

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, January 14, 2018

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster



GATHERING/WELCOME

PRELUDE: *How Lovely Shines the Morning Star* Praetorius

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 stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Loving God,

C we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.

P Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ☩ Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Jesus, Come! For We Invite You All Stand & Sing*



1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
 2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
 3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
 4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing



friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
 paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
 pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
 to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,



speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
 let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
 chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
 all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
 se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
 ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
 rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938

Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958

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Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

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 All Sing Refrain; Cantor sings verses



- 1 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



u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



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,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

GLORY TO GOD All Sing Refrain and Verses



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



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



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



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



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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the

right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, the high-est, and

peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 3 For you a-

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

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the

Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.

A-men. A-men. A-men.

Final refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, the high-est, and peace to God's

peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the high-

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

*Congregation is seated and 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 nurseries**.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 3:1-10

A reading from the third chapter of 1 Samuel.

At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the Lord comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel’s prophetic ministry.

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down.

⁶The LORD called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.

⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak,

LORD, for your servant is listening.’ ” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



PSALM 139:1-6, 13-18. All Sing

¹LORD, you have | searched me out;

O LORD, you | have known me.

²**You know my sitting down and my | rising up;**
you discern my thoughts | from afar.

³You trace my journeys and my | resting-places
and are acquainted with | all my ways.

⁴**Indeed, there is not a word | on my lips,**
but you, O LORD, know it | altogether.

⁵You encompass me, behind | and before,
and lay your | hand upon me.

⁶**Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me;**
it is so high that I cannot at- | tain to it.

¹³For you yourself created my | inmost parts;
you knit me together in my | mother's womb.

¹⁴**I will thank you because I am mar- | velously made;**
your works are wonderful, and I | know it well.

¹⁵My body was not hid- | den from you,
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths | of the earth.

¹⁶**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were**
written | in your book;

my days were fashioned before they | came to be.

¹⁷How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!
How great is the | sum of them!

¹⁸**If I were to count them, they would be more in number | than the sand;**
to count them all, my life span would need to | be like yours.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

A reading from the sixth chapter of 1 Corinthians.

Paul is helping the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.

¹²“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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

John 1:43-51

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

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

In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth."

⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."



P The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON Pastor Micah

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



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -
2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -
3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and
4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and
5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in
part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -
foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the
birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a
dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.
cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.
tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.
sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.
not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Now the Silence* Church Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Lord, Be Glorified* All Stand & Sing

1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;
2 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;
3 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;
4 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;

in my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
in our song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
in your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
in your world, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick

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OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the church throughout the world and for all called to its various ministries, that the Holy Spirit invite us and others to “come and see,” let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the well-being of creation, for plants that provide nourishment, for animals that tend their young, that your goodness will be revealed through all creation, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the nations and all in authority, for advocates, for those who work for your redemptive justice, and for our community, that all people may thrive together in harmony and order, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all who are oppressed; for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*); for caregivers and families; for those who grieve and cannot sleep, that comfort will come to those in any distress, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For travelers and those unable to attend worship today, for members of our community celebrating special events, and for those who request prayers, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for those who followed Christ and now rest from their labors, that their witness provide a model of prophetic leadership and tireless justice-making, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

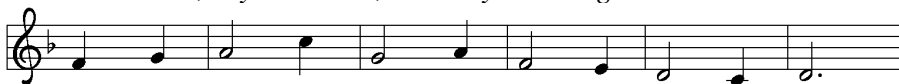
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

P 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: *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* All Stand & Sing



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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SENDING

A Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION for those who desire it will be offered at the altar after worship.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME 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.

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. Nurseries for children (**infants through 3 years old**) are in the Education building. We encourage you to use the nurseries if your children become restless and/or vocal. 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 Julia Gunter in honor of Abbey Kowalewski's birthday; and by Arden & Merritt De Nicholas in honor of their mom Carmen's birthday.

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

Carmen Buell, Worship & Music Committee

Offering and Attendance Report for January 7, 2018:

Attendance: 125

Budget Report

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Full Year 2017</u>
Offering	\$ 5,804.00	\$ 282,801.34
Expenses	\$ 5,551.17	\$ 282,161.28
Offering less Expenses	<u>\$ 252.83</u>	<u>\$ 640.06</u>
Budgeted Expenses		<u>\$ 294,134.00</u>
Offering less Budgeted Expenses		(\$ 11,332.66)

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: January 14-20

January 15 Zaneta Sarrazin

January 17 Julie Wiegand

January 18 Carmen De Nicholas

Jerri Wesson

January 19 Faye Heller

Paul Outlaw

Elliott Williams



ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Brian Achor

GREETER: Carmen Buell

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:

Volunteers

TELLERS: Amanda Kelly

Nathan Kelly

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 4)

Carmen Buell, Captain

Dean & Diann Halvorson

Barbara Kasmer

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Jenn Kearney

CANTOR: Greg Byrum

NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am)

Infants: Staff; *Toddlers:* Rianna Nance

USHERS: Volunteers

The congregational meeting will be held January 21.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Sunday, January 14

9:30 am Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir prep
10:30 am The Service
Church Council after
4:00 pm Children's Ensemble
5:00 pm Adult Handbells
6:00 pm Church Choir

Tuesday, January 16

7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Christian Ed meeting
Nar-Anon

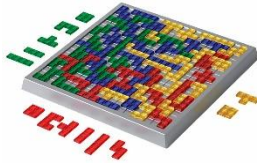
Wednesday, January 17

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

Saturday, January 20

10:00 pm ***Kids' Club***

Meet at the church to
play board games
Bring your favorites.



BCO January Items of the Month



Canned Soups



HCY is collecting items for Carolina Big Hearts
Big Barks Rescue.

Accepting Items as follows:
toys, food, blankets, beds, litter, etc.





PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Carmen Buell
Brenda Dabrowski
Ardean Ewing
Becke Featherstone
Ned Featherstone
Dot Holland
Zac Hullander

Jo Irwin
Chuck Kimball & Family
Vivian Lane
Chase Lineberger
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry
Marguerite Shive
Jo Singleton & Family

Ron Speck
Denise Taylor
Jack Tench
Beverly Reynolds
Kathie Schaumburg
Jerri Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Jeanne Bernhardt
Barbara Bingham
Amy Beale Blythe
Doug Brewer
Karen de la Vega

Carol Fox
Larry "Poss" Garrett
Brandi Hager
John McDermid
Clarence McLain

Jennifer Lineberger
Anne Murdy
Brody Thornburg
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



Holy Doodles



If you are willing to serve as a ***Greeter, Lector, Usher, Eucharist Presenter*** OR help in the **nursery** for the **2018** year, please sign your name on the sign-up sheet for each position you are volunteering for. Each volunteer position is listed on a separate clipboard. The clipboards are in the narthex. If willing to volunteer for the whole month, then sign your name at each date for that month. **The chief lector will serve on festival Sundays. To help with the nursery, contact Beka.**

Holy Comforter is starting a new Men's Group!

The group will focus on Service both to Holy C and the surrounding community.

An initial monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, February 1 at 7:00 pm at Holy Comforter to gather for introductions, fellowship and to inventory the gifts we have.

Then we can discuss how and where to deploy them.

Any and all of you gifted guys are welcome—from Accountants to Woodworkers, Plumbers, Pruners, and Pickup owners.

Come and join us!



The **National Youth Gathering** is exactly what it sounds like, 30,000 + youth will gather in Houston. We are excited to serve, worship and gather in large community.

There are 163 days till our group of 7 travels to Houston!

For more information or looking to help, talk to Beka.

Thank you for your contribution to the *Peanut Butter & Jelly Campaign*. 42 jars of peanut butter and jelly have been donated to the *Guardian ad Litem* annual collection that will be distributed to food banks in Gaston County. Your donations will make a difference in a family having something to eat.

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