

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

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

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing* Manz

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, the Sovereign over all the earth, the Wisdom from on high, our merciful Judge and Savior.

C Amen.

P Let us boldly approach the throne of grace, trusting in God's mercy and love.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Generous and faithful God,

C we confess to you all the ways, known and unknown, that we reject and undermine your steadfast love. Though you made us your people, we treat strangers with suspicion. Though you forgave our debts, we collect without mercy. Yet we are quick to pass judgment on others. Have mercy on us, O God, and remember your promise to us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Through the living Word, + Jesus Christ, God forgives your every debt, your every sin, and gives you a new heart and a new spirit.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *God of Grace* All Stand & Sing

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932

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

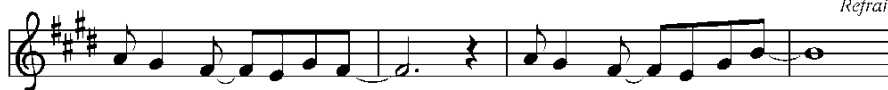
4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



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

Refrain

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

Refrain

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.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, 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 45:1–7

A reading from the forty-fifth chapter of Isaiah.

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him —
and the gates shall not be closed:

²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun

I form light and create darkness,
 I make weal and create woe;
 I the LORD do all these things.

C Thanks be to God.



**¹²⁷Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com-¹ing, O LORD,
for you come to¹ judge the earth.**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

A reading from the first chapter of 1 Thessalonians.

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul is giving pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic pagan environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

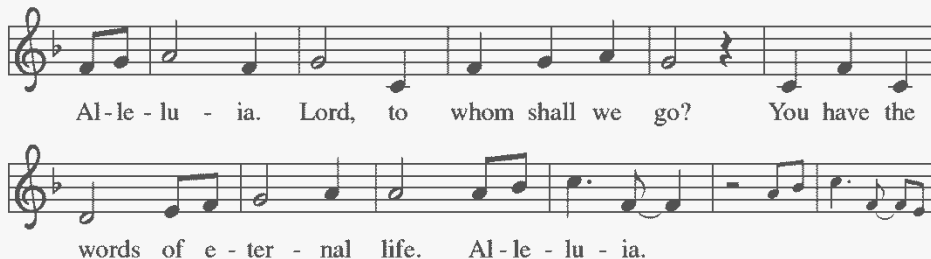
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

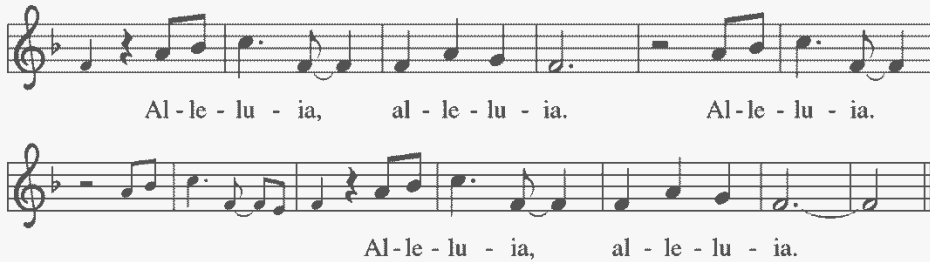
²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE





GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15–22

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

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

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

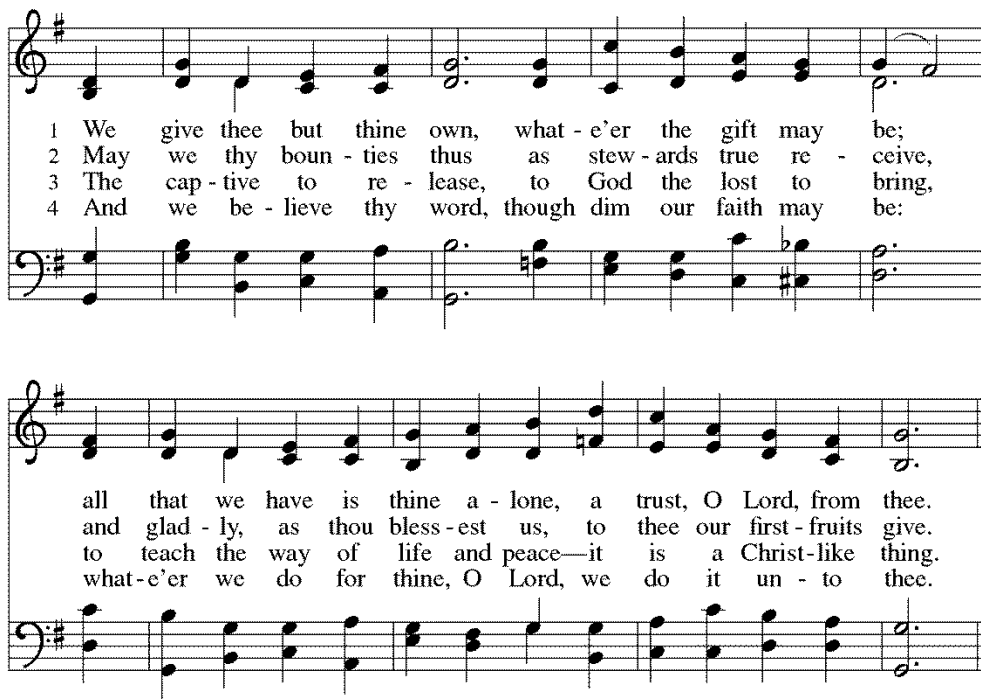
¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON..... Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: *We Give Thee But Thine Own All Stand & Sing*



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
 3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
 4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
 to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.
 what-e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
 Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

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.**

* catholic with a small “c” refers to the whole Christian church throughout the world.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *The Son of God, Our Christ* Chamber 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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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Lord of the church, help us to give to you what is yours. Make us faithful stewards of our time, talents, and treasures. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of creation, help us to share our bounties. Plant in us a willing and able desire to utilize the world's resources wisely and without bias. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of the nations, help us to put aside malice. Teach us to fight for justice, to liberate the oppressed, and to advocate for those who have no voice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of life, help us in our need. Restore the minds, bodies, and spirits of those who are sick and soothe those who despair (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of all, help us to support one another. Bless our communities, sustain local businesses, and remove enmity between neighbors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of the resurrection, help us to rejoice in your promises. Gladden the hearts of those who grieve. Greet those who die with your reviving grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your mercy and goodness, we bring before you these prayers and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of the one who sets us free, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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 blessing of almighty God, the Father of glory, + Jesus Christ our peace, and the Spirit of truth, be upon you and remain with you always.
C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* All Stand & Sing

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.
 Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this **Nineteenth 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 located in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance finding it.



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 Myra & Bill Hollar in honor of Virginia Neagle'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.

Greg Byrum, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, October 12, 2014:

Attendance: **137**

Budget Report

Current Offering Received 10/12/14
Weekly Budgeted Expenses
Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD

October 12, 2014

\$ 4,345.00
\$ 4,504.60
\$166,962.99
(\$ 4,357.97)
(\$ 16,429.61)

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye, Jr., Beth Brittain

ACOLYTES: Becca Gatlin,
Matthew Carr

CRUCIFERS: Cooper Burwell,
Madison Carr

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1)

Bev Mauney, Co-Captain
Brad Milton, Co-Captain
Charles Mauney
Brandy Milton
Carmen De Nicholas

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

Today: **Need Volunteer**

GREETER: Shirley Causby

USHERS: Nathan Kelly + Volunteers

TELLERS: Rochelle & Danny Potter

CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS:

Today: Tracey Nault + Helper
Next Sunday: Judy & Molly Caldwell

CANTOR: Greg Byrum

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, October 19

9:30 am Sunday School
10:10 am Choir meets in choir room
10:30 am The Service
4:00 pm Children's Ensemble
5:00 pm Handbells
6:00 pm Church Choir
8:00 pm Nar-Anon



Saturday, October 25

8:30 am **Confirmands** meet to
carpool to Philadelphia Lutheran
in Dallas, NC

Sunday, October 26

Reformation Sunday

Tuesday, October 21

7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Nar-Anon

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: October 19-25

October 22 Whit Braddy
Carmen Buell
October 23 Eva Kline
Carson Potter



October 23 Noah Rogers
October 24 Renee Carpenter
October 25 Virginia Neagle
Andrew Whitley



Attendance October 12, 2014

Children

Adults

Nursery

Pre-K

God's Eden

Youth

Seekers

Adult Bible Class

Totals: No Numbers available

Heather Mauney Yount Memorial Playground Project



The playground, built on our church grounds, is a commercial structure designed for 2-12 year-olds. We are finishing the construction as funds become available.

Approximately \$3500 is still needed to complete this project.

Please join us in making the finished playground a reality
by indication on your check memo line or offering envelope:

Playground Project



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Brian Achor Family
Louise Austin
Family of Scott Caldwell
Daniel Dowd
Cher Grant

Ferrie Hedrick
Kay Holden
Zac Hullander
Bill & Pauline Joye
Chase Lineberger

Virginia Neagle
Mabel Ratchford
Mark Reese
Marguerite Shive

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Harriett Ange
Janice Barker
Kathy Beam
Dale Burris
Father Frank Cancro
Ken Capps
Wesley Coleman
Ronnie Hagy
Brian Hedrick
Kathy Helton
Betty Fox
Claudia Frazier
Donald Freeman
Dallas Foscue
Ronnie Garrison
Ronnie Hersey
Judy Jackson
Dennis Jordan

Wesley Jordan & Family
Betty Kannapel
Steven Keating
Marshall Kinley
Lance Kirkland
Becky Knick
Alice Langley
Laura Lanuto & Family
Pierce Lee
Michael Logan
Steve Mathis
Fay McCarn
Peggy McKenney & Family
Sandra Nix
Mark Outlaw
Jean Peters
Leland "Lee" Peterson
Scott Phillips

Steve Pletsas
Taylor Propst & Family
David Prouty
Mara Rappleyea
Anna Rudder
Steve Sanford
Samana Shull
Megan Sigler
Ramona J. Sinclair
Jimmy Surratt
E. Taylor & Family
Beverly F. Wall
Gloria Ward
Bryan Wayburn
Pastor Gary Weant
Olivia Wilcox

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek

Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer



Jeremy Shaver

OUR MISSIONARIES

Austin & Tanya Propst (Young Adults in Global Mission)

Please remember these people in your prayers.

If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please inform Trudy Whitener or Dianne in the church office.

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



*Prayers of Sympathy & Hope
Are offered to the family of
Scott Caldwell*

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 666 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 Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager