Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, July 28, 2019

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Micah Kearney Pastor



Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE

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: How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds All Stand & Sing



5 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, my prophet, priest, and king, my Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Music: ST. PETER, Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877

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.

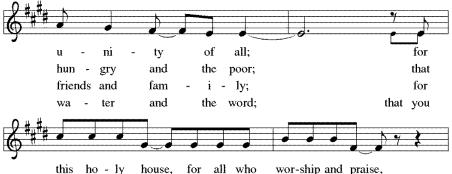
KYRIE Pastor verses, Congregation Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im passioned re sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace, life and for love, . . . for our work and our play, nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



CANTICLE OF PRAISE





SALUTATION

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through 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 Genesis 18:20-32

A reading from the eighteenth chapter of Genesis.

In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom, for the sake of the few righteous people who are in it, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.

²⁰Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

²²So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the

righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." ²⁷Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³²Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

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

SECOND READING Colossians 2:6-15

A reading from the second chapter of Colossians.

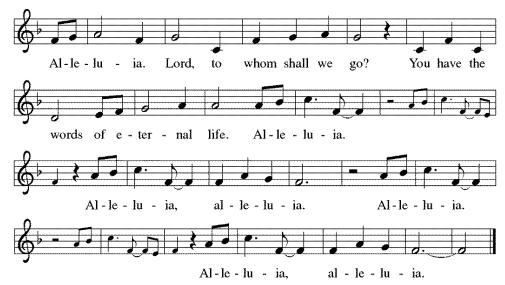
Paul warns his congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection, which is enacted in baptism.

⁶As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

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

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL Luke 11:1–13

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to child-like trust and persistence in prayer.

¹[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has

arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

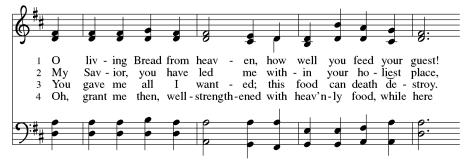
⁹"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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

Congregation is seated.

Silence is Kept for Reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: O Living Bread from Heaven All Stand & Sing





Text: Johann Rist, 1607–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

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

Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation.

A brief silence.

Merciful God, you know your church. Guard and keep the whole body of Christ. Increase in us strength, love, and peace so that we are a blessing to the world. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful Creator, you know the work of your hands. Guard and keep your creation. Bless the work of those who tend the earth's resources and who seek to provide abundantly for all. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful King, you know the nations, and you are the head of every ruler and authority. Guard and keep the world in justice and mercy, and let the words of your mouth bring peace on earth. Your kingdom come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, you know our needs. Guard and keep those who are hungry, those who are victims of violence or oppression, and those who are weary from illness (*especially*). Give us today our daily bread. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful God, you know our congregation. Guard and keep those who enrich us with the gift of music in this place, proclaiming the gospel in song. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, you know your saints. Guard and keep those faithful departed (*especially*). Inspire our confidence in you until that day when we are all raised in the power and glory of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

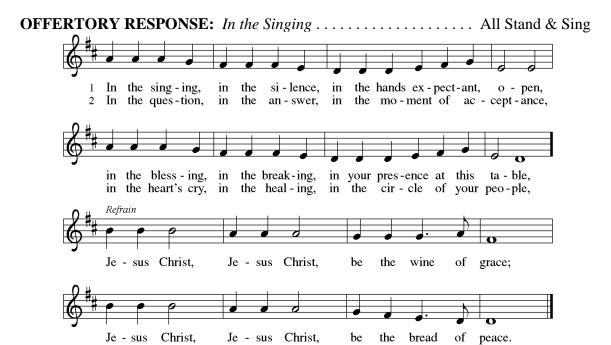
Amen.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY



Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931 Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926 Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.

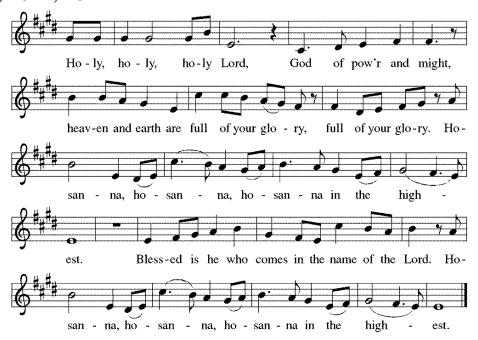
DIALOGUE

- 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



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

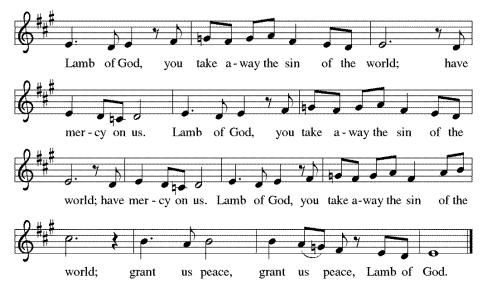
LORD'S PRAYER

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





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: What a Friend All Sing



- 1 What a friend we have in Je sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri als and temp ta tions? Is there trou-ble an y where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav-y lad en, cum bered with a load of care?



We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.

Pre - cious Sav-ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-lesspain we bear—Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rowsshare? Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!

Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.

In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so-lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886

Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918

- 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: Praise to the Lord All Stand & Sing



Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

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 Seventh 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, July 21, 2019:

Attendance: 101

Budget Report	This Week	Year-to-Date	(Unfavorable)
Offering	\$ 5,192.31	\$144,880.77	(22,575.27)
Expenses	\$ 5,774.35	\$168,605.70	(1,149.66)
Offering less Expenses	(\$ 582.04)	(\$ 23,724.93)	(23,724.93)

Sanctuary Roof and HVAC Status as Of: 7/21/19

Goal: \$225,000 Received to Date: 155,385 Additional Amounts Promised: 35,000 Remaining Needed: \$34,615 **ASSISTING MINISTERS:**

LECTOR: Billy Joye GREETER: Volunteer

ACOLYTE: Kaylin Leitner TELLERS: Shelia Kelly

Tim Kelly

CRUCIFER: Volunteer

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3) CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Fran Holland, Co-Captain Beka Forst Tracey Nault, Co-Captain

Rebecca Yount NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am)

Jill Cassel

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

Volunteers USHERS: Volunteers

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:

Volunteers

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in memory of Bob & Betty King, Judy "Grandma" Outlaw, and Julia Skinner.

<u>Those who have placed flowers on the altar</u> 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: July 28-August August 3

August 2 Alyssa Buchanan Becke Featherstone



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, July 28
9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service w/Holv Communion

Tuesday, July 30 7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Sunday, July 28-Wednesday July 31

5:45 pm VBS Dinner

6:15-8:00 pm VBS program





PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen AllenSarah Tench HelmsSherry PerryCynthia BuchananKay HoldenMarguerite ShiveShirley CausbyZac HullanderDenise TaylorBrenda DabrowskiSue LahrBeverly ReynoldsBecke FeatherstoneBen MooseJerri & Mike Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Amy Beale Blythe Meredith Hovis Anne Murdy **Doug Brewer** Steve Leonard Linda Nichols Ron de la Vega Jennifer Lineberger Sarah Nichols Nancy Dickson Ruth Lyerly Richard Peters Carol Fox Cookie Lynn Tommy Smith Earl Gardner Jane Marino **Brody Thornburg** Larry "Poss" Garrett Clarence McLain Dennis Yates

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.



Spice It Up and Use Less Sodium An important part of healthy eating is choosing foods that are low in salt. Using less sodium is key to keeping blood pressure at a healthy level. Most Americans use more salt and sodium than they need. Some people, such as African Americans and the elderly, are especially sensitive to salt and sodium, and should be particularly careful about how much they consume. Most Americans should consume no more than 2.4 grams of sodium a day. That equals 6 grams (about 1 teaspoon) of table salt a day. The 6 grams

includes *all salt and sodium consumed*, *including that used in cooking and at the table*. Before trying salt substitutes, check with your doctor, especially if you have high blood pressure. Salt substitutes contain potassium chloride and may be harmful for those with certain medical conditions. With herbs, spices, garlic, and onions, you can make your food spicy and flavorful without salt and sodium. Try adding basil, cinnamon, chili powder, cloves, dill weed, ginger, marjoram, nutmeg, oregano, parsley, rosemary, sage, and thyme in various dishes. You'll discover you can get along quite well without added salt!

Speaking of blood pressure...have you had yours checked lately? Next week the Health Ministry will be available to check your pressure in the fellowship hall after worship service. We look forward to seeing you then!

WWG participants! We have now made it to the west coast! 2,614 miles total and made it to San Luis Obispo, CA! NOW we turn around and head back...if we keep at it the way we have, we MAY even be able to pass up NC, go to the far east coast and THEN back home. We will see!







Holy Doodles

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

216 N. Main Street 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

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: MKearney@holyc.org Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse