

# Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 9, 2018 Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church West Columbia, SC 9:00am Worship

# **WELCOME**

We welcome you to Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church!
If you are worshipping with us for the first time, WELCOME,
If you are worshipping again, WELCOME BACK.
Worship is much more joyful when we add our voices to offer praise and thanksgiving. If you need anything, just ask one of the ushers or greeters.
A nursery is provided for younger children should you want to use it at any time. If you would like to discuss discipleship at Mt. Hermon,
Pastor Gina would love to speak with you!

Again welcome...

PRE-SERVICE

Sheep May Safely Graze

J.S. Bach

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see the Community Announcements in the back section of the bulletin. Please note that all the congregation responses are printed in **Bold and Italics**.

**PRELUDE** Pastoral Symphony from "the Messiah" G.F. Handel

We are silent as we prepare our hearts for worship.

# THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

### Amen.

Please turn to face the cross at the entrance of the sanctuary. As broken children, we begin worship by acknowledging our sinfulness and asking for God's forgiveness.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Let us come before God in confession.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

To you, O God, we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of † Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.

### Amen.

As the cross passes your pew, please turn your bodies and worship attention to the front of the sanctuary.

### **HYMN**

# Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264 (Red Book)



- 1 Pre pare the roy al high way; the King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo ple, see him com ing: your own e ter nal king! 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom-ised king!
- 4 His is no earth ly king dom; it comes from heav'n a bove.



ev - 'ry hill and val - ley lev - el Let a road ap pear! Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing! Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion trib - ute its too may bring. rule is peace and free - dom and ius - tice, truth, love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry: God's prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you! All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing: So let your praise be sound-ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



### GREETING

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

# And also with you.

# **K**YRIE



### PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

# THE WORD

# **READING: Malachi 3:1-4**

A reading from Malachi.

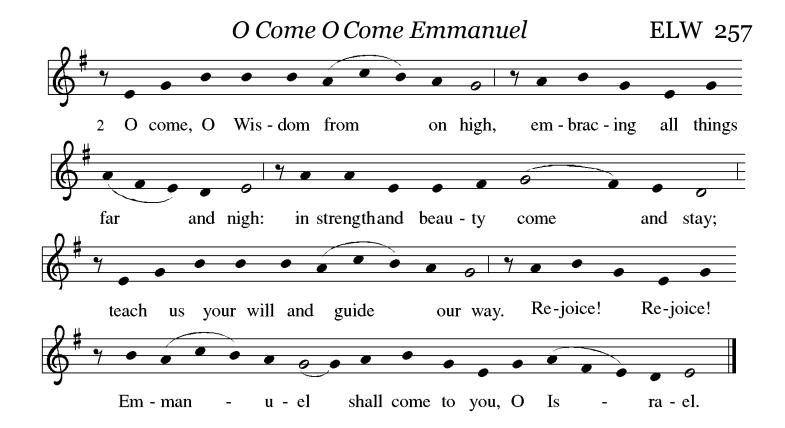
<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### LIGTING OF ADVENT CANDLE



# **READING: Philippians 1:3-11**

A reading from Philippians.

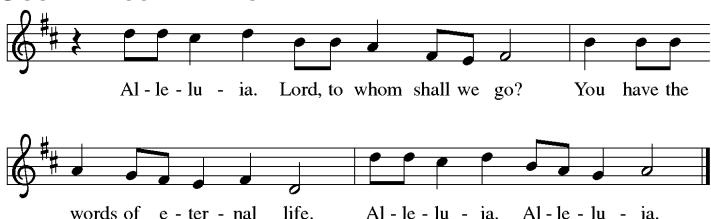
3I thank my God every time I remember you, 4constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, 5because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. 6I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. 7It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. 9And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight 10to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, 11having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

### The Word of the Lord.

### Thanks be to God.

We stand.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



# GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

words of e - ter - nal

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON** 

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Please pray with me the prayer of preparation.

Holy God, you have a word for me today. Make my heart soft and plant your word in me in order that it may bear fruit in your kingdom. Amen.

**MESSAGE** 

The Word of God

### We stand. Soon and Very Soon **ELW 439 HYMN** 1 Soon and ver - y soon more cry - in' 2 No there, goin' to see the King, we are more dy - in' 3 No there, 4 Soon and ver - y soon soon and ver - y soon more cry - in' there, no goin' to see the King, we are more dy - in' there, no soon and ver - y soon ver - y soon and soon more cry - in' there, no goin' to see the King. we are more dy - in' no there, soon and ver - y soon $\overline{1,2,3}$ hal-le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King! Hal-le - lu - jah, Coda after stanza 4 jah, hal Hal le lu le lu



### **APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith with the words of the 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

As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

After each petition: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord. *Amen*.

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

We sit.

# THE MEAL

### **OFFERING**

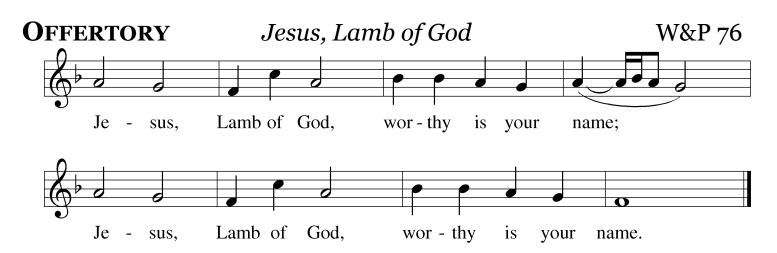
We give our monetary offering to support Christ's mission in this place and around the world in gratitude of God's amazing grace. You may make a contribution any time by visiting **www.mthlc.org** and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship.

Please also take this time in worship to complete the pew registers.

**O**FFERING

Keep Your Lamps

**Andre Thomas** 



### **OFFERING PRAYER**

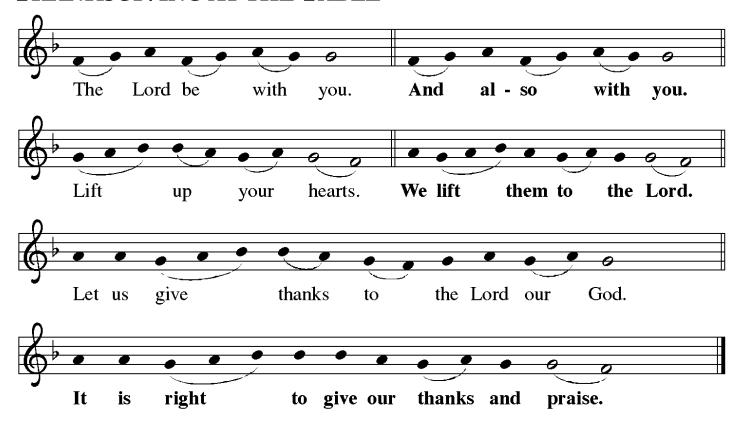
We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

God of abundance,

we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives.

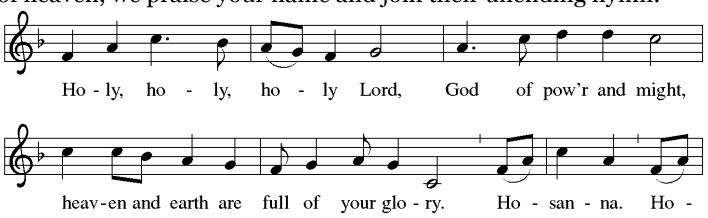
Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

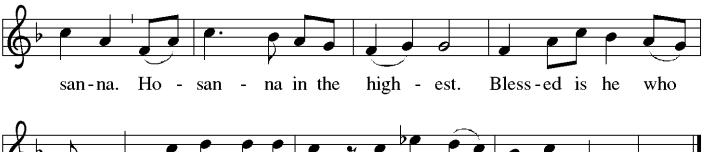
### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE



### **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

In the night in which he was betrayed...

...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: *Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.* 

O God of resurrection and new life. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. *Come*, *Holy Spirit*.

Reveal yourself in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. *Come, Holy Spirit*.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy Father, Eternal Word, Spirit of Peace, one God, now and forever. *Amen*.

### LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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**

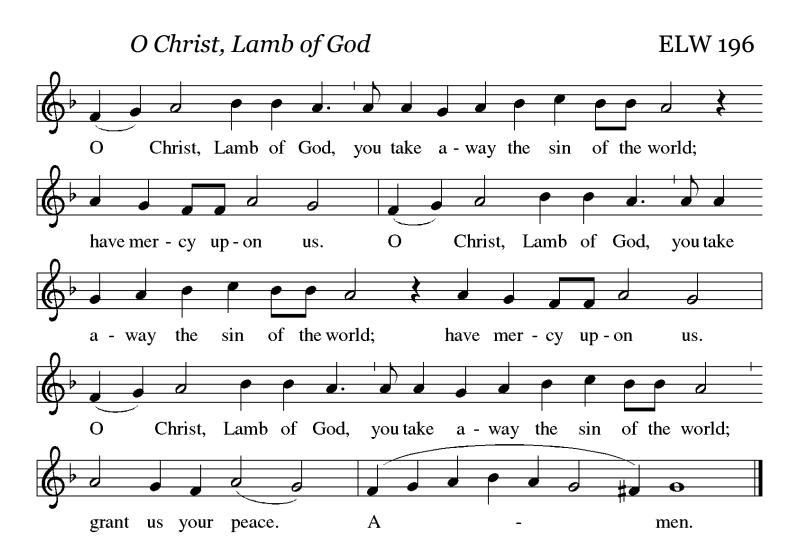
God fills the hungry with good things. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

We sit.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

All are welcome to this Meal. Come down the center aisle to receive the bread. (gluten free wafers are also available.) Then move to the chalice (cup) of wine, dip the bread in the wine. Return to your pew by the side aisle. Those not communing, may cross their arms across their chest and come forward for a blessing. Those who desire communion but who are not able to come forward will be communed first in their pew.

# **MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**



Come to the Table by Michael Card ~Solo Ryan Price



V- --- 1---:--

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

We stand.

### **BLESSING**

May the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace. *Amen*.

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We pray together.

Holy One, we give you thanks

that in this bread and cup

we have feasted again on your endless love.

Let that love overflow more and more in our lives,

that we may be messangers to prepare your way

that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

# THE SENDING

### **BLESSING**

May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

As the cross passes your pew, please turn and face the entrance of the sanctuary.



- 1 "Com fort, com-fort now my peo ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
- 2 For the her-ald's voice is cry ing in the des ert far and near,
- 3 Straight shall be what long was crook ed, and the rough er plac es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load. call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them! that warn - ing cry Now for God a way. o - bey! pre - pare For the glo - ry of the Lord on earth is shed a - broad, now



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er. Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor. and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** Prepare the Royal Highway Burkhardt

# **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FLOWERS** that beautify our sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Mitch Stevens' 17th birthday on December 12th. Love, Mom, Dad & Alyssa

**Advent Service** held every Wednesdays through Advent. Service at 6:35pm followed by a meal in the fellowship hall.

### You are Invited

to Make a Difference in the Life of a Child.

Participate in the Free Garage Sale & Angel Tree

Ways to Help:



- Buy gifts for a child on the Angel Tree
- Donate items for the Free Garage Sale
  - o (Set them along the walls in the Assembly Room.)
- Help sort donated items
  - o (Tables will be set up by Friday, Dec. 7 for sorting)
- Volunteer at the Free Garage Sale
  - (Friday, Dec. 14 & Saturday, Dec. 15 from 9:00 12:30)
- Please let Diane Boulware know if you can help!

**Patricia Bachman** is at a new location her new address is Carolina Gardens 216 Marjorie Lane West Columbia, SC 29169.

**Reminder to Parents** Ruthie will begin music with the Sunday School Children this Sunday immediately after Sunday School for 15 minutes.

**Saturday, December 15 6:00pm** bonfire with hotdogs and s'mores! Everyone is invited the food for the event is provided by the Lutheran Men in Mission.

### **LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE**

Christmas can be painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a loved family member; it may be a time that has always been difficult.

The constant refrain on the radio and television, in shopping malls and churches, about the happiness of the season, about getting together with family and friends, reminds many people of what they have lost or have never had. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation—all these can make us feel very alone in the midst of celebrating and spending. We need the space and time to acknowledge our sadness and concern; we need to know that we are not alone.

For these reasons, Our Saviour, Mt. Hermon, Mt. Tabor, and Faith are offering a special "Longest Night" service on December 21 at 4:00 pm at Our Saviour Lutheran Church.

Come and join us for a service of Scripture, music, communion and prayers for healing that acknowledge that God's presence is for those who mourn, for those who struggle—and that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness.



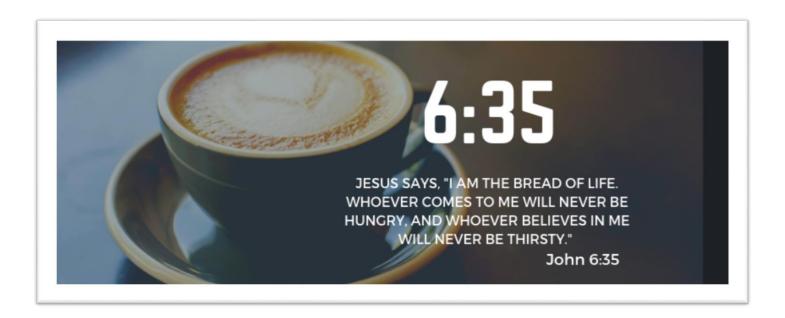
December 9th - 4pm - 6pm Mt. Hermon's Fellowship Hall

Come join us for dinner and music...starring our own LCY accompanied by Ruthie Brannen and Ryan Price

Please help us prepare
by signing the Sign-Up Sheet
located in the
Breezeway or your
Sunday School Classroom



All Donations will go towards LCY Activities



# Christmas Eve

COME AND WORSHIP
DECEMBER 24

6:30 MUSIC 7:00 CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP



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Serving Today\* Serving December 16th\*

**Greeter:** Kay Bryant Fran Bouknight

**Crucifer:** Wynne Price Skyler Miller

**Acolytes:** Bryce Addy Karly Addy

Mackenzie Burns Joshua Koon

**Lector:** Joel Price Jr. Scottie Marsh

**Communion Asst.** 

Angie Hydrick Joel Price Sr.

Emily Morris Trudy Bouknight
Wynne Price Perry Bouknight

**Children's Sermon:** 

Sheila Eargle Diane Boulware

**Nursery:** Grace Roof, Haley Addy & Grace Roof, Jamie Allen &

Karen Nicholson Alyson Price

Food Pantry: Dec. 12 Dec. 19

Renee Greenbaum Angie Hydrick

# **Serving in December\***

Council Representative: Alyson Price

Altar Guild: Angie Hydrick, Jennifer Price, Linda Waters-Hamilton

**Tabulators:** Larry Amick, Kay Bryant, Doris Carver, Jane Sexton,

Mary Frances Sease

### **Ushers:**

Ronnie Fulmer, Fran Bouknight, Ricky Bouknight, Cindy Price

<sup>\*</sup> If you are unable to serve, please ask someone to cover for you and notify the church office of the change. If you have a responsibility in worship, please arrive no later than 8:45am

### **OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER**

### Homebound and Care Facilities

Nell Buff, Lexington Place Margie Hook, Home

Pearl Dennis, *HarborChase*Gloria Mathias, *Home*Lib Swygert, *Lowman Home*Lois Watson, *Lexington Place* 

Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home* Patricia Bachman, *Carolina Gardens* 

### Members in Special Need of Prayer

Alberta Berry Hazel Bockus Lynwood Crout Clifton Addy Mary Frances Hamilton Connie Bucknam Mary Frances Sease Perry Bouknight Georgianna Gray

Lila Catt

# Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Kathryn & Don Bergeron, (Bucknam)

Iris Wellborn, sister of Earl Sease

Scott Coleman (Thurman)

Jim & Vickie Burcham (Thurman)

W.A. "Buddy" Keller (Marion & Cyndi)

Nellie Gantt (Mary Price)

Doris Landry (Buddy Hydrick)

Ben Nicholson (Karen Nicholson)

Jimmy Mills (Tommy Mills)

Charles Price (Angie Hydrick)

Tressa Oswalt (Angie Hydrick)

Sue Reeves (Thurman)

Linda Rea (Marion & Cyndi)

Megan Sease, granddaughter of Earl & Mary Frances

Becky Richardson (Sheila Eargle)

Jason Thurman (Thurman)

Richie Tallent (Danny Scott)

Todd Hewitt (Missy Addy)

Ted Powell, friend of Angie Hydrick's son, Chris Pollock

Evelyn Newman, friend of Ricky and Fran Bouknight

Charlotte Martindle family (Kelli Mills)

Kaiden Robinson (Kelli Mills)

Rose Little, daughter of Marie Kleckley



3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, Sc 29169 office@mthlc.org 803.794.6430 Monday – Friday 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor 803.951.3784* Ruthie Brannen, *Cantor* Brittany Mailleue, *Parish Administrator*  PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com ruthiebrannen@gmail.com office@mthlc.org

### **CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS**

President, *Danny Scott* Secretary, *Alyson Price* Financial Secretary, *Annette Price*  Vice President, Terry Swygert Treasurer, Emily Morris Sextons, Ricky Bouknight, Allison & Terry Swygert

# Sunday, December 9 Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 am Worship Service 10:15 am Sunday School

4:00pm MH Cafe

5:00pm LCY Events

6:35 pm Pray

### Monday, December 10

11:00am Archives

### Tuesday, December 11

1:00pm Arthritis Chair Class2:00pm MAT/ Pilates Class

6:00pm Handbells

6:30pm Chancel Choir

6:35pm Pray

### Wednesday, December 12

6:35pm Advent Service

7:00pm Advent Meal

### Thursday, December 13

1:00pm Arthritis Chair Class2:00pm MAT/ Pilates Class

