

**TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

**WELL DONE,
—GOOD—
AND
faithful
SERVANT.**

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

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

I Give You My Heart

Morgan/CCLI #1866132

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be God,

the one who forms us,

† Jesus who bears the cross,

the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As children of the One true God, we acknowledge our need for a merciful and forgiving God.

Silence for reflection.

**Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image
in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation.
Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive our sins † and lead us to eternal life.
Amen.

As fully forgiven children of God, turn and face the altar as the cross passes you.

HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Runyan/OneLicense #EXS00965D



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

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,



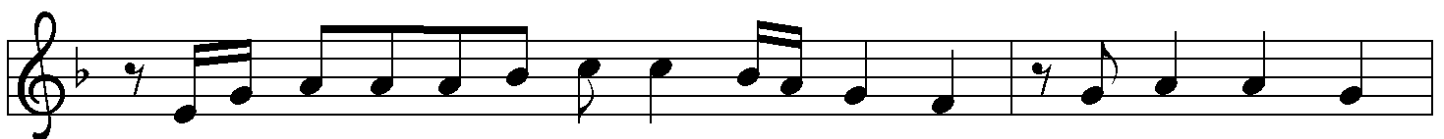
we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



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.

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

A reading from Zephaniah.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
“The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm.”

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD’s wrath;

in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90:1-7

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

***²Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.***

³You turn us back to the dust and say,
“Turn back, O children of earth.”

***⁴For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night;***

⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass

***⁶in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.***

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A reading from 1st Thessalonians.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For

you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, word of life.
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 25:14-30

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the 25th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your

talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’²⁶ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?’²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, O Christ.*

LITTLE ONE’S TIME

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

faithful steward

We stand.

HYMN

For the Fruit of All Creation

Welch Traditional/OneLicense #30684



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition:

*Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and 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.

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." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship.

Friendship pads are located in the pews. Please take a moment to sign the forms so that we may get to know our neighbors and we will also have a record of your communing.

ANTHEM

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

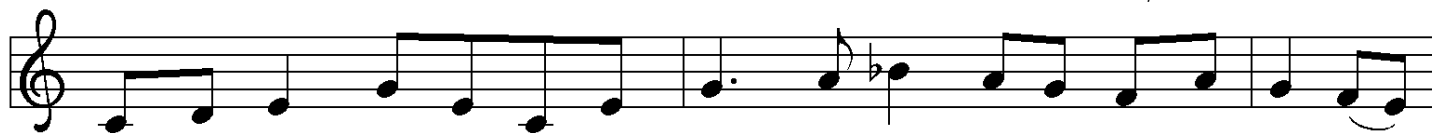
Elvey/OneLicense #92139

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Hillert/OneLicense #37488



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

***God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.***

***We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.***

***Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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.

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 to everlasting life.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed...

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

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

We sit.

COMMUNION

Please come forward using the center aisle to receive communion. You will receive the bread and then you may dip in the first chalice of wine, or in the second chalice of grape juice. You may then return to your pews using the outside aisles. Please return to your pews for a time of quiet prayer and meditation.

MUSIC

For the Beauty of the Earth

Kocher/OneLicense #592e04d2ec7d1

We stand.

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.

*Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. *Amen.*

HYMN

Give Thanks

Smith/CCLI #20285



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

The children are invited to meet pastor Gina in the center aisle as we are dismissed. The children will go to Music class and then be taken to their Sunday school classes.

POSTLUDE

The Blessing

Brown, Carnes, Jobe, Furtick/CCLI #7147007

The Lord bless you — and keep you,
 make his face shine — up - on — you and be gra - cious — to you.
 The Lord turn his — face toward you and give you peace. .
 — A - men, a -
 -men, a - men. A - men, a -
 -men, a - men. D.C. || D.S. |
 -men, a - men. - men.

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

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 altar flowers that beautify the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jerry R Price, Sr. by the Price Families.

Annual Congregational Meeting – 10:30 this morning in the Fellowship Hall.

TITHES AND OFFERING

11/12/2023

In-person Worship 98 + Live Stream Worship 89 = 187

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|------------|
| Current & Benevolent | Received | \$5,145.20 |
| Building Fund | Received | \$885.00 |
| Building Improvement | Received | \$250.00 |

Honorariums and Memorials

To the Glory of God and in memory of our folks birthdays, Margie & Bethea by Myra and Carl

To the Glory of God and in memory of **Rev. Dr. Derald Edwards** and **Rev. Norton Rosebrock** by Herb Bucknam

In memory of Pastor Edwards by Mary & Earl Sease

| YTD October 2023 | Income | Expense | Over (Short) |
|----------------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Current Mission Plan | 188,568.47 | 197,884.35 | (9,316.18) |
| Building Fund | 57,005.02 | 49,544.80 | 7,460.22 |
| Bldg Improvement | 19,553.79 | 16,665.51 | 2,888.28 |

SERVING IN WORSHIP

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Ushers: | Larry Amick | Kirby Johnson |
| | Kay Bryant | Connor Eargle |
| Crucifer: | Sydney Bucknam | Mackenzie Burns |
| Acolyte: | Chanler Coppens | Brayden Morris |
| Lector: | Scottie Marsh | Kirby Johnson |
| Communion Assts: | Larry Amick | Mackenzie Burns |
| | Kay Bryant | Brayden Morris |
| | Sydney Bucknam | Kirby Johnson |
| | Chanler Coppens | Hayden Eargle |
| | Scottie Marsh | Lynn Bouknight |
| Nursery: | Charlene Corley | Leah Rawl |
| | DJ Plummer | Brittany Allen |
| Flowers: | Price Families | Arron Kinard |

SERVING IN NOVEMBER

COUNCIL REP: Jeff Price

ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Price

TABULATORS: Ann Addy, Mary Frances Sease

USHERS: Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman

AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Brandon Donaldson, Marie Gardner

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MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayers

Patricia Bachman, *Generations*

Alberta Berry, *home*

Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place*

Bobby & Doris Carver, *Presby Home*

Eldon Eargle, *National Healthcare*

James Hallman, *Lakeside Place*

Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*

Gene Sexton, *National Healthcare*

Gloria Mathis, *home*

Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*

Tom Roof, *home*

Cyndi Thurman, *home*

Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bonnie Bouknight

Chris Carroll

Easton Donaldson

Georgianna Gray

Dot Mathias

Gene Schofield

Jane Sexton

Jim Whitaker

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayers

Paul Garner, *friend of Robert Haygood*

Debbie Browning, *Sister of Donna Kirkpatrick*

Mrs. William L. Coleman Jr (Carolyn), *friends of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart*

Jaimie Womack, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*

Dale Miller, *son-in-law Wynne and Mary Price*

Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*

John Catoe, *family of Ellisors*

Dawn McIlwain-Merck, *friend of Robin Ellisor*

Mike Ondera, *friend of Sherwood Garrett*

Molly Kate Shealy, *friend of Jean Shealy*

Chuck Bachman, *nephew of Jean Shealy*

Jeff Tarlton, *friend of Michelle Gantt*

Carleton Morse, *father of Cyndi Leaphart*

Martha Williamson, *sister of Frank Bouknight*

Jay Sox, *Papa of Brayden Rutherford and Dylan Whitaker*

Ann Piercy, *friend of Kathy and Jim Whitaker*

Jeff Reid, *friend of Jan Schofield*

Stephanie Alewine Hopper, *friend of David & Scottie Marsh*

Vicki Boozer, *friend of David & Scottie Marsh*

Stetson Cooper, *grandson of Shirley & Dan Cooper*

Cindy Maples, *mother of Jennifer Miller*

Lewis Turner, *friend of Jo Leach*

Dr. Kay Moore, *friend, and co-worker of Cyndi Leaphart*

Josh Jackson, *friend of Joel Price, Jr.*

Brannon Yonce, *friend of Michelle Gantt*

Katy Madigan, *friend of Marie Carroll*

Billy Huckabee, *friend of Danny Scott*

Ken Brock, *friend of Kathy Cooper*

Jamie Spell, *friend of David Marsh*

Logan Wittwer, *friend of Jessica Goodwin & Cameron Blakely*

Kamryn and Naveah, *friends of Sheila Starkey*

Please note that this prayer list will be updated soon and those who you wish to remain on the list, please send an email to office@WeAreMtHermon.com

NEXT WEEK'S EVENT

Sunday, November 26th

- 9:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am MR: Children's Choir
- 10:30 am Sunday School

Monday, November 27th

- 6:30 pm CR: Worship Team

Tuesday, November 28th

- 6:30 pm CR: Support Team

Wednesday, November 29th

- 9:00 am Food Pantry (Diane & Parker Boulware, Mary Price)
- 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 30th

- 9:00 am Sole Stepping, Cayce Elementary

Saturday, December 2nd

- 9:00 am Food Pantry (Laura & Al Stevens)
- 10:00 am Shock and Claus





WeAreMtHermon

www.WeAreMtHermon.com

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Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 1:00pm

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Pastor@WeAreMtHermon.com

Svetlana Royal, Director of Music

Music@WeAreMtHermon.com

open, Parish Administrator

803.794.6430

Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Blake Allen, President

Frankie Jackson, Vice President

Sheila Eargle, Secretary

Parker Boulware, Treasurer

Annette Price/Karen Nicholson, Financial Secretary

Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, Sextons

THIS WEEK'S EVENT

Sunday, November 19th

9:00 am Worship

10:15 am MR: Children's Choir

10:30 am Congregational Meeting

5:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Worship/Meal
Food Drive ends

Monday, November 20th

6:00 pm CR: Outreach Team

Wednesday, November 22nd

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

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday – Friday office will be closed Happy Thanksgiving

Saturday, November 25th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Wayne & Charlene Corley)