NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

It's Worth Fighting For

Sunday, October 20, 2019 Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church West Columbia, SC 9:00am Worship

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 When I Can Read My Title Clear Hayes

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**.

PRELUDE I Will Arise and Go to Jesus Hayes

We are silent as we prepare our hearts for worship.

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come. *Amen.*

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

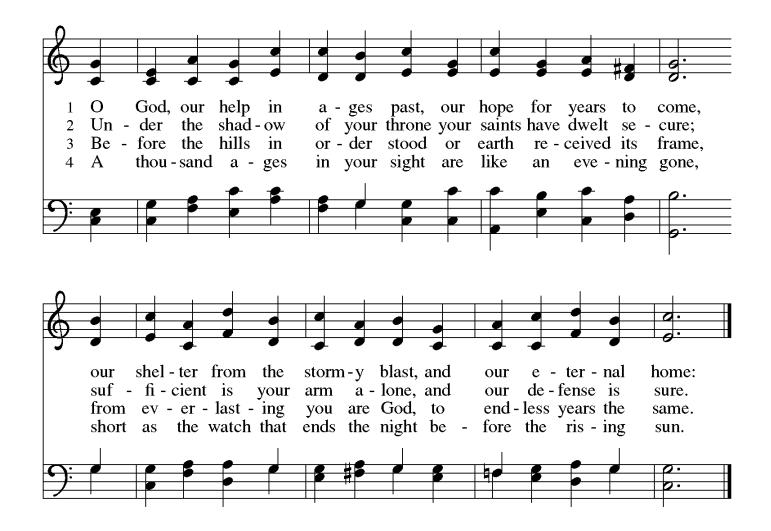
God our helper,

we confess the many ways
we have failed to live as your disciples.
We have not finished what we began.
We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers.
We have been captivated by our possessions.
Lift our burdens, gracious God.
Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin.
Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent.
Put your trust in these promises:
God will never leave you or forsake you.
You who were lost have been found.
For the sake of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

Amen.

As the cross passes your pew, please turn your bodies and worship attention to the altar.

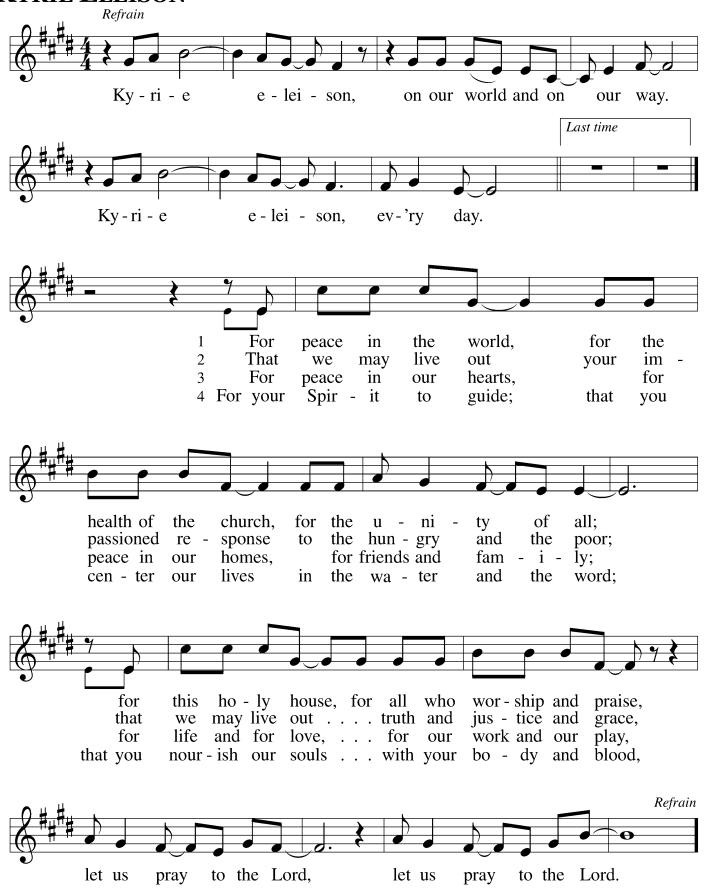


GREETING

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 ELEISON



GLORIA



- 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.

O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

READING: Genesis 32:22-31

A reading from Genesis.

²²The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." 28Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 121

Read responsively.

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

²My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.

³The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;

⁵the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

7The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

READING: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

A reading from 2nd Timothy.

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 18th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" ⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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.

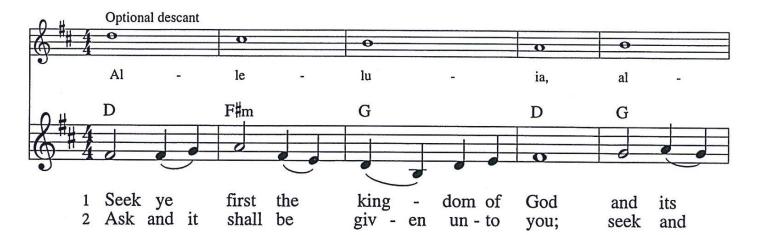
Holy God, you have a word for me today. Make my heart soft and plant your word in me in order that it may bear fruit in your kingdom. Amen.

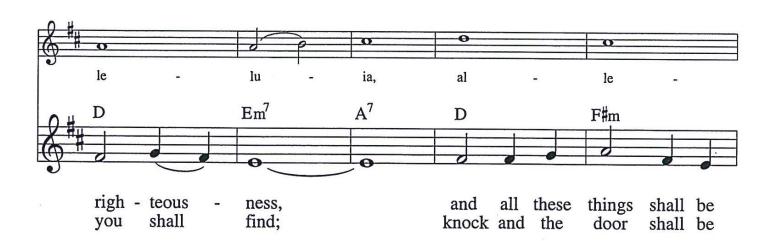
MESSAGE

It's worth fighting for.

Seek Ye First

W&P 122







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

Knowing the one in whom we trust, and with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

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

The Prayers conclude:

Trusting and delighting in you, we commend all our lives into your loving hands. We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

We sit.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

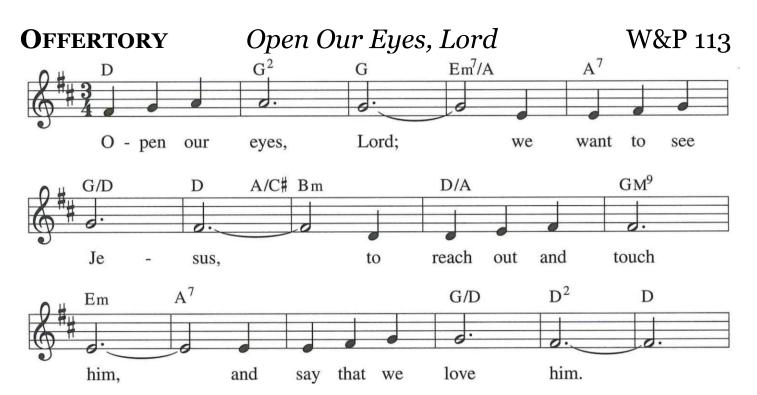
We give our monetary offering to support Christ's mission in this place and around the world in gratitude of God's amazing grace. You may make a contribution any time by visiting **www.mthlc.org** and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship.

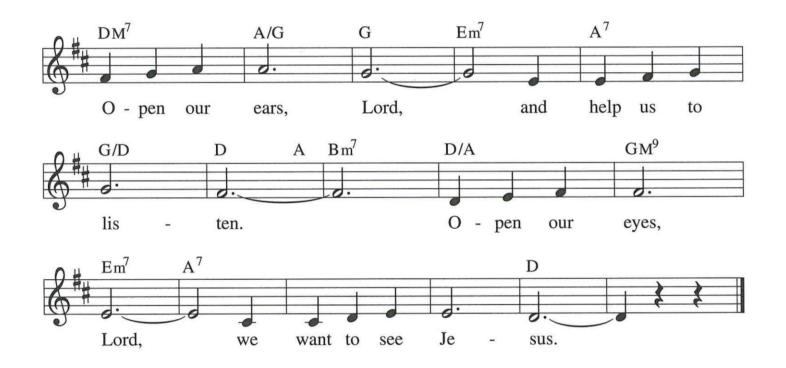
Please take this time to complete the Friendship Registration Pads which are located at the center aisle.

OFFERING

Give Me Jesus

Hayes





OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

God our provider, we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

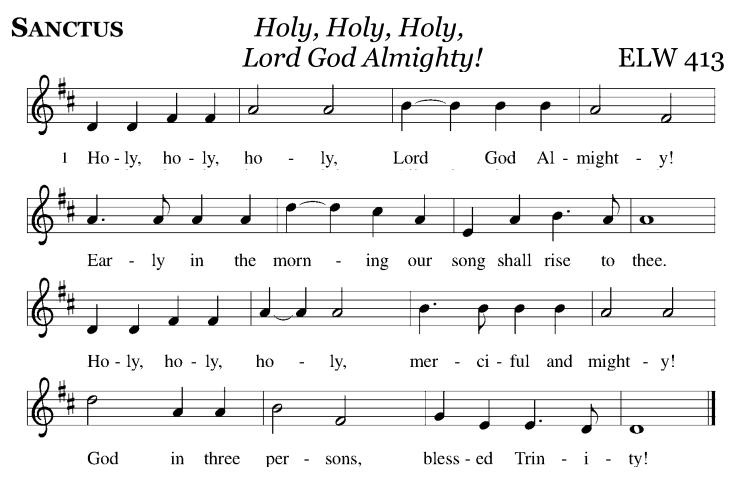
Lift up your hearts.

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:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Remembering his death and resurrection, we gather around your body and blood and we proclaim the mystery of faith: *Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. *Come, Holy Spirit*.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name forever. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, forever and ever. *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.

We sit.



Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Invitation to Communion

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come, take your place at the feast.

We sit. Communion assistants come forward.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to this Meal. The ushers will direct worshippers. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Those not communing, may cross their arms across their chest and come forward for a blessing. Those who desire communion but who are not able to come forward will be communed first in their chair.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

What A Friend We Have In Jesus ELW 742

it

to

the Lord in prayer.



- 1 What a friend we have in Je sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri als and temp ta tions? Is there trou-ble an y where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav-y lad en, cum bered with a load of care?



Pre - cious Sav-ior, still our ref - uge— take



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share? Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer! Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so-lace there.

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.

God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God † bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever. *Amen*.

As the cross passes your seat, please turn and follow as we are sent into the world to proclaim the Gospel through our lives.





DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loves us.

Thanks be to God.

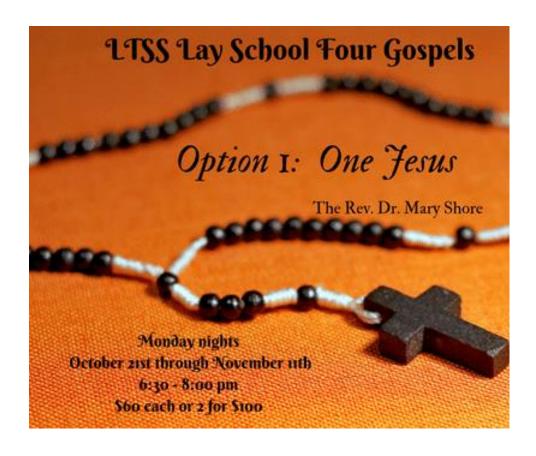
POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Manz

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers are given today to the Glory of God and in honor of Denise and McKenzie's birthdays by Cyndi & Dennis Thurman





October 27, 2019 Remember to wear red



A thank you for your cares and concerns, your prayers, telephone calls, cards, visits, flowers, food and especially your words of encouragement at the passing of our Lovely Mom. It is times like this that we feel especially blessed to be surrounded by our church family.

Mary, Wynne and family.

Trunk or Treat- We are hosting a **Trunk or Treat on Thursday, October 31** from 5:30 – 7:00pm in the front parking lot. We are looking for members to come to the church parking



lot, decorate their car and give out candy. We want to provide the families in our community with a safe place for the children to "trick or treat." We also need donations of individually wrapped candy for this event.



Fall Festival - On **Saturday, November 23** from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, we are having a Fall Festival with games/activities for all ages. Great opportunity for Fun/Fellowship and Outreach. The meal (chili and/or

soup) will be served around 12:00pm. We will be having a chili and soup cookoff. We are inviting the community as well as the congregation. We need volunteers to help with this event. Some of the areas in which we need help are: Cook a pot of chili or soup, provide a dessert, donate prizes for bingo, assist with games and/or assist with clean up the day of the event.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these events, please let the Outreach Team know.

Outreach Team members are: Diane Boulware, Eric Carroll, Angie Hydrick, Joey Koon, Mary Koon, Jo Leach, Jenny Scott, Laura Stevens, Allison Swygert and Pastor Gina.

Our email is <u>MTHOutreach@gmail.com</u>



Free Garage Sale December 13th Bring Non-Furniture to the Old Conference Room Bring Furniture to the Scout Hut



Many thanks to all who helped prepare for the SC Christian Action event on Tuesday, October 15.

May God bless you all!

Trudy Bouknight

Coffee, Food & Fellowship (CFF)

Do you CARE about Mt. Hermon?

The **CARE** committee is seeking families to sponsor our **Coffee**, **Food and Fellowship (CFF)** for **two** open dates. Our **CFF** sponsors decide what finger foods/fruit/juice they bring and they make it available in the Fellowship Hall for our congregation between Church and Sunday school or during Congregational meetings. We recommend 350 "bites" for these events. Coffee is provided by the Church, but let us know if you need help making it! Fran Bouknight is chairing the CARE Committee and will be happy to talk with you about it @ 803-920-0150.

We are asking for two or three families to work together for each date, so sign up with your friends!

Open dates are:

Oct. 27th (Reformation Sunday 1 more family needed) and November 17th (Congregational Meeting - 2 or 3 families needed).

Please let Susan know if you are willing to help sponsor one of these dates or contact Fran. Thanks in advance to those families that have already signed up to sponsor one of our CFF events.

See you at the Coffee Pot!

All Saints' Sunday November 3, 2019

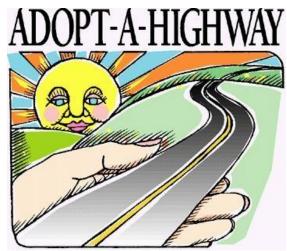


On this All Saints' Sunday, we will remember in song, scripture and prayer all the saints who have gone before us.

Special naming and prayers will be said for those at Mt. Hermon who died since last All Saints' day.



Wednesday, November 20th Catered Thanksgiving Lunch 12:00 pm Fellowship Hall Please sign up!



Saturday, November 16th 9:00 am Church Parking Lot "Keeping the Midlands Beautiful"

Tithes, and Offering for 10/13/2019 Attendance: Worship – 95; Sunday School – 69

Current & Benevolent				Over/(Under)
Needed	\$4,074.75	Received	\$4,995.35	\$920.60
Building Improvement				
Needed	\$346.15	Received	\$575.00	\$228.85
Building on Holy Ground				
Needed	\$1,646.15	Received	\$1,390.00	(\$256.15)

Honorariums and Memorials (all funds)

In memory of Grace Roof by Dot Mathias

In memory of Nellie Gantt by Ann Bouknight, Nancy & Jamie Addison, Terry & Allison Swygert, Clifton & Ann Addy

In memory of Katherine Devoy by Clifton & Ann Addy



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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OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

Homebound and Care Facilities

Nell Buff, *Home* Margie Hook, *Home*

Patricia Bachman, Carolina Gardens Lois Watson, Lexington Place

Hazel Bockus, *Home* Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home*

Lynwood Crout, *Home* Connie Bucknam, *Home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Alberta Berry Linda Waters-Hamilton

Tom & June Roof Ernie Swygert Jim Whitaker

Preston Bryant Mary Price Lila Catt

Eddie Ellisor Jeff Bucknam Doris Maddox

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Dawn McIlwain-Merck, friend of Robin Ellisor

Gary & Linda Hodgin, friends of Herb & Connie Bucknam

Lois Moore & family, family of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman

Bill Harrell, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price

Jake Harris, co-worker of Jennifer Price & Allison Swygert

Don Morris, father of Keith Morris

Jason Wardlaw, friend of congregation

Lynn Zarpentine, friend of Susan LaCons

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

Linda Rea, cousin of Marion & Cyndi

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

Megan Sease, granddaughter of Earl & Mary Frances Sease

Jane Park, friend of Pastor Gina & Dion

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Serving Today* Serving October 27th

Greeter: Dennis Thurman Faye Sox

Crucifer: Skyler Miller Joel Price Sr. **Acolyte:** Mackenzie Burns Tanner Addy

Brayden Morris Hayden Eargle

Bible Bearer:OPEN
OPEN
OPEN
OPEN

Lector: Jennifer Miller Wynne Price

Communion Asst.

Skyler Miller Breanna Metze Lynn Bouknight Sheila Starkey Marion Leaphart Megan Landers

Children's Sermon:

Sheila Eargle Daryl Leigh Anthony

Nursery: Sheila Eargle Larry Amick Alyson Price Kay Bryant

Food Pantry: October 23 October 30
Becky Koon Annette Price

Serving in October*

Council Representative: Marion Leaphart

Altar Guild: Mary Frances Sease

Tabulators: Ann Addy, Mary Frances Sease, Diane Boulware (Larry Amick)

Ushers: Ricky Bouknight, Fran Bouknight, Ronnie Fulmer, Wayne Eargle

^{*} If you are unable to serve, please ask someone to cover for you and notify the church office of the change. If you have a responsibility in worship, please arrive no later than 8:45am

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, October 27th

9:00 am Reformation Sunday

10:15 am Tonechimes (1st 15 minutes of Sunday School)

10:15 am Sanctuary Safety (Lexington Sheriff Dept.)

11:15 am Puppet Ministry – Choir Room

Monday, October 28th

6:30 pm Lay School @ LTSS

Tuesday, October 29th

1:00 pm Bulletin Information Due Staff Meeting

Wednesday, October 30th

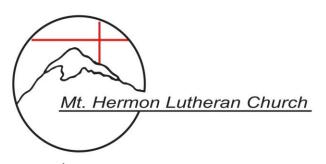
9:00 am Food Pantry

6:00 pm Handbells

6:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, October 31st

5:30 pm "Trunk or Treat" – Church parking lot



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*Ruthie Brannen, *Cantor*Susan LaCons, *Parish Administrator*Megan Landers, *Seminarian*

803.951.3784 PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com RuthieBrannen@gmail.com 803.794.6430 office@mthlc.org

office@mthlc.org Megan.Landers@my.lr.edu

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

President, Terry Swygert Secretary, Alyson Price Financial Secretary, Annette Price Vice President, Ronnie Fulmer Treasurer, Parker Boulware Sextons, Ricky Bouknight, Allison & Terry Swygert

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, October 20th

9:00 am Holy Communion Worship

10:15 am Tonechimes (1st 15 minutes of Sunday School)

10:15 am Sunday School

11:15 am Puppet Ministry – Choir Room

3:00 pm LCY – Marty Party

Zion Lutheran Church

4:00 pm WELCA – Conference Room

Monday, October 21st

6:30 pm Lay School @ LTSS

Tuesday, October 22nd

1:00 pm Bulletin Information Due Staff Meeting

Wednesday, October 23rd

9:00 am Food Pantry

6:00 pm Handbells

6:30 pm Chancel Choir



Pastor Gina will be at Lutheridge for Pastor's Convocation Monday – Wednesday.