

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

*Jesus asks,
"How many
loaves do you
have?"*

Matthew 15:34

JANUARY 28, 2024

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

Now Let Us Rejoice

Tucker/Jackman Email Permission

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

**Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
creator of darkness and light,
word and truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.**

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

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

Silence for reflection.

**God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you.
We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.
We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.
Remember your covenant.
Renew your creation.
Restore us,
that we might proclaim your good news to all.
Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.
God has spoken:
The time of grace is now.
In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.
By the authority of † Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
You are God's beloved.
Amen.

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

HYMN

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

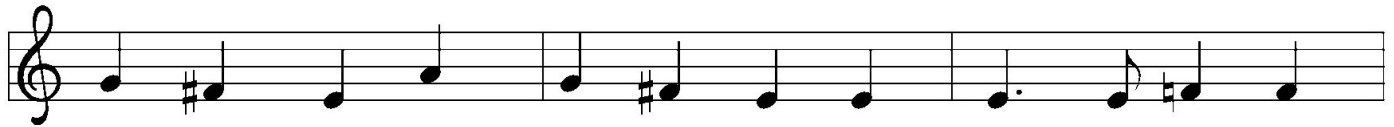
Public Domain



1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the
2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in



rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its
mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and
dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we
calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we
tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

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

Augsburg Fortress #SB153820



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

God of miracles and relationships, you called the disciples by name. You knew them and you know us. Use us like you used them to spread the gospel, as we pray to the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

Matthew 15:21-39

A reading from the gospel of Matthew..

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

²⁹After Jesus had left that place, he passed along the Sea of Galilee, and he went up the mountain, where he sat down. ³⁰Great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the maimed, the blind, the mute, and many others. They put them at his feet, and he cured them, ³¹so that the

crowd was amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.

³²Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way." ³³The disciples said to him, "Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?" ³⁴Jesus asked them, "How many loaves have you?" They said, "Seven, and a few small fish." ³⁵Then ordering the crowd to sit down on the ground, ³⁶he took the seven loaves and the fish; and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ³⁷And all of them ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. ³⁸Those who had eaten were four thousand men, besides women and children. ³⁹After sending away the crowds, he got into the boat and went to the region of Magadan.

The Word lives among us. ***We hear the Word.***

We sit.

LITTLE ONE'S TIME

eating twice

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

feeding of 4,000

We stand.

HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Allen/OneLicense #150288



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

We sit.

PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH

Rich and Elaine Clawson, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

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

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

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

APOSTLES' CREED

Rich and Elaine, and this community, I ask you to profess your faith.

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living
and the dead.*

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,*

*the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of light."

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

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

We are Surrounded

Martin, Williams/OneLicense#217669

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.
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.

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

Blessed are you, Holy One,

for all good things come from you.

In bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek

and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. 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 and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. By the leading of the star he was shown forth to all nations, in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine, he revealed your glory. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

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

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.

Come, take your place at the table.

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

Healer of Our Every Ill

Haugen/OneLicense#00115

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.

***Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever. Amen.***

THE SENDING

BLESSING

God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
✠ bless you and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

HYMN

You are My Hiding Place

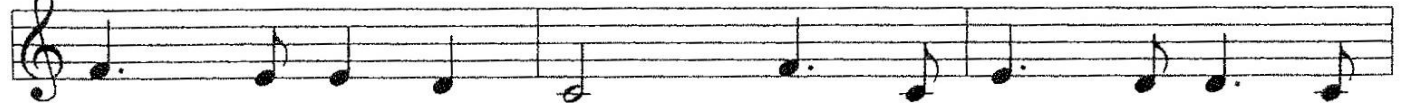
Ledner/CCLI#21442

*1**
Am Dm⁷ G G/B



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

Csus C G/B F/A Dm



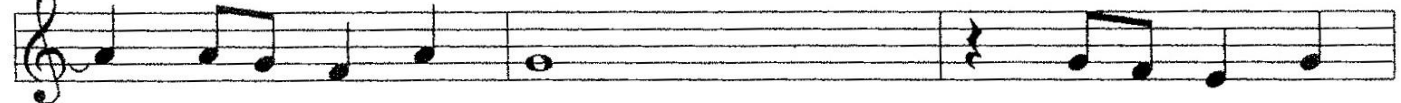
fill my heart with songs of de - liv - er - ance. When -

Esus E ² Am




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."

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. — 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.

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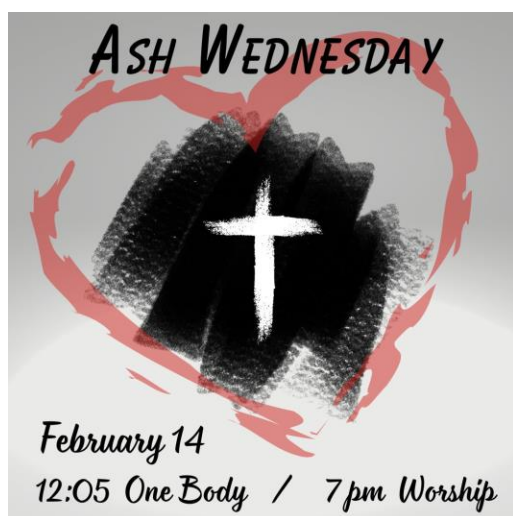
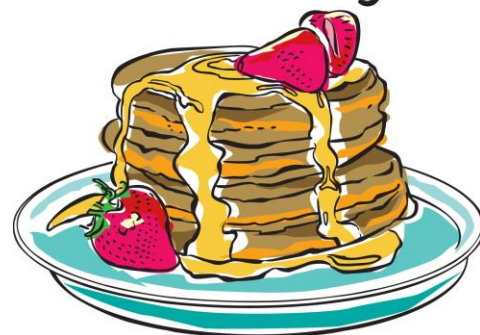


## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory God and in memory of our son, Stephen, whose 50<sup>th</sup> birthday was January 18<sup>th</sup> by Mary and Wynne Price.

**Shrove Tuesday** will be celebrated on Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Along with the pancake meal and burning of the palms there will be a time for learning about the origins and meanings of the celebration. We will have a “pancake“ walk, a flipping of pancakes in a frying pan race, & some dancing. Plan to attend and enjoy the last festival on the day before Lent begins.

Shrove  
Tuesday



We begin to prepare our hearts for Easter on **Ash Wednesday** (also Valentine's Day this year!). You can receive Ashes in the Parking Lot at 3011 Leaphart Road from 7 to 9 am, during One Body Worship at 12:05pm or at 7:00 pm, Worship in the Sanctuary.



# Time, Talents & Treasure

| YTD December 2023    | Income       | Expense    | Over (Short) |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Current Mission Plan | \$239,104.07 | 232,901.44 | 6,202.63     |
| Building Fund        | \$66,391.02  | 59,453.76  | 6,937.26     |
| Bldg Improvement     | \$22,649.65  | 18,286.94  | 4,362.71     |



WOW! Look at the numbers in the chart above. Together WE DID IT! We covered the expenses of 2023 in a BIG way! You gave to God's mission at Mt. Hermon and not only did we cover expenses for 2023, but we also begin the year with funds for additional ministries that may come up through the year. AND ALSO, you generously showered me with a LOVE offering. You are a generous and faithful community and I am honored to serve alongside you at #3011LeaphartRoad. God is up to some incredible, visible ministry here!



**2024 Weekend Retreat to Isle of Palms** was filled with energy as we reflected on 2023 ministries, and also dreamed of what 2024 might look like. We need you! Time and Talent sheets will be distributed at the beginning of Lent. As you reflect and redirect your lives during Lent, we ask you to reflect and commit to being part of the ministry of your passions. The teams are Care, Support, Outreach, Teach, and Worship & Music. We need you to be part of a team and serve God together as we “make a difference in the world.” See your newsletter for schedules of meetings and contact persons for the team.

# TITHES AND OFFERING

01/21/2024

**In-person Worship 59+31 + Live Stream 108 Worship = 198**

|                      |          |            |
|----------------------|----------|------------|
| Current & Benevolent | Received | \$1,780.35 |
| Building Fund        | Received | \$290.00   |
| Building Improvement | Received | \$10.00    |

## Honorariums and Memorials

In memory of my Dad - Dave Moyer by Diane Boulware

In memory of Diane Boulware's Dad, David Moyer and Eldon Eargle by Ryan and Jennifer Price

In memory of Eldon Eargle by Ann Bouknight



**2024 Flower Chart** is in the breezeway for you to give glory to God and to donate flowers in honor or memory of your loved one.

# MT HERMON PRAYS

## **Continual Prayers**

Patricia Bachman, *Generations*  
Alberta Berry, *home*  
Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place*  
Bobby & Doris Carver, *Presby Home*  
James Hallman, *Lakeside Place*  
Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*

Gene & Jane Sexton  
Gloria Mathis, *home*  
Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*  
Tom Roof, *home*  
Cyndi Thurman, *home*  
Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

## **Members in Special Need of Prayer**

Missy Addy            Bonnie Bouknight  
Georgianna Gray    Dot Mathias  
Jim Whitaker

Chris Carroll            Easton Donaldson  
Kelli Mills              Gene Schofield

## **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*  
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*  
Jamie Spell, *friend of David Marsh*  
Logan Wittwer, *friend of Jessica Goodwin & Cameron Blakely*  
Kamryn and Naveah, *friends of Sheila Starkey*  
Louise Cooper, *Kelli Mills*  
Hayes Wingard, *grandson of Kathy and Sam Cooper*  
Nigel Tetley, *friend of Sherwood*  
Paula Miller, *friend of Brittany Allen*  
\*Wayne Kneece, *uncle of Michelle Gantt*  
\*Dewin Rish, *friend of Michelle Gantt*  
\*Jody & Libby Ortmann, *lost their daughter, Sallie, on Christmas Day, Sallie was the "adopted daughter" of Fran Bouknight*  
\*Roger Spires, *friend of Chris Carroll*

*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*

# SERVING IN WORSHIP

|                  | 1/28/2024          | 2/4/2024        |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Ushers:          | Danny Scott        | Ronnie Fulmer   |
|                  | Jenny Scott        | Wayne Eargle    |
| Crucifer:        | Josh Koon          | Mackenzie Burns |
| Acolyte:         | Sam Koon           | Brayden Morris  |
| Lector:          | Danny Scott        | Wynne Price     |
| Communion Assts: | Danny Scott        | Mackenzie Burns |
|                  | Jenny Scott        | Brayden Morris  |
|                  | Josh Koon          | Wynne Price     |
|                  | Sam Koon           | Mary Price      |
|                  | Debbie Fulmer      | Ronnie Fulmer   |
| Nursery:         | Brittany Allen     | Noah Swygert    |
|                  | Alyson Price       | Cassie Swygert  |
| Flowers:         | Mary & Wynne Price | Herb Bucknam    |

## **SERVING IN JANUARY**

**LOCK-UP:** Dion Metze

**ALTAR GUILD:** Jennifer Price, Angie Hydrick

**TABULATORS:** Larry Amick, Angie Hydrick

**USHERS:** Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman

**AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM:** Mike Rawl, Leah Rawl.

## **SERVING IN FEBRUARY**

**COUNCIL MEMBER LOCK-UP:** Sheila Eargle

**ALTAR GUILD:** Jennifer Price

**TABULATORS:** Ronnie Fulmer, Mary Price

**USHERS:** Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman

**AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM:** Arron Kinard, Quentin Kinard

# NEXT WEEK'S EVENT

## **Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>** *(Matthew 20:17-34)*

- 9:00 am Worship
- 10:30 am Sunday School
- 3:00 pm Confirmation
- 5:00 pm Youth meets

## **Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**

- 6:30 pm Team for Ministry
- 5:30 pm CR: Care Team

## **Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

- 5:00 pm Executive Committee

## **Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:00 am Food Pantry
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 6:30 pm Choir

## **Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:00 am Adopt-a-Highway
- 9:00 am Food Pantry



WeAreMtHermon

[www.WeAreMtHermon.com](http://www.WeAreMtHermon.com)

3011 Leaphart Road,  
West Columbia, SC 29169

803.794.6430

Office Hours Monday - Thursday 10:00am - 2:00pm

Rev. Gina Metze 803.794.6430  
Svetlana Royal, Director of Music  
Denise Wolfe, Parish Administrator 803.794.6430

[Pastor@WeAreMtHermon.com](mailto:Pastor@WeAreMtHermon.com)  
[Music@WeAreMtHermon.com](mailto:Music@WeAreMtHermon.com)  
[Office@WeAreMtHermon.com](mailto:Office@WeAreMtHermon.com)

### CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Frankie Jackson, President  
Sheila Eargle, Secretary  
Annette Price/Karen Nicholson, Financial Secretary

Terry Swygert, Vice President  
Frank Bouknight, Treasurer  
Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, Sextons

## THIS WEEK'S EVENT

**Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> (Matthew 15:21-39)**

9:00 am Worship  
10:30 am Sunday School

**Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>**

9:00 am Food Pantry (Diane & Parker Boulware, Mary Price)  
10:00 am Staff Meeting  
6:30 pm Choir

**Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> (Matthew 20:17-34)**

9:00 am Food Pantry (Melanie & Frankie Jackson)