

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, August 21, 2016

The Fourteenth Sunday after the Pentecost



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Trumpet Voluntary* Pavlechko

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, abounding in steadfast love toward us,
healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Just and gracious God,

C we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P The apostle Paul assures us: “When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross.” Jesus says to you, ☩ “Your sins are forgiven.” Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *God Is Here!* All Stand & Sing



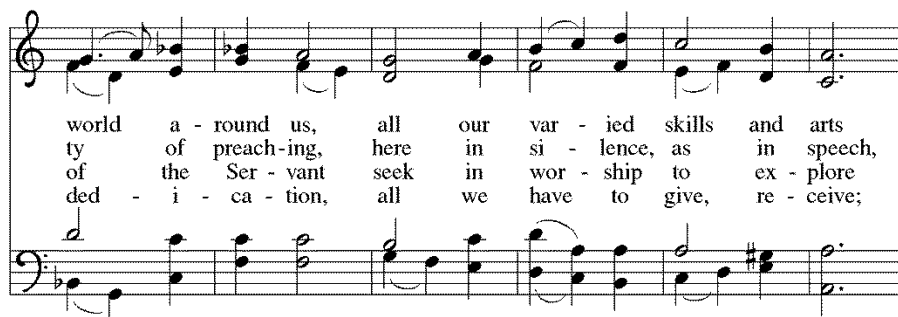
1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of the preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: ABBOTS LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
 Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company.
 Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

Refrain

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

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

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.

Refrain

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.

I 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-

Refrain



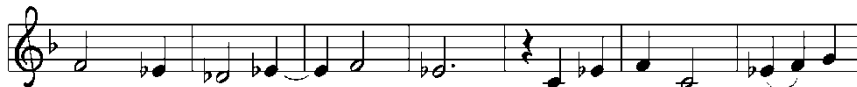
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



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 -



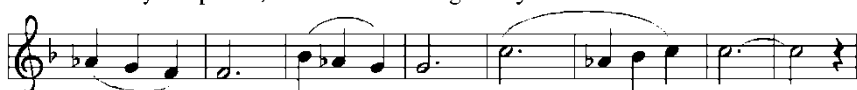
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



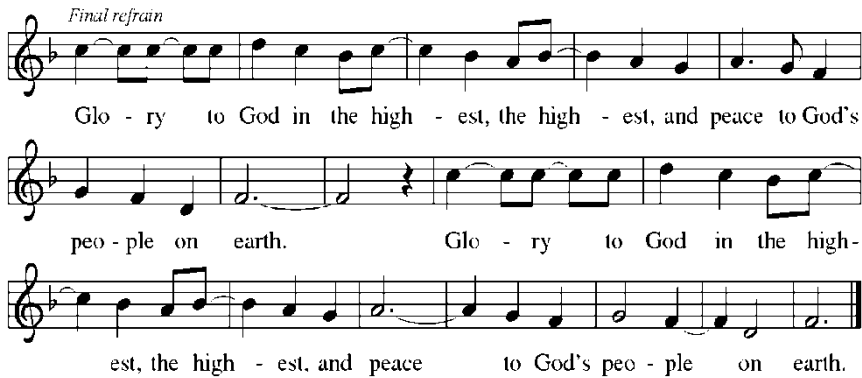
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the



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



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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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

Isaiah 58:9b-14

A reading from the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah.

The Lord promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

- ^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you,
 the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry

and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;

¹⁴then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 103:1-8All Sing

¹Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, | O my soul,**
and forget not | all God's benefits—

³who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;**
⁵who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.
⁶**O LORD, you provide | vindication
and justice for all who | are oppressed.**
⁷You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
⁸**LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:18-29

A reading from the twelfth chapter of Hebrews.

Using images of Moses from the Old Testament, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

¹⁸You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰(For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.” ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”) ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.” ²⁷This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL

Luke 13:10-17

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

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

Jesus heals a woman on the Sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the Sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "Sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.

¹⁰Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the Sabbath day." ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and



said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

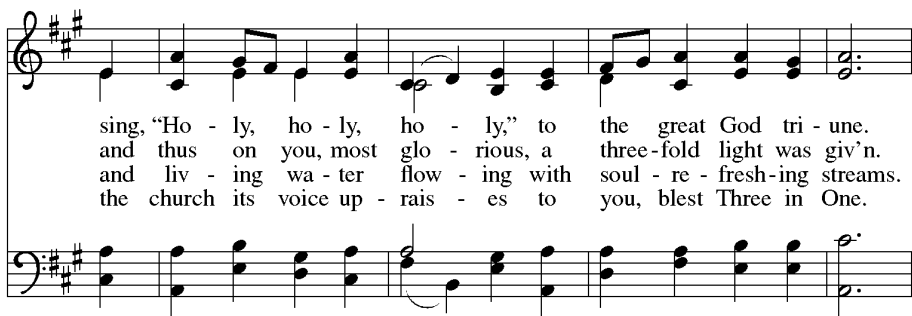
SERMON Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: *O Day of Rest and Gladness* All Stand & Sing

1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
 2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
 3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;
 4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,

O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
 on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
 to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,
 we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
 on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
 where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
 We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.
Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

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: *We Praise You For the Life that Stirs* Church Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Create In Me* All Stand & Sing



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in Christ and rising to serve, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Lord of all languages, we pray with and for Christians in worship all over the world.
Make your church joyful to reflect the diversity of your people and the unity of your love.
Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your Spirit speaks in creation. We thank you for watered gardens, for abundant yield, for
clean water, for sunlight, for communities where people and nature live in peace together.
Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Remove the yoke of destructive partisanship, the pointing of the finger at our enemies,
and bless nations in need. Empower all to speak the truth, encouraging honorable
leadership. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bring strength, health, and wholeness in the parched places of our lives. Bless those in
need this day (*especially*) and surround them with care and hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those who must be absent from this assembly while they work. Give them and all people Sabbath rest. Refresh our hearts in Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Our stories are shaped in community. We thank you for people young and old, women and men, who have witnessed to your love, and we remember those who have recently died. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our 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 Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *How Firm a Foundation* All Stand & Sing

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply,
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said,
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand,"
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
 Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

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

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this **Fourteenth 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. Nurseries for children (**infants through 3 years old**) are located 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 list, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in a form online at www.holyc.org.**

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Phil & Carol Posey in memory of William Posey and Norris Pruitt.

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

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, August 14, 2016:

Attendance: 106

Budget Report

August 14, 2016

Current Offering Received	\$ 4,954.41
Weekly Budget Expenses	\$ 5,019.46
Offering, Year-To-Date	\$168,101.39
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	\$ 11,118.69
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	\$ 5,819.22

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Judy Caldwell

GREETER: Debbie Bray

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: Volunteers

TELLERS:

Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 2)

Brad Milton, Co-Captain

Brandy Milton, Co-Captain

Donna Bean

USHERS: Volunteers

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Veronica Bryant

CANTOR: Greg Byrum

NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am) *Infants:* Staff; *Toddlers:* Volunteer

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: August 21-27

Today, August 21 Lynn Martin

Andrew Robinson

August 25 Gage Gatlin

August 27 Dillon Kasmer

August 22 Becke Featherstone

Allison Wallace

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, August 21

9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room
10:30 am The Service
4:00 pm Children's Ensemble
5:00 pm Church Choir

Tuesday, August 23

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

The Children's Ensemble will resume today at 4:00 pm. At 5:00 pm they will conclude their session with members of the church choir in preparation for a combined anthem presentation. **All other music ensembles will resume on regular schedules after Labor Day.**



Rally Day 2016! Christian Education would like to invite everyone to attend Rally Day, September 11th at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Come hear about the classes we will offer this year, meet your teachers, and enjoy some delicious breakfast and fellowship.

If you would like to contribute a dish to the breakfast meal, please email Melissa Bocchino at melissa.bocchino@pwc.com to let her know what you plan to bring so we can make sure we have everything covered for a good meal for all.

Sunday School for ages 3 and up begins September 18th. If you are unsure which class to attend, come explore our offerings on Rally Day or ask Pastor Micah or a Christian Education team member for assistance.

Christian Education Committee members should watch your email for additional information regarding Rally Day, next in person meeting and other items.

Yours in Christ,
Your friendly Christian Education Committee

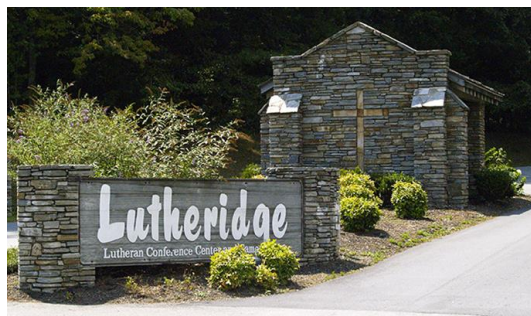
SPECIAL NEEDS FOR HERITAGE OAKS:

In an email contact with Maribeth Pangilinan, the activities' director at *Heritage Oaks*, she made the following statement, "Some churches are still continuing doing group activities. However, **we need some churches or church groups that can come play the piano or do some games especially BINGO**".



Please consider this request seriously and contact Maribeth to schedule your activity at maribeth.pangilinan@heritageoaks.org.

**Mark your calendar:
September 25th is our day
for worship at Lutheridge.**





PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin
Brenda Dabrowski
Shawn De Nicholas
Ardean Ewing
Dot Holland

Zac Hullander
Tom Irwin
Chase Lineberger
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry

Marguerite Shive
Mark Reese
Beverly Reynolds
Kevin Washle

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Richard Abernethy
Paige Beaver
Jenny Beer
Barbara Bingham
Graham Brezler
Libby Byrum
Father Frank Cancro
Tina Capwell
Clell Davis
J. Don Devine
Zachary Evans
Carol Baker Fox
Poss Garrett
Ronnie Garrison
Tammy Gordon
Brian Hedrick

Stacy Hunsucker
Dennis Jordan
Steven Keating
Marshall Kinley
Laura Lanuto
Jennifer Lineberger
Terry Mahaffey
Amy McGinnis
Gene McRorie
Don Moore
Amanda Murray
Tyler Murray
Jean Peters
Jim Poag
Taylor Propst & Family
David Prouty

Julio Quiros
Tim Reid
Dan Robinson &
Daughters Breanna & Mikayla
Anna Rudder
Tangie Shingler
Megan Sigler
E. Taylor & Family
Carson Thomas
Sally Vanhoy
Bill Walker
Gloria Ward
Olivia Wilcox
Jeff Wiles
Bruce Zander



OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek
Leo Kasmer

Jason Gardner
Tom Kasmer

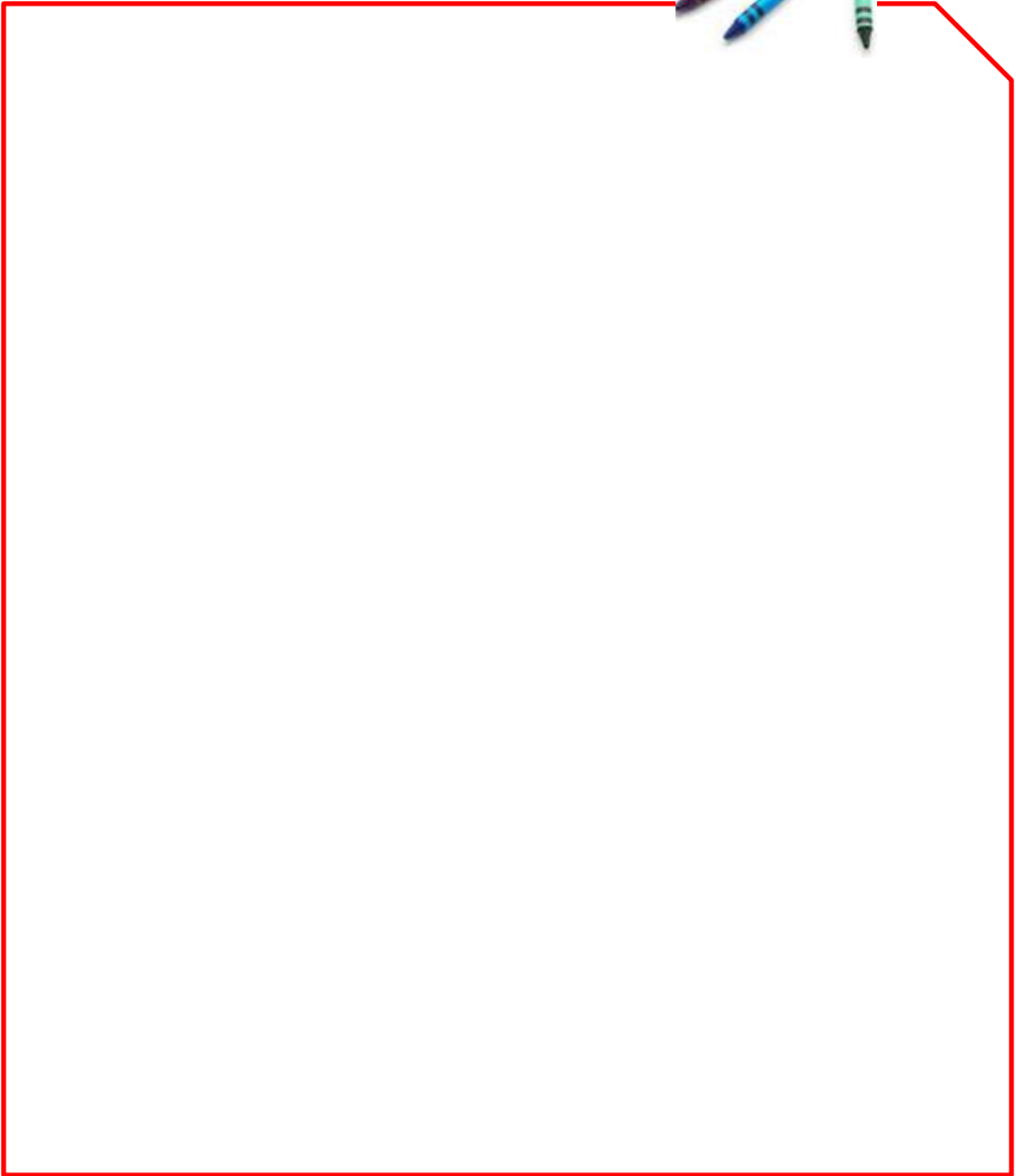
Dillon Kasmer
Mike Kelso

Please remember these people in your prayers.

If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please inform Kathy Graves.

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

Holy Doodles



Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

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

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Adult 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

Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager