

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

au·thor·i·ty
/ə'THôrədē/

*the power or right
to give orders, make
decisions, and
enforce obedience.*

SEPTEMBER 27, 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 *Where He Leads Me/He Leadeth Me* Adams

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 *All the Way to Kingdom Come* Rich Mullins

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,

who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us.

***We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.***

***We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.***

***We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.***

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

***Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, and Lord. Amen.***

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world. ***Amen.***

HYMN

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise (Sing 2x)

D Em⁷ D²/F# G
 We bring the sac - ri - fice of praise in - to the house of the

F#m⁷ G/A D Em⁷ D²/F# Bm⁷
 Lord; we bring the sac - ri - fice of praise in - to the

Em⁷ GM⁷/A A Dsus D D/F# G
 house of the Lord. And we of - fer up to

F#m⁷ Bm⁷ Em⁷ G/A A⁷ D Dsus/E D/F# D⁷
 you the sac - ri - fic - es of thanks - giv - ing; and we

G F#m⁷ Bm⁷ Em⁷ G/A A⁷ D
 of - fer up to you the sac - ri - fic - es of joy.

CCLI Song # 9990
© 1984 New Spring

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.

GLORIA

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



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.



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



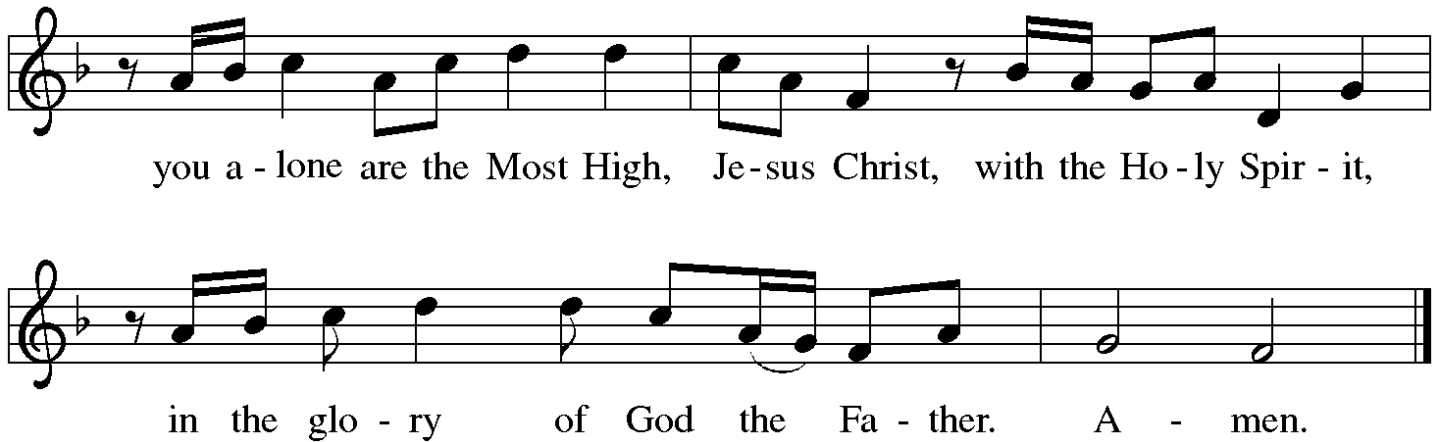
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

A reading from Ezekiel.

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their

righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MUSIC

Oceans

Crocker/Houston/Ligthelm

READING: Philippians 2:1-13

A reading from Philippians.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to

your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed
me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my
absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will
and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 21st chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe 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.

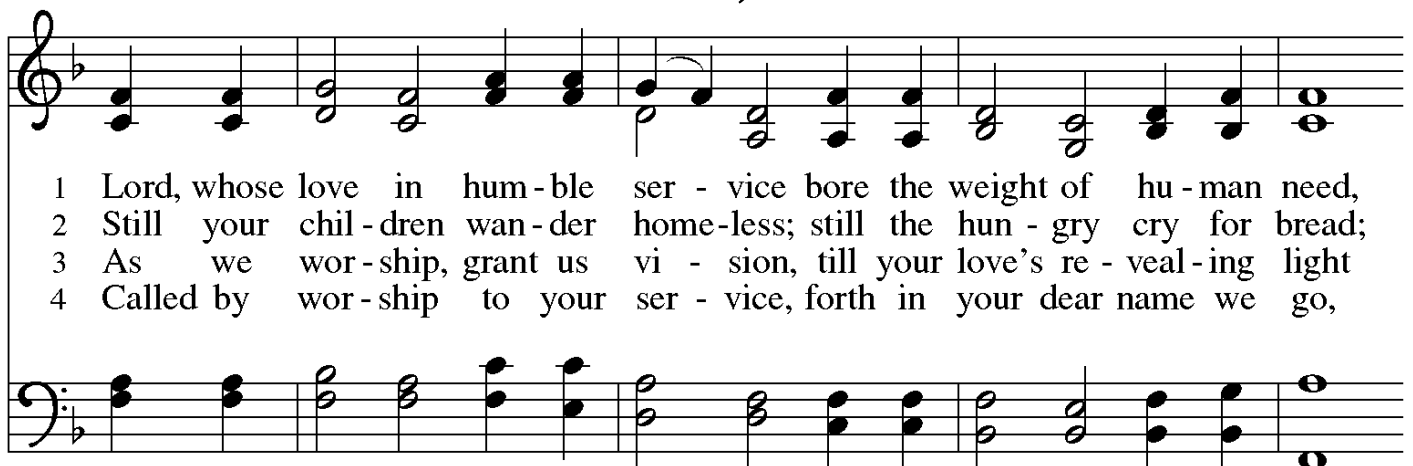
Holy God, you have a word for me today. Make my heart soft and plant your word in me in order that it may bear fruit in your kingdom. Amen.

SERMON

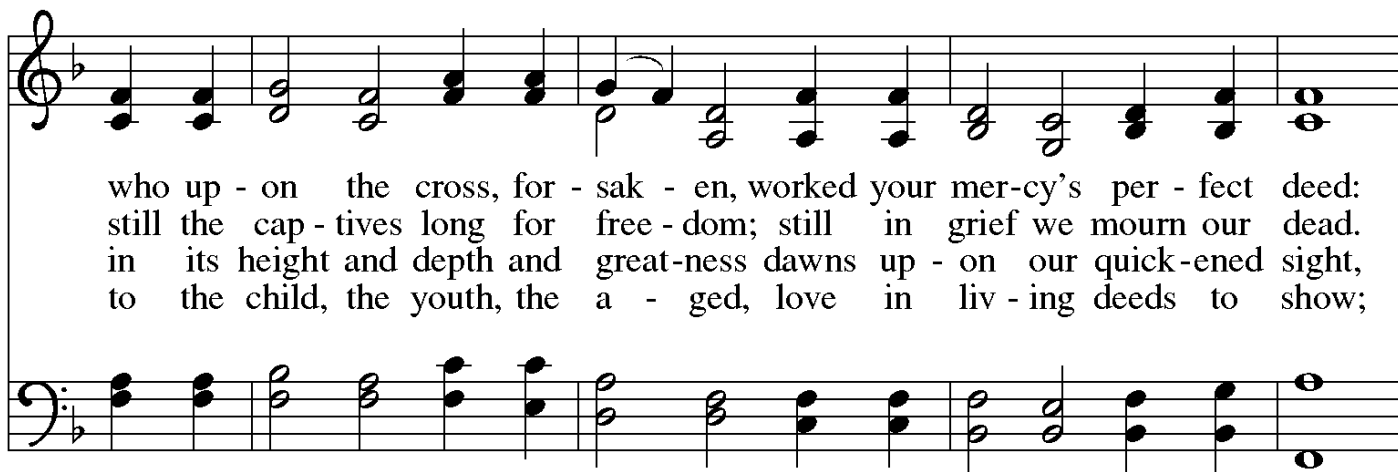
Authority

HYMN

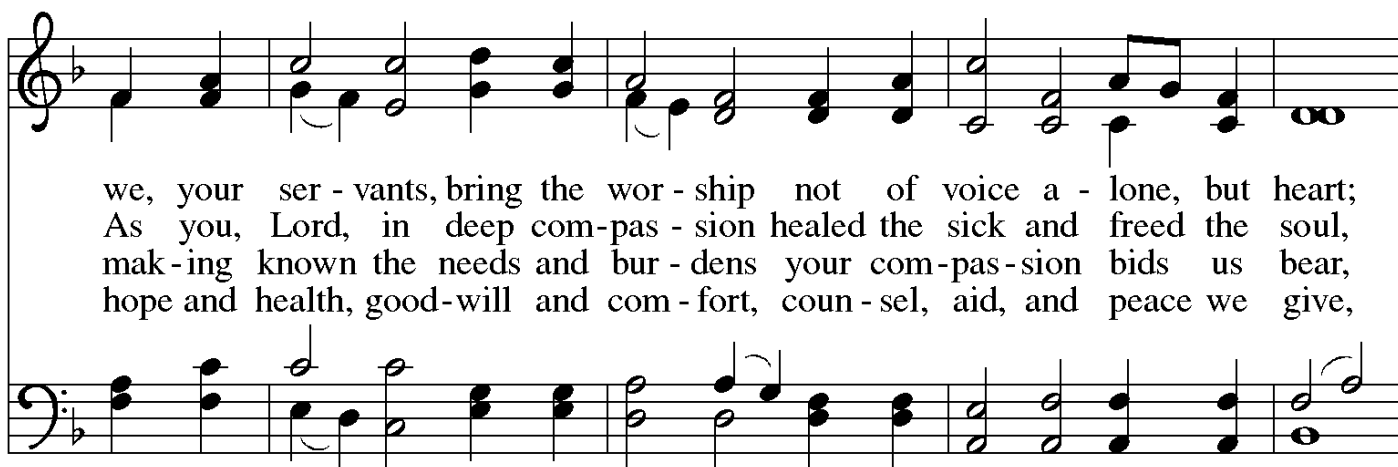
Lord, Whose Love In Humble Service




1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
 stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

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

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*After each petition: Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***

The Prayers conclude:

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through 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

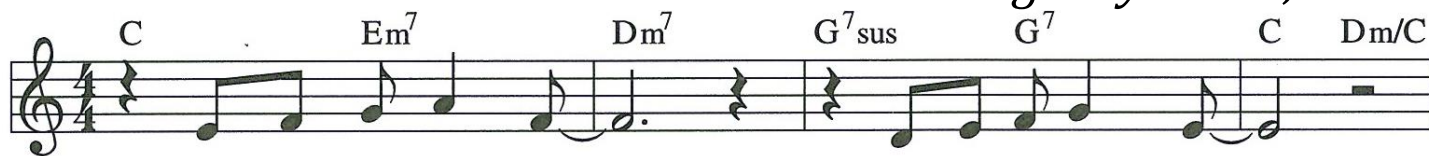
I Will Give Thanks

Joseph Martin

We stand.

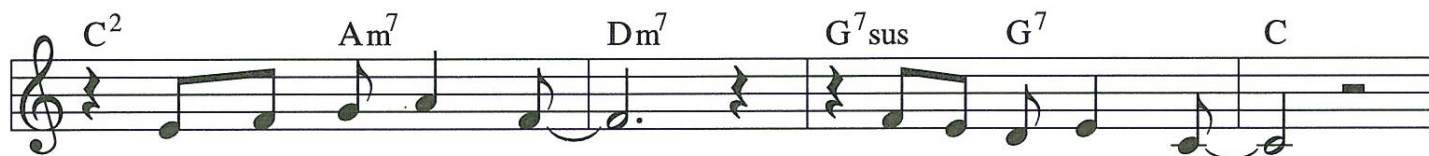
OFFERTORY

Change My Heart, O God



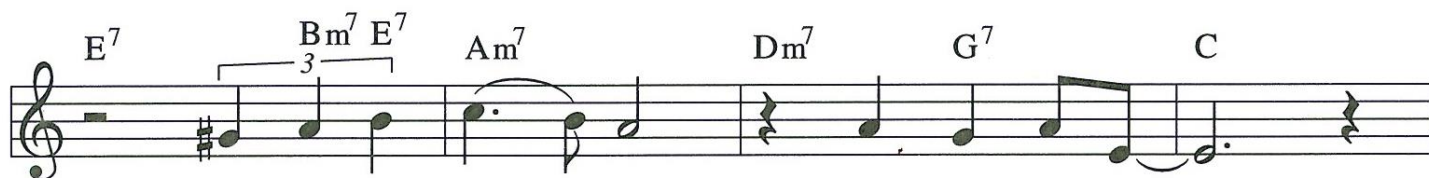
Change my heart, O God.

Make it ev - er true.



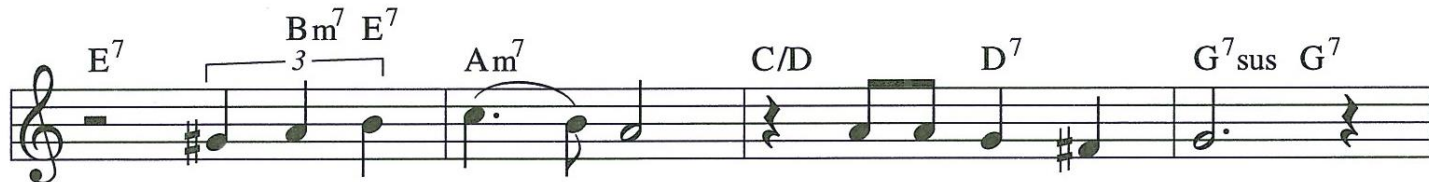
Change my heart, O God.

May I be like you.



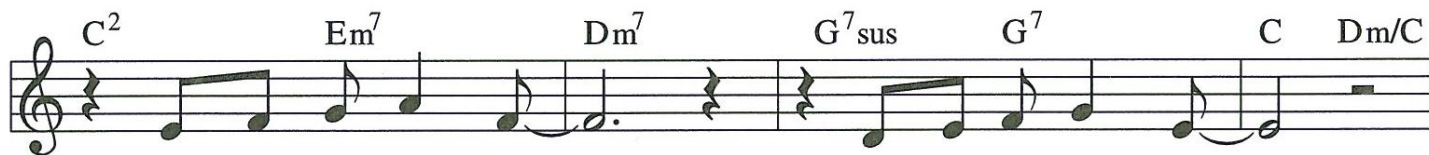
You are the pot - ter,

I am the clay;



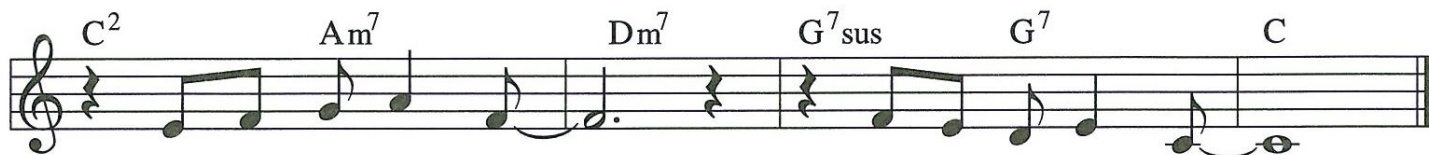
mold me and make me,

this is what I pray.



Change my heart, O God.

Make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God.

May I be like you.

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.

Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,

nourish us with this rich food and drink,

and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering

world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.

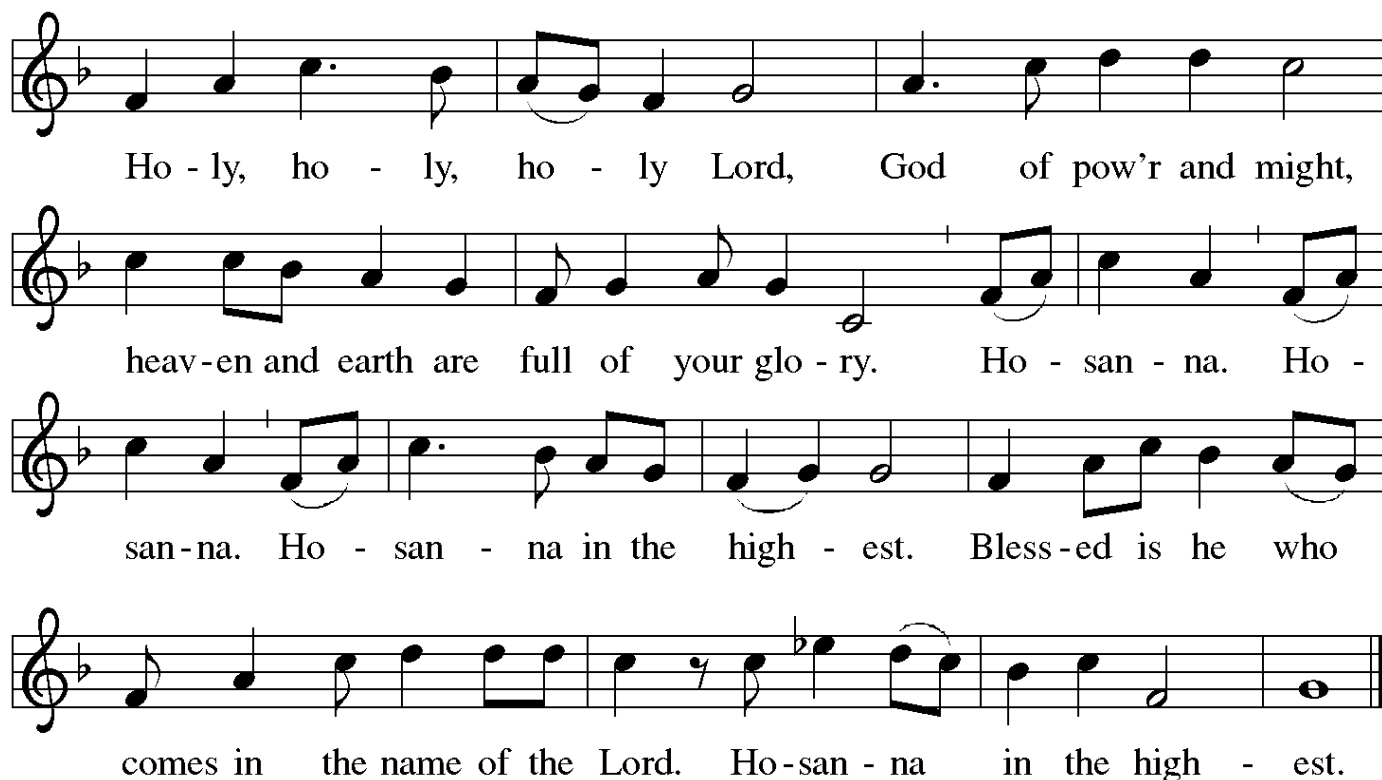
We lift them to the Lord.

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...

As often as we eat this bread and we drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes again.

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

Come to the banquet table

where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

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.

MUSIC

Break the Bread, Pour the Wine

Mark Hayes

THE SENDING

BLESSING

There is no place where God does not live.

There is no moment when God has, is, and will not be present.

There is no time that God does not love you.

May you go now into the world knowing God † is right by your side. ***Amen.***

HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Thy Strong Word

Manz

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God and in honor of our son, Jason's birthday by Dennis & Cyndi Thurman.



Communion Distribution and Blessings

***on Sunday
October 18th***

Enter paved parking lot near the bus
and loop in front of the church office.



Live Streaming and Recording of worship



**If you would like to contribute to this ministry,
mark your check or envelope
"LiveStreaming Ministry"**



Evening devotions 6:35 pm

Join the FaceBook
community
for a time of
daily reflection.

Pastor Gina



Tithes, and Offering for 09/20/2020
Live Stream Worship – 128+
Drive-In Communion – 60

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$3,507.05
Building Improvement	Received	\$345.00
Growing on Holy Ground	Received	\$830.00
Live Streaming This Week		\$0.00
Live Streaming Total Rec'd		\$6,033.27

Honorariums and Memorials (all funds)

In memory of Lynwood Crout by Perry & Trudy Bouknight, Ann Bouknight, Cindy & Joel Price, Karen Nicholson, Terry & Allison Swygert, Jean & James, Friendship Sunday School Class, Ryan & Jennifer Price

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>**

MT HERMON PRAYS ...

**family of Lynwood Crout*

Homebound and Care Facilities

Patricia Bachman, <i>Carolina Gardens</i>	Rev. Everette Price, <i>home</i>
Alberta Berry, <i>home</i>	June Roof, <i>Rapha</i>
Hazel Bockus, <i>Carolina Gardens</i>	Tom Roof, <i>home</i>
Nell Buff, <i>home</i>	Lois Watson, <i>Lexington Place</i>
Lila Catt, <i>home</i>	Lena Wessinger, <i>Presby. Home</i>
Margie Hook, <i>home</i>	

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bryce Addy	Becky Koon	Gene Schofield
Suzie Wattenbarger	Rodney Oswald	Jeff Bucknam

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Jimmy Mills, *father of Tommy Mills*
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 Hodgins, *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*
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*
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*
David Hydrick, *cousin of Buddy Hydrick*
Clara Shultz, *friend of Sheila Starkey*
Debbie Smith & family, *niece of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman*
Sarah Hiltz, *granddaughter of Buddy & Angie Hydrick*

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, October 4th 18th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream

3:00 pm Zoom: SC Bishop Installation

*No Drive-In Communion October 4th

Monday, October 5th

6:00 pm Worship Team Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, October 6th

6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, October 7th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Andrea Bowers & Jo Leach)

Friday, October 9th

12:00 pm Sunday's Bulletins will be in the mailboxes

Saturday, October 10th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Parker & Diane Boulware)



www.WeAreMtHermon.com
3011 Leaphart Road
West Columbia, SC 29169
803.794.6430

Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Rev. Gina D. Metze, <i>Pastor</i>	803.951.3784	<i>PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com</i>
Ruthie Brannen, <i>Director of Music</i>		<i>Ruthie Brannen@gmail.com</i>
Susan LaCons, <i>Parish Administrator</i>	803.794.6430	<i>Susan@WeAreMtHermon.com</i>
Matt Hansen, <i>Seminarian</i>		<i>Matthew.Hansen@my.lr.edu</i>

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

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

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, September 27th 17th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream
10:30 am Sunday School via Zoom

Wednesday, September 30th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Angie Hydrick & Doris Maddox)

Friday, October 2nd

12:00 pm Sunday's Bulletins will be in the mailboxes

Saturday, October 3rd

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Koon Family)

