# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street
 Belmont, NC 28012
 April 30, 2017
 holycomforter@gmail.com
 704-825-2483
 www.holyc.org

# The Third Sunday of Easter

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:

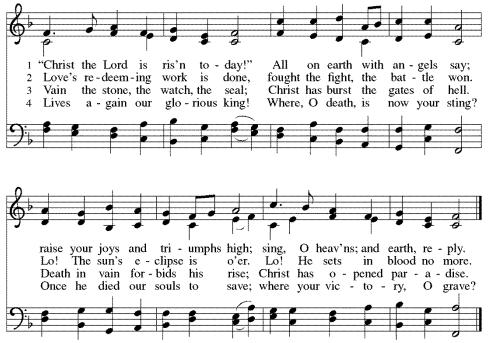
- P Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord + Jesus Christ, by whose Spirit we have been reborn to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
- C Amen.
- P Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death, let us come before God who calls us to repentance.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God of life,
- C by the resurrection of your Son you make everything new. Newness scares us, and we confess to shutting our doors in fear. We have not listened to voices that challenge us. We have resisted the Holy Spirit moving us in new directions. Our hearts are slow to believe your promises. Forgive us, O God, and renew us to embrace without fear the new life you have given us in Jesus Christ, Amen.
- P People of God, Christ is alive, and death has lost its power. Through the waters of baptism you have been born anew by the living word of God. Know that your sins are forgiven in + Jesus' name, and that the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive in you both now and forever.

## C Amen.

**GATHERING SONG:** Christ the Lord is Risen Today! . . . . . . . . . All Stand & Sing



- 5 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to thee by both be giv'n. Thee we greet triumphant now; hail, the resurrection, thou!
- 6 King of glory, soul of bliss, everlasting life is this: thee to know, thy pow'r to prove, thus to sing, and thus to love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS, Pierre de Corbeil, d. 1222, arr. Lutheran Book of Worship
Arr. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

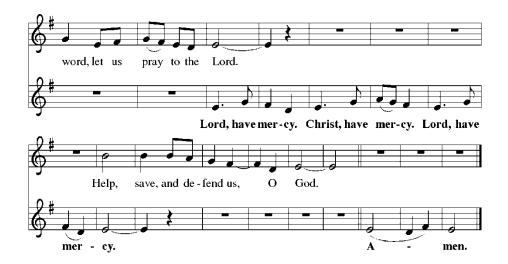
#### **GREETING**

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

C And also with you.

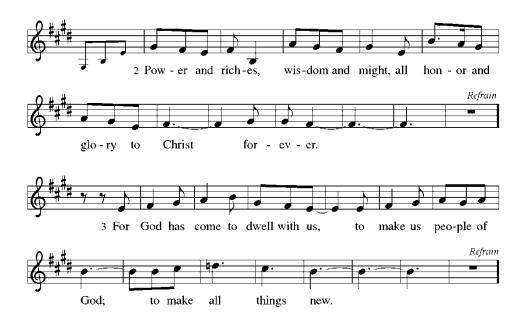
### **KYRIE**





### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**





Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text and music: © 1990 GIA Publications. Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL, 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442,3358, All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### **SALUTATION**



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, 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 2:14a, 36-41

A reading from the second chapter of Acts.

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

<sup>14a</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], <sup>36</sup>"Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" <sup>38</sup>Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." <sup>40</sup>And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup>So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

#### SECOND READING

A reading from the first chapter of 1 Peter.

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

1 Peter 1:17-23

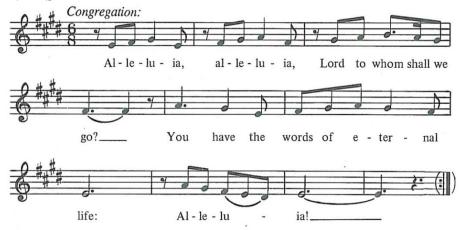
<sup>17</sup>If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup>You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup>He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

<sup>22</sup>Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup>You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### **GOSPEL VERSE**



GOSPEL Luke 24:13-35

P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup>He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

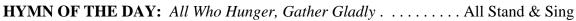
<sup>28</sup>As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

P

SERMON ..... Pastor Micah





Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, Columbian Harmony, 1825; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, II. 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

## **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 risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

## A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Remove all that hinders us from sharing your love. Raise up faithful preachers and teachers to lead your people. Heal our divisions. Unite us at your table. Lord, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

For the earth. Protect animals whose environments are endangered. Bring bountiful sunshine and sufficient rainfall for fields, pastures, and orchards. Bless those whose labors bring food to our tables. Lord, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

For the nations. Give all leaders wisdom and courage to work for the common good. Strengthen disaster relief workers, peacemakers, and all whose contributions to society go unnoticed. Lord, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

For those in need. Draw near to those who have lost hope. Provide food for the hungry and shelter for those who need safe housing. Comfort the grieving and heal the sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

For this assembly. Empower our ministries of outreach and hospitality. Strengthen the newly baptized and those who mentor them. Bless those who set the table for the holy meal. Lord, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died in faith. Bring us with them to the fullness of your glory with all your saints. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **PEACE**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** Shout for Joy Loud and Long . . . . . . . . . . . . Church Choir

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



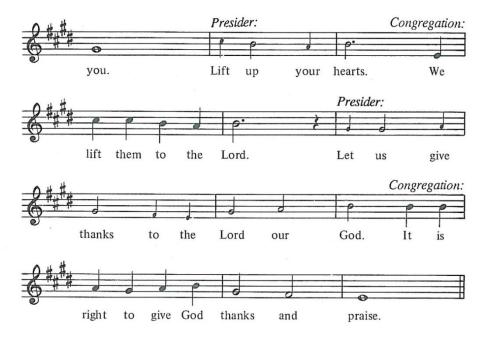
#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

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

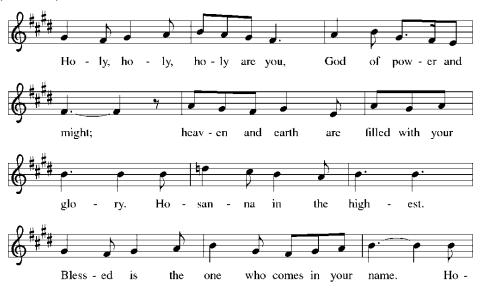




### **PREFACE**

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

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

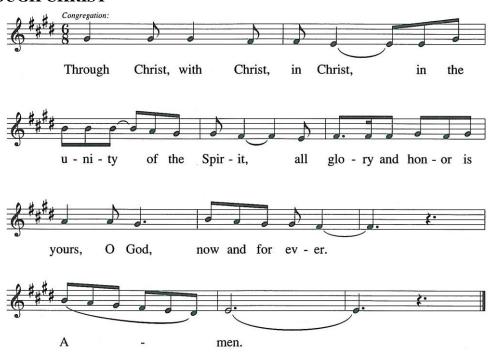




#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

#### THROUGH CHRIST



#### LORD'S PRAYER

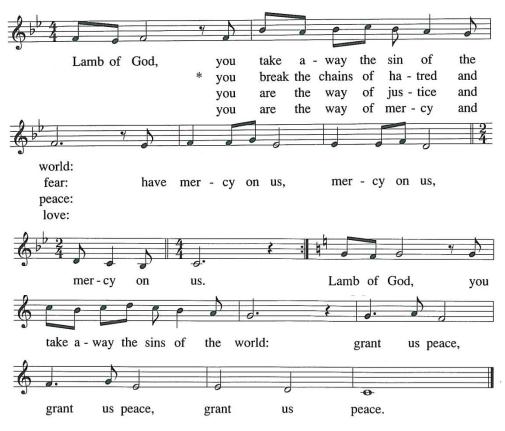
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

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 Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!
- C Thanks be to God.

### **COMMUNION SONG**

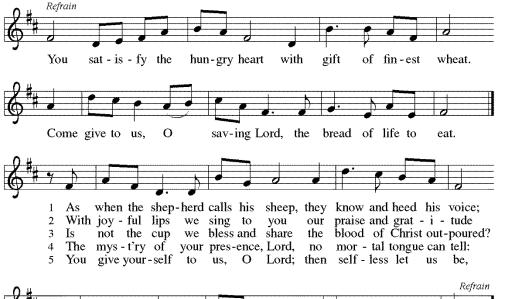


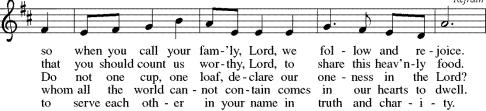


#### **COMMUNION**

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.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: You Satisfy the Hungry Heart . . . . . . . . All Sing





Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996 Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Life-giving God,

C 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,  $\oplus$  Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.





Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt. Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

#### DISMISSAL

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 of our visitors on this Third Sunday after 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 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.

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God and in honor of Erin Cassel's 6<sup>th</sup> birthday; and by Dee Smith in honor of her stepmother, Shirley Smith's birthday.

<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.

Carmen Buell, Worship & Music

## Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, April 23, 2017:

 Budget Report
 April 23, 2017
 Year-to-Date

 Offering
 \$ 1,342.00
 \$ 86,523.75

 Expenses
 \$ 5,656.42
 \$ 93,418.49

 Offering less Expenses
 (\$ 4,314.42)
 (\$ 6,894.74)

 Budgeted Expenses
 \$ 93,418.49

Offering less Budgeted Expenses (\$ 5,590.71)

**ASSISTING MINISTERS:** 

Attendance: 87

**LECTOR:** Billy Joye GREETER: Sue Lahr

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:

Volunteers Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 4) CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Diann & Dean Halvorson, Co-Captains Volunteers

Carmen Buell
Barbara Kasmer
USHERS: Need Volunteers

#### **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**

Volunteers

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

TELLERS: Raini Kimball. Infants: Staff: Toddlers: Volunteers Dennis Tucker

#### BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK: April 30-May 6

Today, April 30 Deborah Williams

May 1 Katie Kessen

Krystyna Sarrazin

May 2 Lucy Bocchino

May 3 Erin Cassel

May 4 Dariel Rogers

May 5 Tom Bocchino



## THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

## Today, April 30

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am Worship Service with Holy Communion

4:00 pm Children's Ensemble

6:00 pm Church Choir

6:30 pm Youth Gathering meeting

## Wednesday, May 3

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

Thursday, May 4

7:00 pm Stewardship Meeting

## Tuesday, May 2

7:00 pm Nar-Anon



The Lillian E. Lineberger Scholarship applications are due today, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Only those applications including the required transcript and essay will be considered.

Thank You, The Scholarship Ministry



Join us June 25th - June 28th from 6pm - 8pm, for our Annual Vacation Bible School! This year we will learn how God created each of us through song, bible discovery, games and the imagination station! We are in need of volunteers to help in many capacities through the evening activities. We will also provide a guick meal each evening for all participants & volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering to lead a group of kids, a breakout session or please help prepare meal. email Melissa Bocchino melissa.bocchino@pwc.com. Registration forms will be available soon for children in rising grades K through 5th. We invite our middle schoolers & high schoolers to volunteer to help! Please reach out with any questions!



Holy Comforter is hosting **Camp Agape July 17-21**. *Agape* is a day camp for rising 1st to rising 8th graders and is sponsored by Agape Kure Beach Ministries.

During a day at camp the kids will participate in Bible study, crafts, games, skits, nature time and lots of other fun activities. The kids in the 6th to 8th grade group will participate in service projects throughout the week at

Holy Comforter as well as off-site. We must have a minimum of 6 middle school aged kids in order to offer this expanded camp.

Registration forms are available at the back of the church or from **Misty Koehler**. The cost is **\$130** per camper and is due at the time of registration. There is only room for 25 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.** 



## ests PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen Brenda Dabrowski Shawn De Nicholas Ardean Ewing Ned Featherstone Dot Holland Zac Hullander Chase Lineberger Holly Peche Sherry Perry

Marguerite Shive Denise Taylor Jack Tench Beverly Reynolds

## **GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

Father Frank Cancro Karen de la Vega Carol Fox Scott Frisk Bill Hinkle Glenda Hinkle Brian Jackson & Family Jennifer Lineberger Capt. Basil Jeff Marett Anne Murdy Heather Plichta Karen Wayt Donnie Yavelak

#### **OUR SERVICEMEN**

Matt Cisek Jason Gardner



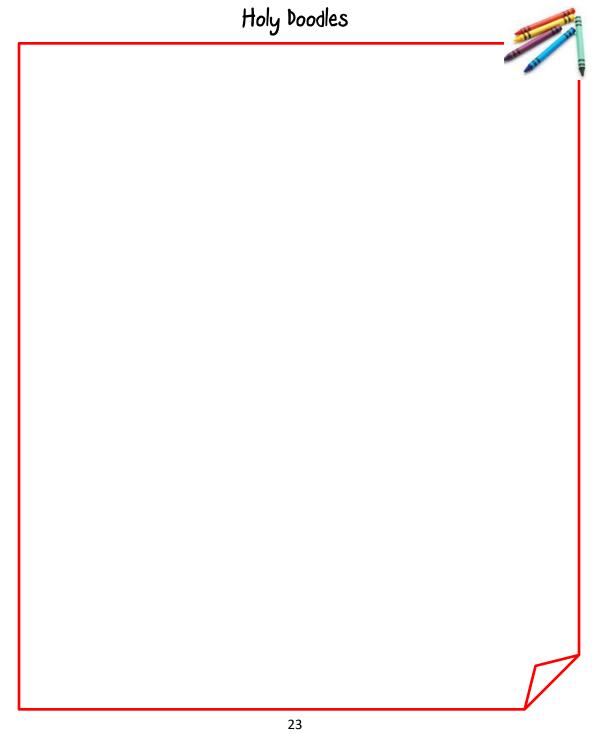
Dillon Kasmer Leo Kasmer

Tom Kasmer

Please remember these people in your prayers.

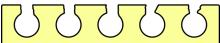
If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please inform the church office.

The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at <a href="https://www.holyc.org">www.holyc.org</a>



# **BCO May Items of the Month...**





**Packaged crackers** 

**Packaged cookies** 

**Canned Pasta:** 

Ex. Spaghetti &

**Meatballs or** 

Spaghetti Os





## **Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 holycomforter@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am The Service Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am — 3:00 pm

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: MicahKearney@gmail.com Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager