

A photograph of a field of cosmos flowers. The foreground is filled with numerous pink cosmos flowers, some in full bloom and others as buds. A few taller, yellow cosmos flowers are visible in the upper left. The background is a clear, light blue sky. The text "Blessed is she who believes in the Lord." is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Blessed is she who
believes in the Lord.

MAY 10, 2020

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As broken children, we begin worship by acknowledging our sinfulness and asking for God's forgiveness.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace and glory,
you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

Rejoice with all creation around God's throne!
The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds,
washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen,
casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride.
Jesus Christ loves you and † frees you from your sins by his blood.
To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!
Amen.

HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing ELW 807



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



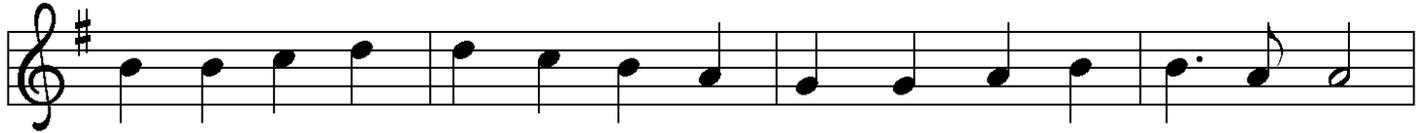
teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

READING: Acts 7:55-60

A reading from Acts.

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MUSIC

My Life Is In You, Lord

Gardner

READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

A reading from 1st Peter.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸and “A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

Abiding places

HYMN

Step by Step

W&P 132

D(no3) G G² G D/F# D C/E C/D
O God, you are my God, and I will ev - er praise

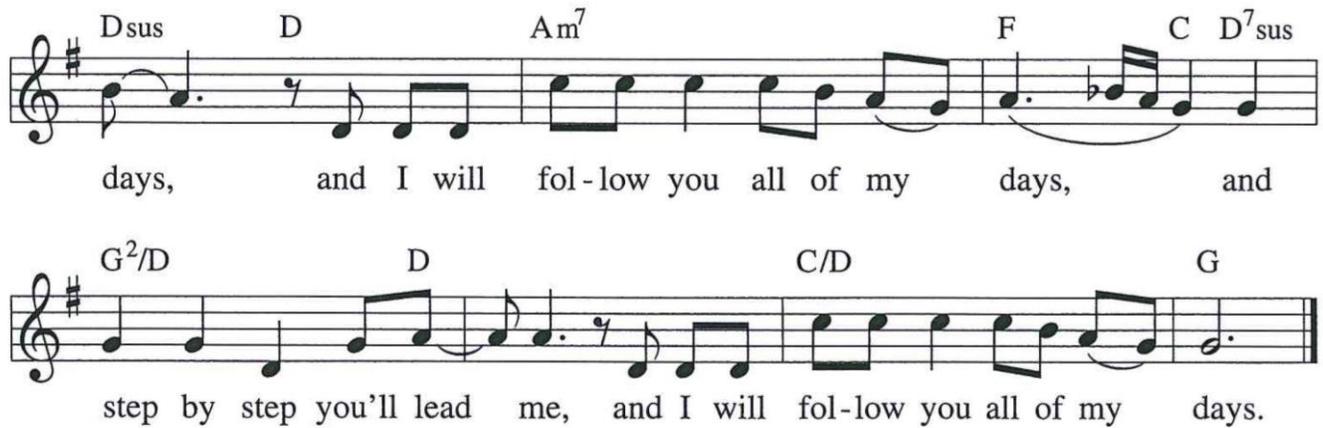
G D(no3) G G² D/F# D
you. O God, you are my God, and

C/E C/D G G² G Em C/E Em
I will ev - er praise you. I will seek you in the morn-

Dsus D Am/E Am/C Am
- ing, and I will learn to walk in your ways, and

G G² G D/F# D C/D Am/D D⁷sus
step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol - low you all of my

¹G D(no3) ²G G² G Em
days. O days, and I will fol - low you all of my



D^{sus} D Am⁷ F C D^{7sus}
 days, and I will fol-low you all of my days, and
 G^{2/D} D C/D G
 step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol-low you all of my days.

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

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition: Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

The Prayers conclude:

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; 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.mthlc.org and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship. Please also take this time in worship to complete the pew registers.

OFFERING	<i>Near to the Heart of God / Children of the Heavenly Father</i>	Adams
-----------------	---	-------

We stand.

OFFERTORY	<i>Purify My Heart</i>	Nelson
------------------	------------------------	--------

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

***Merciful God,
our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration,
but you make of them an abundance,
just as you do with our lives.
Feed us again with this meal for service
in your name in the strength of the risen Christ.
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. The true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, 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 and 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.

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

You are invited to call the church office and schedule a time for communion distribution.

MUSIC

*Near to the Heart of God /
Children of the Heavenly Father*

Adams

THE SENDING

BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. ***Amen.***

HYMN*Now the Green Blade Rises*

ELW 379



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

DISMISSAL

Christ is Risen!

*He is risen, Indeed! Alleluia!***MUSIC***May the Lord Bless and Keep You*

Sexton

POSTLUDE*Down to the River to Pray*

Hayes

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of our mothers, Linda Waters Hamilton and Annette Price, and our daughter, Tiffany Price Kaylor, on this Mother's Day! Also given in honor of our son, Jerry Ryan Price, III, college graduation from Anderson University. *Love, Ryan and Jennifer Price*

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MUSICIANS AND VOCALISTS who lead worship: Regan Anthony, Daryl Leigh Anthony, Wynne Price, Joel Price, Ryan Price and Belle Kneece. Also, thanks to the **LIVE STREAM PRODUCTION CREW:** Sheila Starkey and Breanna Metze.



Tithes, and Offering for 05/03/2020
Live Stream Worship – 124+
Drive-In Communion – 78

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$12,444,26
Building Improvement	Received	\$348.55
Growing on Holy Ground	Received	\$3,180.00

Honorariums and Memorials (all funds)

In memory of Ernie Swygert by Clifton & Ann Addy, Faye Sox, Jeff & Alyson Price, Joel & Cindy Price, Buddy & Angie Hydrick, Parker & Diane Boulware, Steve & Kelly Jo Swygert, Henry & Joyce Meetze, Frank & Linda Yonce, Rev. & Mrs. J. Hilton Roof, Barr-Price Funeral Homes, Ricky & Fran Bouknight, Bobby & Doris Carver, Ann Bouknight, Dot Mathias, Linda Waters-Hamilton, Karen Nicholson, Earl & Mary Frances Sease, Pam Cutter, Warren & Margaret Christmus, Robert & Chris Power

In memory of Doris Marsh, David's mother, by Clifton & Ann Addy, Jeff & Alyson Price, Parker & Diane Boulware, Bobby & Doris Carver, Ann Bouknight, Ronnie & Debbie Fulmer, Dot Mathias, Linda Waters-Hamilton, Earl & Mary Frances Sease

In memory of Roy Lindler by Faye Sox

In honor of Pastor Gina for all you do by Gene & Jane Sexton

In memory of Stephen Price by Terry & Allison Swygert

In memory of Amelia Gardner by Marie Gardner



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 ...

**everyone who has been affected by the virus and sickness*

Homebound and Care Facilities

Nell Buff, *Home*

Patricia Bachman, *Carolina Gardens*

Hazel Bockus, *Carolina Gardens*

Lynwood Crout, *Home*

Tom & June Roof, *Home*

Margie Hook, *Home*

Lois Watson, *Lexington Place*

Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home*

Rev. Everette Price, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Alberta Berry

Parker Boulware

Connie Bucknam

Lila Catt

Gene Schofield

Jeff Bucknam, *deployed*

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 Backman, *nephew of Jean Shealy*

Floyd Fuller, *uncle of David Marsh*

Dawn McIlwain-Merck, *friend of Robin Ellisor*

Gary & Linda Hodgins, *friends of Herb & Connie 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 & Connie Bucknam*

Mary Frances Hamilton, *friend of congregation*

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*

Todd Hewitt, *friend of Missy Addy*

Sherri Crapps, *sister-in-law of Linda Waters-Hamilton*

Megan Sease, *granddaughter of Earl & Mary Frances Sease*

Jane Park, *friend of Pastor Gina & Dion*

Jean Wooten, *friend of Linda Waters-Hamilton*

Tommy Roof, *son of Tom & June Roof*

Martha Eastwood, *sister of Marie Kleckley*

Eric Powell, *friend of Kim Fulmer*

Jason Wardlaw, *friend of congregation*

Dan Tinman, *friend of congregation*

*Iris House, *mother of Debbie Fulmer*

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, May 17th Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream

10:30 - 1:00 Drive Up Communion

Wednesday, May 20th

9:00 – 12:00 Food Pantry

Friday, May 22th

9:00 am – 12:00 Food Pantry

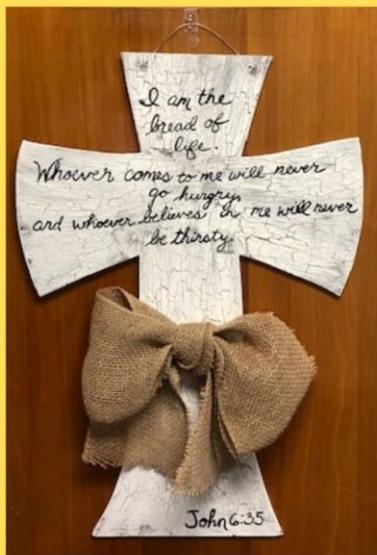
12:00 noon Sunday's Bulletins will be in the mailboxes

Sunday, May 17th Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream

10:30 am Sunday School via Zoom

If you participated in a previous Zoom Sunday School, you will automatically be sent a link each week. If you would like to join us, send an email to PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com and a link will be emailed to you.



Evening
devotions
6:35 pm

Join the FaceBook
community
for a time of
daily reflection.

Pastor Gina



Website: mthlc.org
3011 Leaphart Road
West Columbia, SC 29169
office@mthlc.org 803.794.6430
Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor* 803.951.3784 PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com
Ruthie Brannen, *Director of Music* RuthieBrannen@gmail.com
Susan LaCons, *Parish Administrator* 803.794.6430 office@mthlc.org

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Ronnie Fulmer, *President* Marion Leaphart, *Vice President*
Robin Ellisor, *Secretary* Parker Boulware, *Treasurer*
Annette Price, *Financial Secretary* Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, *Sextons*

Sunday, May 10th Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream

10:30 am Sunday School via Zoom

If you participated in a previous Zoom Sunday School, you will automatically be sent a link each week. If you would like to join us, send an email to PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com and a link will be emailed to you.

Wednesday, May 13th

9:00 – 12:00 Food Pantry

Friday, May 15th

9:00 am – 12:00 Food Pantry

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

Sunday, May 17th Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream

10:30 - 1:00 Drive Up Communion