Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • May 20, 2018

Pentecost Sunday



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P Just as God's work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day. Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life to our planet.
- C We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.
- P We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: for water from our tap, for rain that nourishes, for the Catawba and South Fork rivers, and Lake Wylie.
- C We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.
- P We give you thanks for your salvation through water: for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters, for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom, for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought, for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land, for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.
- C We give you thanks for your salvation through water.
- P We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized, and for all who gather here;

for godparents and baptismal sponsors, for children and grandchildren, for those soon to be baptized here, for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

- C We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.
- P We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit: for our entry into Jesus' death through these waters, for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.
- C We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.





Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921–2001, alt. Music: DEN SIGNEDE DAG, Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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.

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through 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 2:1-21

A reading from the second chapter of Acts.

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.

⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below,

blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood.

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:22-27

A reading from the eighth chapter of Romans.

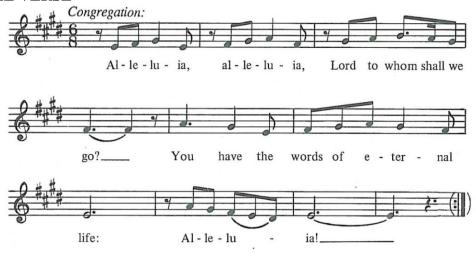
By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

- P The holy gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth and sixteenth chapters.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

When speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as "the Helper" and described the difference the Spirit would make in their lives and in the world.

[Jesus said,] ²⁶"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

16:4bc I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

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

SERMON Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading* All Stand & Sing



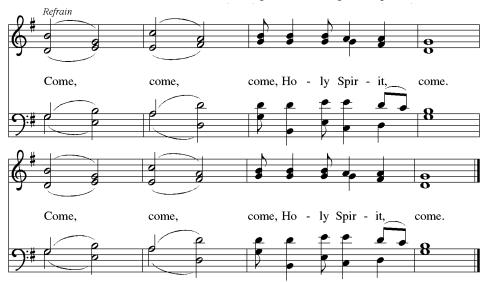
- Gra cious Spir it, heed our plead-ing, fash ion us all a new.
- 2 Come to teach us, come to nour ish those who be lieve in Christ.
- 3 Guide our think-ing and our speak-ing done in your ho ly name.



It's your lead-ing that we're need-ing, help us to fol-low you.

Bless the faith-ful, may they flour-ish, strength-ened by grace un - priced.

Mo - ti - vate all in their seek-ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.



Text: Wilson Niwagila; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922 Music: NJOO KWETU, ROHO MWEMA, Wilson Niwagila; arr. Egil Hovland, b. 1924 English and Swahili text and tune © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Arr. © Egil Hovland. Used by permission.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation

> he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place, praying for the world that God so loves.

A brief silence.

Lord of life, you baptize your people with the fire of the Spirit. Grace your church everywhere with your visions and dreams, so that as we testify, all will hear the gospel and call upon your saving name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your creating Spirit renews the face of the earth. Bring to birth new life in the earth's land forms and waters. Awaken us from the slumber of neglect to show tender care for our home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your Spirit swept over the waters and you created the human family. Now we are divided, scattered like dry bones. Connect the nations with the strength of the Holy Spirit, so that all will live in hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your Spirit sighs with every need. Guide us in honoring the dignity of everyone and opening our lives to others. Pour your healing mercies into the lives of all who need your care (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your Spirit has called and gathered this congregation into life in Christ. Help us in our weakness, teach us to pray, search our hearts, and intercede for us, your beloved saints, according to your will. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

By your Holy Spirit you have called and gathered people from every nation under heaven. Gather us with all the saints at the heavenly banquet that has no end. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

By the sure guidance of your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our prayers in trust and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

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

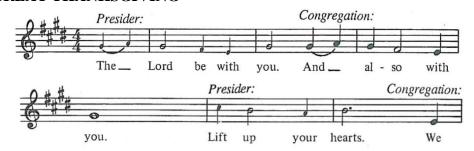


OFFERING PRAYER

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

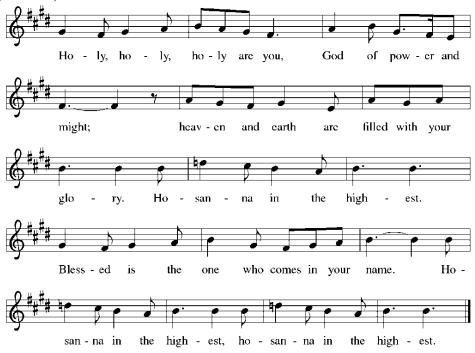




PREFACE

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

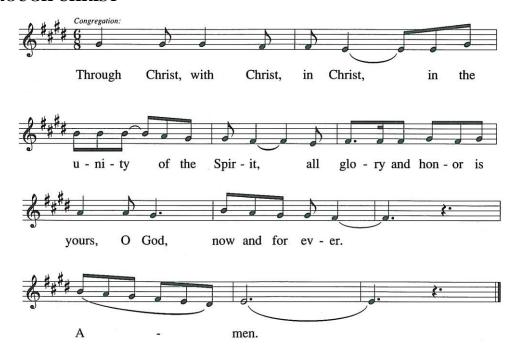
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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 Day of Pentecost, on Christ, the bread of heaven.
- C Thanks be to God.

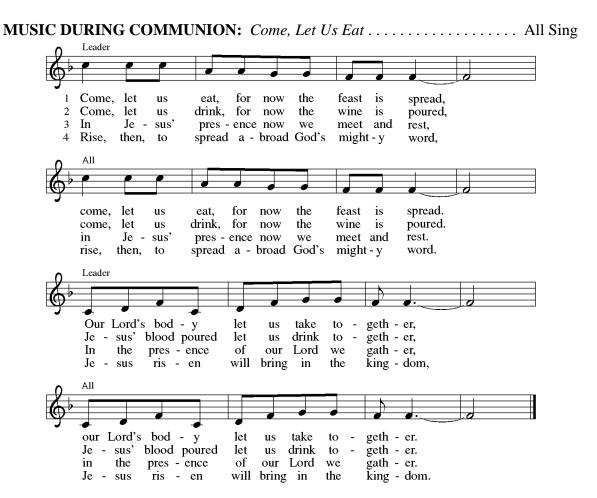
COMMUNION SONG





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: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1–3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1–3, alt. Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4, admin. 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: God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind All Stand & Sing





Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873−1932
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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 our visitors on this Pentecost Sunday. We pray that you will find a warm fellowship while you are among us and that you will return home with a renewed sense of dedication to Jesus Christ. Please sign our guest register or a visitor's card so that we can become acquainted with you. If you are without a church home, we invite you to investigate membership in this family of God.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP. Jesus said, "let the children come to me!" Parents are encouraged to utilize the Kids Worship Kits found in the Narthex for older toddlers through early elementary age. Nurseries for children (infants through 3 years old) are 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.

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, May 13, 2018:

Attendance: 143

Budget Report	May 13, 2018	Year-to-Date
Offering	\$ 5,198.00	\$ 105,102.79
Expenses	\$ 5,551.17	\$ 102,503.7 <u>5</u>
Offering less Expenses	(\$ 353.17)	\$ 2,599.04
Expected Expenses		\$ 106,529.65
Offering less Budgeted Expenses		(\$ 1.426.86)

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye GREETER: Pat Long

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: TELLERS: Amanda & Nathan Kelly

Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3) CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Veronica Bryant

Fran Holland, Co-Captain Tracey Nault, Co-Captain Katie Kessen Rebecca Yount

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team A) Bev Mauney, Fran Holland, Sherry Alexander

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:

Volunteers USHERS: Volunteers

LEADER: Ellen Fleming

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, May 20

9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

BBQ Picnic Lunch after

Tuesday, May 22: 7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Wednesday, May 23

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am)

Lauren Shoemaker

FLUTE: Julia Gunter

SOLOIST: Greg Byrum

Thursday, May 24-28
Isle of Palms Retreat



BCO May Items of the Month:











Soups

Baked Beans

Dried Beans

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: May 20-26

Natalie Hullander May 21

May 22 Arch Lineberger

May 23 Chuck Mac Donald Jennifer Miller

May 24 Mandi Kline

Perri Potter **Denise Taylor** May 25 William Kline May 26 Matthew Hogge





Agape Day Camp will be held July 16th-20th

For grades entering 1st - 8th



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.





Pick up a baby bottle from the narthex and start filling it with your loose change. This is a special project that will CHANGE countless lives. Collection is for The Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County (5 locations). Bottles are due on Father's Day, June 17th.



VBS Registration Is Here! Dates of VBS are July 29-August 2

Contact Beka at rforst@holyc.org to register.

Sunday School Attendance for May 13, 2018

Pre-K	7
Lower Elementary	5
Upper Elementary	2
Middle School	2
High School	0
Seekers	5
Adults	7
All Older Men	4
Total	32





The paraments on the altar have been changed today to red for the Day of Pentecost. Red helps us to remember the tongues of fire that descended on the crowd in Jerusalem.



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Carmen Buell
Brenda Dabrowski
Becke Featherstone
Dot Holland
Zac Hullander

Jo Irwin
Ben Moose
Holly Peche
Sherry Perry
Pat Roberson
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 Jennifer Lineberger Clarence McLain Anne Murdy Tommy Smith Brody Thornburg Dennis Yates

OUR SERVICEMEN



Beau Carroll

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



The **National Youth Gathering, June 27-July 1**, 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 38 days till our group of 7 travels to Houston!

For more information or looking to help, talk to Beka.



Hi, my name is Catherine Carr and I am 14 years old. I am in 9th grade at South Point high school. My hobbies include soccer, playing piano, baking, and running. I love being a part of our church family and am so excited to attend the National Youth Gathering in June. I look forward to volunteering in Houston and being around other Lutheran youth while growing closer to Christ!

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