FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT



March 1, 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 Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless: Chorale and Variation

Burkhardt

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

Sing My Tongue

Burkhardt

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.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.
We confess that we have turned away from you,
knowingly and unknowingly.
We have wandered from your resurrection life.
We have strayed from your love for all people.
Turn us back to you, O God.
Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you
and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

Receive good news: God turns to you in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you. *Amen*.

As the cross passes your pew, please turn your bodies and worship attention to the altar.

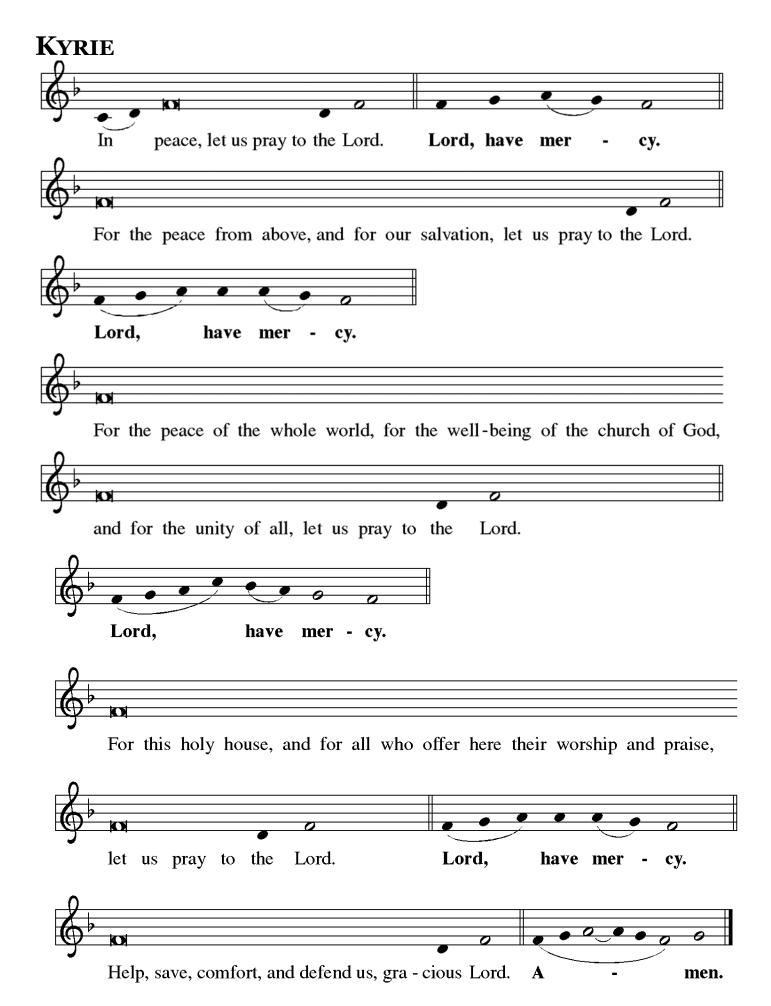




GREETING

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.

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, 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: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

3:1Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they

were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32

Read responsively.

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹⁰Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

READING: Romans 5:12-19

A reading from Romans.

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—
¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

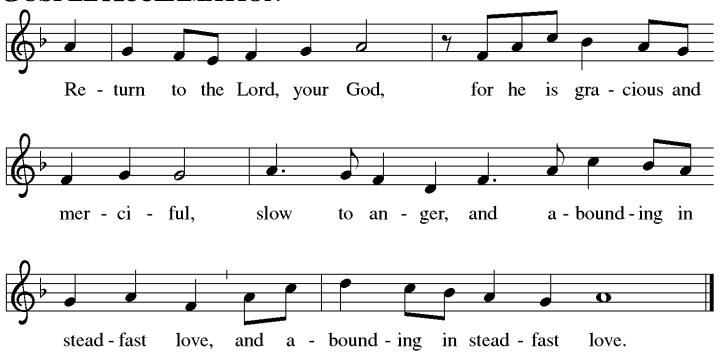
¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him."

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

You **ARE** the Son of God

HYMN I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

ELW 325



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

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

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

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

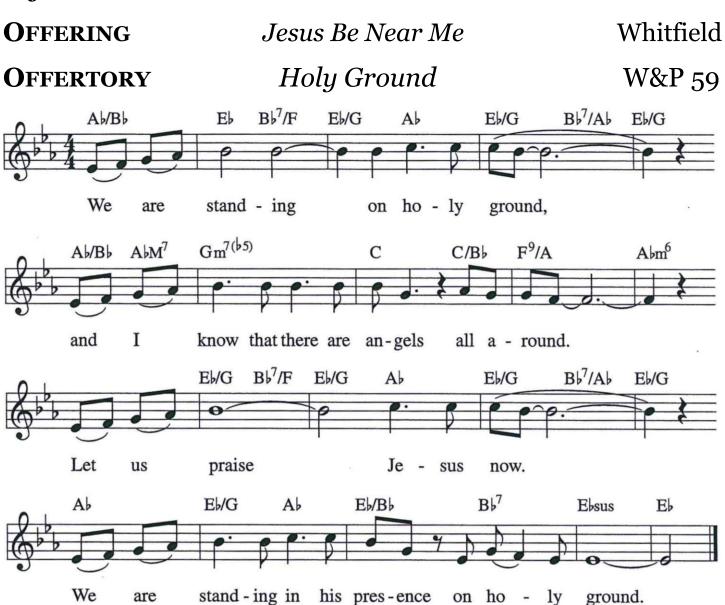
The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

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 take this time to complete the Friendship Registration Pads which are located at the center aisle.**



We stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

Holy and generous host, you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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 and 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 on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

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.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – 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.

We sit.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

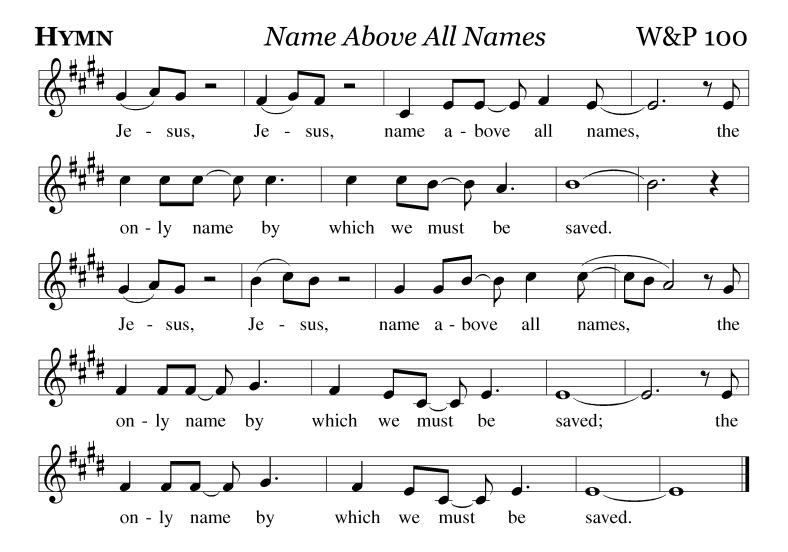
God's love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.

Communion assistants come forward.

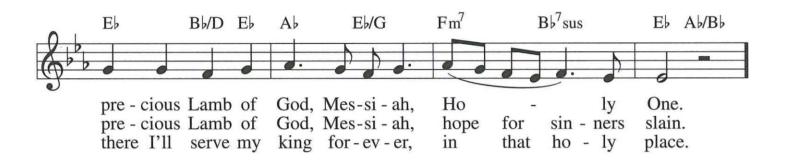
DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

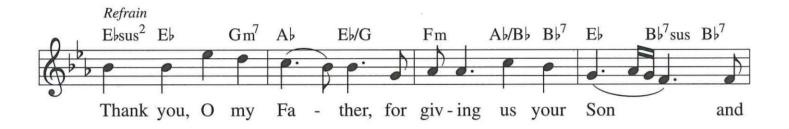
All are welcome to this Meal. We will commune at the altar rail this Sunday. Please follow the ushers directions to enter the altar area. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Those not communing, may come forward for a blessing. Those who desire communion but who are not able to come forward will be communed first in their pew.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION











We stand.

BLESSING

May the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and give you peace for this Lenten journey. *Amen.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We pray together.

We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

HOME COMMUNION PRAYER

We pray.

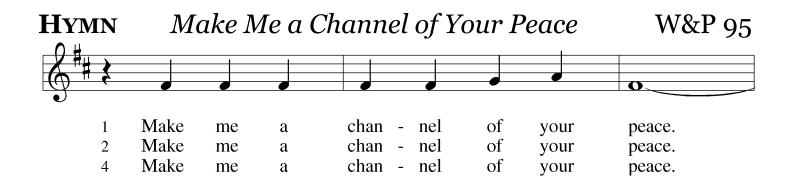
Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, † bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace. *Amen*.

As the cross passes your seat, please turn and follow as we are sent into the world to proclaim the Gospel through our lives.





POSTLUDE OMITTED DURING LENT

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers are given today to the Glory of God and in loving honor of Francis Eargle for his 85th birthday by Joanne, Wayne, Sheila, Connor and Hayden Eargle.

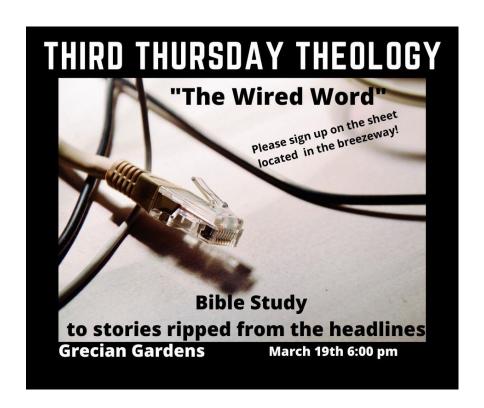


Wednesday Evening Lenten Services 6:30 pm

Meal following in the Fellowship Hall



Philippians 2: 5-11







Matthew Dickerson began playing the hammered dulcimer at the young age of 15 on a homemade instrument he had constructed from a water damaged piano. He developed a love for the music that is contagious to anyone listening. In 2018, Matthew chose music as a full-time venture performing and teaching across the United States as well as in the studio and online. Matthew has a genuine appreciation for great music and talent in multiple genres and continues to reach for new heights in both style and performance as one of the best dulcimer players in the country.

Dementia through the Lens of Grace: Opportunities for the Church to be in Ministry

Please plan to join us on Sunday afternoon, March 22 at 4:00 in the church fellowship hall for "Dementia through the Lens of Grace: Opportunities for the Church to be in Ministry." We are very honored to have Bishop Kenneth L. Carder, author of "Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia through a Spiritual Lens" to join us for discussions on Dementia and the Church.

The session will conclude around 5:30 p.m. with time available afterward for some personal conversations.

Ministry

with the

Forgotte

Dementia through
a Spiritual Lens

Bishop Carder is the Ruth W. and A. Morris Williams, Jr. Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Duke Divinity School and Senior Visiting Professor of Wesley Studies at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC. He is a retired Bishop of The United Methodist Church.



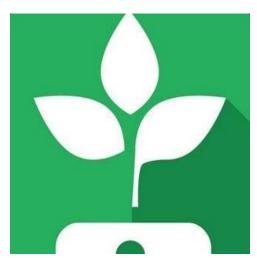
Red Cross Blood Drive April 26, 2020 11:30-4:00 Mt. Hermon is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, April 26 from 11:30 am-4:00 pm. Please make plans to donate blood to save a life. You can register to give by going to

www.redcrossblood.org and enter Sponsor Code "**mthermon**" to make your appointment or call the Church Office, 794-6430. Susan LaCons, our Parish Administrator can get you registered.

Tithes, and Offering for 02/23/2020 Attendance: Worship – 92; Sunday School – 60

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$2,995.50
Building Improvement	Received	\$305.00
Growing on Holy Ground	Received	\$1,345.00

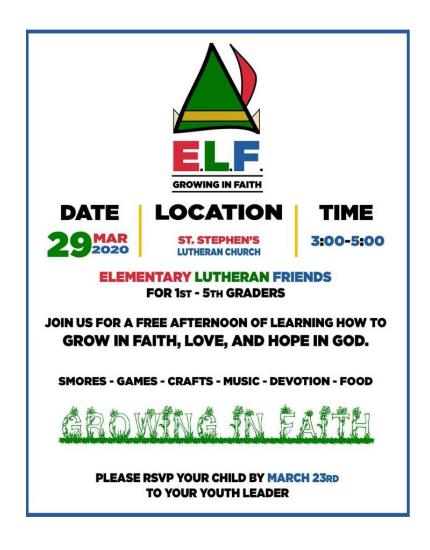
Honorariums and Memorials (all funds)



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



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MT HERMON PRAYS ...

Homebound and Care Facilities

Nell Buff, Home

Patricia Bachman, Carolina Gardens

Hazel Bockus, Carolina Gardens

Lynwood Crout, Home

Tom & June Roof, Home

Margie Hook, Home

Lois Watson, *Lexington Place* Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home*

Rev. Everette Price, Home

Ernie Swygert, Home

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Alberta Berry Connie Bucknam Lila Catt

Jim Whitaker Jeff Bucknam, deployed

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Dawn McIlwain-Merck, friend of Robin Ellisor

Gary & Linda Hodgin, friends of Herb & Connie 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 & Connie Bucknam

Mary Frances Hamilton, friend of congregation

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

Todd Hewitt, friend of Missy Addy

Megan Sease, granddaughter of Earl & Mary Frances Sease

Jane Park, friend of Pastor Gina & Dion

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

Bob Eastwood, brother-in-law of Marie Kleckley

Harold & Mary Prater, parents of Ray Prater

Sonny Williams, friend of Kenny Bouknight

Roy Lindler, father of Nancy Addison & Becky Wise

Myrtle Jenkins, sister of Nell Buff

*Molly Kate Shealy, friend of Jean Shealy

*Chuck Backman, nephew of Jean Shealy

*Floyd Fuller, uncle of David Marsh

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Serving Today* Serving March 8th

Greeter: Susan Busby Jenny Scott

Crucifer: Lawson Morris Jackson Price

Acolytes: Connor Eargle Mitch Stevens

Hayden Eargle Mackenzie Burns

Lector: Allison Swygert Emily Morris

Communion Asst.

Mitch Stevens Jackson Price, Emily Morris

Wynne Price Angie Hydrick

Communion Ushers:

Fran Bouknight n/a
Ricky Bouknight n/a
Ronnie Fulmer n/a
Marion Leaphart n/a

Children's Sermon:

Pastor Gina Mary Koon

Sunday School Teachers

3 yrs − **1**st Diane Boulware Daryl Leigh Anthony

Parker Boulware Denise Thurman

2nd-5th Sheila Eargle Kay Bryant

Emily Morris Larry Amick

Youth Jennifer Miller Mary Koon

Nursery: Brittany Allen Emily Arroyo

Alyson Price Jennifer Miller

Food Pantry: March 4 March 11

Diane Boulware Renee Greenbaum

Serving in March*

Council Representative: Joe Koon Altar Guild: Angie Hydrick, Jennifer Price

Tabulators: Diane Boulware, Angie Hydrick, Linda Waters-Hamilton

(Larry Amick)

Ushers: Danny Scott, Parker Boulware, Kay Bryant, Larry Amick

^{*} 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

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, March 8th Second Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time starts

9:00 am Holy Communion Worship

10:15 am Sunday School

6:00 pm Council Meets

Monday, March 9th

6:30 pm Lutheran Men Meet

Tuesday, March 10th

1:00 pm Bulletin Information Due Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 11th

9:00 am Food Pantry

6:00 pm Handbells

6:30 pm Lenten Worship with meal following

Thursday, March 12th

6:30 pm Chancel Choir

Pastor Gina will be on vacation Thursday, March 5th through Tuesday, March 10th





Website: mthlc.org 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* Ruthie Brannen, *Cantor*

Susan LaCons, Parish Administrator 803.794.6430

803.951.3784

PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com RuthieBrannen@gmail.com office@mthlc.org

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Ronnie Fulmer, *President* Robin Ellisor, *Secretary* Annette Price, *Financial Secretary* Marion Leaphart, *Vice President*Parker Boulware, *Treasurer*Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, *Sextons*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, March 1st

9:00 am Holy Communion Worship

10:15 am Sunday School

3:30 pm Confirmation

Monday, March 2nd

6:00 pm Worship Team Meets

Tuesday, March 3rd

1:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

Staff Meeting

5:30 pm Teach Team Meets

Wednesday, March 4th

9:00 am Food Pantry

6:00 pm Handbells

6:30 pm Executive Committee

6:30 pm Lenten Worship with meal following

Thursday, March 5th

6:00 pm Handbells