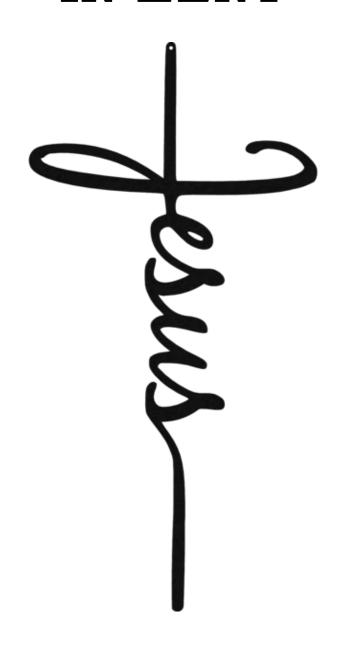
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



FEBRUARY 28, 2021

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 ...

PRE-SERVICE

As the Deer with Fairest Lord Jesus

Mark Hayes © 1984 Maranatha Music|Lorenz

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

Come Thou Fount

Wyeth | Payne © OneLicense #48223

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of living water,

pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails.

The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.

Amen.

Come Thou Fount (I Will Sing)

Hymn

Tomlin | Robinson © CCLI #7072572

Verse 1

Come Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace. Streams of mercy never ceasing Call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it, Mount of Thy redeeming love.

Verse 2

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I come.
And I hope by Thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wand'ring from the fold of God.
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood.

Chorus (SOLO)

How Your kindness yet pursues me! How Your mercy never fails me! 'Til the day that death shall loose me, I will sing, oh, I will sing.

Verse 3

Oh to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be.
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander Lord I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Chorus (SOLO)

How Your kindness yet pursues me! How Your mercy never fails me! 'Til the day that death shall loose me, I will sing, oh, I will sing. How Your kindness yet pursues me! How Your mercy never fails me! 'Til the day that death shall loose me, I will sing, oh, I will sing. 'Til the day that death shall loose me, I will sing, oh, I will sing.

Verse 4

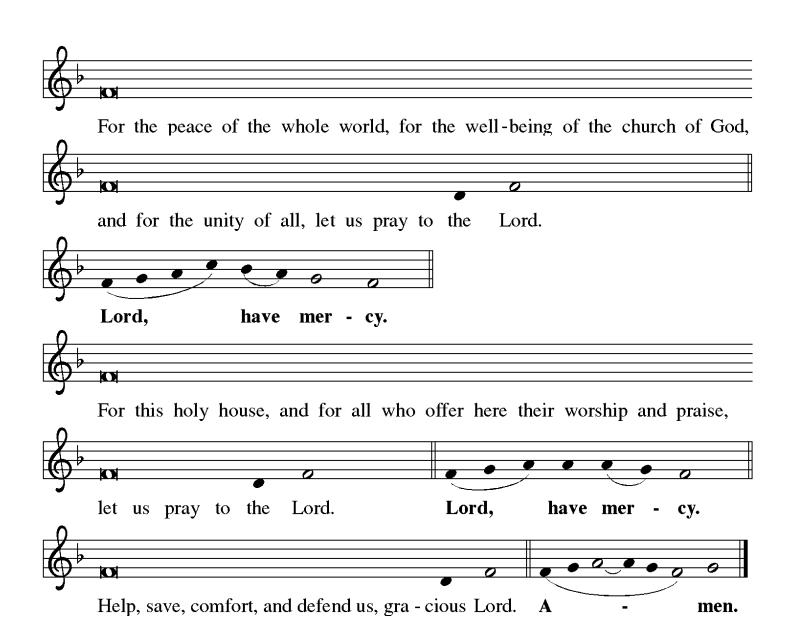
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above.
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above.

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.





PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of 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: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

A reading from Genesis.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ¬I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:23-31

²³You who fear the Lord, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the Lord, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the Lord's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the Lord hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

³⁰Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

READING: Romans 4:13-25

A reading from Romans.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

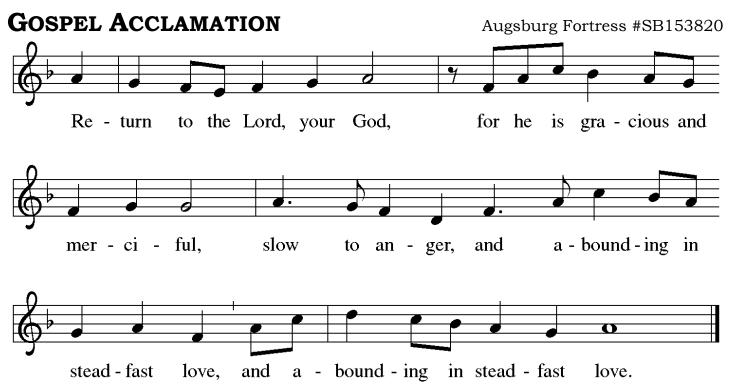
¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body,

which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.



GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 8th chapter **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Follow Jesus

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

new identity / new community

We stand.

Hymn

By Grace We Have Been Saved

Whitfield | Edwards © CCLI #6293459

<u>Verse 1</u>

By grace we have been saved
Through faith and not by keeping law
God's saints believed
By what they heard
And not by what they saw

<u>Chorus</u>

Oh how I love Jesus, Oh how I love Jesus Oh how I love Jesus, Because He first loved me

Verse 2

For all have sinned and fallen short God's plan not one obeyed Christ has for all fulfilled the law Believe confess be saved

Chorus

Oh how I love Jesus, Oh how I love Jesus Oh how I love Jesus, Because He first loved me

Verse 3

God gave to earth a perfect love Through Jesus on the cross While we were foes Christ died for us We gained by God's own loss

Chorus

Oh how I love Jesus, Oh how I love Jesus Oh how I love Jesus, Because He first loved me

Verse 4

We know the wage of sin is death Thank God we shall revive For just as Jesus rose again We too are made alive

Chorus

Oh how I love Jesus, Oh how I love Jesus Oh how I love Jesus, Because He first loved me

Verse 5

Set free we now have peace with God Salvation is secured How beautiful the feet of those Who share this gospel word

<u>Chorus</u>

Oh how I love Jesus, Oh how I love Jesus Oh how I love Jesus, Because He first loved me

APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith with the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need. We pray for communities of faith far and near, and for all who show the face of Christ throughout the world. Today, we pray for our neighboring church New Heritage Church. May you continue to use them to spread the Gospel.

After each petition:

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

The Prayers conclude:

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

We sit.

OFFERING

We give our monetary offering to support Christ's mission in this place and around the world in gratitude of God's amazing grace. You may contribute any time by visiting www.WeAreMtHermon.com and click on "On-line Giving." You may also mail your check to 3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, SC 29169. Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship.

OFFERING

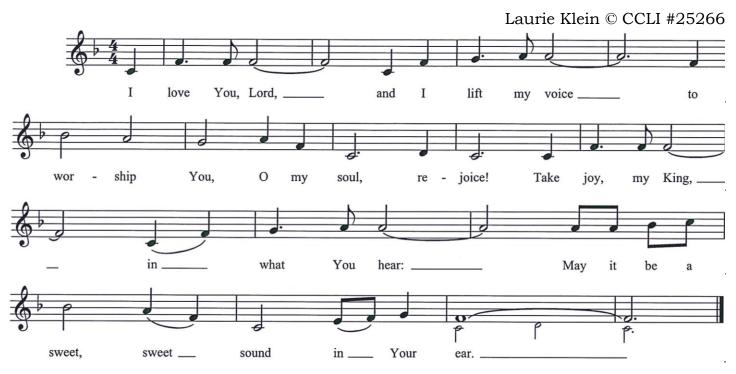
Lenten Meditation

Jay Althouse © OneLicense #36898

We stand.

OFFERTORY

I Love You Lord



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.

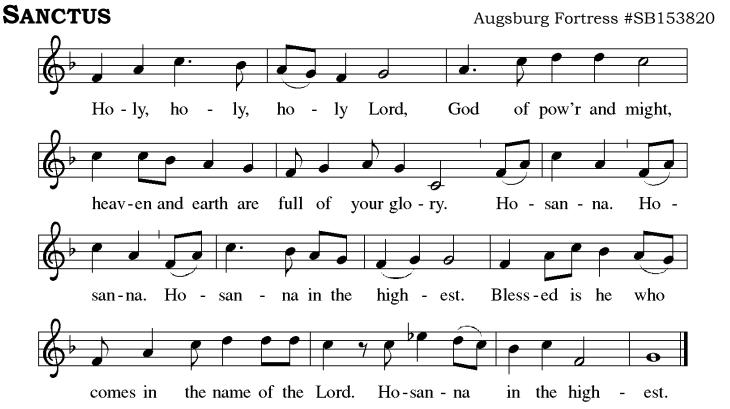
We lift them to the Lord.

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:



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

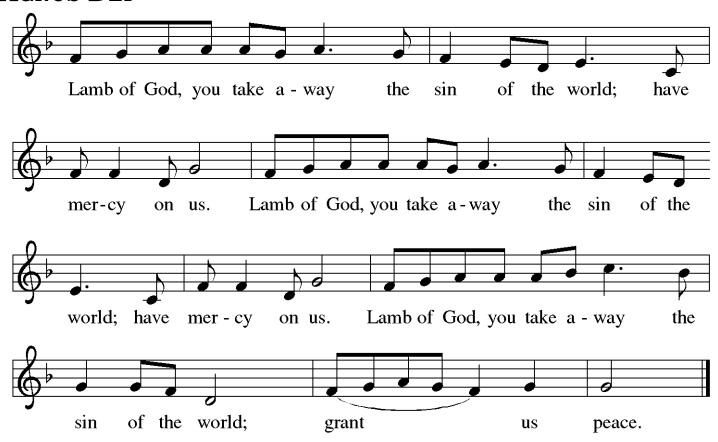
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

AGNUS DEI



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.

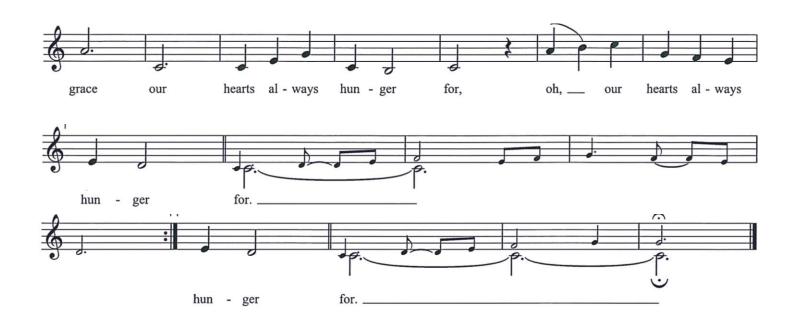
THE SENDING

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. Amen.

HYMN





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

POSTLUDE

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Allen | McDonald © 2013 Lorenz Publishing OneLicense

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in celebration of our first anniversary by Cyndi and Marion Leaphart.



Sunday Evening Lenten Services

6:30 pm

In-person and LiveStreamed

2021 Altar Flowers

Sign-up board is in the office hallway. You can sign-up when in the church or by calling the church.

Upcoming open dates:

Mar 14th Apr 18th, Apr 25th





2021 Annual Reports are available in the church office

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Tithes, and Offering for 02/21/2021

Live Stream Worship 103 + In-person 24 = 128 Drive-In Communion = 47

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$1,960.93
Building Improvement	Received	\$115.00
Growing on Holy Ground	Received	\$1,160.00

Honorariums and Memorials (all funds)

In memory of my sister-in-law, Kathleen K. Page by Marie Kleckley

To the glory of God and in memory of Bethea on Valentine's Day, our first date, 1946 by Margie, Myra & Carl

To the glory of God and in memory of Harold Prater and Ray Prater by Myra, Carl & Margie

In memory of Ray Prater by Tarry & Melinda Long



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.WeAreMtHermon.com/online-giving.html

Your continued financial support to the work of God at Mt. Hermon is needed. You may drop your check in the US Mail: 3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, SC 29169. You may also drop it in the locked box on Leaphart Road. Some of you have taken advantage of banks mailing a check straight to Mt. Hermon. Many of you are taking the opportunity to use online giving. Thank you for your financial and spiritual support to Mt. Hermon!

MT HERMON PRAYS ...

Community Church New Heritage Church 3109 Leaphart Road **Continual Prayers**

Patricia Bachman, Carolina Gardens Gennar Kiser, home

Alberta Berry, home Rev. Everette Price, home

Hazel Bockus, Carolina Gardens June Roof, Rapha Lyle Bockus, Springdale Home Tom Roof, home

Nell Buff, home Lena Wessinger, Presby. Home

Margie Hook, home

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Shirley Cooper Buddy Hydrick Jo Leach

Marvin Mathias Jane Sexton

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Martha Eastwood, sister of Marie Kleckley

Eric Powell, friend of Kim Fulmer

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

Iris Wellborn, $sister\ of\ Earl\ Sease$

Bill Harrell, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price

Don Morris, father of Keith Morris

Richie Tallent, friend of Danny Scott

 ${\tt Mandy\ McLemore,\ co-worker\ of\ Amanda\ Boyd,\ Kim\ Addy,\ \&\ Alyson\ Price}$

John Catoe, family of Ellisors

Dr. Kay Moore, friend and co-worker of Cyndi Leaphart

*Vicki Steffy, mother of Courtney Bucknam

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, March 7th - Third 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

Monday, March 8th

10:00 am Staff Meeting

6:00 pm Health & Safety Task Force Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, March 9th

6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, March 10th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Diane Boulware & Mary Frances Sease) 7:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom

Friday, March 12th

12:00 pm Bulletins will be in mailboxes

Saturday, March 13th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Mike Rawl & Laura Stevens)





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, *Pastor* Ruthie Brannen, *Director of Music* Susan LaCons, *Parish Administrator* Matt Hansen, *Seminarian* 803.951.3784 PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com Ruthie@WeAreMtHermon.com 803.794.6430 Susan@WeAreMtHermon.com Matthew.Hansen@my.lr.edu

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Ronnie Fulmer, *President*Robin Ellisor, *Secretary*Annette Price, *Financial Secretary*

Marion Leaphart, Vice President Parker Boulware, Treasurer Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, Sextons

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, February 28th - Second Sunday in Lent

9:00 am Worship - In-Person and Live Stream

10:30 am Sunday School via Zoom

6:30 pm Lenten Service – In-person and Live Stream

Monday, March 1st

6:00 pm Worship Team Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, March 3rd

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Angie Hydrick, Doris Maddox, Fran Bouknight) 7:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom

Friday, March 5th

12:00 pm Bulletins will be in mailboxes

Saturday, March 6th

9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry (Terry & Allison Swygert)



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