Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, March 3, 2019

Transfiguration Sunday



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

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, \pm one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.
- C Amen.
- P Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

- P Mighty and loving God,
- C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.
- P Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." In the name of + Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Immortal, Invisible* All Stand & Sing



Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

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.

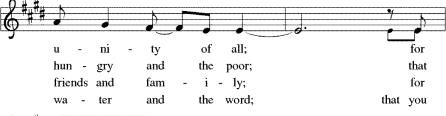








- For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im passioned re sponse to the
- For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the





this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise, 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.

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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 Exodus 34:29-35

A reading from the thirty-fourth chapter of Exodus.

Moses' face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the ten commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

²⁹Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³²Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2

A reading from the third chapter of 2 Corinthians.

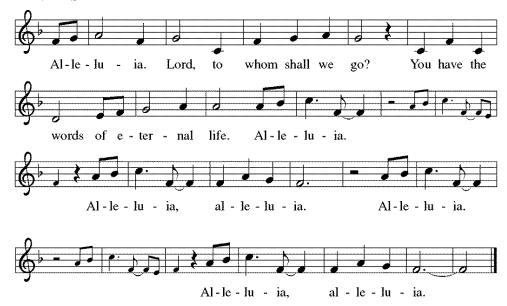
In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

¹²Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

^{4:1}Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL Luke 9:28–36

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

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered

the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

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

Silence is Kept for Reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: How Good, Lord, to Be Here! All Stand & Sing



Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, The Church Psalter and Hymn Book, 1854

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

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Open us to listen to your word and to do your will. Direct us in paths of faithful service that reflect your love. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the earth, your beloved creation and our fragile home; for mountains and prairies; for cities and wilderness areas. Renew places we have neglected or misused. Where natural disasters have altered the land, help us to honor nature's healing. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations. Shine the light of truth into world relationships hindered by mistrust or misunderstanding. Bring freedom and stability to all nations. Shelter those who have been displaced by war, famine, or natural disaster. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For those in need. Free those who struggle with shame or guilt. Bring clarity to those whose judgment is clouded by fear. Comfort those who grieve, and heal the sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For this assembly. Deepen our faith and understanding. Guide our ministries of hospitality and outreach. Renew us in the baptismal promise to care for others and the world you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died. Inspire us by their example and bring us with them into the eternal light of your presence. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* Church Choir Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light, Sun of righteousness, arise, triumph o're the shades of night; Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee; joyless is the day's return, till thy mercy's beams I see, more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

Visit then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief; Fill me, radiancy divine, scatter all my unbelief; more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788 Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, Choralbuch, 1815 **OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** Come, Beloved of the Maker.......... All Stand & Sing Come, beloved of the Maker, come, behold the Firstborn One;

see revealed creation's splendor crowned in glory like the sun.

See the Morning star now beckon to those bound to doubt and night; "Follow me," Christ calls in welcome, "come from darkness into light."

Follow to the birth of newness; follow to the life of peace; Follow to the hill of anguish; follow to the garden bliss.

Christ, bright image of the Maker, God, whose glory none may pass, Spirit, sun of love and splendor, bear us into light at last.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 Music: JILL, David Cherwien, b. 1957 Text © 2001 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 2002 Augsburg Fortress.

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

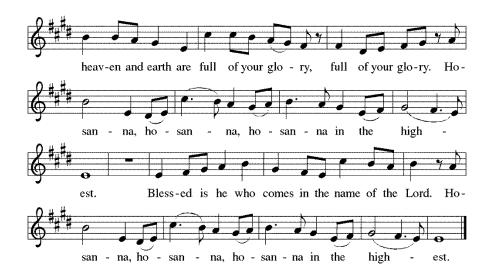
- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

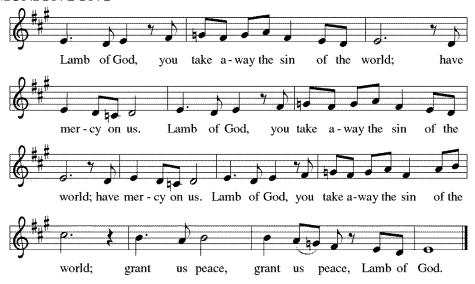
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.
- 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: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

C We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P 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.

All Stand & Sing This lit - tle light of Ev - 'ry - where I mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; I'm goin'-a let it shine; go, 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; oh, 8 this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev - 'ry - where I I'm goin'-a let it shine; go, Je - sus gave it I'm goin'-a let it shine; me, oh, this lit - tle light of mine, ľm goin' - a let shine, ev - 'ry - where I ľm goin' - a let shine, it go, Je - sus gave it me, ľm goin' - a let shine, oh,

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let it shine.

shine.

shine.

SENDING

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

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this Transfiguration Sunday. 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.

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 the Ince Family in memory of Theron Nance.

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

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, February 24, 2019:

Attendance: 130

Budget Report February 24, 2019 Year-to-Date \$ 4,540.00 \$ 34,743.01 Offering \$ 5,774.35 Expenses \$ 46,583.57 1.234.35) Offering less Expenses (\$11,840.56)**Expected Expenses** \$ 44,819.93 Offering less Expected Expenses (\$10,076.92)

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye GREETER: Katie Howard

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: TELLERS: Amanda & Nathan Kelly

Volunteers

Wednesday, March 6

Saturday, March 9

Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1) CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Bev Mauney, Co-Captain Veronica Bryant Charles Mauney, Co-Captain

Carmen De Nicholas NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am)

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: USHERS: Volunteers

Volunteers

Deb Williams

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS: Volunteers

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS: Today, Sunday, March 3

8:45 am Children's Ensemble 6:00 pm Youth Handbells

9:30 am Sunday School 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service 10:10 am Church Choir with Holy Communion

10:30 am The Service w/HC Church Council after

2:00 pm Confirmation 5:00 pm Adult Handbells

6:00 pm Church Choir practice

Tuesday, March 5

6:00 pm **Shrove Tuesday** 4:30 pm **Staying Connected** meets at

Pancake Dinner Ronald McDonald House in 7:00 pm Chamber Choir practice Charlotte to prepare the meal

Nar-Anon for residents

18

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: March 3-9

March 4 Dean Halvorson

March 5 Rob Ratchford

March 6 Debbie Baker

Jo Singleton

March 7 Roger DiBiase Holly Harper

The Lillian E. Lineberger Scholarship Ministry



Applications for the 2019-2020 academic year are now available in the church office or via email at holycomforter@gmail.com. Include *Lineberger Scholarship* in the subject line. The office manager will send you an application that you can complete. The deadline for your *completed* application, transcript, and typed essay is April 30. Any applications received after that date will not be considered.

The Lillian E. Lineberger Scholarship was established as an endowment by Mrs. Lineberger to the congregation to reinforce students of the church in their learning and in the accomplishment of an undergraduate or graduate degree. Her hope was that this bequest would help improve their lives, and in turn, serve and enrich the lives of others. Modest scholarships will be awarded to students of the congregation from the fund.

Authorized by the Holy Comforter Church Council, the Scholarship Ministry accepts applications from candidates who have been communing and contributing members of the church for at least one year. The annual deadline April 30th and the awards are announced in May or early June.

The amount of the award depends on the following:

- Number of students applying for, and receiving, an award
- Total amount in the fund
- Recent fund performance

Other donations to this fund can be made as memorials or tributes to friends and family on their special occasions. Please make checks payable to *Holy Comforter* and write *Lineberger Scholarship Ministry* on the memo line to ensure your gift is credited appropriately.

As the fund grows, we will be able to give more help to students.

Thank You, The Scholarship Ministry



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen Cynthia Buchanan Brenda Dabrowski Becke Featherstone Sarah Tench Helms Zac Hullander Sue Lahr Ben Moose Sherry Perry Marguerite Shive Denise Taylor Beverly Reynolds Jerri & Mike Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Amy Beale Blythe
Doug Brewer
Ron de la Vega
Linda Cline
Romania Cline
Nancy Dickson
Dallas Foscue
Carol Fox

Earl Gardner
Larry "Poss" Garrett
Meredith Hovis
Steve Leonard
Jennifer Lineberger
Ronnie Lunsford
Ruth Lyerly
Cookie Lynn

Jane Marino
Clarence McLain
Anne Murdy
Richard Peters
Tommy Smith
Brody Thornburg
Jack Wade
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.



Words of Sympathy and Hope Are offered to Fran Holland & Family on the death of her aunt, Bradine Wilkinson Lingerfelt

There are several **Sundays available** for you to honor a loved one by placing altar flowers in their name. You may choose one vase for \$22.50 or both vases for \$45.00.



Sign your name and the name of who you are placing the flowers in memory or in honor of at the date you choose. Make your check/payment to Holy Comforter and write on the memo line that it is for *altar flowers*. You may place your payment in the offering plate or take to the church office.

Signup sheet for altar flowers is in the rack located in the narthex. Please print plainly so proper credit can be given.



A signup sheet for the *Isle of Palms Retreat* is floating around the church. The dates for the retreat are Thursday, May 23 — Monday, May 27. Checks for reservations are due and deposited on Easter Sunday.

Cost: \$99 per room with 2-night minimum stay.



Lent in a Box is a new tool we will be offering to households to walk through Jesus' journey to the Cross. Each box has everything you need inside of it for you to successfully do each devotion, activity, and have each conversation. The special quality about these boxes, is that they are made for EVERYONE and ANYONE. So, if you don't have kids and would like to participate in the readings, do the activities, or pass a box on to other families, they are equipped to be used in any of those ways. They are in the Narthex starting TODAY! We can't wait to hear about your Lent in a Box activites!



Beware the Look-Alikes "4 Hospitalized, 1 Critically Ill, 1 Dead; Torch Lamp Oil Mistaken for Apple Juice." This was a press release from a paper in Newark, NJ, back in June of 2008. In four of the 6 cases of lamp oil ingestion, the victims drank the oil, which looks like apple juice, thinking it WAS apple juice. There are other products that look alike and come in containers closely resembling juices — Pine Sol and

Listerine, Tums and Smarties, Ex-lax and chocolate bars, Sudafed and Red Hots candy – and to small children they ARE the SAME! It is important for families to lock up potentially dangerous products, keep them far from food, and educate the entire family on the dangers of these "look-a-likes." And, if you suspect a poisoning, call the Poison Control Center (1-800-222-1222) immediately for treatment advice – don't try to second-guess the treatment you should give...it could turn out to be wrong and precious minutes will not only be wasted but you could cause further harm. Keep those kiddos safe!

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING TODAY AFTER WORSHIP! COME SEE US IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR A QUICK READING OF YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE!

Sign up for PEP now – beginning March 21 @ 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Gentle stretching and toning of muscles and joints. If you'd like to join us, sign up now by emailing or calling Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse, at 717-329-8507 or parishnurse0407@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!



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: MicahKearney@gmail.com Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse