Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, January 19, 2014

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany



John Propst Interim Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

PRELUDE: Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus Powell

WELCOME/GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C Amen.
- P Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

- P Holy and faithful God,
- C we so often choose our own way instead of yours. We think we can evade your commandments. We have spoken in ways that kill, strayed with our hearts, betrayed friends, and hated enemies. We have broken our promises. Search us deeply and create us anew. Lift the heavy burden of our sin and free us to follow your way of life. Amen.
- P "Call upon me," says the Lord, "and I will answer." Our God has come among us to loose every bond and set us free from all that weighs us down. Receive the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of + Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior.
- C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: Songs of Thankfulness All Stand & Sing 1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise; 2 Man - i - fest Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su-preme; mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, 3 Man - i - fest in faint-ing soul; see thee, Lord, pres - ent in 4 Grant us grace to thy ho - ly word: man - i - fest - ed by the star from a - far, to the sa - ges and at Ca - na thy God-head man - i - fest; wed - ding guest in man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might; grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou; roy - al branch of Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem: man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine; gra - cious will, man - i - fest in ev - er bring-ing good from ill: that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny, an - thems be thee ad-dressed. to an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man-i-fest. an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

> Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

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



CANTICLE OF PRAISE





SALUTATION



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

The assembly is seated.

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 Isaiah 49:1–7

A reading from the forty-ninth chapter of Isaiah.

Here the servant Israel speaks for herself and acknowledges herself as God's secret weapon. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel itself. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

Listen to me, O coastlands,

pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword,

in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain,

I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says,

who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength —

6he says,

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD,

the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

A reading from the first chapter of 1 Corinthians.

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

GOSPEL VERSE





GOSPEL John 1:29–42

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

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

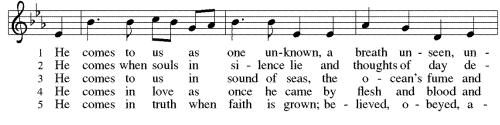
²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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

SERMON: Assembling a Team. (Sermon Notes: Page 19) Pastor John

HYMN OF THE DAY: He Comes to Us as One Unknown All Stand & Sing





heard; as though with - in heart of stone, or a part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, small and still up - on foam; yet the breeze, a with - in birth: to bear our mor - tal frame a dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as

shriv-eled seed in fall - ing star a wind that stirs the life. a death, a yet un - seen, but



dark-ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred. night with-in heart, of night with-in the heart. cross the sky of the home, a voice to call us home. tops of trees, a voice to call us say - ing name, for child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth. ev - 'rv un-known, our Say-ior and our Lord, our Say-ior and our Lord.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926 Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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THE 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

Guided by the light of Christ, who has been made known to the nations, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the church throughout the world, that it proclaims salvation through Christ to the ends of the earth, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all coastlands and waters, for the well-being of creation, and for our proper stewardship of those gifts of God, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the leaders of the world at all levels, for those who bring about peace in war-torn areas, and for all people of faith everywhere, that compassion and love thrive, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those who are suffering in mind, body, or spirit, and for those who care for the suffering, that God's steadfast love and faithfulness through Christ bring about healing and wholeness, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the fellowship gathered in this place, for the spiritual gifts of each of our members, for those celebrating significant events in their lives, that the Holy Spirit guide us in our work and our journeys, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the saints who have died in Christ, that the witness of their faithfulness inspire us in our Christian lives, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

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

Radiant God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who has made his dwelling among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM & RESPONSE: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence Arr. R. Hobby Assembly stands and sings with choir on verse 4



- 1 Let all mor tal flesh keep si lence, and with fear and trem bling stand;
- 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar-y, as of old on earth he stood,
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heav-en spreads its van-guard on the way;
- 4 At his feet the six winged ser aph, cher u bim with sleep less eye,



pon-der noth-ing earth-ly - mind-ed, for with bless-ing in his hand Lord of lords in hu - man ves-ture, in the bod - y and the blood, as the Light of light, de - scend-ing from the realms of end - less day, veil their fac - es to the pres-ence, as with cease-less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de-scend - ing comes full hom-age to de - mand. he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n-ly food. comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark-ness clears a - way. "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt. Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

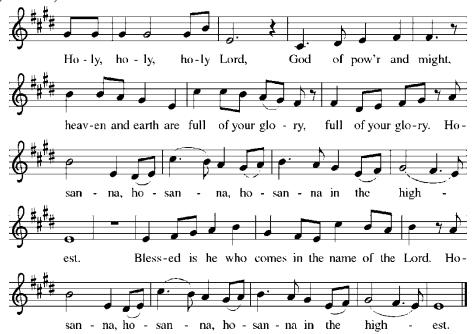
DIALOGUE

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,

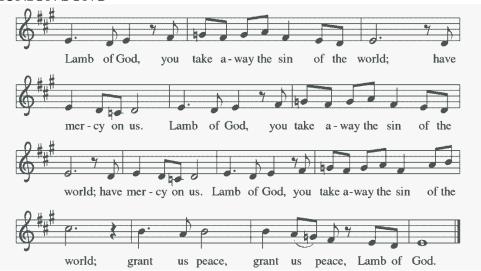
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

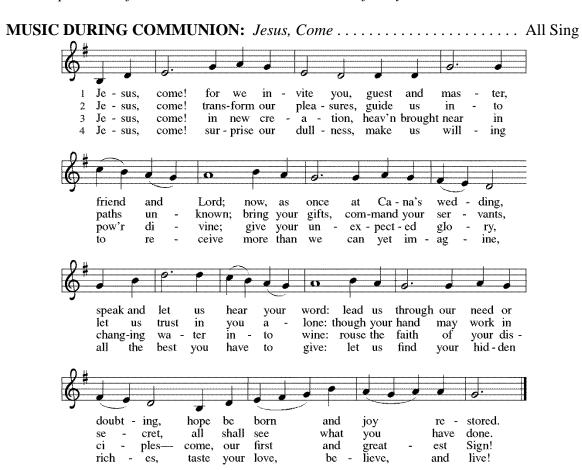
- P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Blessed are all who are called to the supper of the Lamb.
- C Thanks be to God.

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.



Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938
Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958
Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company. Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

C Lord, it is good for us to be here, for we have tasted your glory in this holy meal. Continue your goodness as we go out from here. Open our eyes to see your face shining in every person, and send us to be your servants in every place, for you are the life and light of all, both now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

P May the God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *God, Whose Almighty Word* All Stand & Sing



Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Christ is your light.
- C Thanks be to God.

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<u>A CORDIAL WELCOME</u> is extended to all of our visitors on this **Second Sunday after the Epiphany.** 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.



<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.

<u>PRAYER REQUESTS</u>: A notebook has been placed in the narthex for your prayer requests during the week. The book will be in the narthex on Sundays and in the church office during the week. If you wish a name to be added to our prayer list, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in the form found at www.holyc.org.

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Bob & Denise Wiegand in honor of......; and by Mark & Rebbeca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in....

<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, January 12, 2014:

Attendance: 155

Budget Report	January 12	
Current Offering Received 1/12/14	\$ 6,063.00	
Budget Expenses, Month-To-Date	\$ 7,713.35	
Offering, Month-To-Date	\$ 11,382.00	

The Current Offering Received for the year through January 12, 2014 is \$3,668.65 more than Holy Comforter's expenses through that date.

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye + Karen Rogers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 4) EUCHARTIST PRESENTERS:

Diann Halvorson, Co-Captain Shelia & Tim Kelly

Dean Halvorson, Co-Captain

Barbara Kasmer Gayla Foscue GREETER: Katie Kessen

CANTOR: Greg Byrum **USHERS:** Need Volunteers

COMMUNIONN ASSISTANTS: (Team A) **TELLERS**: Shelia & Tim Kelly

Cynthia Buchanan Jo Singleton Shelia Kelly Jack Tench

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, January 19

9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir

10:30 am The Service with Holy Communion

4:00 pm Children's Ensemble 5:00 pm Adult Handbell Choir 6:00 pm Church Choir, **HCY**

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: January 19-25

Today, January 19 Faye Heller January 21 Jane Howard Paul Nault



Tuesday, January 21

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

2014 Offering Envelopes are available in the narthex for you to pick up.

The 2014 Congregational Annual Meeting will be held today, January 19, before the worship service.



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin Ferrie Hedrick Chase Lineberger Deborah Bingham Richard Holden Liz Propst

Virginia Crump Myra Hollar
Daniel Dowd Zac Hullander

Jason Gardner

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Kathy Beam Laura Lanuto & Family Steve Sanford Jeff Lail Kelly Shoe Danny Bess Dale Burris Ruth Lail **Shore Family** Ronnie Hagy Dan Martin Megan Sigler Sandra Nix Ramona J. Sinclair Brian Hedrick Jimmy Surratt Kathy Helton Butch Passailaigue Betty Fox Jean Peters Charmaine Townsend **Taylor Propst & Family** Claudia Frazier Buck Weatherford Ronnie Hersey Mara Rappleyea Beverly F. Wall Betty Kannapel Joel Rivera (NY) Gloria Ward

OUR SE

OUR SERVICEMEN

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.

Sermon Notes – January 19, 2014 "Assembling a Team"

Jesus' Starting Line-up ... <u>Today</u>: John's account of the "calling of the disciples" – <u>next</u> Sunday: Matthew's account

And the draft picks keep happening ... in the Church, at HolyC! ("Don't pick me," we might say, "I'm not good enough for Jesus' team!") but, listen ...

"All God's gifts are right in front of you ... God Himself is right alongside to keep you steady ... God, who got you started in this Spiritual adventure (at your baptism,) shares with us the life of his Son Jesus. He will never give up on you. Never forget that."

(Today's 2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 1:4-8 from *The Message*)

Position Description/Application:

- 1. Hang around the "Quarterback" (prayer, SS, worship, Bible study)
- 2. Become a first team disciple ... 269/3
- 3. Ordinary players; extraordinary plays!

"I began to see that the Holy Spirit never intended that people who had gifts & abilities should bury them in the earth."

(John Bunyan, Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners)

"Do not neglect the gift that is in you." (1 Timothy 4:14 from NRSV)

4. One team, many players

"so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."

(Romans 12:5 from <u>Today's NIV</u>)



Fight Song for HolyC Church (God's Word for you again from 1 Cor.) ...

"HolyC ... God, who got you started in this Spiritual adventure (nearly 100 years ago,) shares with you the life of his Son Jesus. He will never give up on you. Never forget that."

Believe it! It's true!



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
 - ♦ Watch WSOC-TV for their list of closings and/or delays
- ♦ Check your email. Please give us your email address if we do not have it.

•	ol Attendand Children	Adults
Nursery	1	0
Pre-K	5	1
God's Eden Youth	8	2
Seekers		8
Adult Bible		13
Totals	14	24

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

PO Box 666 216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 www.HolyC.org

John Propst, Interim Pastor - JohnCPropst@gmail.com

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30am - 3:00pm (Lunch break taken sometime between Noon – 1:00pm, it varies)