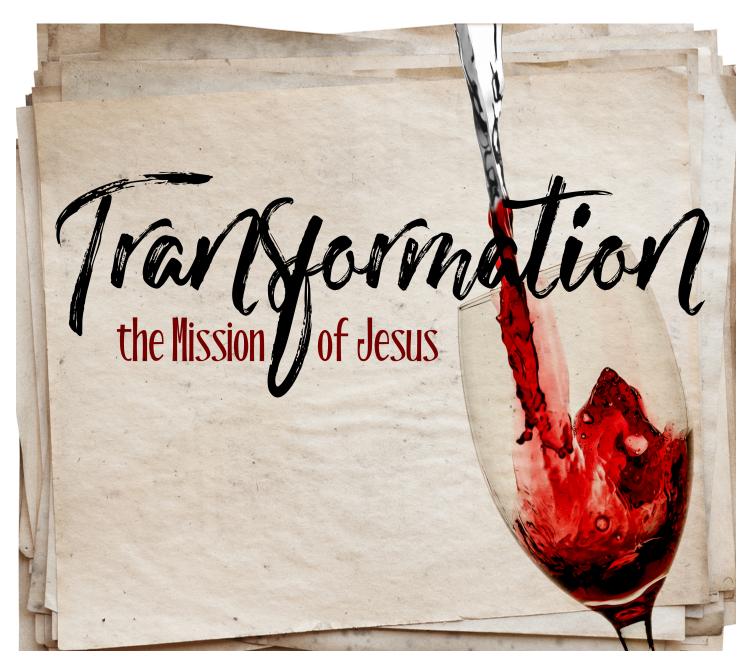
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



JANUARY 19, 2025

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 prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

Your Love O Lord

Avery/CCLI #1894255

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity,

one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

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

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, we confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. *Amen.*

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

HYMN

What a Friend We Have In Jesus

Converse/Public Domain



- 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?





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.

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.*

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

HYMN

Founds/CCLI #117947

Lord I lift Your name on high Lord I love to sing Your praises I'm so glad You're in my life I'm so glad You came to save us

You came from heaven to earth to show the way From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky Lord I lift Your name on high

Lord I lift Your name on high Lord I love to sing Your praises I'm so glad You're in my life I'm so glad You came to save us

You came from heaven to earth to show the way From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky Lord I lift Your name on high

You came from heaven to earth to show the way From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky Lord I lift Your name on high

You came from heaven to earth to show the way From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky Lord I lift Your name on high

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. We sit.

THE WORD

Isaiah 62:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.
- ² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory;
- and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.
- ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her.

but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married;

for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you,

and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

Word of God, teaching us the way. *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 36:5-10

⁵ Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶ Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O LORD.

⁷ How priceless is your love, O God!

All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

⁸ They feast upon the abundance of your house; you give them drink from the river of your delights.

⁹ For with you is the well of life, and in your light we see light.

¹⁰ Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you, and your favor to those who are true of heart.

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

A reading from 1st Corinthians.

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Word of God, teaching us the way. *Thanks be to God.*

We stand.



Gospel: John 2:1-11

The holy gospel according to St. John the 2nd chapter. *Glory to you, O Lord.*

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8 He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. 9 When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, O Christ.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

water

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

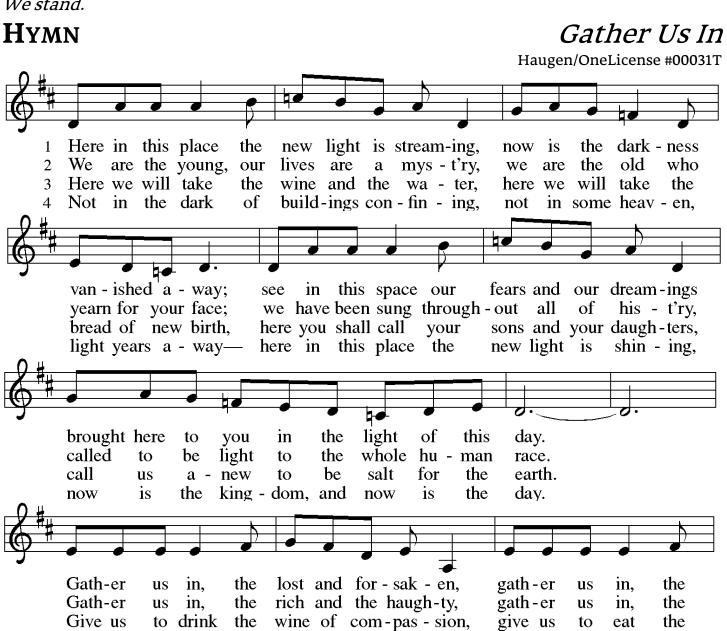
transformation – an epiphany

We stand.

Gath-er

us

in



for - ev - er.

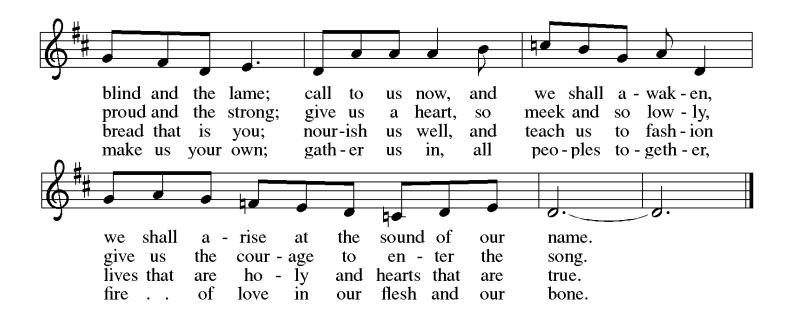
gath-er

us

in

and

and hold us



APOSTLES' CREED

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

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.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

God of grace, hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. *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.org and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship. Friendship pads have returned to 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

How We Worship You

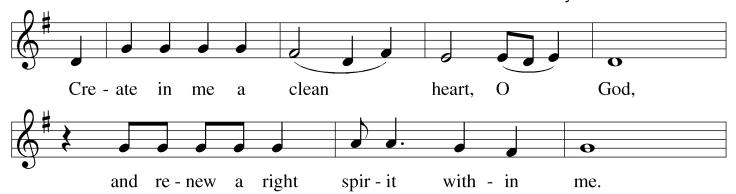
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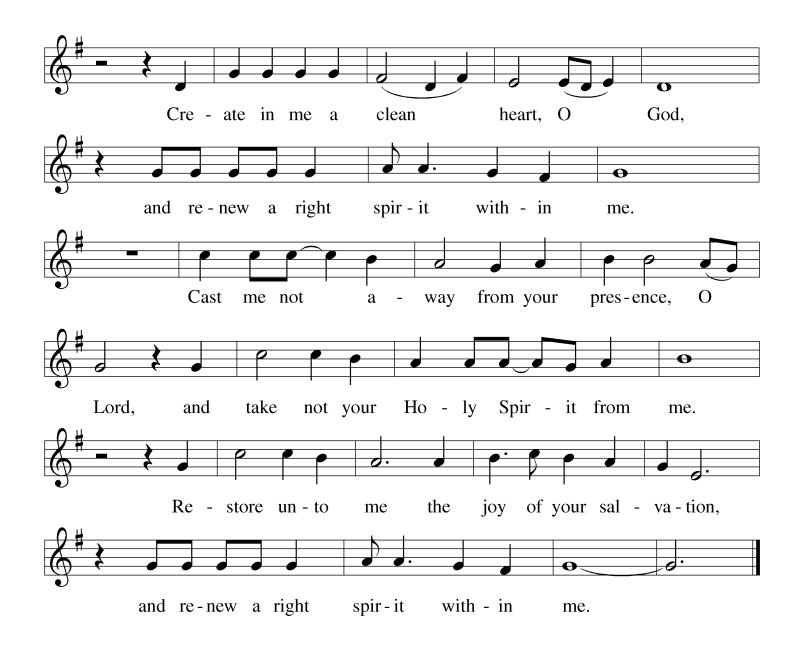
We stand.

OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Anonymous/Public Domain





OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always. Amen.

THE MEAL

Christ is truly present in the most ordinary and unexpected of places. The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

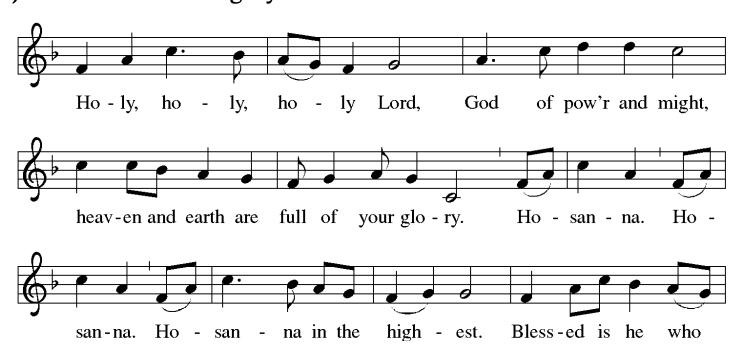
Lift up your hearts.

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, 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. By the leading of a star, he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son, in the miracle of water turned to wine, he revealed your glory. 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...

We proclaim the mystery of faith. *Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. *Come, Lord Jesus.*

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. Make your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. *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,

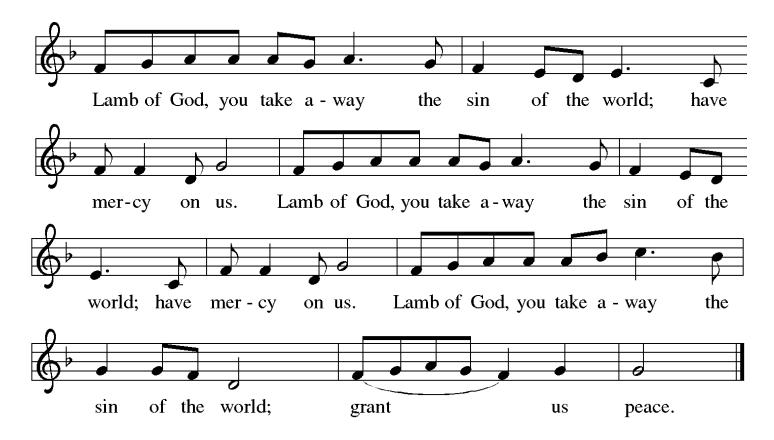
on earth as it is in heaven.

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

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.



We sit.

COMMUNION

Please come forward using the side aisles to receive communion. You will receive the bread and then you may dip in the first chalice of wine, or in the second challis of grape juice. You may then return to your pews using the center aisle. Please return to your pews for a time of quiet prayer and meditation. If this is the first Sunday of the month, we also offer communion at the rail. On this Sunday, you may continue through the side doors and an usher will guide you to the altar to receive communion.

John/OneLicense #G9247098

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.
Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

Amen.

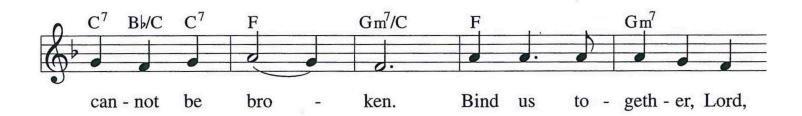
HYMN

Bind Us Together

Gillan/CCLI #1228

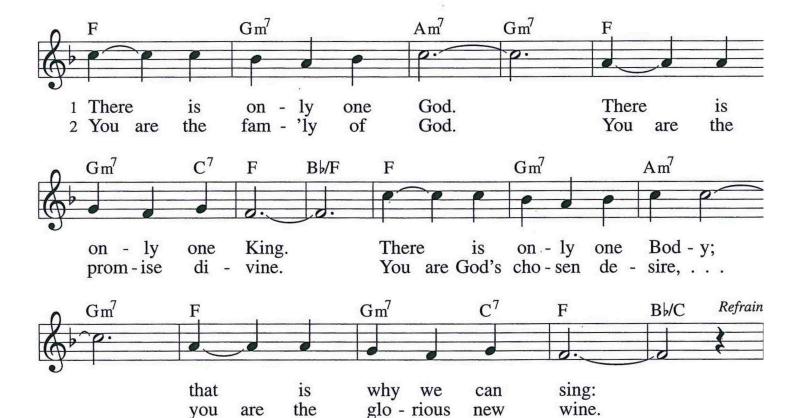


Bind us to - geth-er, Lord, bind us to - geth-er with cords that





bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er in love.



As the cross passes your pew, turn and face the entrance of the sanctuary.

SENDING The Blessing



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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of our son, Stephen Michael Price, by Mary & Wynne Price.





ADOPT-AHIGHWAY We will be starting AdoptA-Highway pickup from the

church parking lot at 9 AM on Saturday, February 08, 2025. Please join us if you can. The next pickup will be on May 17th.

We are so excited to announce that the work on **Connor Eargle's Eagle project is now complete!** It won't be long until the new pickle ball court will be open for use. Thank you so much to all who have supported this project with your donations, assistance, and prayers.



MT HERMON TRAVELERS

The Mount Hermon Travelers met and has come up with several ideas for 2025. The first event will be March 15th. This will be a day trip to Greenville SC for lunch and then to "The Sound of Music" production presented by Bob Jones



University at 2 PM. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet located in the breezeway or contact Frank Bouknight for information.



2025 **Altar Flower** sign-up sheet is in the breezeway.

The cost of the flowers is \$65.



2025 Weekend Retreat Isle of Palms will be filled with energy as we reflect on 2024 ministries, and also dreamed of what 2025 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.

TEAM STRUCTURE

SUPPORT TEAM

- Finance
 - Treasurer
 - **Financial Secretary Tabulators**

 - o Budget Preparation
- Personnel Team
 - o Employee
 - Contractors
 - o Mutual Ministry
- **Building Team (Property Committee)**
 - o IT Team
 - Safety Team
 - **Keys Team**
 - o Repairs and Maintenance
- Cemetery Team
- Fellowship Hall Rental and Usage
- Parsonage Task Force
- **Constitution Committee**

OUTREACH TEAM (Outreach and Evangelism)

- Outreach
 - o Angel Tree
 - o Garage Sale
 - Food Pantry

TEACH TEAM (Christian Education)

- **Christian Education**
- **Adult Sunday School**
- Evening Bible Study
- VBS
- Children's Ministry
 - Nursery (during SS hour)
 - o Children's Christmas Pageant
 - o Easter Egg Hunt
- Youth Ministry

WORSHIP TEAM

- Choirs
 - **Chancel Choir**
- Handbells
- Musicians Altar Guild
- Ushers
- Acolytes / Crucifers
- Sanctuary Décor
 - Christmas
 - Christmon Trees
 - Candle Light Service
 - **Poinsettias**
 - Ordering
 - Watering
 - Clean-up Easter
 - Stripping of Altar
 - Crosses for worship
 - **Easter Lilies**
 - Ordering
 - Watering
 - Clean-up
 - Funds for the Arts Wedding Policy
 - **Special Concerts**
 - Nursery during worship

CARE TEAM

- **Member Care**
- Records and Archives
 - Community Life
 - **Reformation Cruise**
 - Spring Picnic
- Travel Team
- **Bereavement Committee**
- Meals Lent / Advent / Epiphany
- Stewardship
- CFF Coffee Food Fellowship

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

01/12/2025

In person attendance 101+live stream 109 = 210

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$3,505.47
Building Fund	Received	\$1,310.00
Building Improvement	Received	\$85.00

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

N/A





SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers:	Frank Bouknight	Joe Koon
	Frankie Jackson	Teddy Koon
Crucifer:	Mackenzie Burns	Chanler Coppens
Acolyte:	Jacqueline Hawlik	Dylan Whitaker
Lector:	Frank Bouknight	Joe Koon
Communion Assts:	Mackenzie Burns	Chanler Coppens
	Jerry Price	Dylan Whitaker
	Frank Bouknight	Joe Koon
	Denise Thurman	Mary Koon
	Daryl Leigh Anthony	Cheri Coppens
Audio:	Blake Allen	Brandon Donaldson
Video:	Breanna Metze	Marie Gardener
Nursery:	Melanie Jackosn	Cassie Swygert
	Katie Donaldson	Laura Carroll
Flowers:	Wynne & Mary Price	Melanie Jackson

SERVING IN JANUARY

COUNCIL REP: Marion Leaphart

<u>ALTAR GUILD:</u> Jennifer Price, Angie Hydrick <u>TABULATORS:</u> Larry Amick, Angie Hydrick

<u>USHERS:</u> Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman

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MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayer

Patricia Bachman, Asbury Arms Lauvenia Butts, Lakeside Place Doris Carver, Presby Home Georgianna Gray, home James Hallman, Lakeside Place Marie Kleckley, Lex Ext Care Gloria Mathias, *home*Jane Sexton, *Phoenix Asst Living*Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*Cyndi Thurman, *Sedgewood*Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home**Bobby Carver, *Lexington Medical*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bonnie Bouknight Chris Carroll Randy Clark
Debbie Duval Debbie Fulmer Michelle Gantt
Joye Haygood Mary Frances Sease Jim Whitaker

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayers

Billy Huckabee, friend of Danny Scott Stetson Cooper, grandson of Dan Cooper. Paula Miller, friend of Brittany Allen Dawn McIlwain-Merck, friend of Robin Ellisor John Catoe, family of the Ellisors Mrs. William L. Coleman Jr (Carolyn),

friends of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart
Iris Wellborn, sister of Earl Sease
Mrs. Cruz, teacher of Abbey Carroll
Phil Dennis, brother of Lavonne Roof
Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family,

friends of Debra & Dave Butts
Sandra Watson, aunt of Courtney Bucknam
Sarah Harmon, friend of Courtney Bucknam
Quentin Oswalt, Angie Hydrick's nephew (Iraq)
Jaimie Womack, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price
Cynthia Rabon, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price
Blase Rhine,

grandson of Frank & Bonnie Bouknight Cynthia Mallard,

friend of Sheila Starkey & Beth Jordan

Jeslyn, friend of Scarlett Bryant Tom Shaul, friend of the Kinard Family Debbe Dearman, neighbor of Kathy Cooper Bryce McKelvey, friend of Regan Gross Max Schronce,

friend of the David & Scottie Marsh Faye McCartha, mother of Debra Butts Hayes Wingard,

grandson of Sam and Kathy Cooper
Robbie Rector, friend Jennifer Miller
Bill Geddings, father of Allison Swygert
Jane Baxley, cousin of Michelle Gantt
Mark King, coworker of Michelle Gantt
Joyce Davis, grandmother of Jaquelyn Hawlik
Will & Summer Satcher,

friend of Courtney Bucknam
Dorothy Collins, friend of Ryan Price
Lauren Addy, friend of Kathy Cooper and Metzes
Jodi Harper, friend of Erin Rose
Sam Lockridge, friend of Scottie Marsh
Mary Duffie, mother of Alyson Price

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, January 26th

9:00 am Worship

10:30 am Sunday School

11:30 am CR: Worship Team

Tuesday, January 27th

6:30 pm CR: Support Team

Wednesday, January 28th

Meals on Wheels: Rick & Debbie Duval

9:00 am Food Pantry (Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price)

6:00 pm Handbells

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, February 1st

9:00 am Food Pantry



www.WeAreMtHermon.com

3011 Leaphart Road West Columbia, SC 29169 803.794.6430 / 803.240.3143 cell/text

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor* Svetlana Royal, *Director of Music* Roberta Smith, *Administrative Asst* 803.951.3784 803.240.3143 cell PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com Music@WeAreMtHermon.com Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Terry Swygert, *President* Sheila Eargle, *Secretary* Annette Price/Karen Nicholson, *Financial Secretary*

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

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, January 19th

9:00 am Worship

10:30 am Sunday School

11:30 am CR: Teach Team

3:00 pm **Confirmation - postponed**

5:00 pm FH: Youth Meeting

5:00 pm Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Monday, January 20th

6:00 pm CR: Outreach Team

Tuesday, January 21st

6:00 pm CR: Finance Team

6:00 pm GR: Grief Group

6:30 pm Life Group at The Jacksons

Wednesday, January 22nd

Meals on Wheels: Parker & Diane Boulware

9:00 am Food Pantry (David & Debra Butts, Mary Price)

12:05 pm FH: OneBody Worship

6:00 pm Handbells

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, January 25th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Kinards)

Friday, January 24th
through Sunday,
January 26th
Council Retreat at
Isle of Palms