

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



SEPTEMBER 6, 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

Wayfaring Stranger

Mark Hayes

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

When I Can Read My Title Clear

Mark Hayes

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


I Was Glad

W&P 68

Refrain



I was glad when they said to me, "Let us



go to the house of the Lord." I was glad when they



said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

1 Called from ev - 'ry na - tion, called from ev - 'ry race,
 2 Words that must be spo - ken, grace that must be heard,
 3 Here the poor are wel - comed, here the lost are claimed.

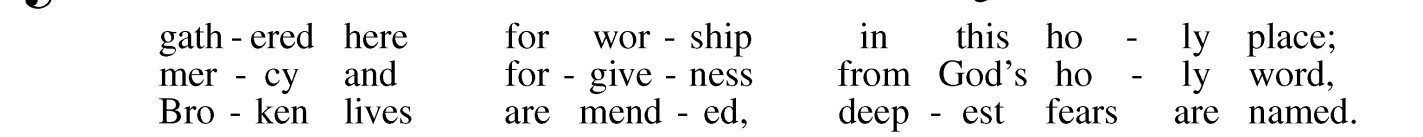


gath - ered here for wor - ship in this ho - ly place;
 mer - cy and for - give - ness from God's ho - ly word,
 Bro - ken lives are mend - ed, deep - est fears are named.



God is here a - mong us, lift your hearts and sing,
 here will be re - peat - ed; peace to all pro - claimed,
 Here the wise are child - ren and the weak are strong.

Refrain



make the walls and raf - ters ring.
 shout - ed out in Je - sus' name.
 Here, in Christ, we all be - long.

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.



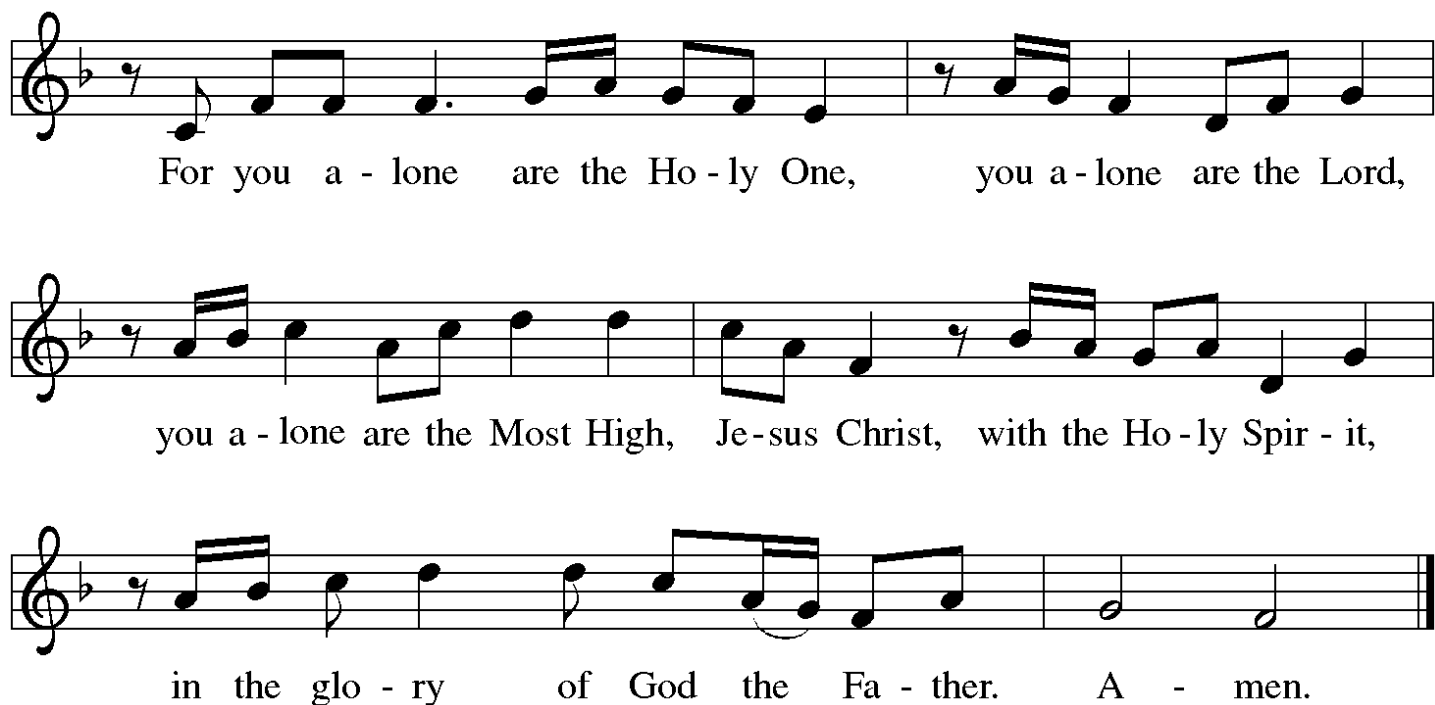
Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



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.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

A reading from Ezekiel.

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you

warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:33-40

³³Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

³⁶Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.

³⁷Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.

³⁸Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.

³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.

READING: Romans 13:8-14

A reading from Romans.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 18:15-20

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

We sit.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

BLESSING OF STUDENTS, TEACHERS, & STAFF

(All teachers, students, staff, and others involved in education please come to the front of the sanctuary.)

God is the source of all wisdom and knowledge. Let us ask him to bless those who seek to learn and their teachers.

Fill us with your wisdom, Lord.

For students as they begin this new school year, that the Spirit of God may grant them the gifts of wisdom and understanding, let us pray to the Lord.

Fill us with your wisdom, Lord.

For teachers, that they may share their knowledge with gentleness, patience, and concern for their students, let us pray to the Lord.

Fill us with your wisdom, Lord.

For those who seek knowledge of the things of this world, that they may always pursue God's wisdom, let us pray to the Lord.

Fill us with your wisdom, Lord.

For parents, the first teachers of their children, that their faith and love may be an example to us always, let us pray to the Lord.

Fill us with your wisdom, Lord.

For this congregation and the generosity of purchasing school supplies for students. That the students receiving these supplies may be equipped as other students.

Fill us with your wisdom, Lord.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

We pray, Eternal God, Creator of Heaven and Earth, you formed us in your image and gave us the ability to reason and learn. In your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. As we begin this new school year, bless all those who seek to learn: Children, youth, adults, faculty, teachers, and all educational staff.

Bless those who prepare the learning environment: Teachers, teacher's assistants, principals, counselors, coaches, secretaries, tutors, cooks, custodians, nurses, bus drivers, and crossing guards. Bless those who support students: Parents, grandparents, and this church community. Bless each with travel mercies and make each school a place of compassion and safety.

Teacher and Redeemer, we consecrate these backpacks, and ... in your Holy Name and to your glory. We pray your blessing upon those who give them and those who will receive them. May generation upon generation be blessed by these gifts. Let each person who stands before us now feel the love and support of this congregation and grant us all the wisdom and means to meet their needs throughout the coming year.

Sustainer of us all, help us to grow in your wisdom and in your ways. Remind us that your truth sets us free to learn and to love. Grant that, during this academic year, each student and each teacher may devote themselves to their studies and share what they have learned from others. By your Spirit of Wisdom, keep us open to your Word and ways. In the name of Jesus, we pray. ***Amen.***

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

Reconciliation in community

HYMN

Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

LBW 419



1. Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace To love all
2. Break down the wall that would di - vide Your chil - dren,
3. For - give me, Lord, where I have erred By love - less
4. Give me your cour - age, Lord, to speak When - ev - er
5. With your own love may I be filled And by your



peo - ple, ev - 'ry race To see each mor - tal as I
 Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bor's good let me pur -
 act and thought-less word. Make me to see the wrong I
 strong op - press the weak. Should I my - self as vic - tim
 Ho - ly Spir - it willed, That all whose lives are touched by



ought, My kin - dred, whom your love has bought.
 sue, Let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
 do Will cru - ci - fy my Lord a - new.
 live, Re - mem - b'ring you, may I for - give.
 mine, May know your heal - ing touch di - vine.

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

Jesus, Name Above All Names Hearn/Wilson

We stand.

OFFERTORY

You Are My Hiding Place

W&P 160

*1**
Am Dm⁷ G G/B

You are my hid - ing place; you al - ways

Csus C G/B F/A Dm

fill my heart with songs of de - liv - er - ance. When -

Esus E ²Am

ev - er I am a - fraid I will trust in you,

Dm⁷ G G/B C G/B

I will trust in you. Let the weak say,

F/A Dm *To repeat* Esus E

"I am strong in the strength of the Lord."

Last time Esus E Am

strength of the Lord, I will trust in 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.

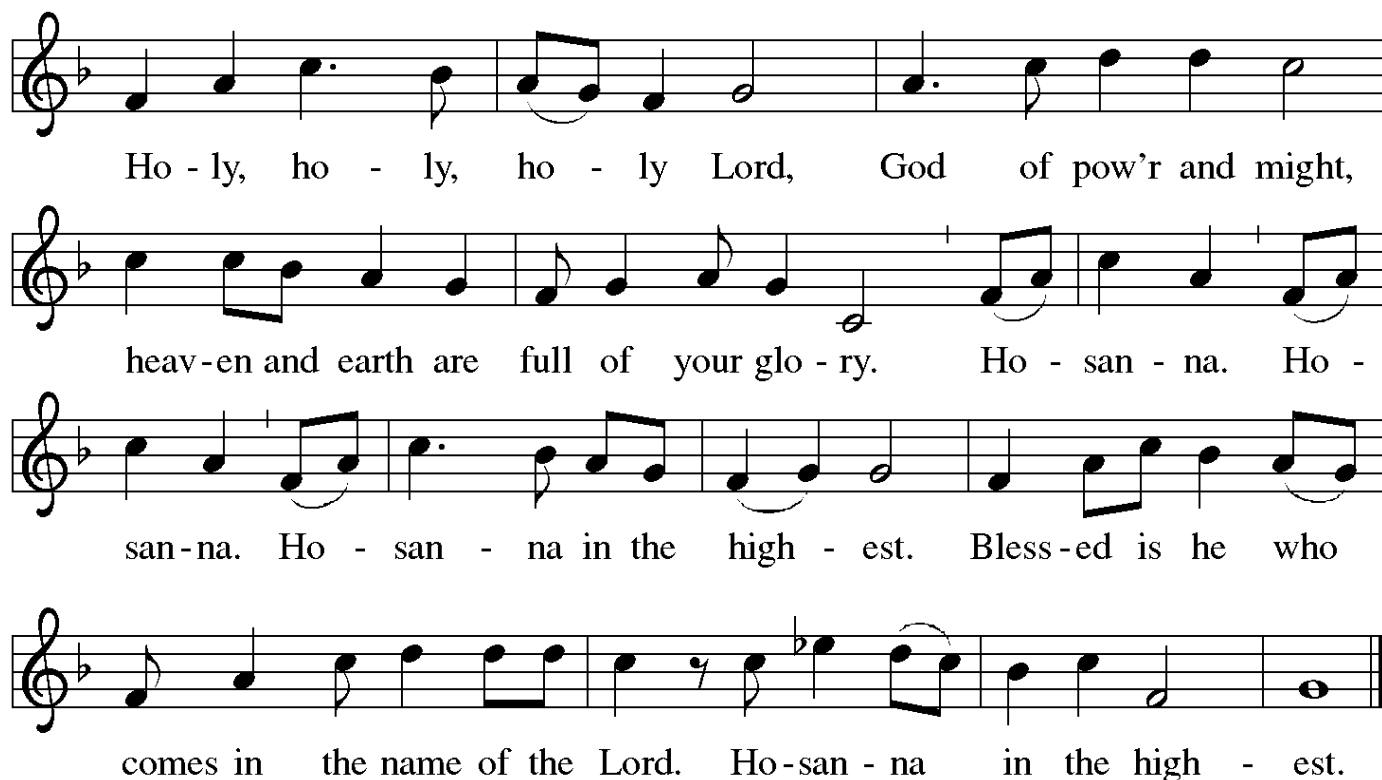
We lift them to the Lord.

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*Create In Me A Clean Heart*

W&P 34

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of eight staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many notes beamed together in groups of four or six. There are several measures with rests, particularly at the beginning of some lines. The score ends with a double bar line on the eighth staff.

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.

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.

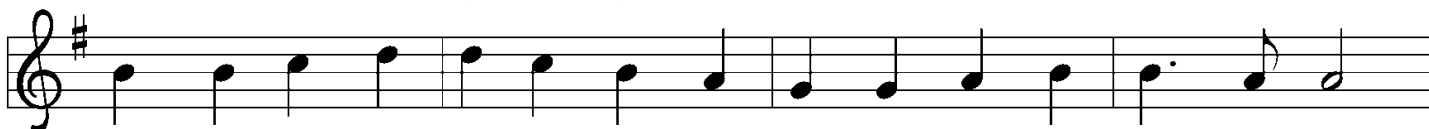
There is no time that God does not love you.

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

HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW 836



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Oh, That I Had A Thousand Voices* Burkhardt

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Hayden Eargle, Wayne Eargle, and Iris House's birthdays by Wayne, Sheila, Connor and Hayden Eargle.

*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.



**Drive-In Blessing of Backpacks
Sunday, Sept 6th**

10:30 - 1:00



We would like to thank our Mt. Hermon Church family for the prayers, cards, phone calls and other acts of kindness shown to us during our illness. Thank you Pastor Gina for your prayers for our healing. It is great to have a caring church family.

*Love,
Clifton & Ann*

Tithes, and Offering for 08/30/2020

Live Stream Worship – 117+

Coffee, Food & Fellowship – 20

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$3,949.40
Building Improvement	Received	\$189.00
Growing on Holy Ground	Received	\$535.00
Live Streaming This Week		\$50.00
Live Streaming Total Rec'd		\$5,488.27

Honorariums and Memorials (all funds)

In memory of Jimmy Bouknight by Karen Nicholson, Eldon Eargle, Annette Price

In memory of Freddie Fulmer by Cindy & Joel Price, Annette 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>

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MT HERMON PRAYS ...

Homebound and Care Facilities

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

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*
Sarah Hiltz, *granddaughter of Buddy & Angie Hydrick*
Clara Shultz, *friend of Sheila Starkey*
Debbie Smith & family, *niece of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman*

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, September 13th 15th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream

10:30 am Sunday School 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)



24 pack crayons, colored pencils, markers, dry erase markers

Pencil pouches, pencil boxes

Scissors, glue sticks, dry erase erasers

Earbuds, headphones

3-ring binders (1.5"), wide rule notebook paper

Composition books, dividers, bookbags

Tissues, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes



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 6th 14th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream
10:30 - 1:00 pm Drive-In Communion and
Blessing of Backpacks



Tuesday, September 8th

1:00 pm Staff Meeting
6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, September 9th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Frank & Bonnie Bouknight)

Friday, September 10th

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

Saturday, September 12th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Lynn Bouknight & Karen Nicholson)
School Supplies Drive Ends