Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, August 24, 2014

St. Bartholomew, Apostle

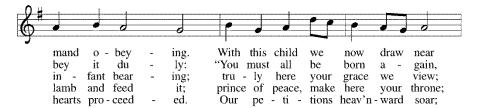
Micah Kearney, Pastor

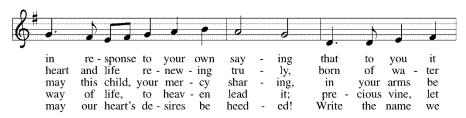
Greg Cline, Organist/Choirmaster

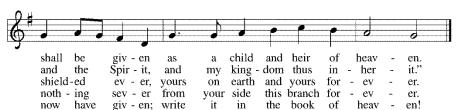
WELCOME/INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

GATHERING SONG: Dearest Jesus, We Are Here All Stand & Sing









Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

PRESENTATION FOR HOLY BAPTISM

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.



Sponsors present the candidate:

I present Emilee Grace Hughes for baptism.

The presiding minister addresses parents or others who bring for baptism children who are not able to answer for themselves:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have *Emilee Grace Hughes* baptized into Christ?

Response:

I do.

The presiding minister continues:

As you bring *Emilee Grace Hughes* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with *her* among God's faithful people, bring *her* to the word of God and the holy supper, teach *her* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in *her* hands the holy scriptures, and nurture *her* in faith and prayer, so that *Emilee* may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help *Emilee* grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response:

I do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Emilee in the Christian faith as you are empowered

by God's Spirit, and to help *her* live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response:

I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support *Emilee* by praying for *her* in *her* new life in Christ?

C We do.

The assembly stands.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses candidates for baptism as well as the parents and sponsors of young children. The assembly may join in the responses.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

- P Do you believe in God the Father?
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C 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.

- P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

^{*} catholic with a small "c" refers to the whole Christian church throughout the world.

C Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

BAPTISM

- P Emilee Grace Hughes, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- C You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

Laying hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

Sustain *Emilee Grace Hughes* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Emilee Grace Hughes, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

WELCOME

A lighted candle may be given to the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a representative of the congregation says:

A Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly. A representative of the congregation leads the assembly in the welcome.

A Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Congregation is Seated and are invited to sing "Jesus Loves Me" as the parents and children come forward with their backpacks.

CHILDREN'S TIME/BACKPACK BLESSING

- P Lord, you have brought us to the start of a new school year. These students are your workmanship. Each one is your masterpiece.
- C Let their minds be a place where creative imagination takes form.
- P Just as these backpacks will be carried with these students each day,
- C Go with them when they head to school, and be with them in their classrooms, in the hallways, the cafeteria and on the playground.
- P When these backpacks are opened at the start of each day,
- C Give them an extra measure of your love that encourages them for the tasks that lie ahead.
- P When these backpacks get heavy with work to do,
- ${\bf C}$ Give them strength to finish their tasks and confidence that you have given them everything they need.
- P When these backpacks are light,
- C Allow these students to be proud of a job well done.
- P When these backpacks are opened at the start of each day,
- C Open these students' intellects to the many things you have to teach them.
- P When these backpacks are closed,
- ${\bf C}$ Help these students grow through all that they have learned and apply it to their lives.
- P Bless each of these students, Lord. Let them know their unique, special purpose.
- C Lead them to share your love with everyone they meet.
- P Help these students to see that they are very special to you and that you have something very special in mind for their lives.
- C Help each of us to use the talents and skills you have given us to your glory.
- P In this hope, therefore, I bless these backpacks and the children who will carry them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Go in His peace and love.

All students and parents return to their seats with their backpacks. Students may then go to children's church.

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1–6

A reading from the fifty-first chapter of Isaiah.

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,

you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father

and to Sarah who bore you;

for he was but one when I called him,

but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion;

he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people,

and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,

my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples;

the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath: for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-8

A reading from the twelfth chapter of Romans.

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by this age, but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE





GOSPEL Matthew 16:13–20

- P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

- P The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON..... Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: Built On a Rock All Stand & Sing



- 1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e ven when stee ples are 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
- 3 Christ builds a house of liv ing stones: we are his own hab i -
- 4 Yet in this house, an earth ly frame, Je sus the chil dren is



fall - ing; crum-bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our



chim-ing and call - ing—call-ing the young and old to rest, call-ing the tem-ples ex-cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a - life and sal-va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their Sav-ior con-fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak-ing with



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt. Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMEL HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887 Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress

PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Wade In the Water Leader: Greg Byrum All: Congregation



Text: African American spiritual Music: WADE IN THE WATER, African American spiritual

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Create In Me All Stand & Sing





PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled by the Spirit, let us join the whole people of God in Christ Jesus in praying for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Lord of the church, remind us that though we are many, we are one body in Christ. Teach us to use our grace-given gifts with generosity, compassion, and humility. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your Spirit blows over all the wild places of this earth, reminding us who is in control. Preserve the wilderness areas and coastlands, and help us minimize our impact upon the land. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Transform all nations by renewing the minds of their people. Provide adequate educational facilities and well-trained teachers for students of every age so that they learn, grow, and fulfill your purpose for their lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Stretch out your hand to preserve us from trouble and deliver us from poverty. We pray for peace and reconciliation among all people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give a discerning spirit to our congregation as we prepare for outreach ministries, programming for families and youth, and meaningful worship. Assign each member a measure of faith to make your vision a reality. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We give you heartfelt thanks for the diligent leadership and faithful service of those who have died and now rest in you. Continue to build your church upon that strong and

enduring foundation. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through 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 May God the sower make you good and fertile soil. May Christ the seed bloom and grow in your words and actions. May the fruitful Spirit bring forth a bountiful yield in your lives. God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: The Church's One Foundation.................. All Stand & Sing church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord; lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth, The Though with a scorn-ful won - der this world sees her op-pressed, Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war, she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One, she his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word. is sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth: her char - ter of schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis-tressed, by peace for - ev - er - more; she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won. From heav'n he came and sought her his ho - ly bride; to be ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food. long?" vet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How glo - rious her long - ing eyes are cho - rus! Lord, save us by your with the vi - sion till blest, bless - ed heav'n-ly by your grace, with his own blood he bought her, and for her life died. grace en - dued. and one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry

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

and

and

that

soon the night

saints

we, like

the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at

be - fore

of weep-ing shall be the morn of

us, may see you

song.

rest.

face.

face

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this St. Bartholomew, Apostle 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. 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.

<u>KIDS' WORSHIP CENTER:</u> 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.

<u>PRAYER REQUESTS</u>: 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 Beth Brittain in memory of Alvin (Bub) Brittain; and by Courtney Gatlin in loving memory of Shortie & Trudy Alexander.

<u>Those who have placed flowers on the altar</u> 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, August 17, 2014:

Attendance: 128

Budget ReportAugust 17, 2014Current Offering Received 8/17/14\$ 3,573.75Weekly Budgeted Expenses\$ 4,504.60Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)\$134,728.42Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD\$ 4,028.39Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD(\$ 12,845.44)

ASSISTING MINISTERS: NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am)
LECTOR: Billy Joye, Jr., Greg Byrum Rebecca Yount & Jane Howard

ACOLYTES: Garrett Carpenter, Garrett Fox GREETER: Need Volunteer

CRUCIFERS: Noah Rogers, Molly Koehler USHERS: Need Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1)

Bev Mauney, Co-Captain

Brad Milton, Co-Captain

TELLERS: John Koehler
Sherry Alexander

Carmen De Nicholas Charles Mauney CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS:

Brandy Milton Today: Beth Brittain

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS: Today, Sunday, August 24

Today, Sunday, August 24Tuesday, August 269:30 amRally Day!7:00 pmChamber ChoirBreakfast then fun & fellowshipNar-Anon

10:10 am Choir meets in choir room

10:30 am The Service (Baptism, Installation of Sunday school teachers and Blessing of the Backpacks)

5:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Church Choir NOTE: Children's' Ensemble will
8:00 pm Nar-Anon resume in mid-September.

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: August 24-30

August 25 Gage Gatlin August 30 Eric Ange
Len Johansson Becca Gatlin

August 27 Kim Wallace August 29 Dillon Kasmer

Matthew Bruchon Tommy Causby



Thank you to parents who brought their children, teachers who volunteered their time, and others who helped to make this year's VBS a success!



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin Scott Caldwell Virginia Crump Brenda Dabrowski Louise Day Jane Deaton Family Daniel Dowd Cher Grant Ferrie Hedrick Kay Holden Zac Hullander John Kreitzer Mabel Ratchford Mark Reese

Scott Phillips

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Harriett Ange
Janice Barker
Kathy Beam
Helen Brasfield
Dale Burris
Ken Capps
Wesley Coleman
Ronnie Hagy
Brian Hedrick
Kathy Helton
Betty Fox
Claudia Frazier
Donald Freeman
Ronnie Hersey

Judy Jackson

Dennis Jordan
Wesley Jordan & Family
Betty Kannapel
Steven Keating
Marshall Kinley
Becky Knick
Alice Langley
Laura Lanuto & Family
Pierce Lee
Steve Mathis
Peggy McKenney & Family
Sandra Nix
Mark Outlaw
Jean Peters
Leland "Lee" Peterson

Steve Pletsas
Taylor Propst & Family
David Prouty
Mara Rappleyea
Steve Sanford
Megan Sigler
Ramona J. Sinclair
Jimmy Surratt
E. Taylor & Family
Beverly F. Wall
Gloria Ward
Bryan Wayburn

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek

Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer



Jeremy Shaver

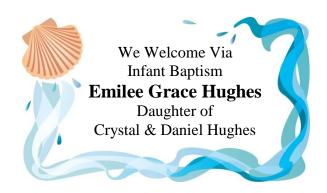
OUR MISSIONARIES

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 let Trudy Whitener know or tell Dianne in the church office.

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



Heather Mauney Yount Memorial Playground Project



The playground, built on our church grounds, will be a commercial structure designed for 2-12 year-olds. Over 2/3 of the \$36,000 cost has already been raised by the generous contributions from family, congregation members at the time of Heather's passing and anonymous donors.

We need your help to raise less than \$10,000 in order to complete this project.

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



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We need volunteer teachers For Children's Church.

Contact Beth Brittain at revbethbrittain@gmail.com or Call 704-956-1203 to volunteer.



Thank You!

I would like to say thank you for all your well wishes, prayers, and cards that were sent while my father battled cancer.

He enjoyed every card and felt every prayer.

And when he lost his battle you all were so wonderful to my family. The service and reception that was put together in his honor was more than we could have asked for.

I am so thankful that you have welcomed us into the Holy Comforter family!!

May God bless you all!

Amy Alvarez

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 Clanton, HCY Advisor
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager



Worship in *Whisnant Chapel* at 10:30 am 8:00 am Depart from Holy Comforter

Covered Dish Luncheon at Lakeside Lodge.

Please bring covered dishes to feed your family and others.

There will be NO Sunday School for the children on this Sunday.

There WILL be Worship Service at Holy Comforter

(for those who cannot attend at Lutheridge).

All afternoon church meetings cancelled.

Come, let us Worship together on this Church Family Day!