## Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • April 15, 2018

### The Third Sunday of Easter

Micah Kearney Pastor



Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

#### WELCOME/GATHERING

PRELUDE:	Jesus Lives,	My Sure	Defense	 					. Pag	e 8 & 9;	)
				(	Choir	sings	verse	1; A	ll sing	verse 4	1

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presiding minister begins:

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for + his sake, God forgives you all your sin. Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God.
- C Amen.

All Stand & Sing Al - le ia! lu Je sus is ris en! Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen ter Je - sus the vine. the 3 we are branch es: Weep-ing, be sor - row, be si lent: gone; 5 Cit - v God, of Eas - ter for ev er, sound - ing glo - ri light! Trum - pets re in ous tell - ing the sto - ry o - pen eyes; to our life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree; death Eas - ter bright. put a sun - der, and is gold - en Je lem, Je - sus the Lamb, ru - sa -Splen-dor, the Lamb, heav - en for ev er! break - ing our bread, giv - ing glo us ry: Christ to heav - en earth. the ple, to peo Cher - u bim sing: O be grave, o pen! riv - er of life, saints and arch gels, an Oh, what a mir - a cle God sight! has in bless - ing, prise. Je sus our con - stant our sur gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me. Clothe us won - der, dorn light. in a us in sing with cre a - tion God the Ι AM! to Refrain is shall Je - sus ris - en and we a rise. 0.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1969 Contemporary Worship I, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Give God

the

glo - ry!

Al - le - lu

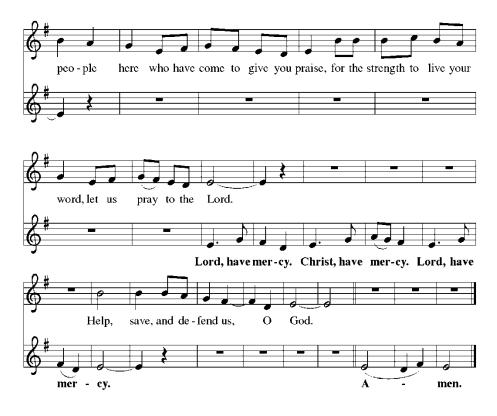
ia!

#### **GREETING**

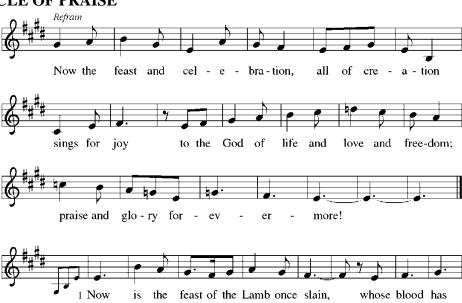
- P Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
- C And also with you.

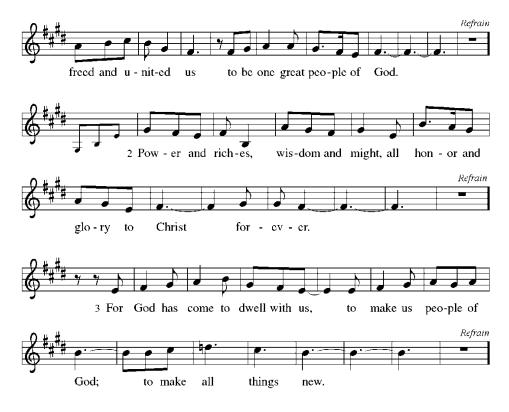
#### **KYRIE**





#### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**





#### **SALUTATION**



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

#### P Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### 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 Acts 3:12-19

A reading from the third chapter of Acts.

After healing a crippled man, Peter preaches to the people how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?<sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

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

#### SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-7

A reading from the third chapter of 1 John.

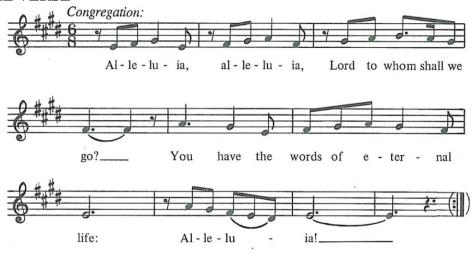
God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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

#### **GOSPEL VERSE**



GOSPEL Luke 24:36b-48

- P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

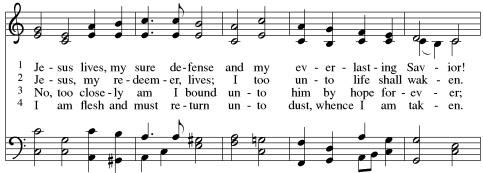
<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

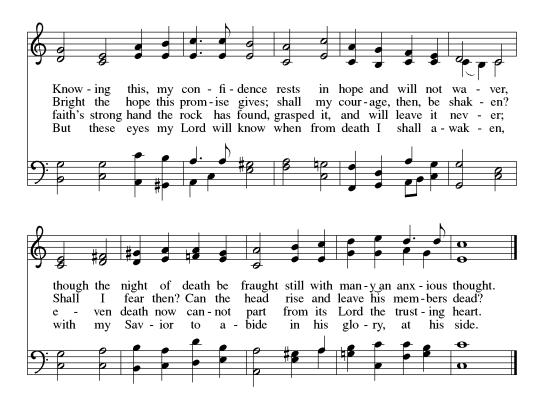
<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things."

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

SERMON ...... Pastor Micah

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** Jesus Lives, My Sure Defense . . . . . . . . All Stand & Sing





- 5 Then take comfort and rejoice for his people Christ will cherish. Fear not, you will hear his voice; dying, you will never perish; for the very grave is stirred when the trumpet's blast is heard.
- 6 Here on earth, then, let your hearts rise from longings vain and hollow. Seek what Christ your Lord imparts while you in his footsteps follow. As you now still wait to rise, set your hearts beyond the skies!

Text: Otto von Schwerin, 1616–1679; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT, attr. Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

#### 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

Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, we pray the church and its many expressions. Strengthen all those who work to plant seeds of faith in youth and children, youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and parents. Give them faith to know their work bears fruit, whether seen or unseen. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Creating God, you gave us dominion over every living creature. Grant us wisdom to use our power to develop sustainable farming and housing practices. Slow down our rush to consume. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful God, walk with all refugees who leave their homes to move to safety. Protect them on their journey. Greet them with hospitality. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Compassionate God, you heal us. For all who have not been granted the healing they desire and for all who cannot access the care they need, send social workers, doctors, parish nurses, and other caregivers. Today we pray especially for . . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God our provider, you call us to give generously. Bless the finance and stewardship teams of this congregation. Make us joyful givers of the time, talents, and treasures you have first given us. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

God of our ancestors, in you we have our beginning and our end. We remember all the faithful departed. Enfold in a shield of peace all those who mourn (*especially*). Hold them in your love. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

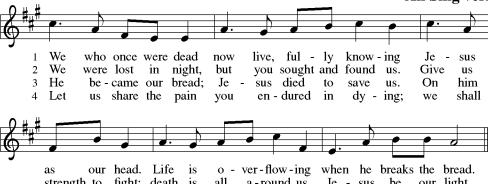
Amen.

#### **PEACE**

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

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** We Who Once Were Dead . . . . . . . Church Choir, verse 1

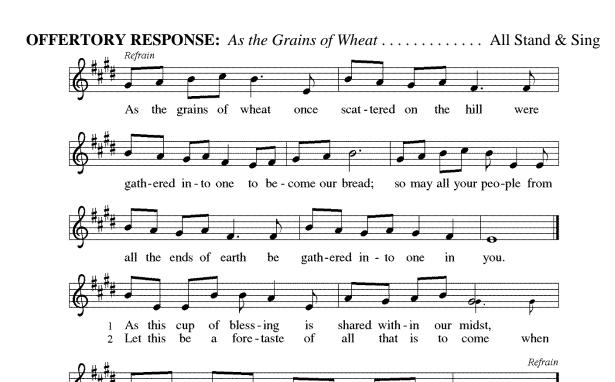
All Sing verses 2-6



- fight; death is all a-round us. Je sus, be our light. strength to eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from we fed, the dead. liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, then re - main we shall rise a - gain.
- 5 Jesus, you were dead, but you rose and, living, made yourself our bread, in your goodness giving life though we were dead.

6 This is your design; in this meal we meet you. Be our bread and wine, Jesus, we entreat you. This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite
Music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936
Text and music © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV., Baarn, The Netherlands, All rights reserved. Exclusive
agent for English-language countries: OCP Publications, 5356 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.



Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: AS THE GRAINS. Marty Haugen Text and music © 1990 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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#### OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.

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#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

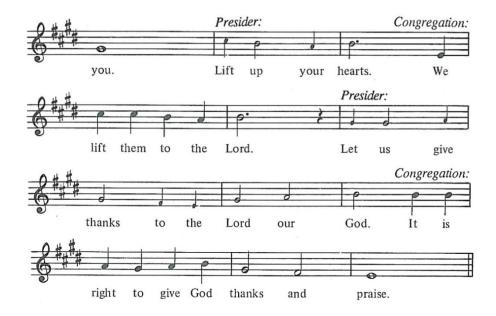
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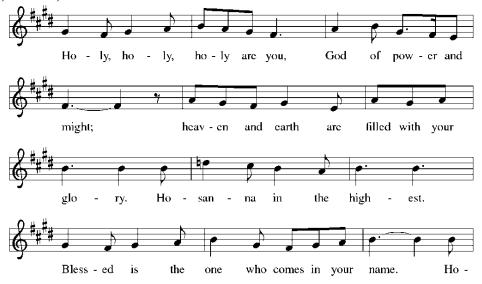




#### **PREFACE**

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

#### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

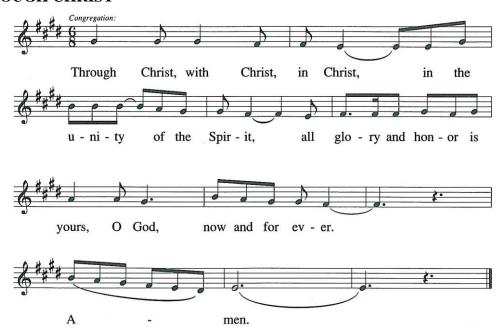




#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

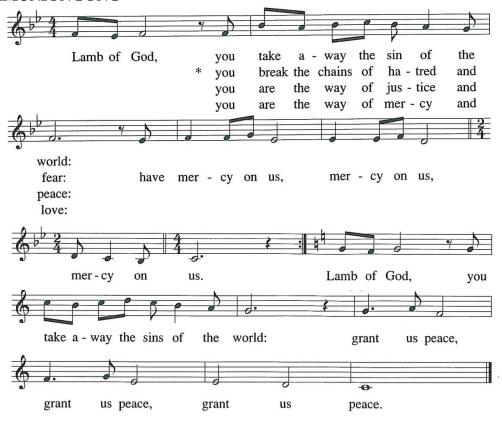
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.



#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

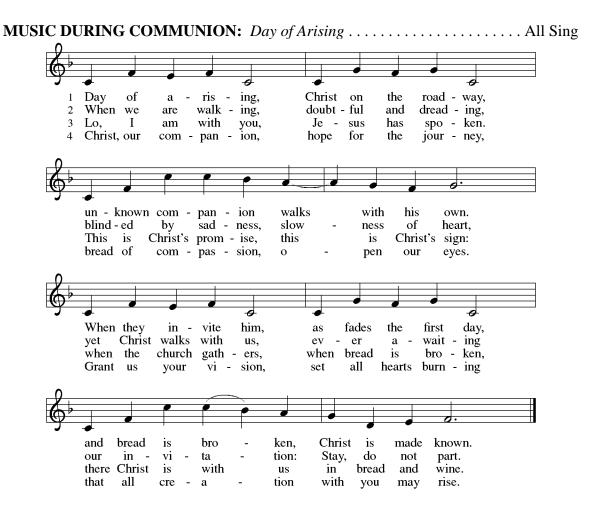
- P Now let us feast this Easter season on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!
- C Thanks be to God.

#### **COMMUNION SONG**



#### **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.



Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 Music: RAABE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

- 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 Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

P May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

**SENDING SONG:** *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* . . . . . . . All Stand & Sing 1 Now all the vault of heav'n sounds re 2 Ε ter nal is the gift he brings, fill love; 3 Oh, Lord. with daunt us, less Α dor ing prais es now we bring 0 bounds: "Christ praise of love that still has in there fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has will things that set heart and on a bove we and with the heav'n-ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has umphed! He is liv ing!" Sing, choirs of tri ing!" umphed! He is Now still tri liv he quer through your suf tri umph; grant grace Al lu umphed! - le ia!" Be the to 0 clear! peat their song of an - gels, loud and Re glo - ry life his pres - ence stills all comes to give and by us fi - cient for life's day that our lives we tru - ly Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly here: "Christ has tri umphed! He liv ing!" is "Christ ing!" has umphed! He liv strife. tri is "Christ has tri umphed! He liv ing!" say: is God, all the ing! glo ry, nev er end

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623
Text © 1988 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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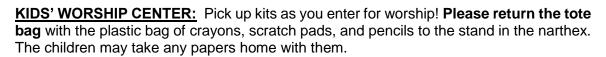
#### **SENDING**

- A Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- A You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.
- C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this Third Sunday of Easter. 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. Let an usher know if you need assistance.



<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.

#### Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, April 8, 2018:

Attendance: 93

**Budget Report** April 8, 2018 Year-to-Date \$ 5,001.00 \$ 78,377.03 Offering 5,551.17 \$ 73,075.42 Expenses Offering less Expenses 550.17) \$ 5,301.61 **Budgeted Expenses** \$ 78,509.45 Offering less Budgeted Expenses 132.42) (\$

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:** 

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye GREETER: Volunteer

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: TELLERS: Fran Holland

Volunteers John Koehler

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1)

Bev Mauney, Co-Captain

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Brandy Milton + Volunteer

Carmen De Nicholas NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am)

Deb Williams Lauren Shoemaker

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: FLUTE: Julia Gunter

Donna Bean + Volunteers

USHERS: Volunteers

**EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:** Teresa Keller + Volunteer

Charles Mauney, Co-Captain

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS: Today, Sunday, April 15

Today, Sunday, April 15Tuesday, April 179:30 am Sunday School7:00 pm Christian Ed meets10:10 am Church Choir

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion Wednesday, April 18

2:00 pm Confirmation class 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble

5:00 pm Handbells

HCY meets at the church

Saturday, April 21

6:00 pm Church Choir 10:00 am Kids' Club Meet at the church

#### **BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: April 15-21**

Today, April 15 Nick Alvarez April 16 Misty Koehler Debbie Neagle April 19 Jake MacDonald April 20 Carly Caldwell





# Agape Day Camp will be held July 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> For grades entering 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>



Registration forms are available from **Misty Koehler**. The cost is **\$130 per camper and is due at the time of registration**. There is only room for 32 campers, so register soon. The spaces will be filled on a "first come, first served" basis.

Please contact Misty if you have any questions about camp.



# VBS Registration Coming Soon... Dates of VBS are July 29-August 2

Volunteers needed to teach, set up, cleanup, and collect supplies.

Contact Beka at rforst@holyc.org to volunteer.

## The Lillian E. Lineberger Scholarship Ministry



Applications for the 2018-2019 academic year are now available in the church office or via email at holycomforter@gmail.com. Include *Lineberger Scholarship* in the subject line. The office manager will send you an application that you can complete. The deadline for your *completed* application, transcript, and typed essay is April 30. Any applications received after that date will not be considered.

The Lillian E. Lineberger Scholarship was established as an endowment by Mrs. Lineberger to the congregation to reinforce students of the church in their learning and in the accomplishment of an undergraduate or graduate degree. Her hope was that this bequest would help improve their lives, and in turn, serve and enrich the lives of others. Modest scholarships will be awarded to students of the congregation from the fund.

Authorized by the Holy Comforter Church Council, the Scholarship Ministry accepts applications from candidates who have been communing and contributing members of the church for at least one year. The annual deadline is the last Sunday in April and the awards are announced in May or early June.

The amount of the award depends on the following:

- Number of students applying for, and receiving, an award
- Total amount in the fund.
- Recent fund performance

Other donations to this fund can be made as memorials or tributes to friends and family on their special occasions. Please make checks payable to *Holy Comforter* and write *Lineberger Scholarship Ministry* on the memo line to ensure your gift is credited appropriately.

As the fund grows, we will be able to give more help to students.

Thank You, The Scholarship Ministry

# BCO April Items of the Month

**Jelly** 

#### Saltines

#### **Pasta Noodles**











The **National Youth Gathering** is exactly what it sounds like, 30,000 + youth will gather in Houston.

We are excited to serve, worship and gather in large community. **There are 87 days till our group of 7 travels to Houston!**For more information or looking to help, talk to Beka.



In the coming months you will be introduced to one of our seven travelers to Houston. Below, meet Bella Ince.

Hi, my name is Bella Ince and I am 14 years old. I am in 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Mt. Holly middle school. My hobbies include singing, playing volleyball, and baking. I am excited to go to Houston to serve God in as many ways as possible. I am also eager to make lifelong friendships with people who have the same belief. I am currently an active participant in *HCY* and in confirmation and I am excited to see how Houston will help us grow in faith.

#### PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen Carmen Buell Brenda Dabrowski Ardean Ewing Family Becke Featherstone Dot Holland Zac Hullander Jo Irwin Ben Moose Holly Peche Sherry Perry Marguerite Shive

Denise Taylor Jack Tench 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 Beverly Lineberger Jennifer Lineberger John McDermid Clarence McLain Anne Murdy Tommy Smith Brody Thornburg Dennis Yates

#### **OUR SERVICEMEN**



Beau Carroll To

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

#### **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: mkearney@holyc.org Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager