SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



JULY 12, 2020

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

Fairest Lord Jesus

Carter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

We are silent as we prepare our hearts for worship.**PRELUDE**Breathe on Us

Jobe/Cash

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font. Blessed be the holy Trinity, **†** one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. *Amen.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As broken children, we begin worship by acknowledging our sinfulness and asking for God's forgiveness.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

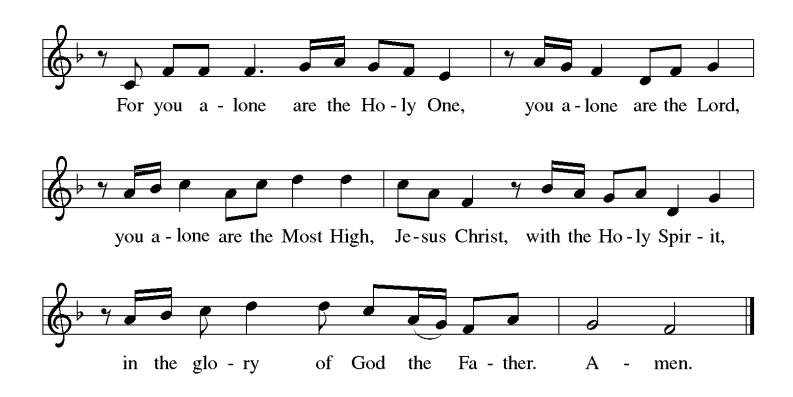
Beloved of God,
by the radical abundance of divine mercy
we have peace with God through ⁺ Christ Jesus.
Our sins are forgiven.
Let us live now in hope.
For hope does not disappoint,
because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*



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.*





PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

A reading from Isaiah.

 ¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

- ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty,
- but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,

and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy,

and be led back in peace;

the mountains and the hills before you

shall burst into song,

and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;

and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,

for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The word of God for the people of God. *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 65:1-13

¹You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be fulfilled.

²To you, the one who answers prayer, to you all flesh shall come.

³Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions.

⁴Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,

O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

⁶You make firm the mountains by your power; you are girded about with might.

⁷You still the roaring of the seas,

the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

¹¹You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

12 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

READING: Romans 8:1-11

A reading from Romans.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of God for the people of God. *Thanks be to God.*



GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th chapter **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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.*

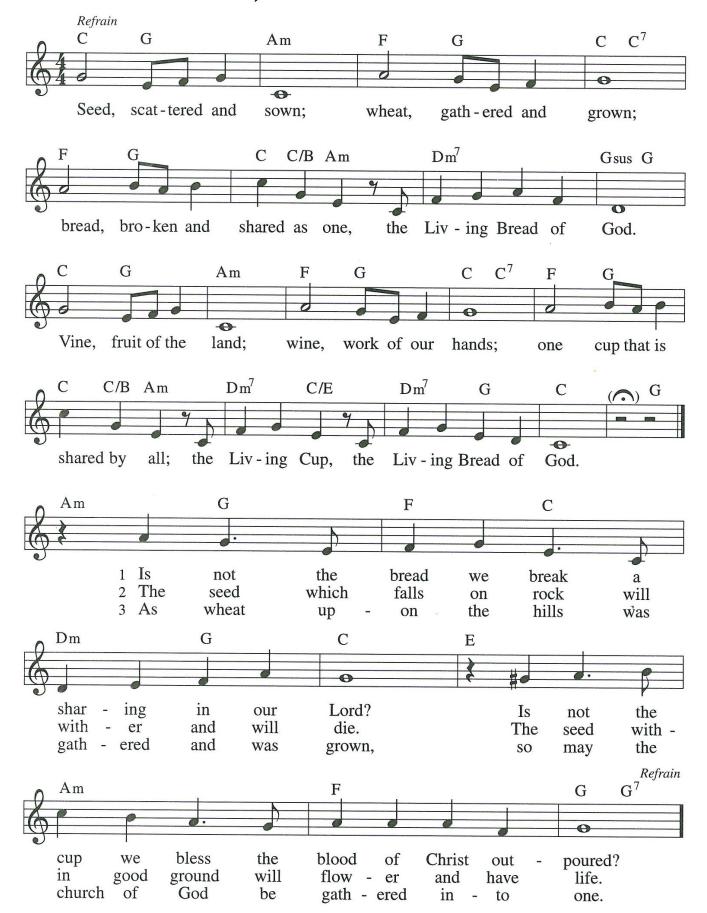
SERMON

Producing Produce

Hymn

Seed, Scattered and Sown

W&P 121



APOSTLES' CREED

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

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

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

The Prayers conclude:

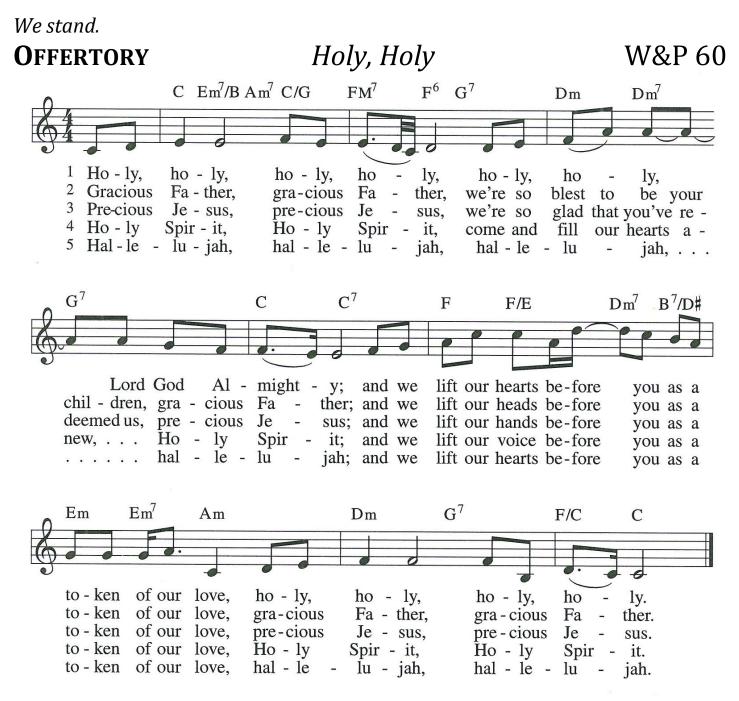
Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. We sit.*

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 contribute any time by visiting www.WeAreMtHermon.com and click on "On-line Giving." You may also mail your check to 3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, SC 29169. Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship.

OFFERING

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace Temple/Barnard



OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together. God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

THE MEAL

Christ is truly present in the most ordinary and unexpected of places.

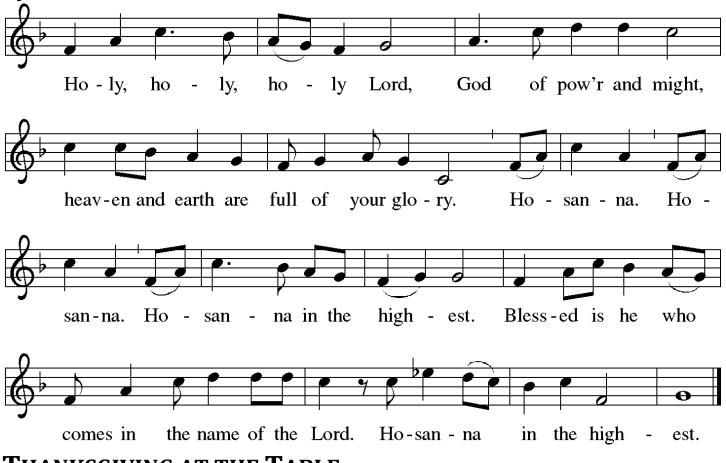
The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed...

We proclaim the mystery of faith: *Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us, teaching us, leading us, and guiding us. *Come, Lord Jesus.*

Reveal yourself to us 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 One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

THE 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

Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

You are invited to call the church office and schedule a time to receive communion. We will have Drive-In Communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays from 10:30-1:00.

THE SENDING

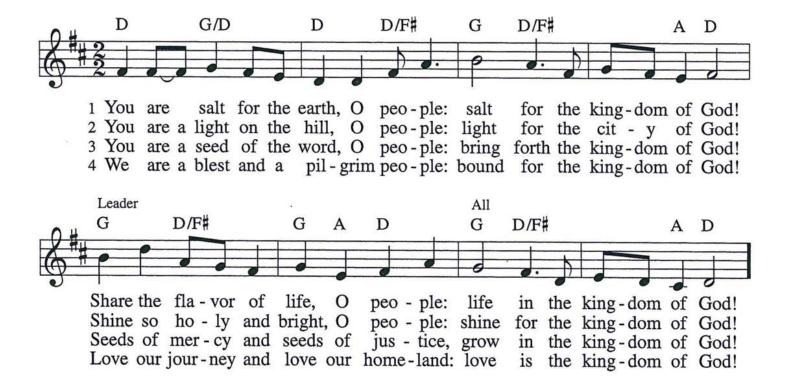
BLESSING

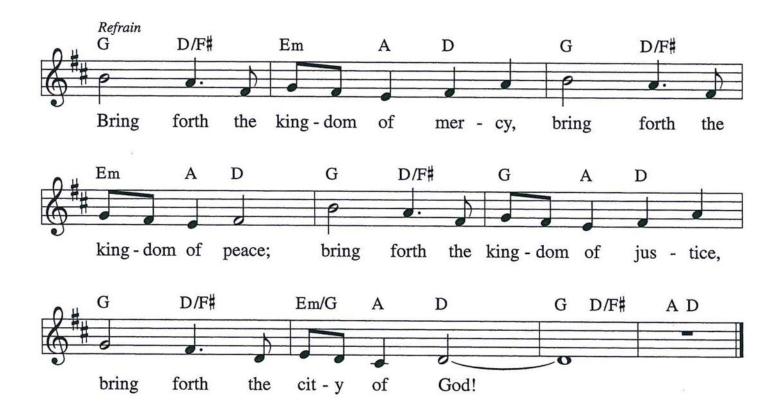
God, the creator, **†** Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. *Amen.*

Hymn

Bring Forth the Kingdom

W&P 22





DISMISSAL Go in peace. Christ is with you. *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude

Sacred Harp Medley

Adams

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS on the altar are given to the glory of God by Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church.



Altar flowers open dates: July 19th August 23rd September 13th Call the church office if you would like to sign-up!

Pastor Gina and our Church Family,

We would like to thank our church family for the cards and texts. My Surgery and recovery has been a long process. I have months to go for recovery. Jan and I are so thankful for everyone's continuous prayers.

I would like to thank again, the Lutheran Men, Mr. Earl Sease and all the crew that built the handicap ramp at my home. It is truly a blessing to have.

We look forward to the days when we can be together for prayer



and fellowship. We love our church family.

Peace & Blessings, Gene and Jan Schofield SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MUSICIANS AND VOCALISTS who lead worship: Ruthie Brannen, Regan Anthony, Daryl Leigh Anthony, Wynne Price, Joel Price, Ryan Price, Belle Kneece, Noah Causey, and Jeremy Rish. Also, thanks to the LIVE STREAM PRODUCTION CREW: Sheila Starkey and Breanna Metze. Thank you!

Communion Distribution and Blessings Sunday, July 19 Immediately following service until 1:00 pm in the church parking lot Enter paved parking lot near the bus and loop in front of the church office. **Sunday School** on Zoom Today at 10:30 a.m. To join the group, please email pastorginametze@gmail.com

We need more help in the food pantry!

Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 to noon

We need YOU!





June Roof c/o Rapha 3959 Fish Hatchery Road Gaston, SC 29053

Tithes, and Offering for 07/05/2020 Live Stream Worship – 122+ Zoom: Sunday School – n/a

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$5,235.35
Building Improvement	Received	\$360.00
Growing on Holy Ground	Received	\$2,080.00
Live Streaming This Week		\$950.00
Live Streaming Total Rec'd		\$4,073.55

Honorariums and Memorials (all funds)

In memory of Connie Bucknam by Francis & Joanne Eargle, Faye H. Soxe, Terry & Allison Swygert, Cindy & Joel Price, Mary Frances & Earl, Dot Mathias, Marvin Mathias, Parker & Diane Boulware, Barbara Corley, Danny & Jenny Scott, Jimmy & Betty Mills, Gene & Jan Schofield, Suzie Wattenbarger, Deborah Dixon, Barr-Price Funeral Home

In memory of Iris House by Karen Nicholson, Suzie Wattenbarger

In memory of Mary Frances Hamilton by Faye H. Sox

In memory of Eddie Ellisor by Suzie Wattenbarger

In memory of Ernie Swygert by Suzie Wattenbarger

In honor of Jerry Price, III by Parker & Diane Boulware

Your continued financial support to the work of God at Mt. Hermon is needed. You may drop your check in the US Mail: 3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, SC 29169. You may also drop it in the locked box on Leaphart Road. Some of you have taken advantage of banks mailing a check straight to Mt. Hermon. Many of you are taking the opportunity to use online giving. Thank you for your financial and spiritual support to Mt. Hermon!



Tithe.ly Online Giving.

You may download the Tithely app and select Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church 3011 Leaphart Road

Or you may give from our website at www.mthlc.com and select *Online Giving* http://www.mthlc.com/online-giving.html

Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB153820.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Copyright © 2019 OneLicense.net. Annual License A-730945. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Copyright © 2019 Christian Copyright Licensing International. Annual License #2016869. All rights reserved.





During 6:35 devotions, Pastor Gina invited listeners to a 90-day challenge of keeping a *Gratitude Journal*. The challenge is to write down 3 things which you are thankful for each day before you go to bed. These journals have arrived, and they are in the church office. Please come by and pick up a journal for each member of you family who will participate in the challenge.

We have sooo much to be thankful for! The purpose of the challenge is to be a visible reminder of our blessings. Let's deepen our

discipleship together.

Come by and pick up a journal and enter into the challenge.

MT HERMON PRAYS ...

Homebound and Care Facilities

Patricia Bachman, Carolina GardensMargie Hook, homeAlberta Berry, homeRev. Everette Price, homeHazel Bockus, Carolina GardensTom Roof, homeNell Buff, homeJune Roof, RaphaLila Catt, homeLois Watson, Lexington PlaceLynwood Crout, homeLena Wessinger, Presby. Home

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Gene Schofield Kim Addy Suzie Wattenbarger Perry Bouknight Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Bob Eastwood, brother-in-law of Marie Kleckley Harold & Mary Prater, parents of Ray Prater Molly Kate Shealy, friend of Jean Shealy Chuck Bachman, nephew of Jean Shealy Floyd Fuller, uncle of David Marsh Dawn McIlwain-Merck, friend of Robin Ellisor Gary & Linda Hodgin, friends of Herb Bucknam Lois Moore & family, family of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman Bill Harrell, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price Don Morris, father of Keith Morris Cheryl Coureville, friend of Herb Bucknam Iris Wellborn, sister of Earl Sease Jimmy Mills, father of Tommy Mills Richie Tallent, friend of Danny Scott Mandy McLemore, co-worker of Amanda Boyd, Kim Addy, & Alyson Price John Catoe, family of Ellisors Jenifer Gooding, co-worker of Joel Price Jr. & Mary Price Sherri Crapps, sister-in-law of Linda Waters-Hamilton Megan Sease, granddaughter of Earl & Mary Frances Sease Jean Wooten, friend of Linda Waters-Hamilton Tommy Roof, son of Tom & June Roof Martha Eastwood, *sister of Marie Kleckley* Eric Powell, friend of Kim Fulmer Jason Wardlaw, friend of congregation Andrew & Candice Coleman, friends of Erica Conklin Carolyn Shumpert, sister of Jan Schofield and Andrea Bowers *David Hydrick, cousin of Buddy Hydrick

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, July 19th

9:00 am	Worship – Live Stream
10:30 am	Drive-In Communion

Wednesday, July 22nd

9:00 – 12:00 Food Pantry (Mary Koon & Jo Leach)

Friday, July 24th

9:00 - 12:00	Food Pantry (Allison Swygert & Lynn Bouknight)
12:00 pm	Sunday's Bulletins will be in the mailboxes

Saturday, July 25th

SC Synod Convention



Rev. Gina D. Metze, Pastor803.951.3784Ruthie Brannen, Director of MusicSusan LaCons, Parish Administrator803.794.6430

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Ronnie Fulmer, *President* Robin Ellisor, *Secretary* Annette Price, *Financial Secretary* www.WeAreMtHermon.com 3011 Leaphart Road West Columbia, SC 29169 803.794.6430 Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com RuthieBrannen@gmail.com Susan@WeAreMtHermon.com

Marion Leaphart, *Vice President* Parker Boulware, *Treasurer* Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, *Sextons*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, July 12 th	6 th Sunday after Pentecost	
9:00 am	Worship – Live Stream	
10:30 am	Sunday School via Zoom	
1:00 pm	Church Council via Zoom	
If you participated in a previous Zoom Sunday School, you will be sent a link each		
week. If you would like to join us, send an email to		
PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com and a link will be emailed to you.		

Wednesday, July 15th

9:00 – 12:00 Food Pantry (Angie Hydrick & Doris Maddox)

Friday, July 17th

9:00 – 12:00 Food Pantry (Allison Swygert & Lynn Bouknight) 12:00 pm Sunday's Bulletins will be in the mailboxes