

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, October 2, 2016

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Sing A New Song Unto the Lord* Church & Children's Choirs

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 only Sovereign, who dwells in light;
Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners; the Holy Spirit, who lives within us.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.


P God of overflowing grace,

**C we come to you with repentant hearts. Forgive us for shallow thankfulness.
Forgive us for passing by the ones in need. Forgive us for setting our hopes on
fleeting treasures. Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness. Bring us home from
the wilderness of sin, and strengthen us to serve you in all that we do and say;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



P There is joy in heaven over every sinner who repents. By the grace of God
in ☩ Christ Jesus, who gave himself up for us all, your sins are forgiven and you are
made free. Rejoice with the angels and with one another! We are home in God's mercy,
now and forever.

C Amen.



GATHERING SONG: *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* All Stand & Sing



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;




Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!



Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

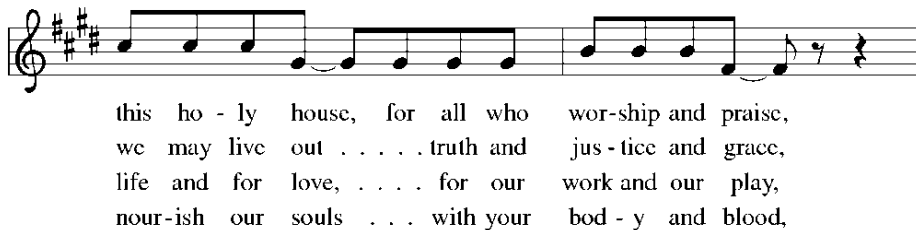
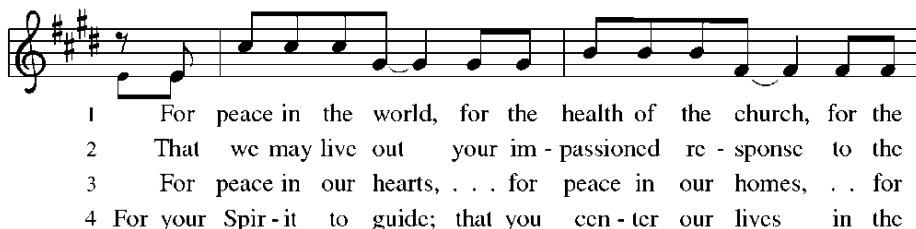
Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

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



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.

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith,

strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of 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

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

A reading from the first and second chapters of Habakkuk.

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the wicked will perish, but the righteous will live by faith.

¹The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?

Or cry to you “Violence!”
and you will not save?

³Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law becomes slack
and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1}I will stand at my watchpost,
and station myself on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,

and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

²Then the LORD answered me and said:

Write the vision;

make it plain on tablets,

so that a runner may read it.

³For there is still a vision for the appointed time;

it speaks of the end, and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;

it will surely come, it will not delay.

⁴Look at the proud!

Their spirit is not right in them,

but the righteous live by their faith.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



PSALM 37:1-9All Sing

¹Do not be provoked by | evildoers;

do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

²**For they shall soon wither | like the grass,**

and like the green grass | fade away.

³Put your trust in the LORD | and do good;

dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.

⁴**Take delight | in the LORD,**

who shall give you your | heart's desire.

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust | in the LORD,

and see what | God will do.

⁶**The LORD will make your vindication as clear | as the light**

and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

⁸**Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;**

do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.

⁹For evildoers shall | be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- | sess the land.
Do not be provoked by | evildoers;
do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:1-14

A reading from the first chapter of 2 Timothy.

This message written from Paul to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

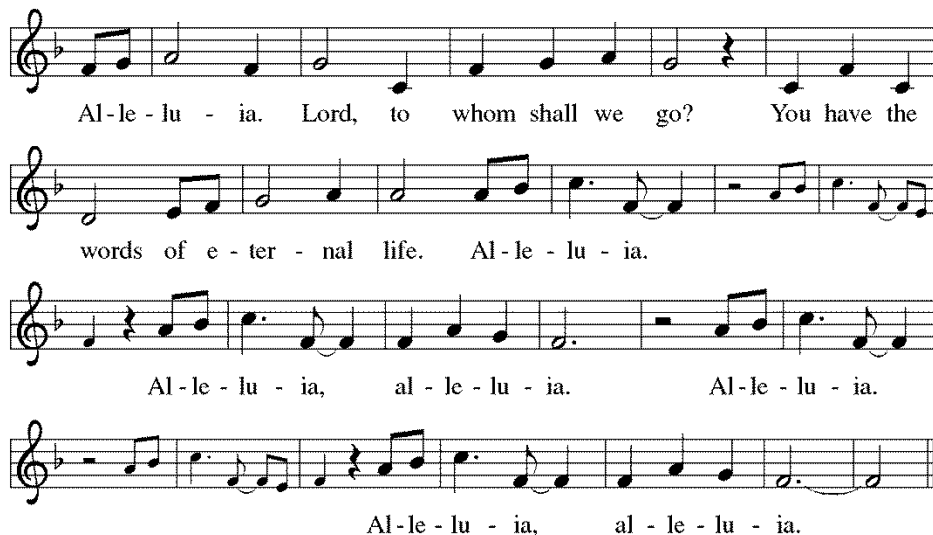
³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL

Luke 17:5-10

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

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

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

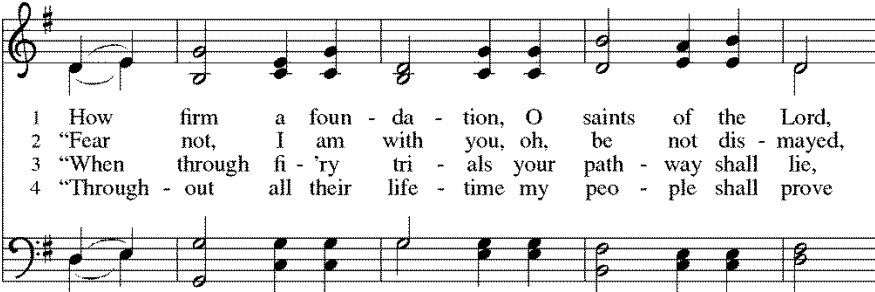
⁷“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON Pastor Micah

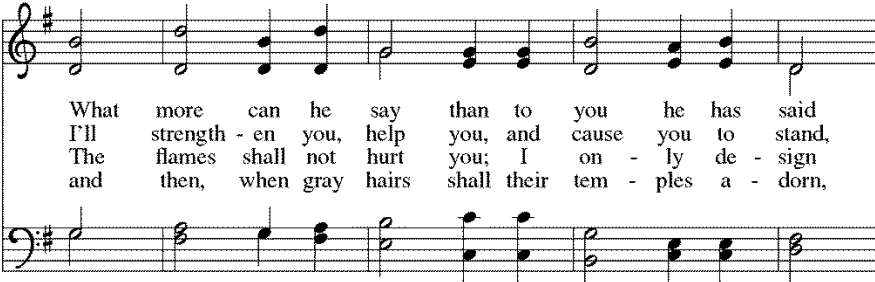
HYMN OF THE DAY: *How Firm A Foundation* All Stand & Sing
(Children's Ensemble comes to the balcony during the singing of this hymn.)



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

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

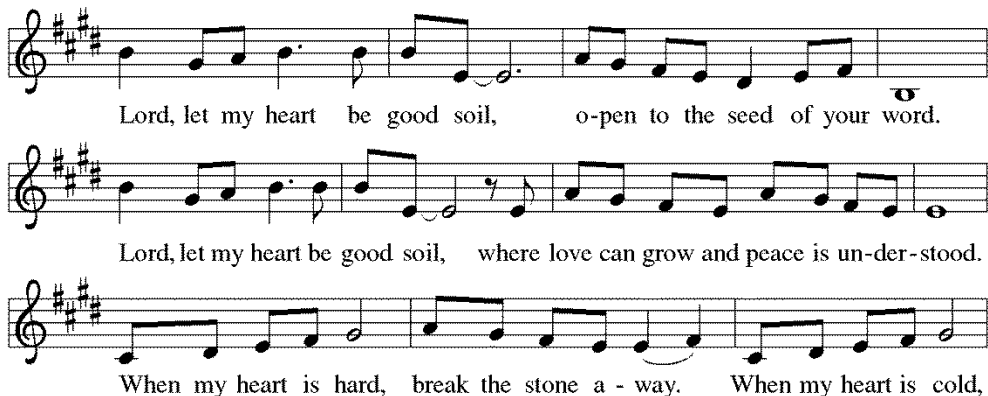
P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Inside Your Kingdom* Church Choir &
Children's Ensemble

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil.* All Stand & Sing



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson
Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing in the Spirit's work among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Increase the faith of your church, O God. Raise up faithful parents and grandparents, prophets and teachers who know, love, and spread your gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Tend and nurture the lands and seas, O God. Raise up faithful stewards of all you have entrusted to human care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Save the nations, O God. Raise up faithful leaders who strive for peace and justice in the midst of violence and destruction. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Guard those in need, O God. Raise up faithful advocates and caretakers for those who are oppressed, poor, lonely, imprisoned, bereaved, or sick. Especially we pray for Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Give vision to this congregation, O God. Raise up faithful teachers, staff, volunteers, worship leaders, and council members who serve with purpose, joy, boldness, and love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You abolished death, O God. Thank you for all those you called according to your purpose and who now rest in your light. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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 God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *The Church's One Foundation* All Stand & Sing

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Remember the poor.

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 **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (World Communion 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. 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 Donna Bean and Horace Bean in memory of Faye Bean.

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 Report for Sunday, September 25, 2016:

Lutheridge Attendance: 65

Budget Report for September 25, 2016 will be reported in next Sunday's bulletin.

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Brian Achor

GREETERS: The Potters

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: Volunteers

TELLERS:

Rochelle & Danny Potter

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)

Fran Holland, Co-Captain

Melinda Lingerfelt, Co-Captain

Stephanie Hinson Tracey Nault

USHERS: Volunteers

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Trudy Whitener, Jill Cassel

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

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: October 2-8

October 4 Mark Reese

October 5 Larry Siglar

October 7 Catherine Carr

October 8 Brenda Daly



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, October 2

9:30 am Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room
10:30 am Worship Service
4:00 pm Children's Ensemble
5:00 pm Handbells
6:00 pm Church Choir

Tuesday, October 4

7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Property Committee
Nar-Anon

Wednesday, October 5

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

NOTE: The first session of Confirmation begins today, Sunday, and runs from 2:00-5:00 pm.



Saturday, October 8

7:00 pm *Staying Connected* meets for dinner at the Round Restaurant in Gastonia





PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Elizabeth Bruchon
Shirley Causby
Tommy Causby
Brenda Dabrowski
Shawn De Nicholas

Ardean Ewing
Dot Holland
Zac Hullander
Tom Irwin
Chase Lineberger
Ann Outlaw & Family

Holly Peche
Sherry Perry
Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Mark Reese
Beverly Reynolds

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Father Frank Cancro
Jennifer Lineberger

Bill Walker
Bruce Zander

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek
Leo Kasmer

Jason Gardner
Tom Kasmer

Dillon Kasmer
Mike Kelso



OUR MISSIONARY

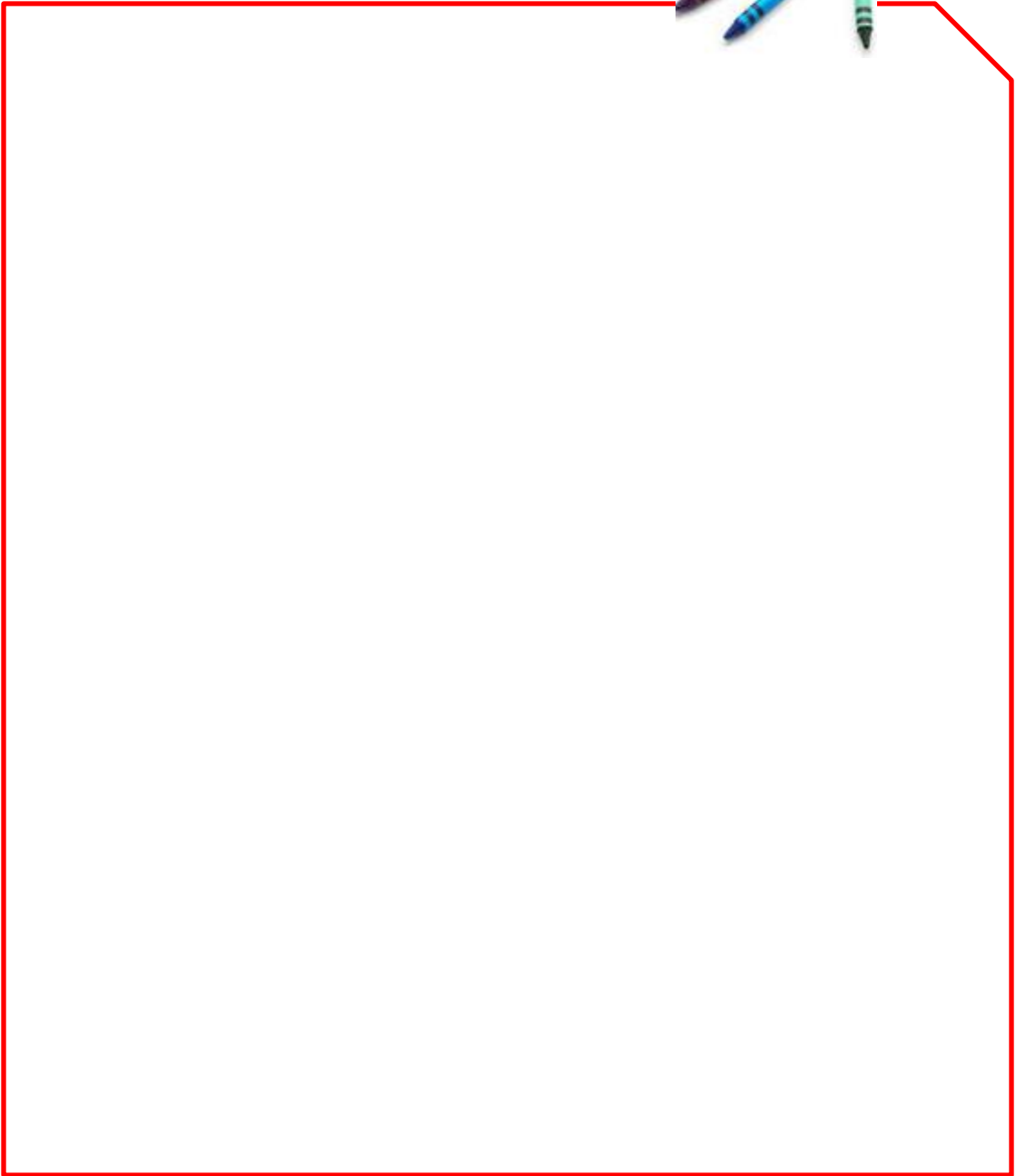
Alyssa Buchanan in Manzini, Swaziland Africa

**In order to ensure an up-to-date prayer list, a new list for the
Greater Family of God was started on October 1.**

**Please email or call the church office to add any name
you wish to appear on the *Greater Family of God*.**

**Also give us an “end date” for that name,
or the name will remain for just one month.**

Holy Doodles





TRUNK OR TREAT

Is Saturday, October 22 from 3:00-5:00 pm.

Volunteers will be needed for setup, cleanup, games, face painting and cake walk donations.

Please keep your donations for the cakewalk to cupcakes, brownies, cookies and/or donut holes (pre bagged preferably).

Please do not bring/send cake slices.

The Belmont Fall Festival will be going on at the same time.

You are encouraged to contact Tom Bocchino at tbocchino@hotmail.com or at 704-616-3049 if you want to volunteer to help with this year's *Trunk or Treat*.

Contact Misty Koehler if you would like to host a game at your trunk. If you have your own game or any ideas please let us know ahead of time.

BCO OCTOBER ITEMS OF THE MONTH:



Jelly



Rice



Mac & Cheese

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

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager