

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • August 13, 2017

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE: *I Come With Joy* Dove of Peace

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of 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 for reflection and self-examination.

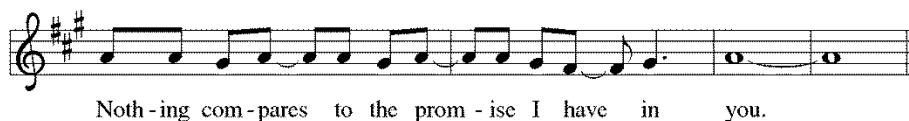
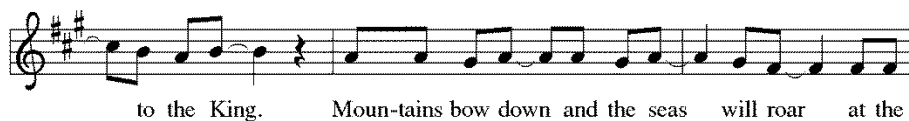
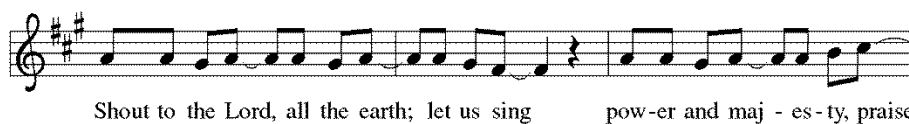
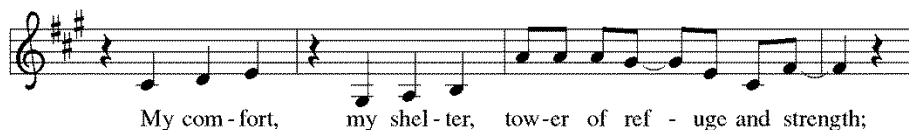
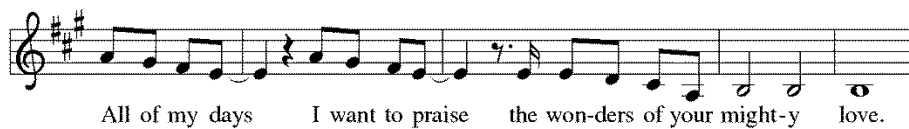
P Eternal God our creator,

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: *Shout to the Lord* All Stand & Sing



Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in U.S. and Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP).

c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

GREETING

P Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE



Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord.

For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

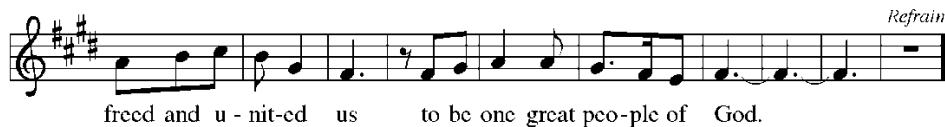
mer - cy. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

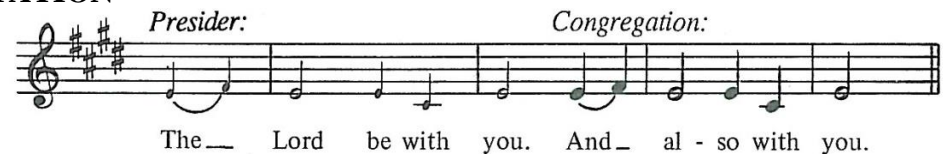
Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom; praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



SALUTATION



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

*Congregation is seated and are invited to
sing "Jesus Loves Me" as the children come forward.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children ages 4 to 8 years-old are invited to go to the Education building for a 20-minute (or so) time together **immediately after the Children's sermon**. *Children will return to their parents during the hymn of the day.* Children **birth through 3 years-old** are invited to join others their age **in the nurseries**.

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:9-18

A reading from the nineteenth chapter of 1 Kings.

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in “sheer silence.” God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

¹¹He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 10:5-15

A reading from the tenth chapter of Romans.

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life: Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

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

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith" who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him,



saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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

SERMON Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Here I Am, Lord* All Stand & Sing



1	"I, the Lord of sea and sky,	I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2	"I, the Lord of snow and rain,	I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3	"I, the Lord of wind and flame,	I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell	in dark and sin	my hand will save.
I have wept	for love of them.	They turn a - way.
I will set	a feast for them.	My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night,	I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone,	give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide	till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

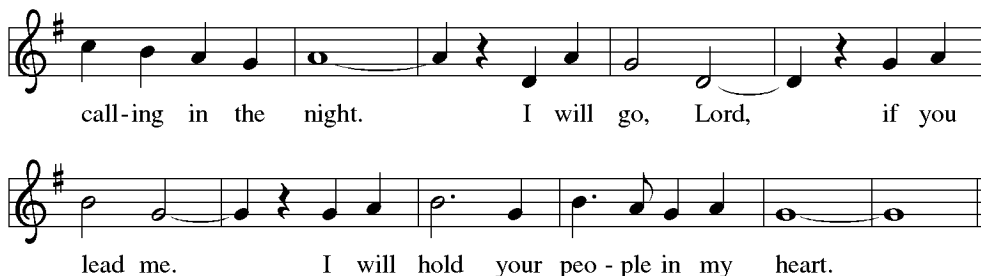


Who will bear my light to them?	Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them.	Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them.	Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Continued on next page...



Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Generous, compassionate God, we gather before you to pray for the church, the world,
and all in need.

A brief silence.

O God our ruler, continue to send out your church on earth to be light and salt to the world. Keep giving us the heart to do your work. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God our creator, you quiet the seas and silence the wind. Restore your creation to the perfection and beauty you spoke into being. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God our redeemer, inspire leaders with the righteousness that comes from faith, so that your justice thrives throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God our sustainer, comfort those who are lonely, fearful, or burdened by doubt. Give meaningful work to those who seek employment. Walk with those who are grieving or ill, and with all who face the last days of their lives (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God our encourager, empower this assembly to boldly proclaim and live out your love to all who long to hear a word of hope and kindness. Equip us to use our hands, feet, voices, and minds to share the bounty you have given us. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God our savior, we rejoice in the example of the saints who have gone before us (*especially the nurses Florence Nightingale and Clara Maass, renewers of society*) until we join them around your throne. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands we place all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in the mercy of Christ Jesus.
Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Spirit Song* Church Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *As the Grains of Wheat* All Stand & Sing

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with
you. Lift up your hearts. We

Presider:

lift them to the Lord. Let us give

Congregation:

thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

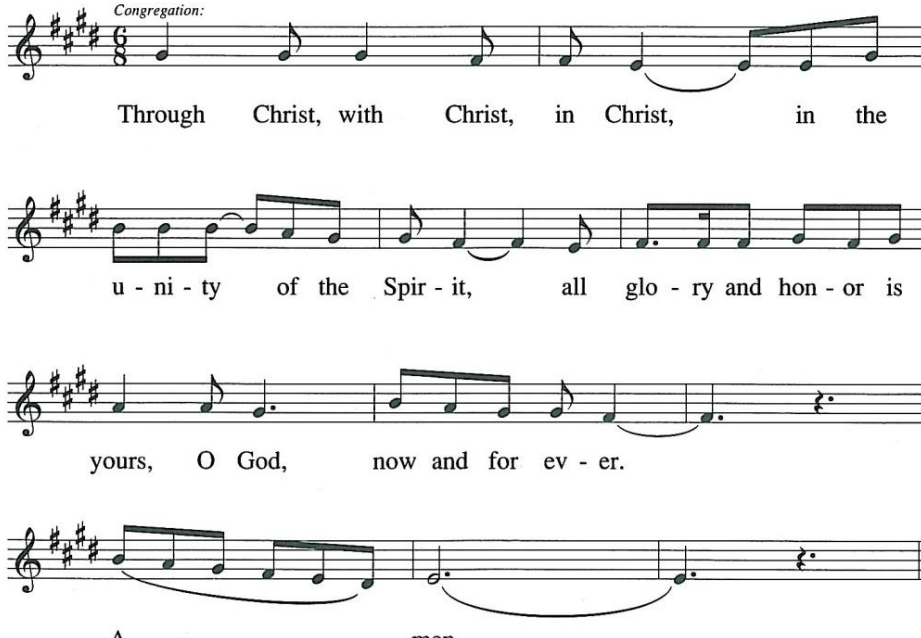
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P ... and in whom we live, Jesus Christ.

THROUGH CHRIST

Congregation:



Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the
u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is
yours, O God, now and for ev - er.
A - men.

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.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread. Our Lord's body let us take together.

C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
* you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and



world:
fear: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
peace:
love:



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

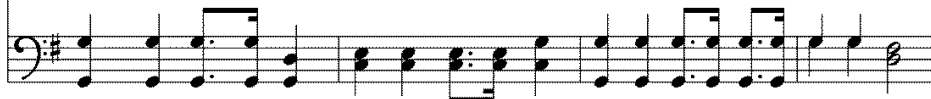
COMMUNION

A cordial invitation is extended to all baptized persons to participate in the celebration of the real presence of the Risen Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

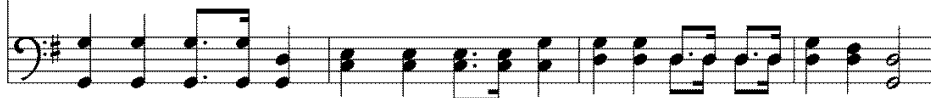
MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: *What a Fellowship* All Sing



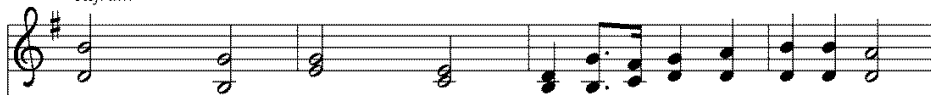
- 1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
- 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms?



what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.



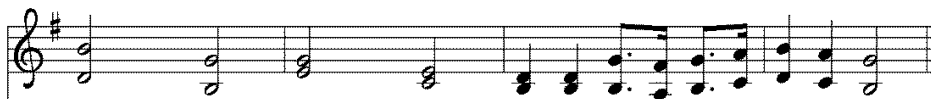
Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a - larms;



Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last-ing arms.



lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1919
Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

P The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.


C **Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. 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: *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* All Stand & Sing




1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899
 Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

SENDING

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

C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this **The Tenth 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 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 Charles & Bev Mauney in memory of Heather, Mary, Ray, Betsy and in honor of their children and grandchildren and Al McCoy.

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 6, 2017:

Attendance: 89

<u>Budget Report</u>	<u>August 6, 2017</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offering	\$ 2,260.00	\$ 156,533.93
Expenses	\$ 5,656.42	\$ 173,397.29
Offering less Expenses	<u>(\$ 3,396.42)</u>	<u>(\$ 16,863.36)</u>
Budgeted Expenses		<u>\$ 176,413.25</u>
Offering less Budgeted Expenses		<u>(\$ 19,879.32)</u>

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye

GREETER: Carmen Buell

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:

Volunteers

TELLERS: Janet & Brian Achor

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 4)

Diann & Dean Halvorson, Co-Captains

Carmen Buell Barbara Kasmer

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Need Volunteers

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

Volunteers

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

Infants: Staff; *Toddlers:* Volunteers

EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:

Volunteers

USHERS: Volunteers

BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK: August 13-19

August 15 Brenda Dabrowski

August 17 Theo Bruchon
 Mark Dabrowski

August 18 Katie Baker
 Henry Bocchino
 Alex Bocchino



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, August 13

9:30am Adult Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion
 Church Council after

Tuesday, August 15

7:00 pm Christian Ed meets
 Nar-Anon

Wednesday, August 16

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

NOTE: Next Sunday, August 20, the Handbell and Church choirs will rehearse at their regular afternoon rehearsal times: 5:00 pm for Handbell choir, 6:00 pm for Church choir.



REMINDER: *HCY* will meet at the Clark's home at 4:00 pm for a pool party on **Sunday, August 20.**

BCO August Items of the Month



School Supplies



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Brenda Dabrowski
Shawn De Nicholas
Ardean Ewing
Becke Featherstone
Ned Featherstone

Kay Holden
Dot Holland
Zac Hullander
Chase Lineberger
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry

Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Jack Tench
Beverly Reynolds

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Marsha Barr
Jeanne Bernhardt
Barbara Bingham
Midge Cunningham
Karen de la Vega

Carol Fox
Scott Frisk
Brandi Hager
Bill Hinkle
Glenda Hinkle

John McDermid
Jennifer Lineberger
Anne Murdy
Karen Wayt

OUR SERVICEMEN

Tom Kasmer



Leo Kasmer

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 located in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

216 N. Main Street 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

Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager



Holy Doodles



Do life situations sometimes leave you feeling “sandwiched”?
Do you ever feel like the middle slice of meat – maybe fried to a crisp –
expected to hold together a whole club sandwich?
Would a little Christian community pick-me-up help pull you through?

Join us for scripture, dinner, laughter and togetherness on
Saturday, August 26 at 4:00 pm
at Susan & Gary Clark’s home,
8426 Catawba Cove Drive in Belmont.

Whether you’re single, married, or somewhere in between,
You are welcomed!

The hope is to foster a community of support that can
continue meeting regularly.

Please email geeclark59@gmail.com
to let us know you’re coming.

Now for the fine print: This is a co-production of
Susan & Gary Clark and Pat & Ron Speck.
We will provide Snacks, Drinks, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers,
rolls, plates and utensils.

1. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share
2. Please coordinate amongst your friends who are attending to carpool as we have limited parking on our road, lawn, driveway, etc.
3. Arrive any time after 4:00 pm for snacks, fellowship and jumping in the lake if you desire.
4. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm. A short devotion will be held before dessert.

We look forward to seeing you all.

Peace,
Gary & Susan Clark
Ron & Pat Speck

