

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, June 23, 2019

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Micah Kearney
Pastor



Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Now Thank We All Our God* J. S. Bach

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

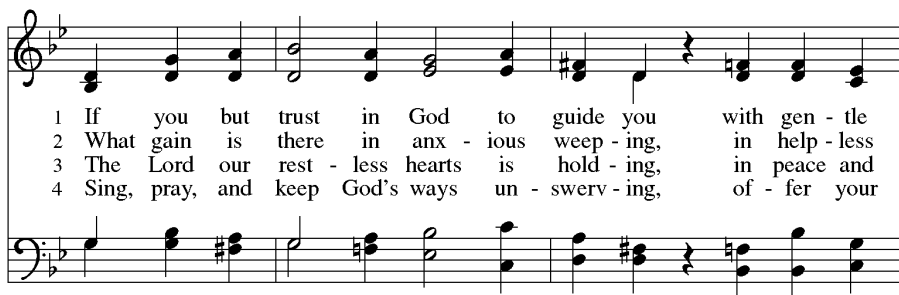
P God of mercy,

C we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us ☩ all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news!

C Amen.

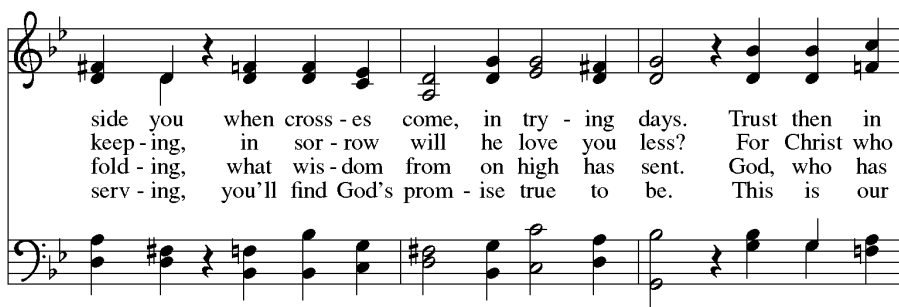
GATHERING SONG: *If You But Trust in God to Guide You All Stand & Sing*



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

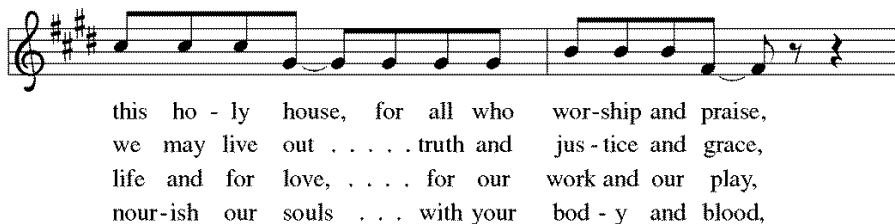
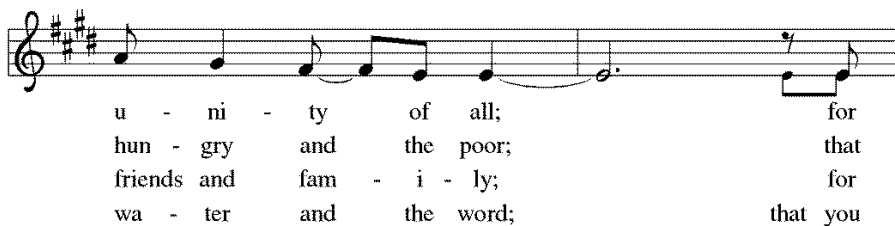
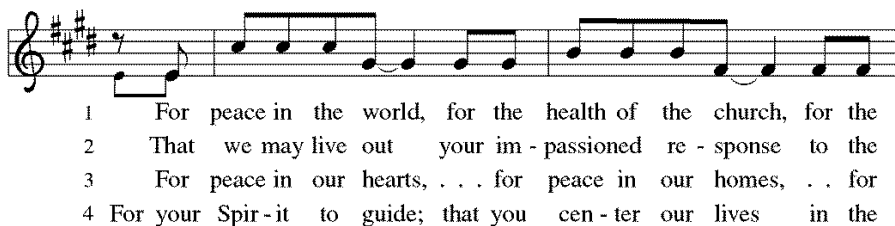
Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite
 Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
 Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE Pastor verses, Congregation Refrain



CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his. This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-



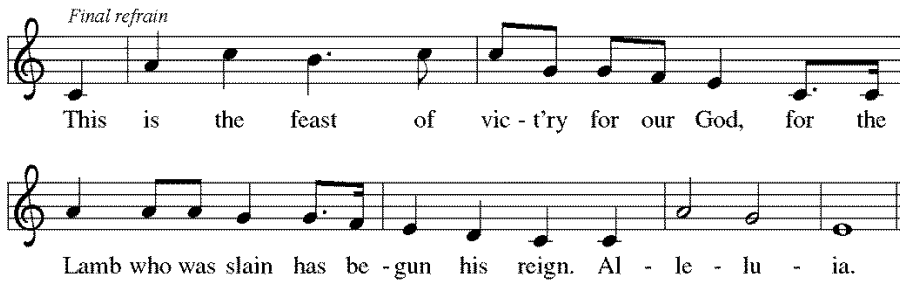
le-lu-ia. 2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or,



glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through 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

Isaiah 65:1-9

A reading from the sixty-fifth chapter of Isaiah.

The prophet announces God’s impatience. The people’s self absorption is idolatry, and images from pagan worship fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel’s exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

¹I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.
I said, "Here I am, here I am,"
to a nation that did not call on my name.
²I held out my hands all day long
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;
³a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and offering incense on bricks;
⁴who sit inside tombs,
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat swine's flesh,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;
⁵who say, "Keep to yourself,
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."
These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.
⁶See, it is written before me:
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will indeed repay into their laps
⁷their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,
says the LORD;
because they offered incense on the mountains
and reviled me on the hills,
I will measure into their laps
full payment for their actions.
⁸Thus says the LORD:
As the wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, "Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,"
so I will do for my servants' sake,
and not destroy them all.
⁹I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;

my chosen shall inherit it,
and my servants shall settle there.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Galatians 3:23-29

A reading from the third chapter of Galatians.

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

GOSPEL

Luke 8:26–39

P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

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

Jesus' mission includes foreigners, and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony of God's mercy and power.

²⁶Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”—²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation is seated.

SERMON Pastor Micah

Silence is Kept for Reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* All Stand & Sing



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

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

Joining our voices with God's people around the world, let us offer our prayers for those in need.

A brief silence.

For all servants of the gospel, for the church throughout the world, and for all who sing the praise and glory of God, that through the gift of faith, all declare the wonderful name of Christ, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the well-being of creation, for mountains and lakes, for fields and forests, and for plants and animals, that God lift up good stewards to care for the entire earth, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the nations and their rulers, for aid workers, and for people in war-torn areas, that God raise up leaders and advocates to work for the equality of all, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all who cry out in need: the hungry and poor, the downtrodden and outcast, the grieving and the sick (*especially*), that all know that God is near and hears their cries, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For teachers preparing for the upcoming school year, for those who are traveling and absent from worship, and for those who visit our congregation, that God's love lead them in their daily vocations, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, including those who have died. Confident that we belong to you in life and in death, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, you hear the prayers of your people even before they are spoken. We commend these and all our prayers to you, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *When In Our Music God Is Glorified* Church Choir,
Congregation as indicated:

(55) Congregation

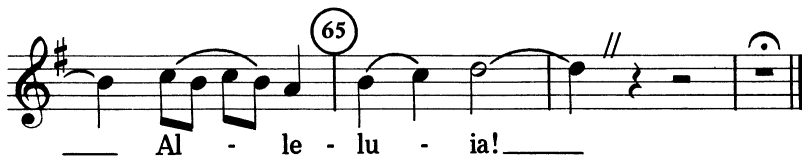
5. Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise!_

(60)

Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise!

And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:_

(Continued next page)



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OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Come, Ye Disconsolate* All Stand & Sing



1 Come, ye dis - con - so - late, wher - e'er ye lan - guish;
 2 Joy of the des - o - late, light of the stray - ing,
 3 Here see the Bread of life; see wa - ters flow - ing



come to the mer - cy - seat, fer - vent - ly kneel.
 hope of the pen - i - tent, fade - less and pure;
 forth from the throne of God, pure from a - bove.



Here bring your wound - ed hearts, here tell your an - guish;
 here speaks the Com - fort - er, ten - der - ly say - ing,
 Come to the feast of love; come, ev - er know - ing



earth has no sor - row that heav'n can - not heal.
 "Earth has no sor - row that heav'n can - not cure."
 earth has no sor - row but heav'n can re - move.

Text: Thomas Moore, 1779–1852, sts. 1–2; Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872, st. 3
 Music: CONSOLATOR, Samuel Webbe Sr., 1740–1816

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O God, for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine. Transform us to be the body of Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity; through Christ our 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

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

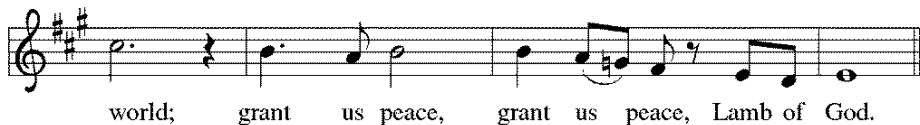


INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.
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



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: *We Come to You* All Sing



1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our



Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

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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 O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving; and the blessing of the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *On Our Way Rejoicing* All Stand & Sing

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Alto) and two parts of the piano (Right and Left Hand). It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain

On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,
hear-ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

SENDING

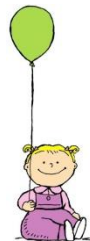
A Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

C Thanks be to God.

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

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



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.

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, June 16, 2019:

Attendance: 93

<u>Budget Report</u>	<u>June 16, 2019</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offering	\$ 5,975.00	\$124,693.46
Expenses	\$ 5,774.35	\$140,322.56
Offering less Expenses	<u>\$ 200.65</u>	<u>(\$ 15,629.10)</u>
Budgeted Expenses		<u>138,309.34</u>
Offering less Expected Expenses		<u>(\$ 13,615.88)</u>

Sanctuary Roof and HVAC Status as Of: 6/16/19

Goal: \$225,000
 Received to Date: 152,015
 Additional Amounts Promised: 35,000
 Remaining Needed: \$ 37,985

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye

GREETER: Sue Lahr

ACOLYTE: Volunteer

TELLERS: Fran Holland
 Trudy Whitener

CRUCIFER: Catherine Carr

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 2)
Brad & Brandy Milton, Co-Captains
Donna Bean
Amanda Kelly

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:
Volunteers

EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS: Volunteers

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:
Volunteer

NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am)
Brandy Milton

USHERS: Volunteers

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Pat Long in memory of John Long and John Hendrick.

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

Julia Gunter, Worship & Music Committee

BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK: June 23-29

Today, June 23 Eric Scholler
June 25 Wil Carpenter

June 27 Reid Passer
June 29 Gabriel Kearney



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, June 23

9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir prep
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

Tuesday, June 25

6:00 pm Worship & Music meets
7:00 pm Nar-Anon



It's Kickball Season.

Let the office or Tom Bocchino know if you are interested in playing.
18 years or older to participate
(16 with parental consent).
Games are on Mondays and Thursday evenings at Belmont Central.



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Cynthia Buchanan
Brenda Dabrowski
Becke Featherstone
Sarah Tench Helms

Kay Holden
Zac Hullander
Ben Moose
Sherry Perry
Marguerite Shive

Denise Taylor
Beverly Reynolds
Jerri & Mike Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Sue Barbee
Amy Beale Blythe
Doug Brewer
Ron de la Vega
Nancy Dickson
Qemal Fazlin
(Halide's husband)
Carol Fox
Earl Gardner
Larry "Poss" Garrett

Bill Hinkle
Meredith Hovis
Adam Kincaid
Steve Leonard
Jennifer Lineberger
Ronnie Lunsford
Ruth Lyerly
Cookie Lynn
Jane Marino
Clarence McLain

Zak Merzouki
Anne Murdy
Linda Nichols
Sara Nichols
Tommy Smith
Brody Thornburg
Dennis Yates
Doris Wade

OUR SERVICEMEN

Beau Carroll

Tom Kasmer

Leo Kasmer

Colton Parker



Please remember these people in your prayers.
**If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list,
please inform the church office.**

The sign-up prayer forms are in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org.



Safety, Safety, Safety Walk With God program is off to a great start but that means many more of us are out there on the roads, and we need to be mindful of our safety, so here are some tips to ensure you are safe and sound while walking:

- Be safe and be seen: Cross the street in a well-lit area at night; carry a flashlight; stand clear of buses, hedges, parked cars or other obstacles before crossing so drivers can see you.
- Be smart and alert: Walk on the sidewalk – if there's no sidewalk, walk facing traffic; don't assume vehicles will stop; don't rely solely on pedestrian signals – look before crossing.
- Be careful at crossings: Cross streets only at crosswalks; obey traffic signals; look left, right, and left again; watch for turning vehicles; look across ALL lanes; don't wear headphones or talk on a cell phone while crossing!

Keep your safety foremost on your mind and enjoy!

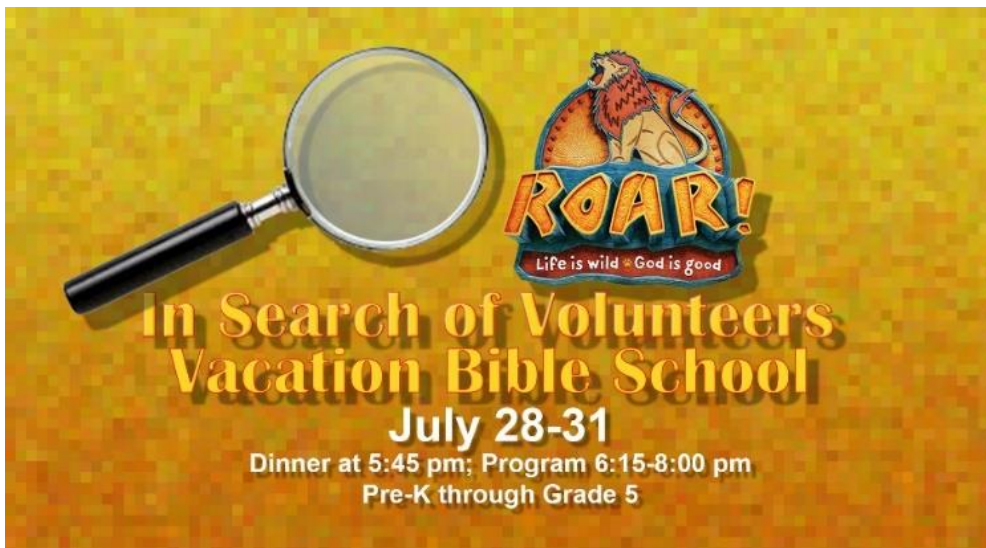
WWG participants – log, log, log! Turn in those miles, please! Not involved yet? It's ok to sign up and begin the program at ANY time – just grab a packet of instructions and add your name to the list on the sign up sheet – the more participants, the merrier!



NOTE: If you would like to register your child for VBS, contact Beka.

For ages Pre-K through Grade 5

VBS dinner is at 5:45 pm; Program 6:15-8:00 pm





Holy Doodles

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483
holyccomforter@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am The Service
Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am — 3:00 pm

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: MKearney@holyc.org
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster
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