

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



SEPTEMBER 13, 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 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* 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 *The Gift to Be Simple* Dale Wood

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, our Savior 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

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ELW 834



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

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,



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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

READING: Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from Genesis.

15Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" 16So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 17'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." 19But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? 20Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. 21So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MUSIC

Christ Is Enough

Jonas Myrin

READING: Romans 14:1-12

A reading from Romans.

1Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. 2Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 3Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.

4Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

7We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

10Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

12So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of God for the people of God.

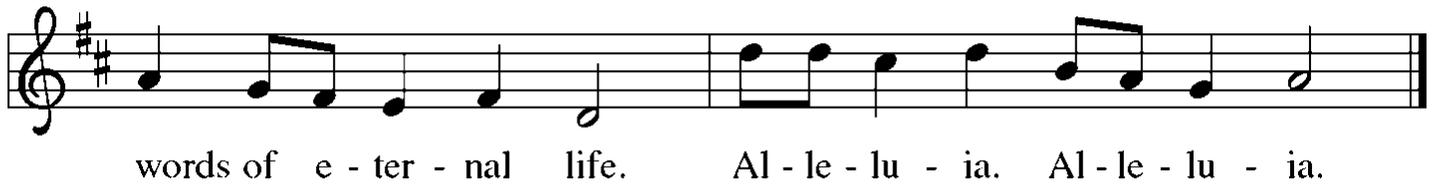
Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

21 Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 25 and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked

slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.
 33Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had
 mercy on you?’ 34And in anger his lord handed him over to be
 tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35So my heavenly
 Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive
 your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

Forgiveness

HYMN

Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

W&P 95

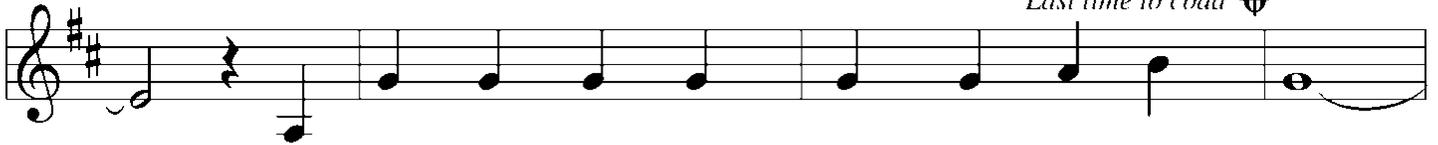


1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
 Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;
 It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,

Last time to coda ⊕



where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
in giv - ing of our - selves that we re -

1

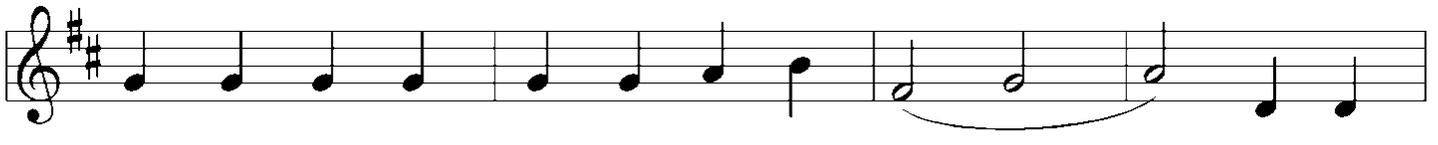


and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.

2



3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be



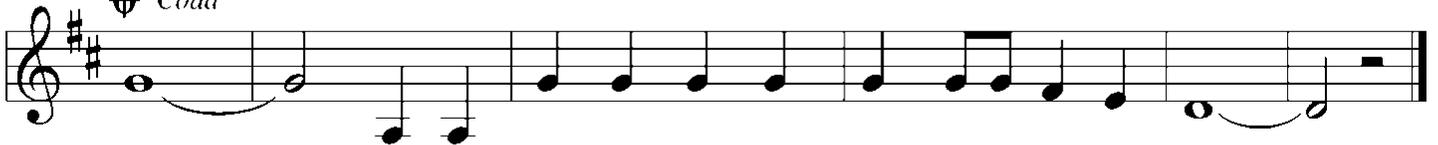
un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be

D.C. (stanza 4) al coda



loved as to love with all my soul.

⊕ *Coda*



ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

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

It Is Enough

Arr. Joseph Martin

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Create In Me A Clean Heart

W&P 34

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.
Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, O
Lord, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.

Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

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.

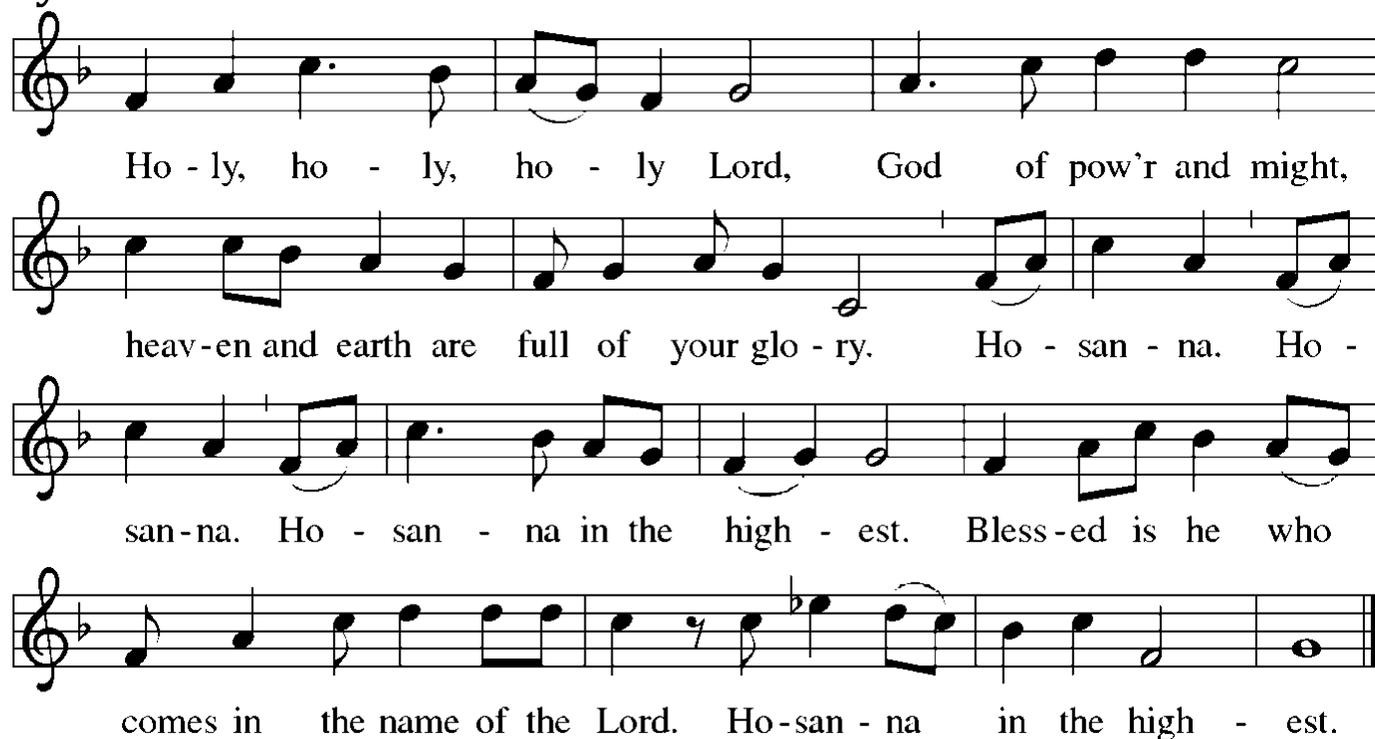
We lift them to the Lord.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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

Kyrie Eleison

Tomlin/Redman
Maher/Ingram

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

Let There Be Praise
(Sing 2x)

W&P 87

F C/E F Dm Dm/F Gm Gm² Gm C

Let there be praise, let there be joy in our hearts.

Detailed description: This system contains the first line of music. It features a treble clef and a bass clef, both in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the two staves. The chords are indicated above the treble staff.

Am Am⁷ Dm Dm/F EbM⁹ Eb Csus⁴/₂ C

Sing to the Lord, give God the glo - ry. glo - ry.

Detailed description: This system contains the second line of music. It features a treble clef and a bass clef, both in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the two staves. The chords are indicated above the treble staff.

F C/E F Dm Dm/F Gm Gm² Gm C

Let there be praise, let there be joy in our hearts.

Detailed description: This system contains the third line of music, which is a repeat of the first line. It features a treble clef and a bass clef, both in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the two staves. The chords are indicated above the treble staff.

Am Am⁷ Dm Dm/F Gm F/A B^b F/C C⁷ F

For - ev - er - more let his love fill the air, and let there be praise.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Forgive as you have been forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Cherwein

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS on the altar are given to the glory of God by Herb Bucknam and Parker & Diane Boulware.

In memory of Connie C. Bucknam and in honor of those who sent cards, called, and kept Connie & the family in their thoughts and prayers during her illness and after her passing by Herb Bucknam.

In honor of Dave & Thelma Moyer's birthdays and Diane's baptism birthday by Parker & Diane Boulware.



Sunday School
on Zoom
2nd & 4th Sundays
10:30 a.m.

To join the group, please email
pastorgina@WeAreMtHermon.com

*First and Third Sunday
of the Month*

**Communion Distribution
and Blessings**

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"**

Tithes, and Offering for 09/06/2020
Live Stream Worship – 127+
Drive-In Communion – 65

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$3,660.65
Building Improvement	Received	\$135.00
Growing on Holy Ground	Received	\$1,865.00
Live Streaming This Week		\$350.00
Live Streaming Total Rec'd		\$5,838.27

Honorariums and Memorials (all funds)

In memory of Janice Head, mother of Ronnie Head by Earl & Mary Frances

In memory of Iris House by Herb Bucknam

In memory of Freddie Fulmer by Herb Bucknam, Rick & Daryl Leigh Anthony

In memory of Jimmy Bouknight by Faye Sox, Perry & Trudy Bouknight

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 ...

Homebound and Care Facilities

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

Members in Special Need of Prayer

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

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*
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, September 20th 16th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Monday, September 21st

6:00 pm Outreach Team Meeting via ZOOM

Wednesday, September 23rd

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Ann Bouknight & Annette Price)

Friday, September 25th

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

Saturday, September 26th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Terry & Allison Swygert)



**Evening
devotions
6:35 pm**

Join the FaceBook
community
for a time of
daily reflection.

Pastor Gina



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>

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 13th 15th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream
10:30 am Sunday School via ZOOM
6:00 pm Council Meeting via ZOOM

Monday, September 14th

7:00 pm Health & Safety Task Force Meeting via ZOOM

Wednesday, September 16th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Diane Boulware & Mary Frances Sease)

Friday, September 18th

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

Saturday, September 19th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Mike Rawl & Laura Stevens)