Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, August 10, 2014

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

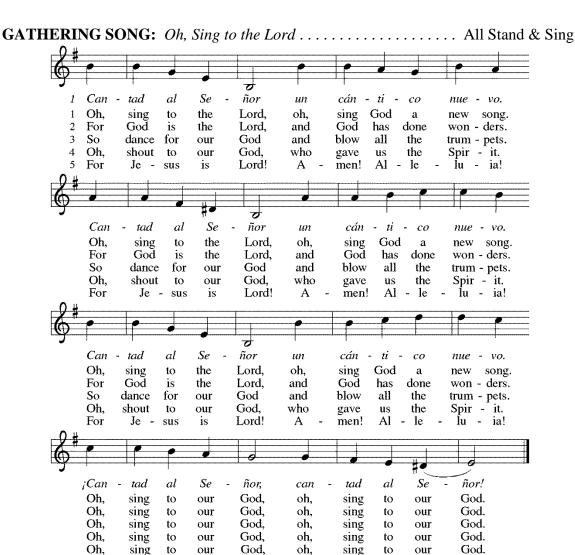
GATHERING/WELCOME

PRELUDE: Chorale and Variation of *Jesus Still Lead On* Ashdown

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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C Amen.
- P In the presence of God, who sees our hearts and our minds, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.
- P God our strength,
- C we confess that we are captive to the power of sin that dwells within us. We put ourselves first and others last. What we think will make us happy leaves us longing for more. Even when we want to do what is good, we find ourselves doing the opposite. Rescue us from death's grip on our lives, and raise us up day by day, that we may be alive to God in Christ Jesus. Amen.
- P Sisters and brothers, all have fallen short of the glory of God; therefore we are justified by God's grace as a gift. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in + Christ Jesus, in whom we have forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation.
- C Amen.

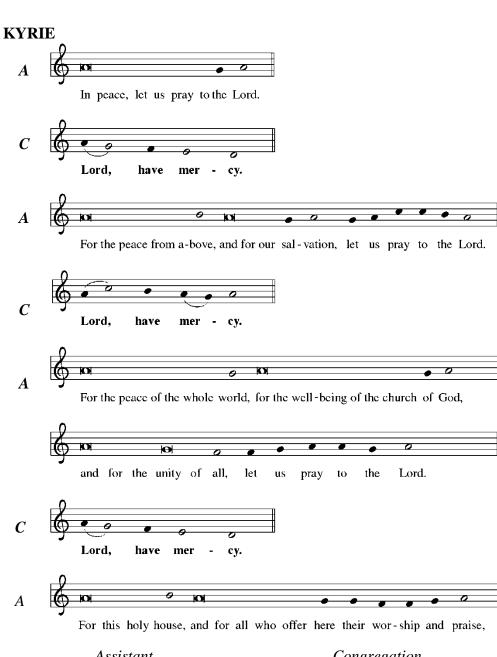


Text: Brazilian folk song; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923, Spanish and English Music: CANTAD AL SENOR, Brazilian folk tune Spanish and English text @ Gerhard Cartford, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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.







CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

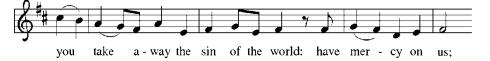


Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we





Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,





you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith 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 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.

FIRST READING 1 Kings 19:9–18

A reading from the nineteenth chapter of 1 Kings.

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

⁹At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and

after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



⁸I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;

for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

Truly, your salvation is very near to ¹ those who fear you, that your glory may dwell ¹ in our land.

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together; righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.

¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth, and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.

¹²The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity, and our land will | yield its increase.

¹³Righteousness shall go be-¹ fore the LORD and shall prepare for ¹ God a pathway.

SECOND READING Romans 10:5–15

A reading from the tenth chapter of Romans.

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclamed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

"The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Matthew 14:22–33

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

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith" who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

²²Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Congregation is seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY: My Life Flows On in Endless Song All Stand & Sing



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

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,

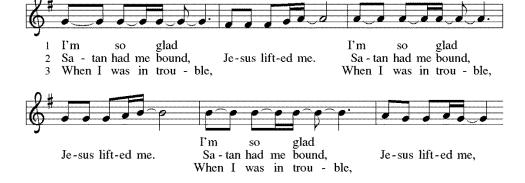
the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING



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



Text: African American spiritual Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Thou are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,

Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!

Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;

Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled by the Spirit, let us join the whole people of God in Christ Jesus in praying for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Lord of all, how beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news. We pray for missionaries across the world. Keep them safe and bless the work they do in your name. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You have given us vast seas, great lands, and abundant natural resources to feed a hungry planet. Give us also grateful hearts and willing hands to care for these good gifts. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Be present with those across this earth who are hiding from their enemies, and who are afraid they are all alone. Wrap them securely in the mantle of your loving presence. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Calm the storms that sweep across families dealing with the death of a loved one, and the grief of those who mourn (*especially*). Fill their aching hearts with your peace and hope for the future. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Guide pastors, teachers, volunteers, and worship planners as they prepare educational opportunities for all ages, and creative ways to worship you. Place your word on their lips and in their hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Faithful One, thank you for all the saints who have gone before us. We take heart in your saving grace, which reaches out to us across all eternity. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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 May God the sower make you good and fertile soil. May Christ the seed bloom and grow in your words and actions. May the fruitful Spirit bring forth a bountiful yield in your lives. God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888 Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

DISMISSAL

A Alleluia. Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2014 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24292.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

<u>A CORDIAL WELCOME</u> is extended to all of our visitors on this **Ninth 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.

<u>CHILDREN</u> 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 or online at www.holyc.org.

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Beth Passer & Reid in honor of Daphne Hansen; and by Monique Estelle in memory of Gisela Stone.

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

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, August 3, 2014:

August 3, 2014
\$ 4,352.37
\$ 4,504.60
\$125,104.67
\$ 3,413.83
(\$ 13,460.00)

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye, Jr., Tom Bocchino

ACOLYTES: Garrett Carpenter, Garrett Fox

CRUCIFERS: Noah Rogers, Molly Koehler

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1) Bev Mauney, Co-Captain Brad Milton, Co-Captain

Carmen De Nicholas Charles Mauney

Brandy Milton

NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am) Rebecca Yount & Jane Howard

GREETER: Sherry Alexander

USHERS: Need Volunteers

TELLERS: John Koehler

Sherry Alexander

CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS:

Today: Beth Brittain + Helper

Next Sunday: Tracey Nault + Helper

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS: Today, Sunday, August 10

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

10:10 am Choir meets in choir room

10:30 am The Service

2:30 pm Vacation Bible School!

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

Tuesday, August 12

12:00 Noon Agape Lunch Bunch
Bible Study/Potluck Lunch

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: August 10-16

August 11 Cynthia Buchanan Ginger MacDonald

August 13 Ned Featherstone

August 15 Brenda Dabrowski





Sunday School teachers are still needed.

We need at least 6-7 for the elementary teachers,

5 for the preschool teachers, 2-4 for youth. There are always opportunities to teach in the Seekers class.

Please contact Beth ASAP via email at revbethbrittain@gmail.com or 704-956-1203 to accept the opportunity to teach.



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Daniel Dowd John Kreitzer Amy Alvarez Louise Austin Cher Grant Mabel Ratchford Scott Caldwell Ferrie Hedrick Mark Reese Virginia Crump Kay Holden Bob Williams Family

Brenda Dabrowski Richard Holden Zac Hullander Louise Day

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Harriett Ange Wesley Jordan & Family Steve Pletsas Kathy Beam Betty Kannapel Taylor Propst & Family Helen Brasfield Marshall Kinley David Prouty Dale Burris Becky Knick Mara Rappleyea Alice Langley Ronnie Hagy Earl Riedlev Laura Lanuto & Family Brian Hedrick Steve Sanford Kathy Helton Pierce Lee Megan Sigler Ramona J. Sinclair Betty Fox Peggy McKenney & Family Claudia Frazier Carolyn Moss Jimmy Surratt Beverly F. Wall Donald Freeman Sandra Nix Jean Peters Gloria Ward Ronnie Hersey

Dennis Jordan Scott Phillips

Judy Jackson

OUR SERVICEMEN

Leland "Lee" Peterson

Bryan Wayburn

Jeremy Shaver Dillon Kasmer Matt Cisek Jason Gardner

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.



Blast Off VBS Take TWO! We will have VBS on two Sunday afternoons in August... Today, August 10 and August 17. We will meet from 2:30-4:30ish each of these afternoons.

Rally Day for the new Sunday School year will be on **Sunday**, **August 24** and we will use some of the closing activities from VBS to begin the Rally Day activities.

I need teacher and helpers for each afternoon of VBS...I need story tellers, craft leaders, game players and small group helpers. In addition, I need help with the opening and closing for each Sunday. Please contact me ASAP if you are willing to help. So far, Sherry Alexander has volunteered to work with the preschool group and Molly Caldwell has agreed to be a helper. Contact me via email at revbethbreittain@gmail.com or by phone 704-956-1203.

The leaders' meeting on Sunday, August 3 during the Sunday School hour in the parlor. Thanks for your prayerful consideration of this part of Children's ministry.

Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Heather Mauney Yount Memorial Playground Project



The playground, built on our church grounds, will be a commercial structure designed for 2-12 year-olds. Over 2/3 of the \$36,000 cost has already been raised by the generous contributions from family, congregation members at the time of Heather's passing and anonymous donors.

We need your help to raise the \$12,500 in order to complete this project.

Please join us in making the playground a reality by indication on your check memo line or offering envelope: *Playground Project*.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We need volunteer teachers For Children's Church.

Are you willing to spend a Sunday with our young children during the 10:30 service to provide them with their own worship time?

Contact Beth Brittain at revbethbrittain@gmail.com or Call 704-956-1203 to volunteer.

Thank You Holy Comforter family For all the cards and concern You have shown me.

Louise Day



Worship in *Whisnant Chapel* at 10:30 am 8:00 am Depart from Holy Comforter

Covered Dish Luncheon at Lakeside Lodge.

Please bring covered dishes to feed your family and others.

There will be NO Sunday School for the children on this Sunday.

There WILL be Worship Service at Holy Comforter

(for those who cannot attend at Lutheridge).

All afternoon church meetings cancelled.

Come, let us Worship together on this Church Family Day!

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 666 Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 <u>holycomforter@gmail.com</u>

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 Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education
Kristen Clanton, HCY Advisor
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager