

Welcome to Worship at Holy Comforter

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2014

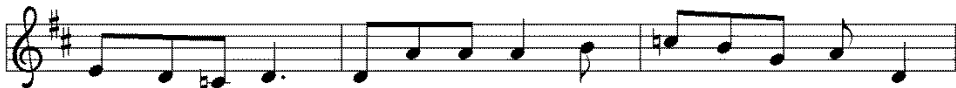


GATHERING SONGS

Gather Us In All Stand & Sing



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.

Continued on next page...



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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All Things Bright and Beautiful All Stand & Sing

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,




all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



- 1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
- 2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun-tains, the riv - er run - ning by,
- 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum - mer sun,
- 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Refrain



God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - 'ry one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, alt.

Music: ROYAL OAK, English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875–1958

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Gracious Lord, in awesome wonder, we consider all the works Your hand has made, this church & the gift of nature around us.

We see the stars and hear the mighty thunder, Your power throughout the universe displayed.

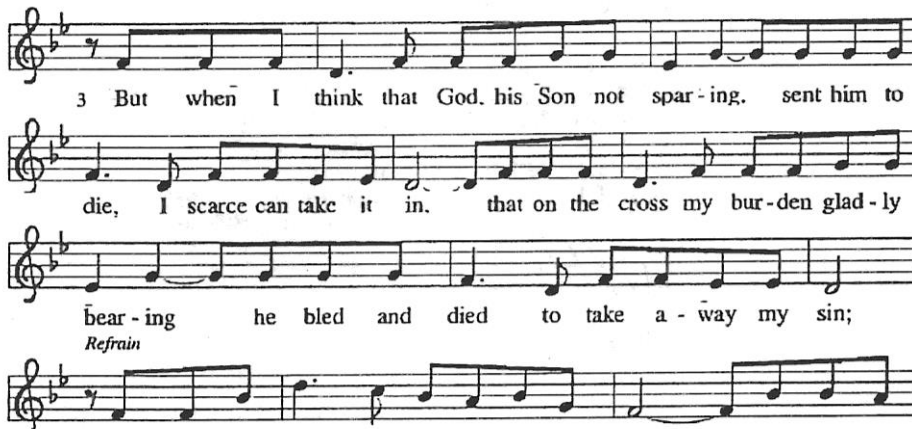
Yet we pollute your creation; we abuse & misuse the environment You have loaned to us.

We sing, “My God, how great thou art” yet our sinful actions don’t equal our song.

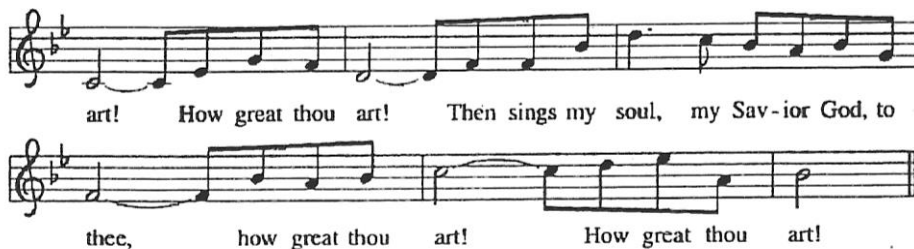
We marvel that You, God, Your Son not sparing; sent Him to die to take away our sin; we can hardly take it in. Yet in our short term memory, we fall again and again.

Forgive us; renew us; change us; love us.

HYMN: *How Great Thou Art* All Stand & Sing



3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
 bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
Refrain
 Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
 Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine
 Text and music © 1953 S. K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc., 35255 Broomfield Road,
 Pacific City OR 97135 (ASCAP). Renewed 1981. All rights reserved.

Friends, here's the Good News: by the cross + of Jesus our burden was borne; He took away our sin. And now we bow in humble adoration and we proclaim:

“My God, how great thou art!” AMEN AND AMEN!

ENTRANCE SONG: *This Is My Father's World* All Stand & Sing

1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,
 na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
 morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.

This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The

rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
 rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
 Lord is king, let heav - en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858–1901

Music: TERRA PATRIS, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930, adapt.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ; the love of God Who shelters us and cares for us; and the companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

AND ALSO WITH YOU.

LITANY AND CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

(SING:) Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
 Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In

your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 17:22–31

A reading from the seventeenth chapter of Acts.

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we too are his offspring.'

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13–22

A reading from the third chapter of 1 Peter.

Christians have a zeal for doing what is right in God's eyes no matter what the circumstances because in baptism we are saved and made alive. Thus our Christian beliefs and behavior are to be a matter of public record just as our baptism is.

¹³Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?

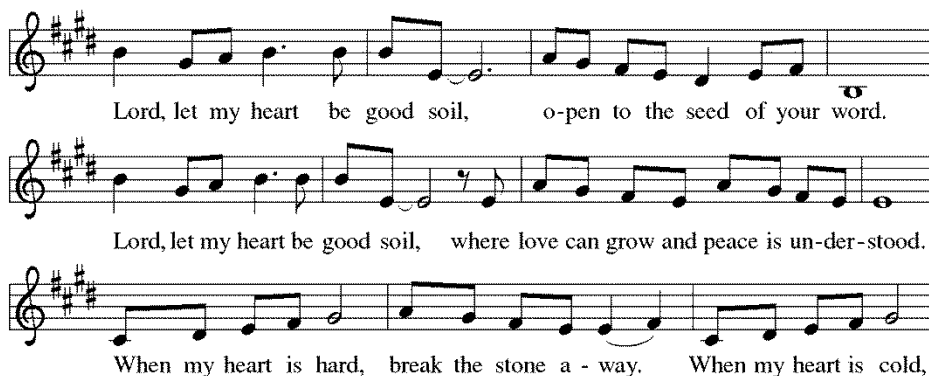
¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.

¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



GOSPEL

John 14:15–21

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

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

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

¹⁵If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

THE MESSAGE: *Have You Ever Seen the Holy Spirit?*" Pastor John
(Sermon Notes pages 22)

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Give Thanks* All Stand & Sing

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,
give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.
Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,
give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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THE MAASAI CREED

(The Maasai Creed was composed around 1960 by Catholic missionaries as an adaption of the Nicene Creed for the Maasai, an African tribe of semi-nomadic people who live primarily in Kenya and Tanzania.)

We believe in the one High God, who out of love created the beautiful world and everything good in it. He created man and wanted man to be happy in the world. God loves the world and every nation and tribe on the earth. We have known this High God in the darkness, and now we know him in the light. God promised in the book of his word, the Bible, that he would save the world and all nations and tribes.

We believe that God made good his promise by sending his son, Jesus Christ, a man in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left his home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and man, showing that the meaning of religion is love. He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross, and died. He was buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day, he rose from that grave. He ascended to the skies. He is the Lord.

We believe that all our sins are forgiven through him. All who have faith in him must be sorry for their sins, be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God, live the rules of love, and share the bread together in love, to announce the good news to others until Jesus comes again. We are waiting for him. He is alive. He lives. This we believe. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made alive in Christ and filled with his Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

You abide with your church, O God. Empower us with your Spirit, so that your people speak and live the love revealed in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You abide with your creation, O God. Breathe on fields and forests, lakes and oceans, and all living things so that they thrive as you intend. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You abide with the nations, O God. Reveal your truth, so that nations and peoples govern in peace and advocate for justice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You abide with the needy, O God. Cheer the sorrowful, protect the orphan, support the grieving, heal the sick and watch over our elderly. We pray for and honor the senior

ministries of Lutheran Services Carolinas. Bless their residents and participants, as well as the caregivers and volunteers, so that all may know Your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You abide with the fearful, O God. Transform fear into freedom for the life Christ has promised. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We remember, O God, those who have died in the faith. Assure us of your life-giving Spirit until that day when we will abide with you forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers, merciful God, and dwell in us richly, through Jesus Christ, our life and our redeemer.

Amen.

PEACE

OFFERING: *God So Loved the World* Sing as Indicated

Refrain - choir

God so loved the world, God so loved the world,
God so loved the world, he gave his only Son.

1. A Son to shine on our darkness, a light to cast out despair,
He comes to take away evil, and in his light we have life!

Refrain - All

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'God So Loved the World'. The first staff is in 12/8 time and contains the melody for the first line of the refrain: 'God so loved the world, God so loved the world,'. The second staff continues the melody for the second line: 'God so loved the world, he gave his on - ly Son.' The lyrics are written below the notes.

2. And everyone who believes will have eternal life.
Lord, lifted up, we come to you with wonder, thanks, and praise.

(Continued on next page...)

Refrain - All

3. Thank you, Lord, for your steadfast love, let all who seek you rejoice.
Deliver us from distress and lead us forth in joy.

4. Do not live in fear. Called to life — arise!
Turn away from sin. O come, Lord, enter in.

Refrain - sung twice by all

God So Loved the World, by Thomas Keesecker, ISBN 978-0-8006-9763-8
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OFFERING RESPONSE: *Praise & Thanksgiving* Stand & Sing



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things

4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the

fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.

hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ,

our Savior and Lord. Amen

DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

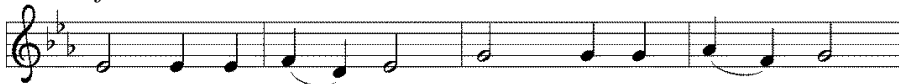
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

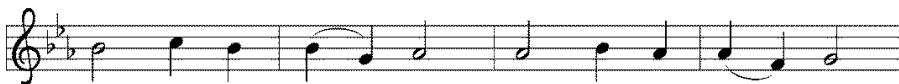
HYMN: *Beautiful Savior*. Stand & Sing



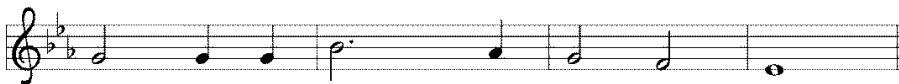
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!



Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

P Indeed, a beautiful Savior You are, Lord. Glory, honor, praise & adoration.
 C Now and forever more be thine!

SONG OF CONSECRATION



Pastor 1 The night of His be-tray-al, our Lord took bread.

Pastor 2 And then He took the chal-ice and raised it high.

All 3 We share this food to-geth-er, re-mem-b'ring Christ.



He broke it as He blest it, and then He said,
 "My blood is giv - en for you, a full sup - ply ...
 we share a com - mon trea - sure and know the price;



"My bo - dy bro - ken for you ... is what this means;
 a cov - en - ant, a pro - mise ... a cleans - ing stream
 we share it with - out meas - ure ... a gift of love.




re - mem - ber now my child - ren what you have seen!"
 re - mem - ber now my child - ren what you have seen!"
 we share our life for - ev - er, with God a - bove!"

LORD'S PRAYER

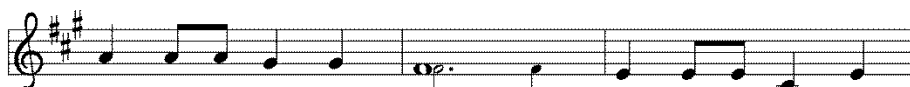
SONGS DURING COMMUNION: *I Am the Bread of Life* All Sing



1	"I	am	the	Bread	of	life.	You	who
2	"The	bread	that	. . .	I	will	give	is
3	"Un -	less	. . .	you	. . .	eat	of	the
4	"I	am	the	res -	ur -	rec -	tion,	. . .
5	Yes,	Lord,	. . .	I	be -	lieve	that	. . .



come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the life. If you be -
 you are the Christ, the




lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, you shall . . live for -
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in . . . me, e - ven . . though you
 Son of God, who have





me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er, you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to the world. . . .

Refrain

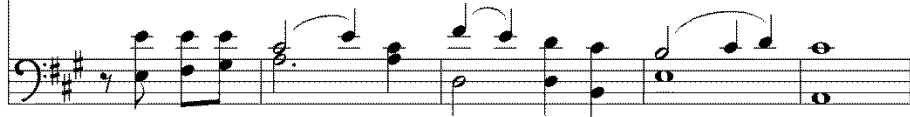
All



"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,

and I will raise you up on the last day."



Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6

Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

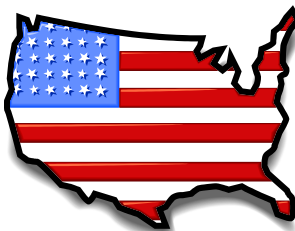
Loving God, by your Spirit we are born anew, and you nourish us like newborns with this holy food, by which we grow into salvation. Give us grace to live as your risen daughters and sons, shining in the world with your marvelous light, until you gather all creation to the heavenly table where Christ reigns in glory forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of all grace, who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, restore, support, strengthen, and + bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.



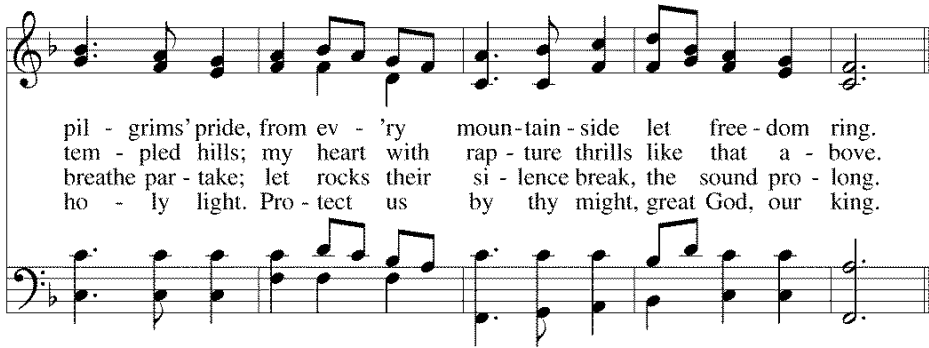
CLOSING SONG: *My Country Tis of Thee* All Stand & Sing

Musical notation for the first system of the song "My Country Tis of Thee". The notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are:

1 My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of lib - er - ty,
2 My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the no - ble free,
3 Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees
4 Our fa - thers' God, to thee, au - thor of lib - er - ty,

Musical notation for the second system of the song "My Country Tis of Thee". The notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are:

of thee I sing: land where my fa - thers died, land of the
thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and
sweet free - dom's song; let mor - tal tongues a - wake; let all that
to thee we sing: long may our land be bright with free - dom's



Text: Samuel F. Smith, 1808–1895
 Music: NATIONAL ANTHEM, *Thesaurus Musicus*, London, 1744

DISMISSAL

- A 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 **Sixth Sunday of 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. 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.

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 list, please fill out a form from the prayer book or online at www.holyc.org.**

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Mark & Mandi Kline in honor of Will and Mandi's birthdays; and by Beth Brittain in memory of Mildred Brittain.

Those who have placed flowers on the altar may use containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church. ***Greg Byrum, Worship & Music***

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, May 18, 2014:

Attendance: 136

Budget Report

May 18, 2014

Current Offering Received 5/18/14

\$ 2,468.00

Weekly Budgeted Expenses

\$ 4,504.60

Offering, YTD

\$ 83,113.58

Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD

\$ 3,600.58

Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD

(\$ 6,542.28)

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Billy Joye + Louise Day

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 4)

Diann Halvorson, Co-Captain

Dean Halvorson, Co-Captain

Barbara Kasmer

ACOLYTES: Garrett Carpenter
Garrett Fox

CRUCIFERS: Aaron Nault, Ashton Nault

GREETERS: Monique Estelle,
Kathy Graves

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team B)

Sherry Alexander Fran Holland

Charles Mauney Volunteer

TELLERS: Courtney Gatlin, Bill Hollar

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:

Need Volunteers

USHERS: Need Volunteers

NURSERY VOLUNTEER: Today, Pat Koehler

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, May 25

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

No afternoon music practice

8:00 pm Nar-Anon

Monday, May 26

Happy Memorial Day!

Tuesday, May 27

7:00 pm Nar-Anon



BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: May 25-31

Today, May 25 William Walker Kline
Michael Jenkins

May 26 Michael Reese

May 27 Amy Dowd
Amanda Dowd

May 28 Richard Fox

May 28 Angie Koehler

May 29 Daniel Dowd
Angie Morton

May 30 Jonathan Baker

May 31 David Daly
John Zander



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Louise Austin
Scott Caldwell
Virginia Crump
Brenda Dabrowski
Daniel Dowd

Cher Grant
Ferrie Hedrick
Richard Holden
Zac Hullander
John Kreitzer

Chase Lineberger
Rochelle Potter
Mabel Ratchford
Mark Reese

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

The Abernethy Family
Harriett Ange
Kathy Beam
Dale Burris
Ronnie Hagy
Brian Hedrick
Kathy Helton
Betty Fox
Claudia Frazier
Donald Freeman
Ronnie Hersey
Dennis Jordan

Wesley Jordan & Family
Betty Kannapel
Becky Knick
Laura Lanuto & Family
Pierce Lee
Peggy McKenney & Family
Grady Nichols
Sandra Nix
Roger Norris
Jean Peters
Leland "Lee" Peterson
Taylor Propst & Family
David Prouty

Mara Rappleyea
Earl Riedley
Steve Sanford
Megan Sigler
Ramona J. Sinclair
Jimmy Surratt
Harrison Swindell
Buck Weatherford
Beverly F. Wall
Gloria Ward
Bryan Wayburn

OUR SERVICEMEN

Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer



Jeremy Shaver

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.

NOTE: After getting input from the parents of our children, the decision has been made to **NOT have Sunday school for all children after May 25.** We will start fresh with *Rally Day* on August 24. **Children's Church** will continue through the summer as volunteers are available to lead. ***Beth Brittain, Christian Education***



Senior Services Month May 2014

During this month of celebration, remembrance, and honor for the seniors in our churches and communities, please remember the ministries of Lutheran Services Carolinas. LSC is able to offer hope and renewal to so many older adults through programs and services that aim to encourage, motivate, and inspire. Please prayerfully consider making a tax-deductible gift to LSC senior services. You can make checks payable to Lutheran Services Carolinas and write "Senior Services Month" on the memo line. Contributions may be mailed to P.O. Box 947, Salisbury, NC 28145, or made securely online at www.LSCarolinas.net.



June 8, Pentecost Sunday ***Pig Pickin'*** after the Service
Bring a side dish and/or dessert. Meat & drink provided.

HELP NEEDED: Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7 volunteers are needed to assist with the Pentecost BBQ. Contact Tom Bocchino via email tbocchino@hotmail.com or cell phone 704-616-3049 if you are willing to help.



SAVE THE DATE: June 27-28 (Friday evening and Saturday) is the date for our **Vacation Bible School** for **Pre-K through Grade 5**. We will begin on Friday with a pizza supper and will end just before lunch on Saturday so everyone can go on their way for the rest of the Saturday afternoon.
Make plans now to attend.





Camp Agape, July 14-18 Rising 1st Graders — Rising 8th Graders!

This year we are expanding the day camp to include 6th-8th graders. The kids in this age 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 \$125 per camper and is due at the time of registration. Please contact Misty if you have any questions about camp. ***Misty Koehler, Holy Comforter Camp Coordinator***



SAVE THE DATE: July 31 will be ***Zac's Day*** at the *Grizzlies* game. The *Grizzlies* schedule says this is "Turn Back the Clock Night!" with 1930's era prices and fun!

Sign-up sheet for game tickets to be available later.

Contact Tom Bocchino at 704-616-3049 with any questions.



“Have You Ever Seen the Holy Spirit?” + Sermon notes

Descriptions of the Holy Spirit:

- Tongues of fire (Acts 2)
- Freely blowing breeze (John 3)

So, what does the Spirit look like?

- Clue #1: The Holy Spirit looks like an advocate (John 14:16)
- Clue #2: The Holy Spirit looks like Jesus (“another” Advocate)

But wait ... when we stand up for another (advocate), when we bear the love of Jesus to another, then do we *also* look like the Spirit? ummm...what does Jesus say as recorded in Matthew’s Gospel:

“For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in ... ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink, a stranger and invited You in?’ The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of mine, you did for Me.’”

(Matthew 25 from Today’s NIV)

“We could seek after God, and not just grope around in the dark but actually find Him. God doesn’t play hide-and-seek with us. He’s not remote; He’s near. We live and move in Him, we can’t get away from Him!”

(Acts 17 from The Message)

“Be ready to speak up and tell anyone who asks why you’re living the way you are, and always with the utmost courtesy.”

(1 Peter 3:15 from The Message)

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In 2013 the Ministries of Lutheran Services Carolinas improved the lives of 3,721 individuals and 262 families by:

- ✓ Providing 364,419 days of care and services to **2,269 NC Senior adults** through retirement skilled nursing, assisted living and adult day services
- ✓ Helping **101 elders** live safely in whatever place they call home through a newly designed program of geriatric care management.
- ✓ Restoring hope and dignity for **61 homeless veterans**.
- ✓ Seeking support and stability for **347 children** through foster care.
- ✓ Working with **85 families hoping to adopt** and securing loving adoptive homes for 21 children.
- ✓ Reducing or eliminating the symptoms of severe and persistent **mental illness for 48 people in crisis**.
- ✓ Welcoming **320 refugees** to the Carolinas and providing continued support to 205 other recent arrivals.
- ✓ Saving **262 families from homelessness** through mentoring and education
- ✓ Enabling **52 people with developmental disabilities** live to their greatest potential.
- ✓ Supporting **33 men and women** with varying life challenges or disabilities to **live independently** with supportive services.
- ✓ Supporting **57 men and women with counseling services**.
- ✓ Offering **94 frail Rowan County seniors and 49 caregivers** needed respite and support services.

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

John Propst, Interim Pastor; email: JohnCPropst@gmail.com

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Kristen Clanton, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager