FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



MAY 15, 2022

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. If you would like to discuss discipleship at Mt. Hermon, Pastor Gina would love to speak with you!

Again welcome ...

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**.

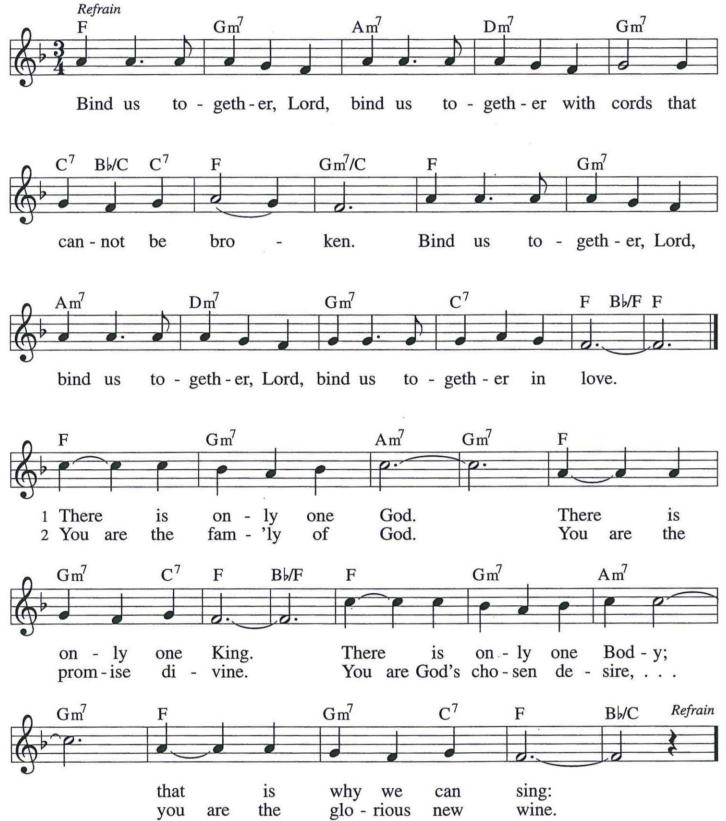
We are silent as we prepare our hearts for worship. **PRELUDE**

Less Like Me Williams, Bentley, Fieldes/CCLI #7136017

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font. Blessed be the holy Trinity, **†** one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth. *Amen.* Turn and face the cross. As the cross passes your pew, turn and face the altar HYMN Bind Us Together

Gillman/CCLI #1228



PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, 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

Acts 11:1-18

A reading from Acts.

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea,

arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

We read responsively. ¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

²Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.

³Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

> ⁴Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,

⁶who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away. ⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,

you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸fire and hail, snow and fog,

tempestuous wind, doing God's will;

⁹mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;

¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

¹²young men and maidens,

old and young together.

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants,

the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!

Revelation 21:1-6

A reading from Revelation.

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;
⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."
⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I

am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

The holy gospel according to St. John the13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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.

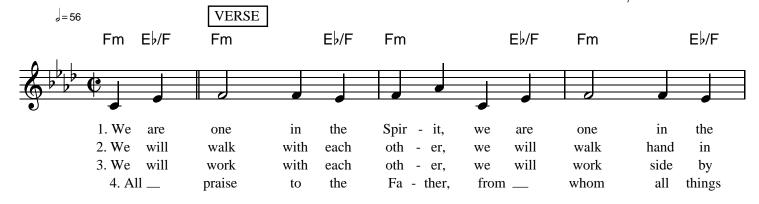
SERMON

love, love, love

We stand.

Hymn

They'll Know We Are Christians by our Love Scholtes/CCLI #26997



love

8



PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH

Chris & Marie Carroll, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? *I renounce them.*

APOSTLES' CREED

Chris & Marie and this community, I ask you to profess your faith.

Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? 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. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of light."

Chris & Marie, be reminded that you are a child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

Let us welcome Chris & Marie Carroll into this community of faith.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

After each petition: God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. *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.org and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship.

OFFERING

Love Has Come

Price, Sease



OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together. Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in 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 always and everywhere give thanks and praise to you, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. We praise your name.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 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, blessed and holy Trinity, 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 The risen Christ dwells with us here. Come!

COMMUNION

Please come forward to receive communion. Both sides will form a single line in the center aisle. You will receive the bread and then receive the wine or grape juice from the side in which you are seated. You may then return to your pews using the outside aisles. Please return to your pews for a time of prayer and meditation.

MUSIC

Come Ye Sinners

Hart, Public Domain/CCLI #3394478

POST COMMUNION 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. We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. Amen.

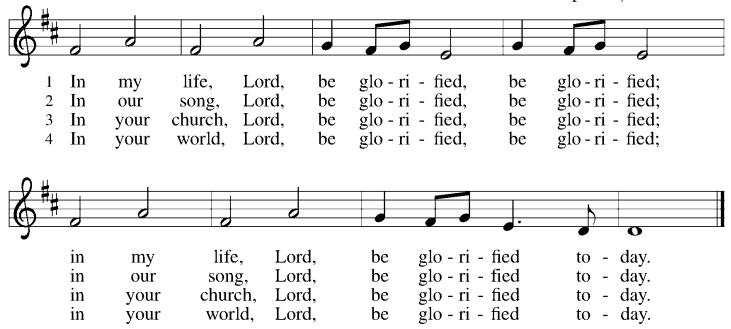
THE SENDING

BLESSING

God, the Author of life, **†** Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, bless you now and forever. *Amen.*

Hymn

Lord, Be Glorified Kilpatrick/CCLI #26368



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

 POSTLUDE Meditation on Psalm 51

Ryan Price

SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We follow the light of Christ into the world. We are God's people on a mission. We have gathered. We have been fed. Now, we go out to make a difference in the world. Amen.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Rev. Everett Price's birthday on May 16th and in honor of the graduations of Jerry Price, Grayson Anthony, Alyssa Stevens and Jacob Marsh by Ryan and Jennifer Price and David and Scottie Marsh.



Adopt-A-Highway

Make plans to help with our next Adopt-A-Highway pickup on **Saturday**, **May 21**. Meet in the church parking lot by 9:00 am. The other pickup dates this year are: August 20 and November 12, 2022.



COFFEE FOOD FELLOWSHIF

MAY 22, 2022 FELLOW SHIP HALL 10:30

THANK YOU HOSTESSES: CINDY PRICE, MARY FRANCES SEASE, DEBBIE FULMER



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If you have anyone whom you would like to add or check the status of their names in the Memorial Day Bulletin, please call the church office.

Hebrews 10:25 reads "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

This is a great reminder that God calls us to gather in order to share our faith and strengthen and encourage one



another in Christ. We do this through our He-Brews supper clubs. The remaining 2022 dates for He-Brews will be July 30th (sign up by July 24) and October 15th (sign up Oct 9). How do I participate? Sign-up on the sign-up sheet located in the breezeway or on-line. All participants will be divided randomly into small groups. A contact person will coordinate with their group to set a time and destination to meet for dinner. The groups will change for each date so that each time you meet you are with a different group of people.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS 05/08/2022

In-person Worship 94+ Live Stream Worship 68 = 162

| Current & Benevolent | Received | \$2,837.23 |
|----------------------|----------|------------|
| Building Fund | Received | \$345.00 |
| Building Improvement | Received | 100.00 |

Honorariums and Memorials

In memory of Lyle Bockus by Parker & Diane Boulware, Annette Price

Thank you for your generous donations! To my Mt. Hermon Family,

In three weeks, you have helped me surpass my goal of \$1,000 for my project. Your generous donations have <u>more than doubled</u> the funding for my project. I have begun incorporating additional elements into my project with the generosity of your hearts! I am excited to get started on my project in the next few weeks. Thank you for the donations!

Sincerely, Tanner Addy



Tanner's Eagle Scout Project \$ 2,768.60 Received to date

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.WeAreMtHermon.com and select Online Giving http://www.WeAreMtHermon.com/online-giving.html



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SERVING IN WORSHIP

Serving Today*

Greeter:ACrucifer:IAcolyte:ELector:ECommunion Assts:EF

Flowers:

Alyson Price Lawson Morris Brayden Morris Emily Morris Elyse Kinard Ronnie Fulmer Arron Kinard Marsh/Price

Next Sunday

Alyson Price Skyler Miller Sam Koon Elyse Kinard Emily Morris Bonnie Bouknight Jennifer Miller Ronnie & Debbie Fulmer

Serving in May Council Representative: Sheila Starkey Altar Guild: Ann Addy, Annette Price Tabulators: Larry Amick, Angie Hydrick



MT HERMON PRAYS

*family of Lyle Bockus

Continual Prayers

Clifton Addy, home Patricia Bachman, Generations Alberta Berry, home Nell Buff, NHC

*family of Hazel Bockus

Becky Koon, Colonial Gardens Tom Roof, home Cyndi Thurman, Prisma Baptist Linda Waters-Hamilton, home

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Ann Addy Angie Hydrick Gene Schofield *Suzie Wattenbarger

Kay Bryant Marie Kleckley **Jane Sexton**

James Hallman Jean Shealy Kitty Boulware Jerry Ellisor Jerry Price III

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayers

Martha Eastwood, sister of Marie Kleckley David Hydrick, family of Angie Hydrick Charlotte & Paul Nelson, friends of Herb Bucknam Bob Eastwood, brother-in-law of Marie Kleckley Molly Kate Shealy, friend of Jean Shealy Chuck Bachman, nephew of Jean Shealy Dawn McIlwain-Merck, friend of Robin Ellisor Gary & Linda Hodgin, friends of Herb Bucknam Don Freeman, friend of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart Jessica Drigger's mother, friend of Denise Thurman Iris Wellborn, sister of Earl Sease John Catoe, family of Ellisors Dr. Kay Moore, friend and co-worker of Cyndi Leaphart Cindy Maples, mother of Jennifer Miller Lewis Turner, friend of Jo Leach Emma Hunt, grandmother of Laura Carroll Beth Ellsworth, friend of Kenny Bouknight David Gosnell, friend of Allison Swygert Michelle Gross & Bryan Gross, friends of Regan Anthony Shirley Duenka, friend of Sheila Starkey Grayson Crout, friend of Sheila Starkey Billy Huckabee, friend of Danny Scott Arthava Tripathi, child friend of Robert & Jove Havgood Jackson Kolker, friend of Frank & Bonnie Bouknight Steve Kinard, father of Arron Kinard Mary Duffie, mother of Alyson Price Curtis Plummer, husband of DJ, son-in-law Wayne & Charlene Corley, serving our country Stan Weber, husband of Debi Weber



I Thessalonians I:2, NIV

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, May 22nd

- 9:00 am Worship
- 10:30 am Coffee, Food, Fellowship
- 10:30 am Sunday School
 - 3:00 pm Confirmation Class
 - 4:00 pm Grief Workshop
 - 4:00 pm Memorial Day Choir Rehearsal

Monday, May 23rd

9:30 am Staff Meeting6:00 pm CR: Worship Team

Tuesday, May 24th

6:00 pm CR: Support Team

Wednesday, May 25th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Annette Price, Ann Bouknight, Sharon Keefe)
12:05 pm OneBody in Christ
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 27th

6:00 pm Food Truck / Movie on the Mount

Saturday, May 28th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Danny & Jenny Scott)



www.WeAreMtHermon.com 3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, SC 29169 803.794.6430 Monday - Thursday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Rev. Gina D. Metze, Pastor Director of Music Parish Administrator

803.951.3784 803.794.6430 PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com Music@WeAreMtHermon.com Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Ioel Price, Sr., President Sheila Eargle, Secretary Annette Price, Financial Secretary

Blake Allen, Vice President Parker Boulware, Treasurer Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, Sextons

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, May 15th New Disciples (Chris & Marie Carroll)

9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School 4:00 pm Council Meets

Monday, May 16th

9:30 am Staff meeting 6:00 pm CR: Outreach Team

Monday, May 17th

6:00 pm CR: Finance Team

Wednesday, May 18th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick)

Saturday, May 21st

9:00 am Food Pantry (Swygerts/Carrolls) 9:00 am Adopt-A-Highway (parking lot) Noon FH: Community Meal