Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, August 17, 2014

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

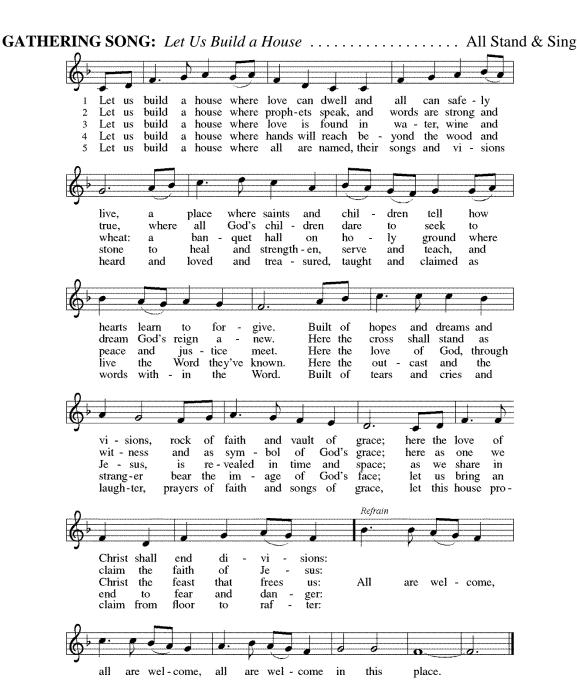
PRELUDE: *In Christ There Is No East or West* (See page 9)

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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C Amen.
- P In the presence of God, who sees our hearts and our minds, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.
- P God our strength,
- C we confess that we are captive to the power of sin that dwells within us. We put ourselves first and others last. What we think will make us happy leaves us longing for more. Even when we want to do what is good, we find ourselves doing the opposite. Rescue us from death's grip on our lives, and raise us up day by day, that we may be alive to God in Christ Jesus. Amen.
- P Sisters and brothers, all have fallen short of the glory of God; therefore we are justified by God's grace as a gift. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in + Christ Jesus, in whom we have forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation.

C Amen.



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

GREETING

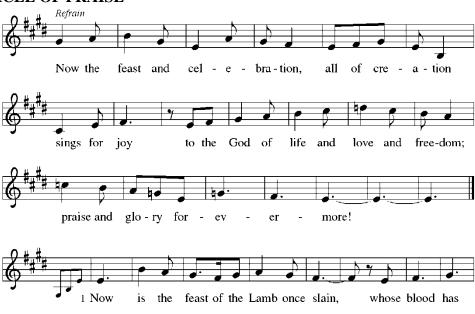
- P Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
- C And also with you.

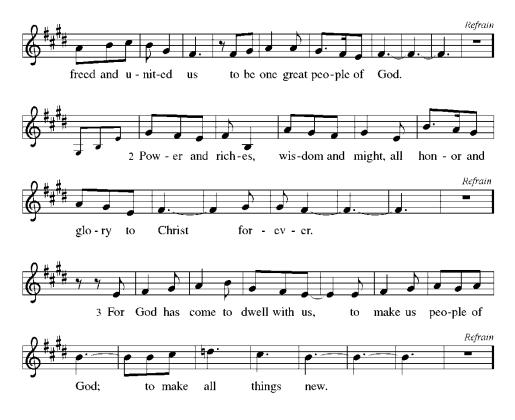
KYRIE





CANTICLE OF PRAISE





SALUTATION



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, 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 nursery.

FIRST READING Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

A reading from the fifth-sixth chapter of Isaiah.

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,

to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,

and to be his servants.

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,

and hold fast my covenant —

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,

and make them joyful in my house of prayer;

their burnt offerings and their sacrifices

will be accepted on my altar;

for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord GOD,

who gathers the outcasts of Israel,

I will gather others to them

besides those already gathered.

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

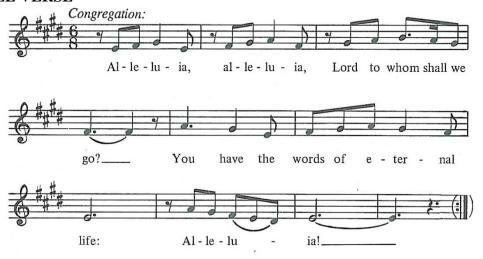
A reading from the eleventh chapter of Romans.

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable, so that while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL

Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

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

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman

considered to be pagan and unclean approaches him for help.

¹⁰Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: ¹¹It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

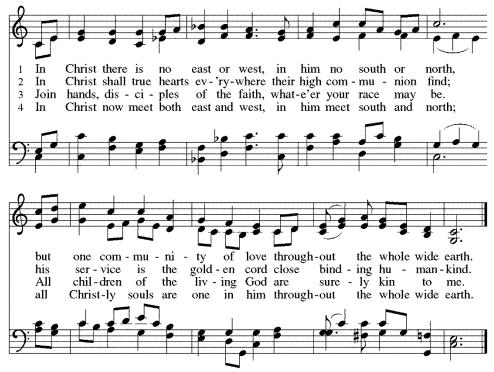
²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her

at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.



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





Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt. Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949

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

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, your house is a house of prayer for all peoples, all outcasts, and all who love your name. Reach into our hearts and focus our attention on this central mission of your gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Embrace all of creation in your loving arms and show us a better way to care for your earth. Increase our understanding of the atmosphere and oceans, and help us protect endangered species. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You ask us to maintain justice and do what is right, that all nations know peace. Uphold those international organizations striving to work together for the good of all. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Shine your face upon those in need of healing for bodies, minds, and spirits. Strengthen our faith and fill us with hope as we humbly kneel before you. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Open our hearts to the visitors among us, and to their gifts and questions. Fill them with your welcoming presence. Watch over those who are absent and bring them safely home. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

As you gather the faithful who have died into your eternal home, remind us of everything they have taught us in your name. Thank you for their presence among us (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

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

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

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



Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956 Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress. **OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** As the Grains of Wheat All Stand & Sing

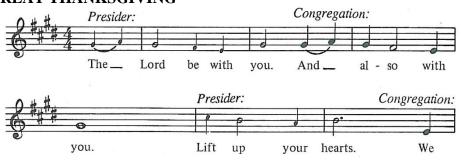


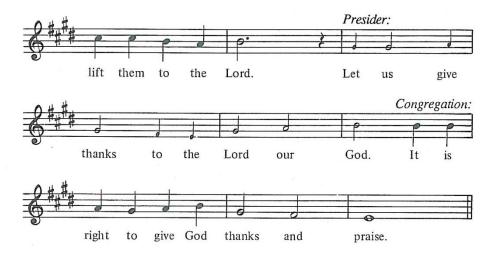
OFFERING PRAYER

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.

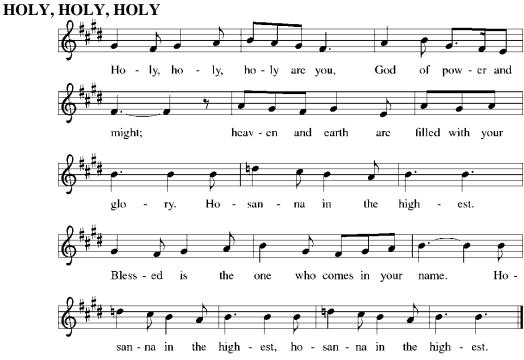
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING





PREFACE

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



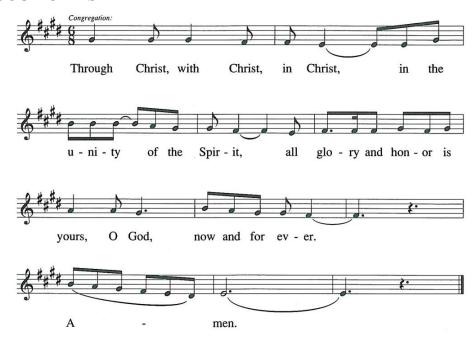
Music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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,

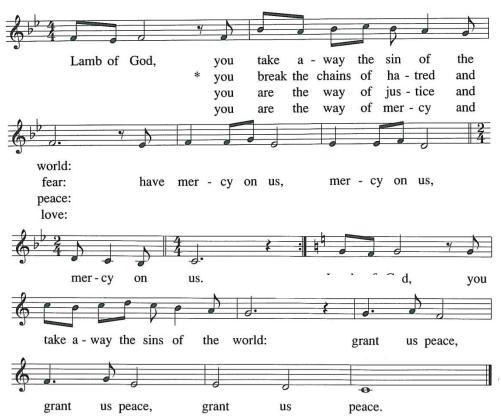
and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P Everyone who hungers, come to the table. Eat what is good, that you may live.
- C Thanks be to God.

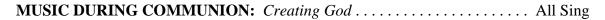
COMMUNION SONG

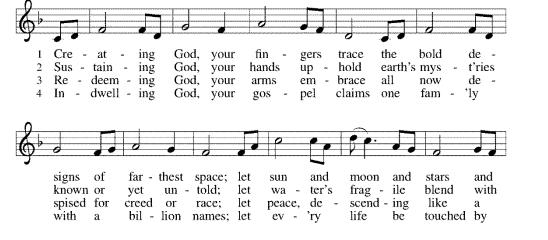




COMMUNION

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: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934
Music: PROSPECT, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835
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- P The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

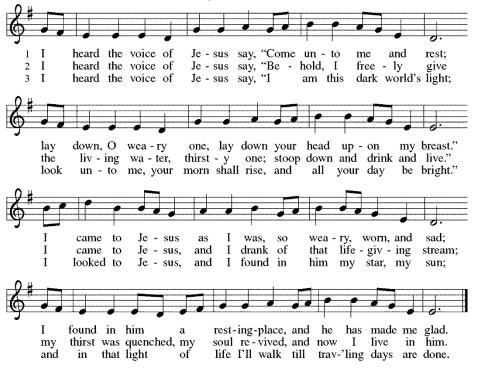
- A Let us pray,
- C We thank you, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have fed us in a way our hearts can understand, with the saving body and blood of Jesus Christ. Enliven us by your presence in this meal, that we may be your presence in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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: I Heard the Voice of Jesus All Stand & Sing



Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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<u>A CORDIAL WELCOME</u> 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. 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.

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.

<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 the Bocchino family in honor of Alex & Henry's birthday; and by Lynn Martin in honor of Doug & Jennipher's wedding anniversary.

<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 10, 2014:

Attendance: 119

Budget Report	<u>August 10, 2014</u>
Current Offering Received 8/10/14	\$ 6,050.00
Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 4,504.60
Offering, YTD	\$131,154.67
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD	\$ 4,959.23
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD	(\$ 11,914.59)

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye, Jr., Tom Bocchino

ACOLYTES: Garrett Carpenter, Garrett Fox

CRUCIFERS: Noah Rogers, Molly Koehler

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1)

Bev Mauney, Co-Captain Brad Milton, Co-Captain

Carmen De Nicholas **Charles Mauney**

Brandy Milton

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS: Need Volunteers

NURSERY: (9:30-11:45 am) Rebecca Yount & Jane Howard

GREETER: Need Volunteer

USHERS: Need Volunteers

TELLERS: John Koehler

Sherry Alexander

CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS:

Today: Tracey Nault + Helper Next Sunday: Carol & Phil Posey

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS: Today, Sunday, August 17

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

SS teachers meet in the parlor

10:10 am Choir meets in choir room

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

2:30 pm Vacation Bible School!

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

Tuesday, August 19

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Saturday, August 23

11:00 am Kids' Club

Back-to-School Pool Party

Misty's home. Hot dog lunch.

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: August 17-23

Today, August 17 Wesley Ashe

Mark Dabrowski

Carol Posev

August 18 Katie Baker

Henry Bocchino Alex Bocchino

Cindy Braddy

Daphne Hansen

August 21 Lynn Martin

Andrew Robinson

August 22 Becke Featherstone

Allison Wallace

Blast Off VBS Take TWO! Today, August 17.

We will meet from 2:30-4:30ish.

Rally Day for the new Sunday School year will be on Sunday, August 24 and we will use some of the closing activities from VBS to begin the Rally Day activities.



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise AustinDaniel DowdZac HullanderScott CaldwellCher GrantJohn KreitzerVirginia CrumpFerrie HedrickMabel RatchfordBrenda DabrowskiKay HoldenMark Reese

Louise Day Richard Holden

Ronnie Hersey Judy Jackson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Harriett Ange Dennis Jordan Scott Phillips Kathy Beam Wesley Jordan & Family Steve Pletsas Taylor Propst & Family Helen Brasfield Betty Kannapel Dale Burris Steven Keating David Prouty Wesley Coleman Marshall Kinley Mara Rapplevea Ronnie Hagy Becky Knick Steve Sanford Brian Hedrick Alice Langley Megan Sigler Laura Lanuto & Family Ramona J. Sinclair Kathy Helton Betty Fox Pierce Lee Jimmy Surratt Claudia Frazier Peggy McKenney & Family Beverly F. Wall Donald Freeman Sandra Nix Gloria Ward Mark Outlaw Bryan Wayburn

Leland "Lee" Peterson

Jean Peters

OUR SERVICEMEN

Matt Cisek Jason Gardner Dillon Kasmer / Jeremy Shavel

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.



Sunday School teachers needed...

Please contact Beth ASAP via email at revbethbrittain@gmail.com or 704-956-1203 to accept the opportunity to teach.

Teachers are still needed for games and computers. Also, 4 more teachers are needed for the Pre-K class.

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 the \$12,500 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.

Are you willing to spend a
Sunday with our young children
during the 10:30 service
to provide them with their
own worship time?

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

The Family of Bob Williams

would like to thank Pastor Micah for a beautiful memorial service, Greg for the wonderful hymns of music that meant so much to us, all who provided refreshments and helped serve at the reception, and everyone at Holy Comforter for all the support, cards, prayers and hugs during this sad time.

May God bless you all... Deb Williams



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!

PREPARING FOR LONG-TERM CARE

<u>Join us for a free, one-hour presentation</u>. You'll learn about long-term care and how to prepare for it - emotionally, physically and financially.

Thrivent Financial will conduct two events in our area: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 201 N. Piedmont Avenue in Kings Mountain on Wednesday, **August 20 at 12 Noon**; and at Antioch Lutheran Church, 330 Old NC 277 Loop Road in Dallas, NC that evening at **6:00 pm**.

Guest speaker: Chris Minnigh, Long-Term Care Specialist for Thrivent Financial. Hosted by your Thrivent representatives Michael Kearney, Gary Samuelson, Terry Halvorson, Rob Rich, and Zac O'Brien.

RSVP: 704-525-2657 or email laurie.halvorson@thrivent.com.

(No products sold at this event.)

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