

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • January 21, 2018

## The Third Sunday after the Epiphany



Micah Kearney  
Pastor

Greg Cline  
Organist/Choirmaster

### WELCOME/GATHERING

**PRELUDE:** Trompetto Dialog on *Hymn to Joy* . . . . . Schwarz

### 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 stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

**C Amen.**

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

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Loving God,

**C we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

P Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ☩ Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG: *We Are Called* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the  
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in  
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to  
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so  
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
 ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no  
 sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: WE ARE CALLED, David Haas

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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

Leader

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

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord.

For your

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

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

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

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

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

*Refrain*

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

*Refrain*  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

*Refrain*  
God; to make all things new.

## SALUTATION

*Presider:*                      *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

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

## CHILDREN’S TIME

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

## FIRST READING

**Jonah 3:1-5, 10**

A reading from the third chapter of Jonah.

*The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 7:29-31**

A reading from the seventh chapter of Corinthians.

*Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

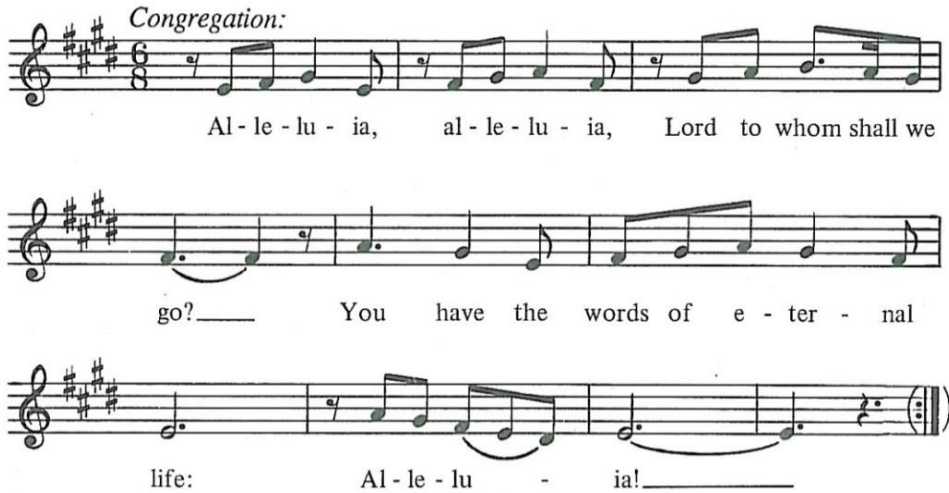
<sup>29</sup>Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL VERSE

*Congregation:*



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

## GOSPEL

**Mark 1:14-20**

**P** The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

*Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.*

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen.

<sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.



**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult* ..... All Stand & Sing



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our  
 2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the  
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
 5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice  
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and  
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
 may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me":  
 kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.  
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
 be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895  
 Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922



## **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**

Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the church in all its forms, for unity in Christ, and for those who proclaim the good news in word and deed, that all trust that the kingdom of God has come near, let us pray.  
**Have mercy, O God.**

For clean water and air, for fertile lands, so that all creatures and people have enough food, nourishing drink, and breathable air, let us pray.  
**Have mercy, O God.**

For public defenders and district attorneys, for the armed forces and international peace organizations, and for all public leaders, that those in authority work for the well-being of all people, let us pray.  
**Have mercy, O God.**

For the poor and oppressed, for the sick and bereaved, for those living with disease, and for all people in need (*especially*), that your power and compassion will be visible to those who need care and those who provide care, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For this congregation and its ministries, for visitors in our midst, and for students returning to school, that your Holy Spirit will guide us in all our endeavors, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for those who have died, that their lives of faithful service point us to the steadfast love of Christ, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** *Brighter Than Snow (Psalm 51)* . . . . . Church Choir

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

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were

gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from

all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

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

*Refrain*

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

## OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Presider:* The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al - so with

*Presider:* you. *Congregation:* Lift up your hearts. We

*Presider:* lift them to the Lord. Let us give

*Congregation:* thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

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

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

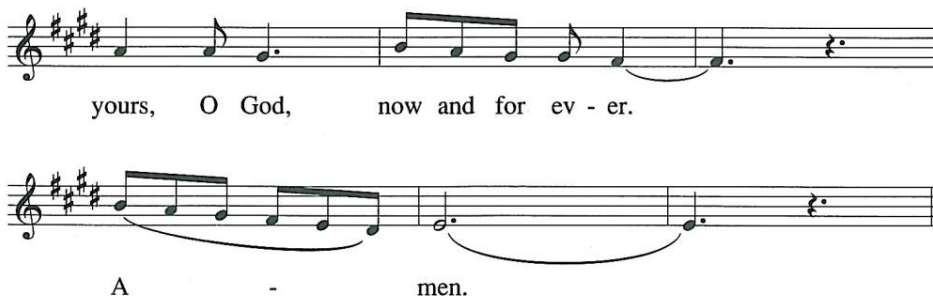
## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

## THROUGH CHRIST



*Congregation:*  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the  
u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is



## 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** We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## COMMUNION SONG

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

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

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
 take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

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

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:** *I Love to Tell the Story* . . . . . All Sing

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911  
 Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

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 O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now—today, tomorrow, every day—that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever. Amen.

## FAREWELL & GODSPEED

### BLESSING

P The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

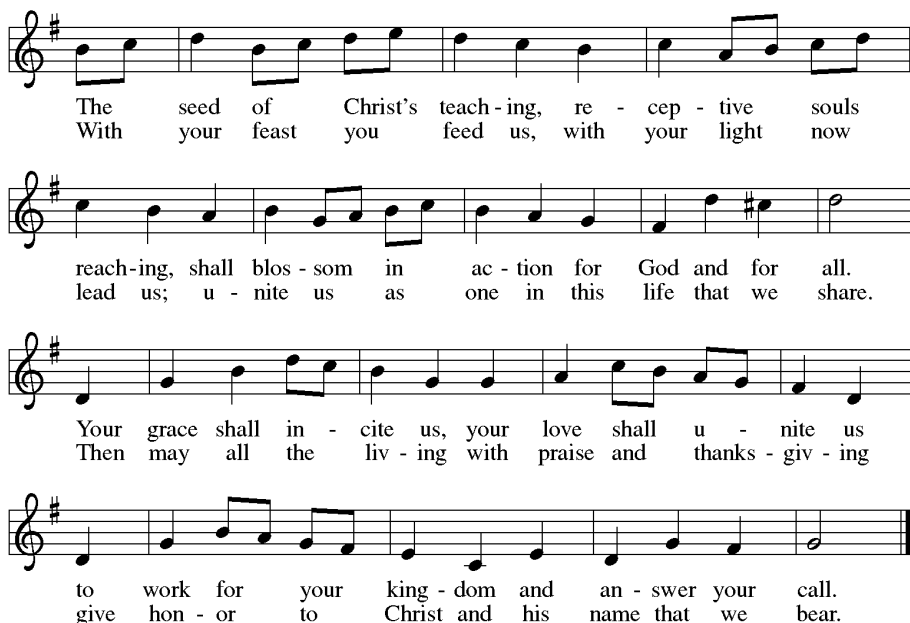
C Amen.

## SENDING SONG: *Sent Forth By God's Blessing* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,  
the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—  
The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,  
the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.





The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now  
reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.  
lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.  
Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us  
Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing  
to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.  
give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.  
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune  
Text © 1964 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All rights reserved.

## SENDING

**A** Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

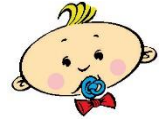
**C** Thanks be to God.

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**A CORDIAL WELCOME** is extended to all of our visitors on this **The Third Sunday after the Epiphany**. We pray that you will find a warm fellowship while you are among us and that you will return home with a renewed sense of dedication to Jesus Christ. Please sign our guest register or a visitor's card so that we can become acquainted with you. If you are without a church home, we invite you to investigate membership in this family of God.

**CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP**. Jesus said, "let the children come to me!" Parents are encouraged to utilize the Kids Worship Kits found in the Narthex for older

toddlers through early elementary age. Nurseries for children (**infants through 3 years old**) are located in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance.



**KIDS' WORSHIP CENTER:** Pick up kits as you enter for worship! **Please return the tote bag** with the plastic bag of crayons, scratch pads, and pencils to the stand in the narthex. The children may take any papers home with them.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** A notebook has been placed in the narthex for your prayer requests during the week. The book will be in the narthex on Sundays and in the church office during the week. **If you wish a name to be added to our prayer board, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in the form on line at [www.holyc.org](http://www.holyc.org).**

**Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, January 14, 2018:**

Attendance: 97

<b><u>Budget Report</u></b>	<b><u>January 14, 2018</u></b>	<b><u>Year-to-Date</u></b>
Offering	\$ 4,416.00	\$ 10,220.00
Expenses	\$ 5,551.17	\$ 11,102.35
Offering less Expenses	( \$ 1,135.17)	( \$ 882.35)

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:**

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye

**GREETER:** Debbie Mendez

**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:**

Volunteers

**TELLERS:** Amanda Kelly

Nathan Kelly

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 4)

Carmen Buell, Captain

Dean & Diann Halvorson

Barbara Kasmer

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:**

Veronica Bryant

**FLUTE:** Julia Gunter

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:** Volunteers

**USHERS:** Volunteers

**EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:** Volunteers

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

Volunteers & Thomas Nance

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK:** January 21-27

Today, January 21 Jane Howard  
Paul Nault

January 24 Jill Cassel  
January 26 Matthew Carr



## THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

### Today, Sunday, January 21

9:30am Adult Sunday School  
 10:10 am Church Choir  
 10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion  
 Congregational meeting  
 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble  
 5:00 pm Adult Handbells  
**HCY** meets at the church  
 6:00 pm Church Choir

### Tuesday, January 23

7:00 pm Chamber Choir  
 Nar-Anon  
 8:00 pm Basketball Game

### Wednesday, January 24

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

## BCO January Items of the Month



### Canned Soups



### Attendance January 14, 2018

	Adults	Kids
Pre-K		4
Lower Elementary		3
Upper Elementary		6
Middle School		1
Seekers	6	
Senior Adults	6	
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>

## Holy Comforter is starting a new Men's Group!

The group will focus on Service both to Holy C and the surrounding community.

An initial monthly meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 1 at 7:00 pm** at Holy Comforter to gather for introductions, fellowship and to inventory the gifts we have.

Then we can discuss how and where to deploy them.

Any and all of you gifted guys are welcome-from Accountants to Woodworkers, Plumbers, Pruners, and Pickup owners.

**Come and join us!**

HCY is collecting items for ***Carolina Big Hearts Big Barks Rescue***.

Accepting Items as follows: **toys, food, blankets, beds, litter, etc.** HCY will collect items through the end of **January**. You may leave your donations in the fellowship hall.



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 156 days till our group of 7 travels to Houston!

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



If you are willing to serve as a ***Greeter, Lector, Usher, Eucharist Presenter*** OR help in the **nursery** for the **2018** year, please sign your name on the sign-up sheet for each position you are volunteering for. Each volunteer position is listed on a separate clipboard. The clipboards are in the narthex. If willing to volunteer for the whole month, then sign your name at each date for that month. **The chief lector will serve on festival Sundays. To help with the nursery, contact Beka.**



## PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen  
Carmen Buell  
Brenda Dabrowski  
Ardean Ewing  
Becke Featherstone  
Ned Featherstone  
Dot Holland

Zac Hullander  
Jo Irwin  
Vivian Lane  
Chase Lineberger  
Holly Peche  
Sherry Perry  
Marguerite Shive

Jo Singleton & Family  
Ron Speck  
Denise Taylor  
Jack Tench  
Beverly Reynolds  
Kathie Schaumburg  
Jerri Wesson

## GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Jeanne Bernhardt  
Barbara Bingham  
Amy Beale Blythe  
Doug Brewer  
Karen de la Vega

Carol Fox  
Larry "Poss" Garrett  
Brandi Hager  
John McDermid  
Clarence McLain

Jennifer Lineberger  
Anne Murdy  
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](http://www.holyc.org)



# Holy Doodles



**Music Week at Lutheridge, July 8-14, is open for registration.**  
Grade 1 - Adult scholarships are available to Holy C members. See Greg Cline.

***Children's Handbell Class*** will be held during the Lenten Wednesday's Together, February 21-March 21. This class is open to Grades 3-5. Contact Greg Cline to sign up.



**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483  
[holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:MicahKearney@gmail.com)  
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster  
Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries  
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager