# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • August 14, 2016

## The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

### WELCOME/GATHERING

### 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,  $\oplus$  one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

C Amen.

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

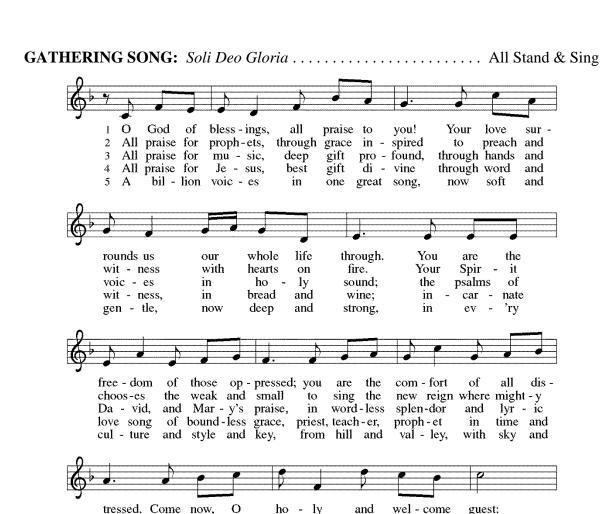
### Silence is kept for reflection.

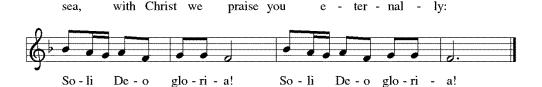
P Just and gracious God,

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

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

C Amen.





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Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: SOLI DEO GLORIA, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1999 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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### **GREETING**

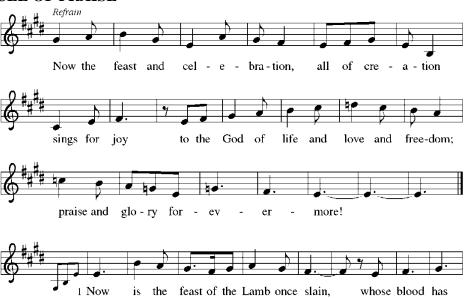
- P Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
- C And also with you.

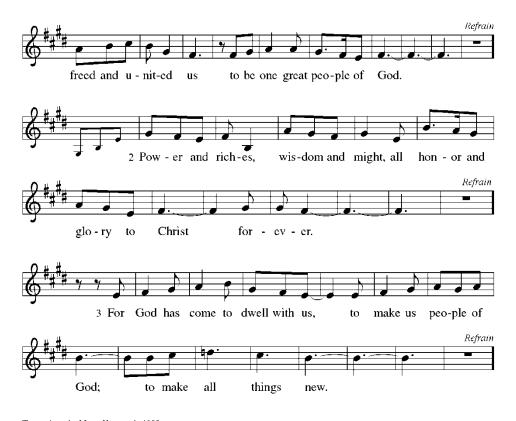
### **KYRIE**





### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**





Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Text and music: © 1990 GIA Publications. Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL. 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358.
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### **SALUTATION**



### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, 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 Jeremiah 23:23-29

A reading from the twenty-third chapter of Jeremiah.

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.

<sup>23</sup>Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup>Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup>I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup>How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup>They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup>Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

### SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

A reading from the eleventh and twelfth chapters of Hebrews.

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life

faithfully. In addition to this "cloud of witnesses," we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

<sup>29</sup>By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup>And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—<sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup>Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—<sup>38</sup>of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

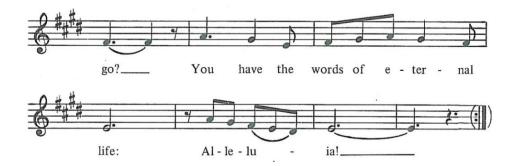
<sup>39</sup>Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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

### **GOSPEL VERSE**





GOSPEL Luke 12:49-56

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup>"I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup>From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup>they will be divided:

father against son

and son against father,

mother against daughter

and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law

and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation . . . . . All Stand & Sing



Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

### **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

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

A brief silence.

God near to us, increase your people's passion to share how Christ transforms lives. Raise up prophets in your church, Lord, to interpret the word and the world today. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Renewing God, we pray for scorched places that need rain, those recovering from disaster, and those needing balance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of power, administer justice. Pour your spirit of compassion and mercy into those who hold the lives of others in their hands. We pray for all who are persecuted or imprisoned for their beliefs. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate God, save us from being overwhelmed by addictions, medical conditions, competition, and fear. Comfort all in need in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

Give wisdom to our community, Lord. Help us discern your will for our life and ministry together, even when it may divide or challenge us. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

We thank you, O God, for the great cloud of witnesses that surrounds us. Gather us with all the saints around your throne on the last day. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Amen.

### **PEACE**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

all the ends of earth

C And also with you.

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

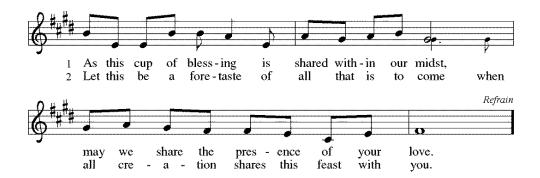


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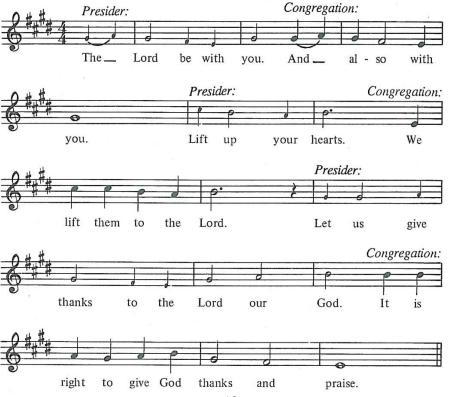


### **OFFERING PRAYER**

A Let us pray.

C God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

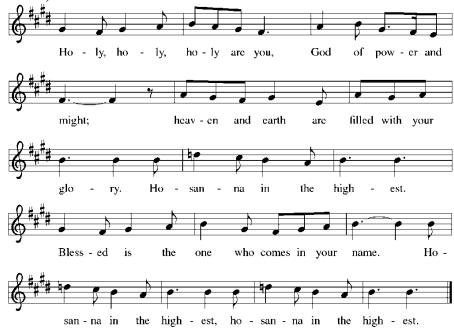
### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



### **PREFACE**

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

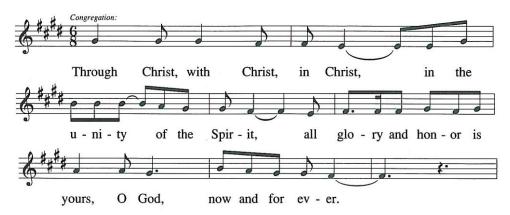




### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

### THROUGH CHRIST





### 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

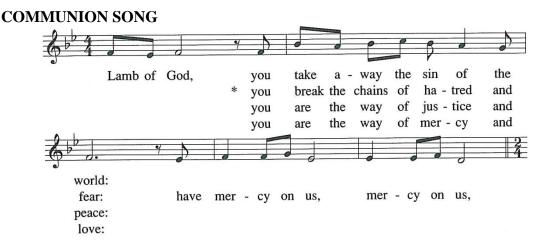
who trespass against us;

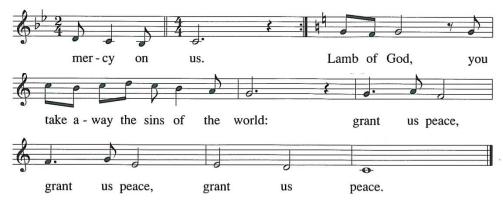
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet. Welcome to the feast.
- C Thanks be to God.







### **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: This Do In Remembrance of Me . . . . . . . . Solo My Faith Looks Up to Thee . . . . . . . . All Sing



Continued on next page...



Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887 Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A O God, as a mother comforts her child,

C so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### **BLESSING**

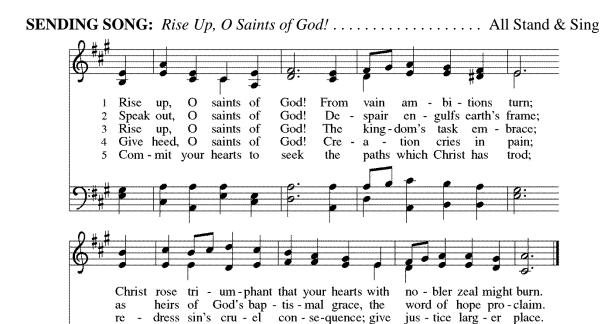
P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and 

give you peace.

C Amen.



heal-ing now, with

Spir-it's pow'r, rise

love the weak sus - tain.

O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893 Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

stretch forth your hand of

and, quick-ened by the

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### **DISMISSAL**

- A Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.
- C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all of our visitors on this The Thirteenth 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.

<u>CHILDREN</u> 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 Shelia & Tim Kelly in honor of their children, Nathan & Madison, and in honor of Holy Comforter.

<u>Those who have placed flowers on the altar</u> may use containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church. *Carmen Buell, Worship & Music* 

### Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, for August 7, 2016:

Attendance: 125

Budget Report	August 7, 2016
Current Offering Received	\$ 6,088.00
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 5,019.46
Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)	\$ 163,146.98
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	\$ 11,183.74
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	\$ 5,884.27

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:** 

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye GREETER: Katie Kessen

ACOLYTE & CRUCIFER: CHILDREN'S WORSHIP LEADERS:
Need Volunteers Trudy Whitener + Rebecca Yount

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

Infants: Staff: Toddlers: Volunteers Needed

**USHERS:** Need Volunteers

**TELLERS:** Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 2) Brad Milton, Co-Captain Brandy Milton, Co-Captain

Donna Bean

**SOLOIST:** Don Robinson

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:** (Team A)

Jo Singleton Jack Tench Shelia Kelly 1 Volunteer **EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:** 

Volunteers

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: August 14-20** 

August 15 Brenda Dabrowski August 17 Theo Bruchon Mark Dabroweski

August 18 Katie Baker Henry Bocchino Alex Bocchino

Daphne Hansen

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS: Today, Sunday, August 14

9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room 10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion 8:30 pm Movie On the Lawn

Thursday, August 18

Saturday, August 20 11:00 am *Kids' Club* 

Pool Party at Misty's House

**Lunch Provided!** 

Tuesday, August 16 7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Sunday, August 21 & 28 the Children's Ensemble will meet for a special session at 4:00 pm.

At 5:00 pm on those dates they will meet briefly with the church choir combining rehearsals to prepare an upcoming new anthem. Parents

of the children are also invited to sing with us on the anthem. We have a number of youth in middle-high school interested in singing, so you may come and join us at 5:00 pm for this special anthem session. (Try it, you might like it.)

The church choir will have two full rehearsals on the 21st & 28th. All music ensembles will then resume after Labor Day.



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

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

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

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

Yours in Christ, Your friendly Christian Education Committee

### **SPECIAL NEEDS FOR HERITAGE OAKS:**

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



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

Mark your calendar: September 25<sup>th</sup> is our day for worship at Lutheridge.

Please remember Alyssa Buchanan as she leaves August 16 for her year-long adventure in Manzini, Swaziland. Alyssa will be working through YAGM...Young Adults in Global Mission. She says: If you'd like to follow along with me on this journey through my online newsletters, give me your email and I'll add you to my list!

My email is: anbuchan@live.unc.edu.



### PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin Zac Hullander Marguerite Shive
Brenda Dabrowski Tom Irwin Mark Reese
Shawn De Nicholas Chase Lineberger Beverly Reynolds
Ardean Ewing Holly Peche Kevin Washle
Dot Holland Sherry Perry

### **GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

Richard Abernethy Stacy Hunsucker Julio Quiros Paige Beaver Dennis Jordan Tim Reid Jenny Beer Steven Keating Dan Robinson & Daughters Breanna & Mikayla Barbara Bingham Marshall Kinley Anna Rudder Graham Brezler Laura Lanuto Tangie Shingler Libby Byrum Jennifer Lineberger Megan Sigler Father Frank Cancro Terry Mahaffey E. Taylor & Family Tina Capwell Amv McGinnis Carson Thomas Clell Davis Gene McRorie Sally Vanhoy J. Don Devine Don Moore Bill Walker Zachary Evans Amanda Murray Gloria Ward Carol Baker Fox Tyler Murray Olivia Wilcox Poss Garrett Jean Peters Jeff Wiles Ronnie Garrison Jim Poad Bruce Zander **Taylor Propst & Family** Tammy Gordon

Matt Cisek Leo Kasmer

Brian Hedrick



### **OUR SERVICEMEN**

**David Prouty** 

Jason Gardner Dillon Kasmer
Tom Kasmer Mike Kelso

Please remember these people in your prayers.

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

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

# Holy Doodles

Lutheran Men in Mission for the Gaston County & Southwestern Conference will sponsor an

# Ice Cream Social and Vesper Service on Today, August 14 from 5:30-7:00 pm

at Baker's Buffalo Creek Winery in Fallston, NC (located off Waco-Fallston Road)

The setting is a dairy farm that has been in existence for over 100 years.

5:30 pm Dairy Queen Blizzards
(Corn hole boards, swings, and room for kids to play games)

6:30 pm Gather in the Chapel area and look out on the South Mountains as the Vesper Service begins.



By 7:00 pm the service is complete.

Some folks will stay for one more DQ Blizzard before heading home.

The new pew cushions are an anonymous gift given to the Glory of God and in honor of Tom & Shirley Causby. The fabric visually enhances our worship space, also encouraging congregational singing by restoring the original acoustics of the room.



# **BCO** Items of the month for August:

# Spaghetti sauce & pasta.



### **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
Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager