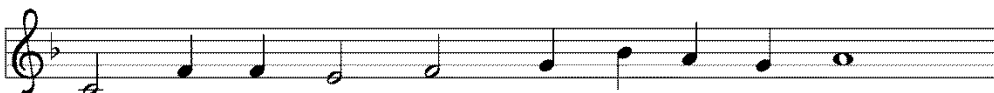
GATHERING SONG: *Eternal Lord of Love* All Stand & Sing



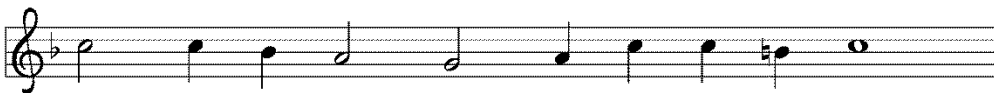
1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



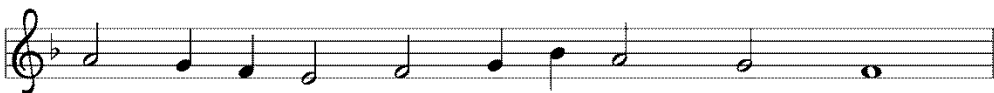
walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
 so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
 so we are dead and live with you in God.
 so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003

Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

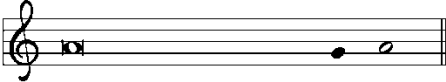
Text © Thomas H. Cain. Used by permission of estate.

GREETING

P The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling 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 

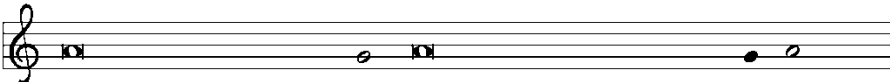
Lord, have mer - cy.

A 

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

C 


Lord, have mer - cy.

A 

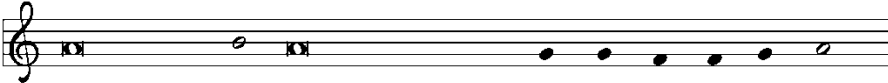
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,





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

C 

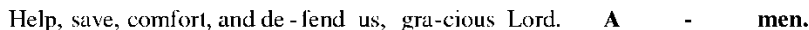
Lord, have mer - cy.

A 

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

Assistant  *Congregation* 

let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



P Let us pray.

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The assembly is seated.

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 nursery**.

Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7

A reading from the second and third chapters of Genesis.

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

Chapter 2

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Chapter 3

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and

you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12–19

A reading from the fifth chapter of Romans.

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned — ¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

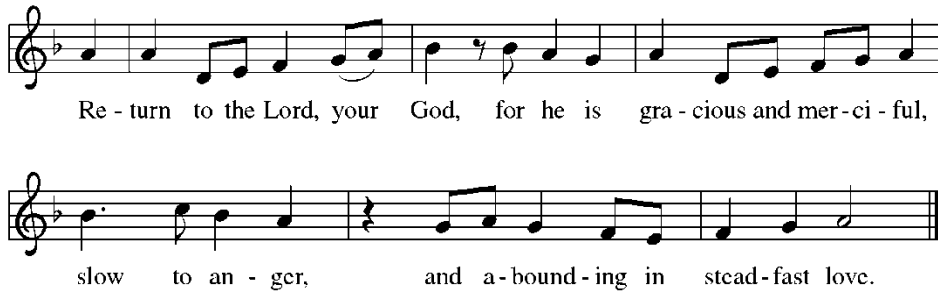
¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1–11

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'"

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON Pastor Jack McHenry

HYMN OF THE DAY: *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me* All Stand & Sing

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me". It is arranged in three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are as follows:

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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.**

* catholic with a small “c” refers to the whole Christian church throughout the world.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING ANTHEM: *Embrace the Cross* Solo

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Create In Me* All Stand & Sing

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff ends with a repeat sign, and the fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Returning to the Lord, our God, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Let us pray for the whole Christian church. (*Pause*) Instruct and teach your church in the way that it should go so that it worships and serves only you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for the well-being of creation. (*Pause*) Renew all waters, lands, and skies to reflect your glory and guide us to be respectful in how we use all earthly resources. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for all nations and peoples. (*Pause*) Grant justice where there is inequity, peace where there is conflict, and wisdom for all who lead (*especially*). Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for all in need. (*Pause*) Provide caring communities for all who are burdened by guilt, shame, addiction, and illness (*especially*). Preserve them from all trouble. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for this assembly. (*Pause*) Keep all who worship in this place steadfast in your word. Fill with your Spirit all who are preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Let us give thanks for the faithful departed whose transgressions are forgiven and who now rejoice in heaven. (*Pause*) Lead us in their path. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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.**

BLESSING

P God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *In the Cross of Christ I Glory All Stand & Sing*

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The score is divided into three systems, each with a vocal staff and a piano accompaniment staff. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love, up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872
Music: RATHBUN, Ifhamar Conkey, 1815–1867

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 **The First Sunday of Lent**. 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 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 Dianne Lail in honor of Arden De Nicholas' birthday; and by Tim & Angela Baakko in honor of Graham's 11th birthday and in memory of his organ donor.

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

Greg Byrum, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, March 2, 2014:

Attendance: 149

Budget Report

March 2, 2014

Current Offering Received 2/23/14	\$ 6,329.50
Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,504.60
Offering, Year-To-Date	\$ 38,399.53

The Current Offering Received for the year through March 2, 2014 is \$ 5,175.76 more than Holy Comforter's expenses through that date.

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye, Jr. +
Steve Bingham

CANTOR: Beth Brittain

ACOLYTES: Claire Mitchell
Nathan Baakko

GREETER: Pat Koehler

CRUCIFERS: Cody Koehler, Gage Gatlin

NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am)
March 9: Pat Koehler &
Catherine Carr

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)
Fran Holland, Co-Captain
Melinda Lingerfelt, Co-Captain
Courtney Gatlin Stephanie Hinson
Tracey Nault

SOLIST: Greg Byrum

TELLERS: Janet & Brian Achor

USHERS: Nancy Powell + Volunteers

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, March 9

9:30 am Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir
10:30 am The Service
4:00 pm Children's Ensemble
5:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Church Choir

HCY

7:30 pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

Tuesday, March 11

5:45 pm **Lenten** dinner
6:30 pm Mid-Week Worship
Lord's Prayer
7:00 pm Chamber Choir, Nar-Anon

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: March 9 - 15

March 10 Virginia Crump
March 11 Thomas Kasmer
March 12 Arden De Nicholas
 Gayla Foscue
March 13 Raini Kimball



March 14 Tyler Ange
 Tracey Nault
 Nancy Powell
March 15 Danielle Ballard

Eligible members for **2013 Thrivent Choice Dollars** reminded to have your designations in **by March 31, 2014. Questions?** Call Myra Hollar 704-825-5885.



Camp Agape Rising 1st Graders — Rising 8th Graders!

It is hard to believe, but it is time to start planning for summer camp again. Holy Comforter is hosting **Camp Agape July 14-18**. Agape is a day camp for rising 1st to rising 8th graders sponsored by Kure Beach Ministries.

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. There is only room for 20 campers, so register soon. **The spaces will be filled on a first come, first served basis.** Please contact Misty if you have any questions about camp.

Misty Koehler, Holy Comforter Camp Coordinator



The Lillian E. Lineberger

Scholarship Forms Available.

To apply, you must meet the following requirements:

- Be a member of The Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter for at least one year
- Participate in Communion and contribute to the church during the time you are receiving the grant
- **Submit the following by the deadline of April 24th:**
 1. Your completed application
 2. A transcript from your most recently completed semester
 3. A typed essay (at least one paragraph) describing yourself, career plans, and life goals

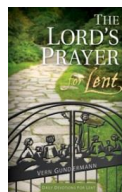
Application forms available via email.

(Email the church office at holycomforter@gmail.com and request Lineberger Scholarship Form.)

Our best wishes to you in your educational journey. *Your Scholarship Ministry, Carmen De Nicholas*

You may pick up your Lenten devotionals in the foyer of the Education Building.

1 brochure per family, please
Also, there are Lenten calendars
available for the children.





WHAT'S THE WEATHER?

If you are concerned, due to inclement weather, as to whether we will have church services or planned activities, please check the following for information:

- ◆ Call the church office at 704-825-2483 and listen to recorded message
- ◆ Check the church website at www.holyc.org
- ◆ Check your email. Please give us your email address if we do not have it.



Contributions to Women's Auxiliary of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary will be accepted on Sundays, March 9 & 16. *A life membership to honor or memorialize someone is no longer available.* **All contributions will be just contributions...**no lifetime memberships included.

On May 20, 1940, a large group of women, brought together by Mrs. E. C. Cooper, wife of the president of the Seminary at that time, met in the Seminary Reception Room and organized an auxiliary to be known as the Women's Auxiliary of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. **The auxiliary provides for non-budgeted needs through this membership.**

Please see Barbara Beale or Beverly Reynolds after church on March 9 or 16 to make your contributions. **Please make your check payable to Holy Comforter with a notation that it is for LTSS Auxiliary.** *Thank you, Beverly Reynolds & Barbara Beale*

Lent 2014: Midweek Worship on Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm

(Following our Lenten meal at 5:45 pm)

As part of our midweek worship on Tuesday evenings, 5 people will be sharing a brief (2-5 minutes) "testimony of grace." Our theme will be the **Lord's Prayer**. Below are the petitions, dates and those who will be sharing. THANKS friends, for answering God's call to meditate on one of the petitions! You are a blessing to God AND to those who will hear God's Word through you!

March 11 Beth Brittain: thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

March 18 Jo Singleton: Give us this day our daily bread;

March 25 Mandi Kline: and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;

April 1 Mark Kline: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

April 8 Julia Gunter: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.

We welcome Pastor Jack McHenry to the pulpit this morning.



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin
Deborah Bingham
Virginia Crump
Daniel Dowd

Ferrie Hedrick
Richard Holden
Zac Hullander
Chase Lineberger

Liz Propst
Mabel Ratchford
Mark Reese

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Kathy Beam
Dale Burris
Ronnie Hagy
Brian Hedrick
Kathy Helton
Betty Fox
Claudia Frazier
Ronnie Hersey
Dennis Jordan
Wesley Jordan & Family
Betty Kannapel

Laura Lanuto & Family
Ruth Lail
Dan Martin
Peggy McKenney &
Family
Grady Nichols
Sandra Nix
Jean Peters
Taylor Propst & Family
Mara Rappleyea
Joel Rivers (NY)

Steve Sanford
Kelly Shoe
Shore Family Megan
Sigler
Ramona J. Sinclair
Jimmy Surratt
Harrison Swindell
Charmaine Townsend
Buck Weatherford
Beverly F. Wall
Gloria Ward

Jason Gardner



OUR SERVICEMEN

Dillon Kasmer

Jeremy Shaver

OUR MISSIONARIES

Austin & Tanya Propst (Yount 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.

Holy Communion will be offered immediately following today's service.

Please gather at the front of the sanctuary.
Pastor Jack will join you at the altar after he greets folks.



New Members Are Joining

**New members will be received into the Holy Comforter fellowship
on both Sundays, March 16 & 23.**

**If you are interested in joining Holy Comforter, please see Pastor John or contact
him at JohnCPropst@gmail.com.**

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 666 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

John Propst, Interim Pastor; email: JohnCPropst@gmail.com

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

Kristen Clanton, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager