

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, August 5, 2018

## The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney  
Pastor

Greg Cline  
Organist/Choirmaster

### GATHERING/WELCOME

**PRELUDE:** *Hymn to Christ the Light* ..... Highben

### 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, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

**C Amen.**

P Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

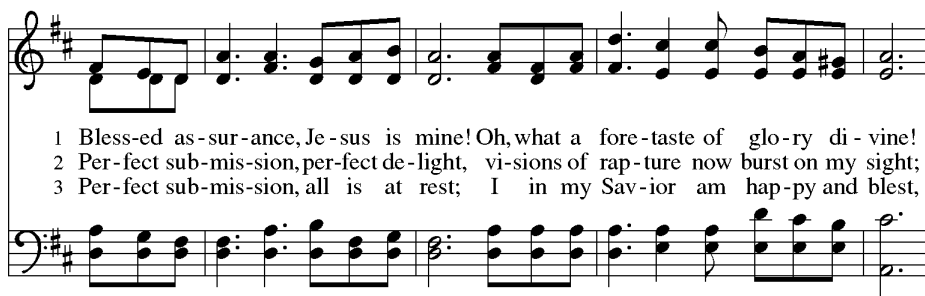
P Eternal God our creator,

**C in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

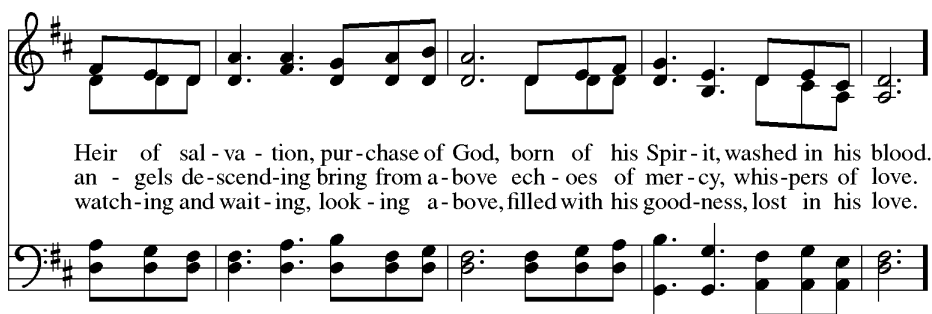
P Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ☩ forgives you all your sins.

**C Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG: *Blessed Assurance* ..... All Stand & Sing

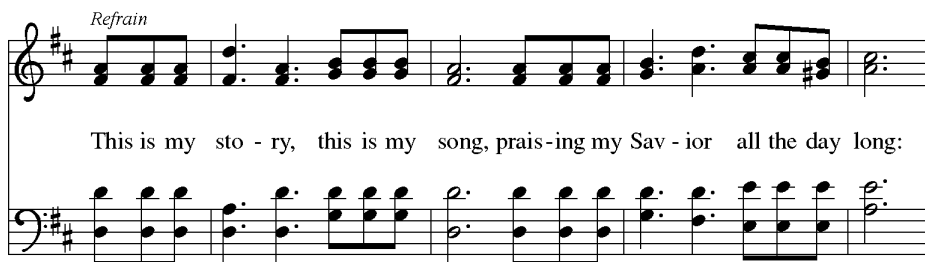


1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!  
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;  
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915  
 Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

## 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**



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.

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.

O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through 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**

**Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15**

A reading from the sixteenth chapter of Exodus.

*A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God’s saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.*

<sup>2</sup>The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” <sup>10</sup>And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. <sup>11</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup>“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

<sup>13</sup>In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup>When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

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



**PSALM 78:23-28** ..... All Sing

<sup>23</sup>So God commanded the | clouds above  
and opened the | doors of heaven,  
<sup>24</sup>**raining down manna upon | them to eat**  
**and giving them | grain from heaven.**  
<sup>25</sup>So mortals ate the | bread of angels;  
God provided for them | food enough.  
<sup>26</sup>**The LORD caused the east wind to blow | in the heavens**  
**and powerfully led out | the south wind,**  
<sup>27</sup>raining down flesh upon | them like dust  
and flying birds like the sand | of the seas,  
<sup>28</sup>**letting them fall in the midst | of the camp**  
**and round a- | bout the dwellings.**

## SECOND READING

**Ephesians 4:1-16**

A reading from the fourth chapter of Ephesians.

*Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry, whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.*

<sup>1</sup>I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup>But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;  
he gave gifts to his people.”

<sup>9</sup>(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup>We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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 6:24-35**

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

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

*Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.*

<sup>24</sup>When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

<sup>25</sup>When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup>So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?” <sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ” <sup>32</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup>They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”



**P** The gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON** ..... Pastor Micah

*Silence is Kept for Reflection.*

# HYMN OF THE DAY: *What Feast of Love* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?  
 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?  
 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?  
 What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?  
 What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!  
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!  
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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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:** *Amen!* ..... All Sing with VBS Kids

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* . . . . . All Stand & Sing

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Blest Be the Tie that Binds'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.  
Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

## 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

Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you give gifts and talents to every member of the church. Strengthen all your children and bring them to a full understanding and maturity in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Creator God, our complex and wonderful world is a sure sign of your abundance and care. Provide for every creature, and rain down the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Peaceful God, draw the nations of the world to harmony and mutual understanding. Bind all of humanity in the unity of love and peace that comes through the Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we pray for those who are hungry, homeless, and who suffer in any way. Lead them to places of safety, food, and rest. We pray especially for . . . Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, you have brought us all together in this time and place. Bless this congregation, including those who are absent, and draw us into closer communion with you, each other, and our community. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Infinite God, we praise you for the lives of those who have died in Christ. Keep our hearts in hope, for we have all received the food that endures to eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Almighty and loving God, we look to you in hope and trust, knowing that you will do far more than we can ask or imagine, through 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 May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

## SENDING SONG: *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* . . . . . All Stand & Sing

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r-ful hand. Bread of heav-en, bread of heav-en,  
all my jour-ney through. Strong de-liv-'rer, strong de-liv-'rer,  
safe on Ca-naan's side. Songs and prais-es, songs and prais-es

feed me now and ev-er-more, ev-er-more, feed me now and ev-er-more.  
shield me with your might-y arm, might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.  
I will raise for-ev-er-more, ev-er-more, I will raise for-ev-er-more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.  
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

## SENDING

**A** Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

**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 our visitors on this **Eleventh 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 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](http://www.holyc.org).**

**Offering and Attendance Report for July 29, 2018:**

Attendance: 111

| <b><u>Budget Report</u></b>     | <b><u>July 29, 2018</u></b> | <b><u>Year-to-Date</u></b> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Offering                        | \$ 4,097.00                 | \$155,211.03               |
| Expenses                        | \$ 5,551.17                 | \$160,700.05               |
| Offering less Expenses          | <u>(\$ 1,454.17)</u>        | <u>(\$ 5,489.02)</u>       |
| Expected (Budgeted Expenses)    |                             | <u>\$ 167,328.22</u>       |
| Offering less Expected Expenses |                             | (\$ 12,117.19)             |

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: August 5-11**

August 6 Eric Carpenter  
Justin Koehler



August 11 Cynthia Buchanan  
Jill Leitner  
Ginger MacDonald

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:**

**LECTOR:** Jim Buell

**GREETER:** Volunteer

**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:**

Volunteers

**TELLERS:** Janet & Brian Achor

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Volunteer

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 4)

Carmen Buell, Captain  
Dean & Dian Halvorson  
Barbara Kasmer

**SOLOIST:** Greg Byrum



**PLAY BUTTON PUSHER:** Charles Mauney

**NURSERY:** (9:30-11:45 am)  
Sherry Alexander

**USHERS:** Volunteers

**THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**

**Thursday, August 2**

7:00 pm HolyC Men's Group  
Meet at the Clark's home

**Sunday, August 5**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am Church Choir prep  
10:30 am The Service  
(Communion afterwards)

**Tuesday, August 7**

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

**Thursday, August 9**

12 Noon ***Prime Timers*** Lunch  
Fellowship Hall

**Saturday, August 11**

6:45 pm ***Staying Connected***  
*Table & Market Restaurant*  
In McAdenville





## PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen  
Carmen Buell  
Brenda Dabrowski  
Becke Featherstone  
Zac Hullander  
Jo Irwin

Ben Moose  
Holly Peche  
Sherry Perry  
Pat Roberson  
Katie Schaumburg  
Scott Schaumburg

Marguerite Shive  
Denise Taylor  
Beverly Reynolds  
Jerri Wesson

## GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Bobbie Bingham  
Amy Beale Blythe  
Doug Brewer  
Karen de la Vega  
Carol Fox  
Larry "Poss" Garrett

Brandi Hager  
Ruth Lail  
Beverly Lineberger  
Jennifer Lineberger  
Clarence McLain  
Anne Murdy

George Rogers  
Tommy Smith  
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](http://www.holyc.org).



# Holy Doodles



**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483

[holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:MicahKearney@gmail.com)

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager