

ASH WEDNESDAY

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.
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 ...

IMPOSITION OF ASHES IN PARKING LOT

PRAYER

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world. By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior, bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection. Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

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

Kyrie, Gott heilige Geist

J.S. Bach Public Domain

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

We stand and face the baptismal font.

We gather for worship this Ash Wednesday in the name of the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

Public Domain



- 1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his blood for me,
- 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love! High - er than the heav'ns a - bove,
- 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part balm to heal the wound - ed heart,
- 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
- 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford by your Spir - it and your word!



died that I might live on high, lives that I might nev - er die.
deep - er than the depths of sea, last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty.
peace that flows from sin for - giv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
all my wants to him are known, all my sor - rows are his own.
When my way - ward heart would stray, keep me in the nar - row way;



As the branch is to the vine, I am his, and he is mine.
Love that found me—won-drous thought—found me when I sought him not.
faith and hope to walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.
He sus - tains the hid - den life safe with him from earth - ly strife.
grace in time of need sup - ply while I live and when I die.

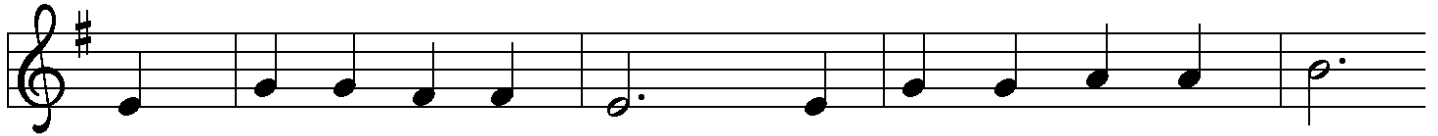
GREETING

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.

KYRIE

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- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness 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

READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

A reading from Joel.

¹Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near ²a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and

thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. ¹²Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. ¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? ¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. ¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51:1-17

Read responsively.

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

***⁶Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.***

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

***⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have
broken may rejoice.***

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

***¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right
spirit within me.***

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

***¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.***

¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.

***¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation, and
my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.***

¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

***¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.***

¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a troubled and broken
heart, O God, you will not despise.

READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

A reading from 2nd Corinthians.

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. ^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

²For he says, “At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in

anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

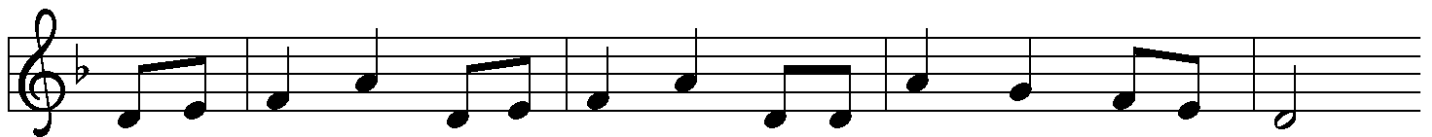
The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 6th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

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

Find what fills your heart

We stand.

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

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1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

We sit.

INVITATION TO LENT

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' Passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

We remain seated.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Most holy and merciful God,

we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

Men: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Women: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

All: Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Men: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Women: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Men: Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Women: Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

All: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great. 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

Kyrie Eleison

David Huntsinger © 2011 by Huntsinger Music (BMI)

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Create in Me A Clean Heart

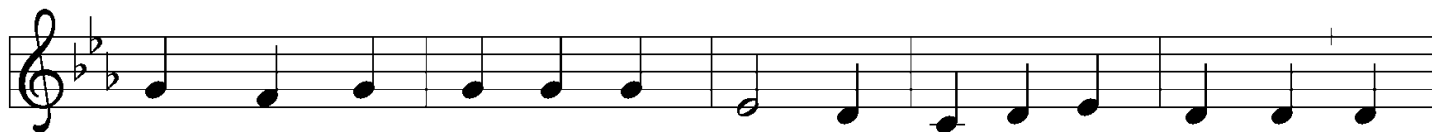
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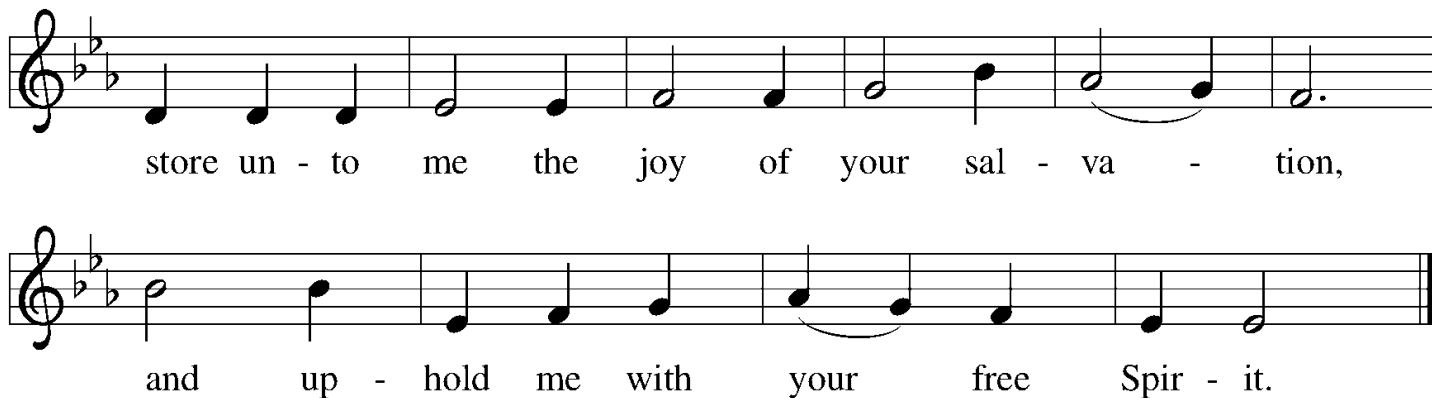
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your



pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -



store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

Faithful God,

you walk beside us in desert places,

and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.

Accompany us in this meal,

that we may pass over from death to life

with 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.

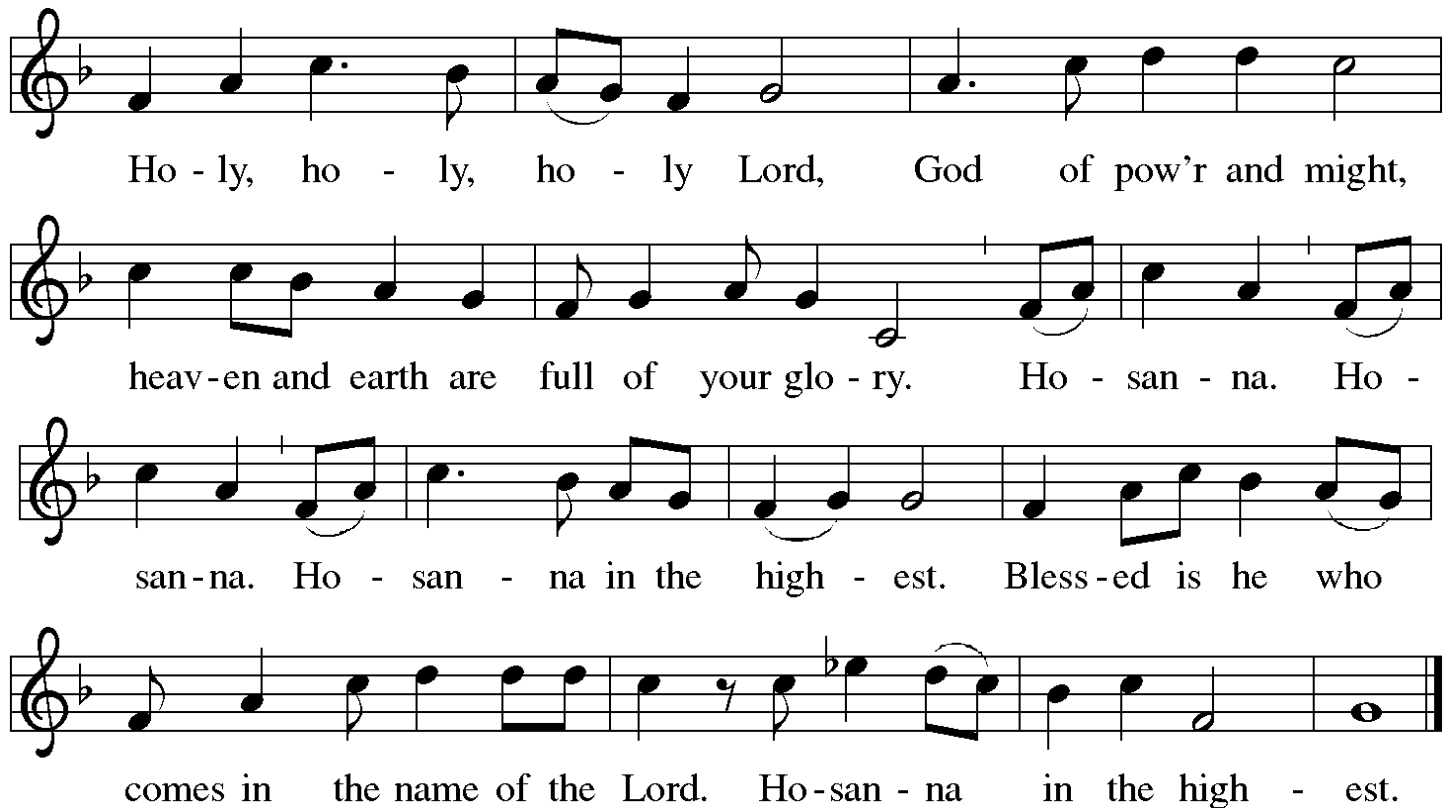
PREFACE

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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:

SANCTUS

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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...

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, O God, 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

Jesus draws the whole world to himself.

Come to this meal and be fed.

Drive-In Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sunday from 10:30-12:00. You may also call the church office and schedule an additional time to receive communion.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN

Lamb of God
Paris ©CCLI #16787

Verse 1

Your only Son no sin to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Chorus

Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

Verse 2

Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned Him as He died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God

Chorus

Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

Verse 3

I was so lost I should have died
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God

Chorus

Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness.

Men: Be of good courage.

Women: Hold fast to that which is good.

Men: Render to no one evil for evil.

Women: Strengthen the fainthearted.

Men: Support the weak.

Women: Help the afflicted.

Men: Honor all people.

Women: Love and serve God.

Men: Rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God.

We sit. We are dismissed beginning from the rear by the ushers. Please remember to socially distance yourselves as you exit the sanctuary.

POSTLUDE

Pange lingua

Callahan ©1991 CPH.org used by permission

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of Spencer Price's 12th birthday. Love, Mom, Dad and Jackson



Sunday Evening Lenten Services

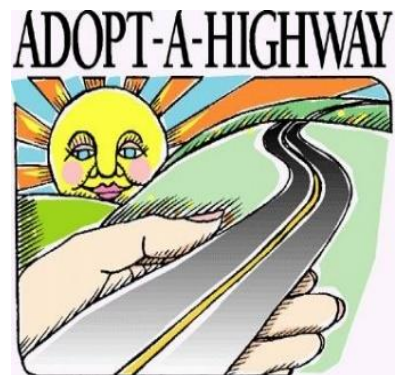
6:30 pm

In-person and LiveStreamed

Saturday, February 20th

9:00 am

Church Parking Lot



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MT HERMON PRAYS ...

Continual Prayers

Patricia Bachman, *Carolina Gardens*
Alberta Berry, *home*
Hazel Bockus, *Carolina Gardens*
Lyle Bockus, *Springdale Home*
Nell Buff, *home*
Margie Hook, *home*

Gennar Kiser, *home*
Rev. Everette Price, *home*
June Roof, *Rapha*
Tom Roof, *home*
Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Buddy Hydrick Jo Leach Marvin Mathias Jane Sexton

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*
Lois Moore & family, *family of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman*
Bill Harrell, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*
Don Morris, *father of Keith Morris*
Richie Tallent, *friend of Danny Scott*
Mandy McLemore, *co-worker of Amanda Boyd, Kim Addy, & Alyson Price*
John Catoe, *family of Ellisors*
Sherri Crapps, *sister-in-law of Linda Waters-Hamilton*
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*
Charlotte & Paul Nelson, *friends of Herb Bucknam*
Richard Lindler, *friend of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart*
Robert Lindler, *father of Cassie Swygert*
Bob Eastwood, *brother-in-law of Marie Kleckley*
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*
Kathy Brown, *friend of congregation*
Donnie Shumpert, *brother-in-law of Andrea Bowers & Jan Schofield*
Tressa Oswalt, *sister of Angie Hydrick*
Don Cope, *friend of Ricky & Fran Bouknight*
The Logan Sharpe family, *teammate/friend of Skyler Miller*
Don Freeman, *friend of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart*
Jessica Drigger's mother, *friend of Denise Thurman*
Pineview Baptist Church, *Community Church*



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@WeAreMtHermon.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

Friday, February 19th

12:00 pm Bulletins will be in mailboxes

Saturday, February 20th

9:00 am Adopt-A-Highway – Church Parking Lot
9:00am – 5:00pm Lutheran Men Convention
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
1715 Bull St., Columbia SC 29201
9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Lynn Bouknight & Karen Nicholson)

Sunday, February 21st – First Sunday in Lent

9:00 am Worship – In-person and Live Stream
10:30 – 12:00 Drive-In Communion
3:00 pm Confirmation Class via Zoom
6:30 pm Lenten Service – In-person and Live Stream



The **Food Pantry needs any size diapers** (adult & children). Please consider adding them to your shopping list. *Thank you!*