

## Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

- 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • June 23, 2024 •
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost



### WELCOME/GATHERING

**PRELUDE:** *All Glory Be to God on High*

*Vetter*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C **Amen.**

L Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L God, our provider,

C **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

L Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C **Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG: *We Praise You, O God*

*All Stand and Sing*



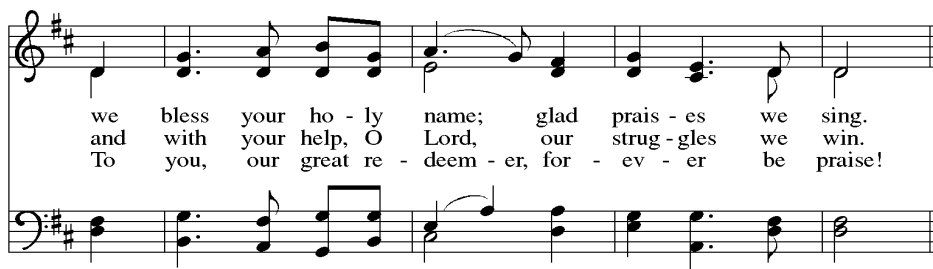
1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;  
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;  
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.  
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;  
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,  
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.  
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963  
Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

## GREETING

- L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
C And also with you.

## KYRIE:

*congregation sings refrain/ leader sings verses*

*Refrain*



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the

2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for

4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for

hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,

we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,

nour - ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
 we may live out . . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
 life and for love, . . . . . for our work and our play,  
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



*Refrain*

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**GLORIA:**

*All Sing*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



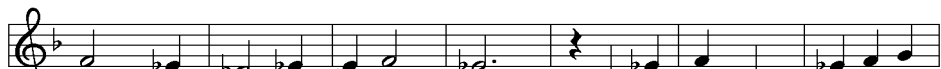
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -



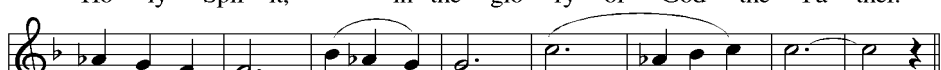
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

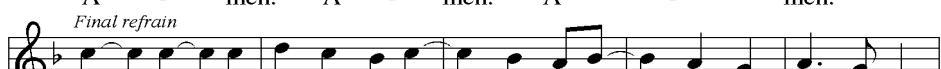


Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Final refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's



peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## **SALUTATION**

L The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*We invite children to come forward for a children's message before moving to children's church.*

## **FIRST READING**

**Job 38:1-11**

A reading from the thirty-eighth chapter of Job.

*At the end of the book of Job, after Job and his companions have argued about the cause of the great suffering Job endures, God finally speaks. These verses begin that speech, which is a grand vision of creation, describing God's ordering of the cosmos and inviting Job to marvel at its beauty.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

<sup>2</sup>“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

<sup>3</sup>Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

<sup>4</sup>“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

<sup>5</sup>Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

<sup>6</sup>On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone

<sup>7</sup>when the morning stars sang together

and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

<sup>8</sup>“Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb?—

<sup>9</sup>when I made the clouds its garment,

and thick darkness its swaddling band,  
<sup>10</sup>and prescribed bounds for it,  
and set bars and doors,  
<sup>11</sup>and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,  
and here shall your proud waves be stopped?’”

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 6:1-13

A reading from 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians, the sixth chapter.

*Paul and his fellow workers experience great hardships and even rejection while carrying out their missionary work. Nevertheless, Paul continuously proclaims that God has not rejected us but is graciously working for our salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

<sup>11</sup>We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. <sup>12</sup>There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. <sup>13</sup>In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL VERSE

*All Stand & Sing*

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

## GOSPEL

**Mark 4: 35-41**

**L** The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the forth chapter.

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

*Jesus' calming of the storm on the sea reveals his power over evil, since the sea represents evil and chaos. The boat on the sea is a symbol of the church and invites us to trust God amid life's turbulence.*

<sup>35</sup>When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] "Let us go across to the other side." <sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. <sup>37</sup>A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. <sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" <sup>39</sup>He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

**L** The gospel of the Lord.

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



*Congregation is seated.*

**SERMON**

Deacon Beka

*Silence is kept for reflection*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

*All Stand and Sing*



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,  
2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv-eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.  
It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

## **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**

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

*A brief silence.*

Equip your faithful people to approach this world with a sense of wonder. Make your church a safe place to explore big questions, troubling doubts, and honest laments. Humble our hearts to repent of the ways that communities of faith have inflicted pain or trauma. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You spoke creation into order from the chaos of the swirling deep. May your name be praised by rivers and seas, wetlands and waterfalls. Secure clean water for all people and protect water sources from contamination or exploitation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Amid whirlwinds of division, violence, and conflict, remind us again that you are as steadfast as the foundations of the earth. Rejuvenate peacemakers, advocates, and community organizers when they feel weary in their work. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Deliver your people from their distress, O God. We lift before you all who are sick or struggling. Grant consolation and peace to all who live with chronic, terminal, or persistent illness. In times of affliction or hardship, sustain us in faith. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Enfold all travelers with your protection. Bless the comings and goings of this assembly as we travel for leisure or for work. Let all journeys be met with hospitality on the way, and let community members return to us with celebration. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation for all the redeemed of the Lord. Joined together with the great cloud of witnesses, we give thanks for your steadfast love and your wonderful works. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

**PEACE**

**L** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** *Here On Jesus Christ I Will Stand*

*Church Choir*

*A QR Code is available on page 14 to give your offering online*

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** *We Give Thee but Thine Own*

*All Stand and Sing*



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,  
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.  
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.  
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**L** Jesus, Bread of life

**C** You have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

## **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.**

## **BLESSING**

**L** The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✠ be upon you now and forever.

**C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

*All Stand & Sing*

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the  
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -  
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os  
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in

rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its  
 mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and  
 dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
 dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we  
 calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we  
 give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we  
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825–1878, alt.  
 Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

## SENDING

L Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** *Trumpet Voluntary*

*John Stanley*

\*Special thanks to our Lector, William Charnock.

\*Special thanks to our Cantor, Greg Byrum

### **Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

10:10 am – Church Choir

10:30 am – Worship Service

### **Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 pm – Book Club Gathering

**GIVE YOUR OFFERING ONLINE!**



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**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

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**Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 1:30 pm**

Micah Kearney, Pastor - email: [mkearney@holyc.org](mailto:mkearney@holyc.org)

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Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Courtney Strickland, Office Manager



**"Journeying through faith in a joyful, safe community, welcoming and serving Belmont and beyond."**

Our core values are: **Embrace, Grow, Connect, and Give**