Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

• 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • October 6, 2019 •

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney Pastor Greg Cline Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME/GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

C Amen.

P If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ.

Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God our helper,

C we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news. **C** Amen.

C Amen



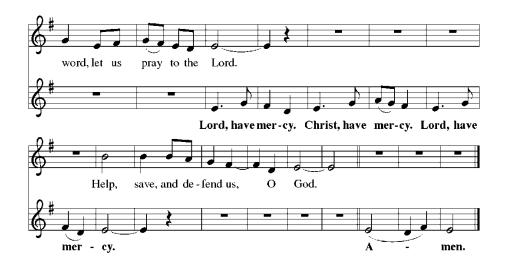
Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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.

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C Amen.**

Congregation is seated and 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.

A reading from the first and second chapters of Habakkuk.

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the wicked will perish, but the righteous will live by faith.

¹The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen?
Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save?

³Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1}I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart;

I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

²Then the LORD answered me and said:

Write the vision;

make it plain on tablets,

so that a runner may read it.

³For there is still a vision for the appointed time;

it speaks of the end, and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;

it will surely come, it will not delay.

⁴Look at the proud!

Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

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

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:1-14

A reading from the first chapter of 2 Timothy.

This message written from Paul to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child:

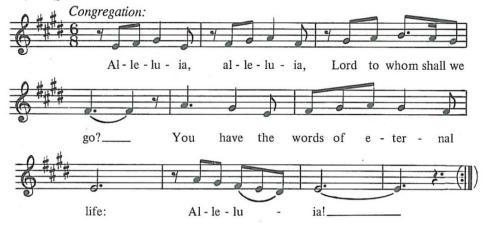
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL Luke 17:5-10

P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith



the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also,

when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

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

Congregation is seated.

Silence is kept for reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: How Firm A Foundation All Stand & Sing



3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie, 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove







Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt. Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

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

Knowing the one in whom we trust, and with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Increase the faith of your church. Give us courage when we are reticent in sharing your love. Renew in us your holy calling, according to your own purpose and grace. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Tend the garden of your creation that teems with all kinds of life. Restore us as caretakers of animals and plants, mindful of the generations to come. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Destruction and violence are ever before us, and strife and contention rise up in many nations. Draw to yourself all the people of the world, emboldening them to strive for peaceful and just solutions to conflict. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You promise life and wholeness to those who wait patiently for you, and you hear those who cry out to you for help. Heal the sick, bind up the brokenhearted, and attend to all in need of your care (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Rekindle your gift of love in this community. Bind together in Christ the weak and the strong, those with little faith and those with much. Help us to respond to one another with Christlike compassion. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We remember with gratitude the faithful who have guided the next generations. Gather us and all your holy ones into the eternal, risen life in Christ. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Trusting and delighting in you, we commend all our lives into your loving hands. We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

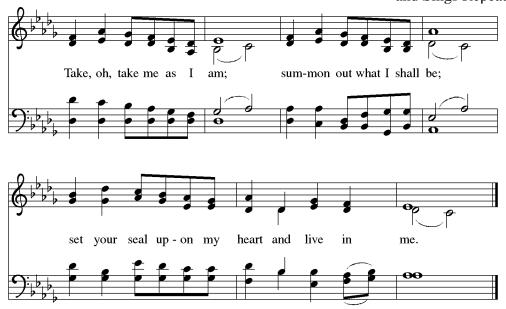
PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Nearer My God to Thee/I Need Thee Every Hour Handbell Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am* Congregation Stands and Sings Repeatedly



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949 Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

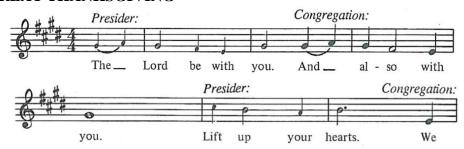
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OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C God our provider, we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

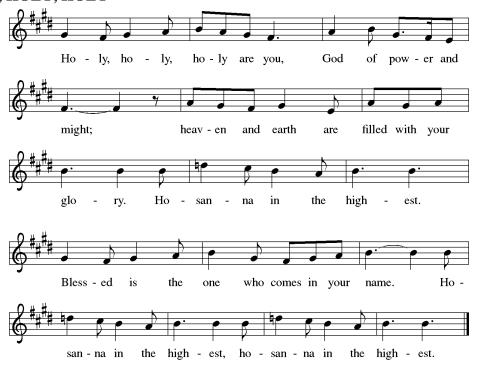




PREFACE

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

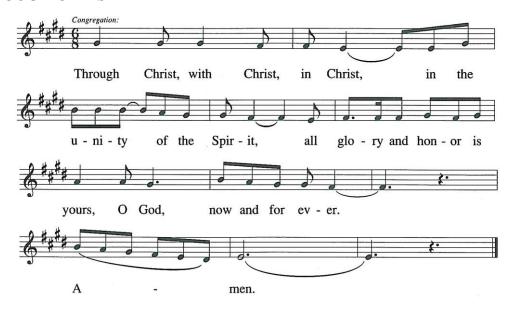
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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 Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come, take your place at the feast.
- C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG





us

peace.

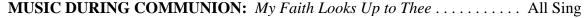
grant

COMMUNION

grant

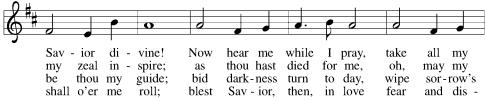
us peace,

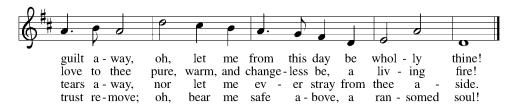
A cordial invitation is extended to all baptized persons to participate in the celebration of the real presence of the Risen Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.





4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream





Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

- 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 God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God + bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *God of Grace* All Stand & Sing of God and God of grace glo - ry, your peo - ple 2 Lo! The hosts of e vil round us scorn the Christ, as -Cure your chil dren's war ring mad - ness; bend our pride to Save us from weak res ig na - tion the e - vils to pour your pow'r; sto - ry; crown your an cient chur ch's sail his ways! your con trol; bound us From the fears that long have glad - ness, shame our self ish wan ton, de - plore; let the gift of your va - tion sal glo-rious flow'r. Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age bring its bud to free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age, our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age, for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing this hour. of for the liv - ing the liv - ing of these days, for of these days. we miss your king-dom's goal. lest we miss your king-dom's goal, lest a - dore, serv-ing you whom we serv - ing you whom we

> Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

SENDING

- A Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.
- C Thanks be to God.

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this Seventeenth 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 in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance.



<u>KIDS' WORSHIP CENTER:</u> 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 Donna Bean and Horace Bean in memory of Faye Bean.

Those who have placed flowers on the altar may use the containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church.

Julia Gunter, Worship & Music

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, September 29, 2019:

Attendance: 110

Budget Report	This Week	Year-to-Date	(Unfavorable)
Offering	\$ 2,825.00	\$219,150.77	(4,948.85)
Expenses	\$ 5,774.35	\$223,801.48	298.14
Offering less Expenses	(\$ 2,949.35)	(\$ 4,650.71)	(4,650.71)

Sanctuary Roof and HVAC Status as Of: 9/29/19

Goal: \$225,000 Received to Date: 164,620 Additional Amounts Promised: 35.000 Remaining Needed: \$ 25.380

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Volunteer **GREETER:** Katie Howard

ACOLYTE: Henrik Sarrazin **TELLERS:** Janet & Brian Achor

CRUCIFER: Bella Ince CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Mark & Mandi Kline

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3) NURSERY: (10:30-11:45 am) Shelia Kelly

Fran Holland, Co-Captain Tracey Nault, Co-Captain

Rebecca Yount

FLUTE: Julia Gunter

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

Volunteers **USHERS:** Volunteers

BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK: October 6-12

October 7 Catherine Carr Evan Howard October 11 October 8 Brenda Daly Pat Roberson



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

October 10 Tim Kelly

Today, Sunday, October 6 Tuesday, October 8 8:45 am Children's Ensemble 7:00 pm Chamber Choir 9:30 am Adult Sunday School; Handbell choir Nar-Anon

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

Blood pressure check after

2:00 pm Confirmation at Good Shepherd

5:00 pm Handbells. HCY

6:00 pm Church Choir reunion rehearsal

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS: Volunteers

Wednesday, October 9

6:45 pm HCY Girls' Bible Study

(Upstairs)

Women's Bible Study (Downstairs)

Thursday, October 10

10:30 am Prime Timers meeting in fellowship hall; carpool to Doffer's Canteen for lunch



Meditation for Chronic Pain? You know that meditation can help improve concentration, decrease muscle tension, promote relaxation and alleviate depression but does it really help reduce chronic pain? Recent studies says it might. The results showed report of a 36 percent drop in clinic visits among patients with chronic pain who practiced meditation 30 minutes a day for at least 2 years. So...dealing with chronic pain? It might be worth giving meditation a shot. Here are tips to help you

succeed: 1) Get an instructor – you need to really learn meditation methods for it to be effective. 2) Focus on only one thing – count your breaths or repeat a word over and over. Repeating the word with every exhale helps you stay focused. 3) Forget the time – don't watch the clock; instead sit quietly with your eyes closed. 4) Forgive yourself – don't call it quits if you focus on a recent conversation with your spouse when you're supposed to be clearing your mind. It's called "practice" for a reason; it will never be perfect. And come join the P.E.P. class – developed by the Arthritis Foundation it helps with all of the above. It's gentle and at the end of the class you will be led in some guided imagery to help relax and soothe you.

Blood pressure screening after worship in the fellowship hall. Come see how your numbers are doing!





PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Ellen Fleming Cathleen Allen Marguerite Shive Cynthia Buchanan Sarah Tench Helms **Denise Taylor** Shirley Causby Kay Holden Beverly Reynolds Jerri & Mike Wesson Brenda Dabrowski Zac Hullander Merritt De Nicholas Ben Moose Becke Featherstone Sherry Perry

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Mike Barbee Larry "Poss" Garrett Linda Nichols Amy Beale Blythe Meredith Hovis Robert Nichols Steve Leonard Sarah Nichols **Doug Brewer** Ron de la Vega Tommy Smith Ruth Lyerly Nancy Dickson Jane Marino **Brody Thornburg** Clarence McLain Carol Fox Dennis Yates Earl Gardner Anne Murdy

Tom Kasmer

Beau Carroll

OUR SERVICEMEN

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.

Leo Kasmer

Colton Parker

The sign-up prayer forms are in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org.



Holy Doodles



NOTE: To ensure inclusion in the bulletin all information is due to Dianne in the office by **12 Noon on Wednesdays**.

Calling all youth in Grade 4 and up who have indicated an interest in handbells to accompany our Advent Evening Services. Please let Greg know by October 13 if your child would be willing to share their gift of time and talent. If so, we will plan to put that ministry into action. Below is the schedule we have successfully followed in the past:

Wednesdays: October 30 Session 1

November 6 Session 2

November 13 Session 3

November 20 Session 4

Wednesdays: December 4,11,18

5:15 pm Warm up 6:00 pm Meal 6:45 pm Worship

Ideally, we need 6-12 ringers to make this work well. Let Greg know and he will sign them up!

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
Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse