

MARCH 15, 2026

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 leave all that which might be a distraction from worship at the doors this day and we prepare our hearts for worship.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

PRELUDE

Jesus Take Me as I Am

Bryant/CCLI #37814

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. *Amen.*

We turn to the doors of the sanctuary.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

We confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

We confess that we do not trust your abundance.

We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

*We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.*

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

By your grace, forgive us;

through your love, renew us;

and in your Spirit, lead us;

so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.

Amen.

Please turn to the altar as the cross passes your pew.

HYMN

Sanctuary

Thompson, Scruggs/CCLI #24140

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary.

Pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving,

I'll be a living Sanctuary for You.

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.

Almighty God, teach us to know your Son Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth, and the Life; Let the brightness of your glory shine on us, and let the Light from your Holy Spirit shine in the hearts of all who have been born again by your grace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

A reading from 1st Samuel.

¹ The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ² Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’”

³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” ⁴ Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” ⁵ He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.”

And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the Lord.” ⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen

this one.”¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.”¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.”¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.”¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

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

PSALM 23

We read responsively.

¹ The Lord | is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

*² The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.*

³ You restore my soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

*⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.*

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

*⁶ Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever*

EPHESIANS 5:8-14

A reading from Ephesians.

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Word of God, teaching us the way.

Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 9:1-17

The holy gospel according to St. John the 9th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him

before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

mud pie

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

Jesus and the blind man

We stand.

HYMN

Light the Fire

Maxwell/CCLI #332454

I stand in your presence, but I fall on my knees
My spirit is willing, but my flesh is so weak

So, light the fire in my soul
Fan the flames, make me whole
Lord, you know where I've been
So, light the fire in my heart again.

I feel your arms around me when the healing begins
Your spirit surrounds me like a rushing wind
So, light the fire in my soul
Fan the flames, make me whole
Lord, you know where I've been
So, light the fire in my heart again.

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

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, we pray for the world and its needs.

Lord in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. *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.*

OFFERING

I'll Do My Best

Dalton/CCLI #59335

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Awesome God

Mullins/CCLI #41099

Our God is an awe - some God, he
reigns from heav - en a - bove with wis - dom,
pow'r, and love— our God is an awe - some God!
Our God is an awe - some God! Our God is an awe - some God!

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

***O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name. 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 for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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, 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.*

We sit.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

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 chalice 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.

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.

*God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

THE SENDING

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
✠ bless you now and always. *Amen.*

HYMN

Step by Step

Strasser/CCLI #696994

D(no3) G G² G D/F# D C/E C/D

O God, you are my God, and I will ev - er praise

G D(no3) G G² D/F# D

you. O God, you are my God, and

C/E C/D G G² G Em C/E Em

I will ev - er praise you. I will seek you in the morn-

Dsus D Am/E Am/C Am

- ing, and I will learn to walk in your ways, and

G G² G D/F# D C/D Am/D D⁷sus

step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol - low you all of my

1 G D(no3) 2 G G² G Em

days. O days, and I will fol - low you all of my

Dsus D Am⁷ F C D⁷sus

days, and I will fol - low you all of my days, and

step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol-low you all of my days.

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

SENDING

Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow

Ken/Public Domain

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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 flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Lib and Ernie Swygert by Terry and Allison Swygert.
Wednesdays in Lent

Pastors Greg from St. David brings a message on Stewardship. We will worship at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall and then share a meal together.

March 18 pulled pork
March 25 Greek chicken

Outreach Team
Worship Team



EGGSTRAVAGANZA!
SAT. MARCH 28
10:00 - 12:00

Easter Egg Hunt
Easter Story
Spring Games
Photo Booth
Lunch

All ages welcome!

Invite your Friends & Neighbors

MT. HERMON LUTHERAN CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL
3011 LEAPHART RD

Eggstravaganza
DONATIONS NEEDED!

Plastic Easter Eggs
All colors and sizes!
Donations accepted through
March 22
Drop in bins near the church office

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

3/08/2026

9:00 worship 100 + live stream 129 = 229

Sunday School = 44

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$6,755.05
Building Fund	Received	\$1,944.87
Building Improvement	Received	\$1,200.00

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

In memory of **James Hallman** by Tammy, Mattie, & Marshall O'Quinn, Ann Addy, Linda Waters Hamilton, Earl & Mary Frances Sease, Jean Shealy & Family

In memory of **Stephen Price** by Sonya & Dale Miller

MEAL TRAIN

for the Bryant Family

This family has been dealing with illnesses, broken bones, back issues, and healing from a car wreck. Sarah will have back surgery March 6 to hopefully help alleviate some of her pain.

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/v6w45y>



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SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers:	Walker Kinard	Herb Bucknam
	Cameron Bucknam	Jamie Addison
Crucifer:	Chanler Coppens	Spencer Price
Acolyte:	Cameron Bucknam	Cameron Bucknam
Lector:	Mackenzie Burns Dylan Whitaker Brayden Morris	Herb Bucknam
Communion Assts:	Aaron Head	Spencer Price
	Walker Kinard	Cameron Bucknam
	Bryson Johnson	Wynne Price
	Hayden Eargle	Mary Price
	Chanler Coppens Sam Koon	Angie Hydrick
Audio:	Blake Allen	Brandon Donaldson
Video:	Breanna Metze	Marie Gardner
Flowers:	Swygerts	Carrolls

SERVING IN MARCH

LOCK UP: Ronnie Fulmer

ALTAR GUILD: Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease

TABULATORS: Ann Addy, Mary France Sease

MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayer

Patricia Bachman, *Asbury Arms*
Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place*
Doris Carver, *Presby Home*
Georgianna Gray, *home*

Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*
Gloria Mathias, *home*
Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*
Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

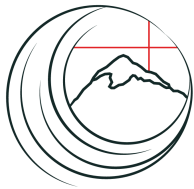
Members in Special Need of Prayer

Lauren Addy	Bonnie Bouknight	*Andrea Bowers	Sarah Bryant
Chris Carroll	Debbie Duval	Joye Haygood	Frankie Jackson
Doris Maddox	Skyler Miller	Cyndi Thurman	Dennis Thurman
Jim Whitaker			

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayer

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*
Phil Dennis, *brother of Lavonne Roof*
Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family,
friends of Debra & Dave Butts
Sandra Watson,
aunt of Courtney Bucknam
Jaimie Womack,
friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price
Cynthia Rabon, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*
Blase Rhine,
grandson of Frank & Bonnie Bouknight
Jeslyn, *friend of Scarlett Bryant*
Faye McCartha, *mother of Debra Butts*
Robbie Rector, *friend Jennifer Miller*
Bill Geddings, *father of Allison Swygert*
Jane Baxley, *cousin of Michelle Gantt*
Joyce Davis, *grandmother of Jaquelyn Hawlik*
Will & Summer Satcher, *friend of Courtney Bucknam*
Sam Lockridge, *friend of Scottie Marsh*
Thelma Moyer, *mother of Diane Boulware*

Randy Stonehill, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer*
Linda Bennett, *mother of Beth Jordan*
Singley & Parisano families,
friends of Sam & Kathy Cooper
Joy Jordan, *friend of Michelle Gantt*
Dorris Layton,
friend of Earl & Mary Frances Sease
Jody Harper, *friend of Kelli Goff*
Tressa Oswalt, *Angie Hydrick's sister*
Wayne LaBounty, *friend of Herb Bucknam*
Scarlett Redmon, *cousin of Kinard Family*
Joe & Billy Corder, *friends of Ryan Price*
Michael Williams,
son-in-law Georgianna Gray
Wayne & Kristen Watkins,
friends of Courtney Bucknam
Meredith Thorndike,
goddaughter of Wayne & Charlene Corley
Melissa, *niece of Ricky & Fran Bouknight*
Anne Piercy, *friend of Kathy Whitaker*
Addie, *granddaughter of Lavonne Roof*
Elizabeth McKee, *aunt of Bonnie Bouknight*
Frank Flinn, *friend of Ryan Price*
Bishop Ginny Aebischer, *bishop of SC Synod*
David Stevenson, *brother of Laura Carroll*
Cindy Maple
Kristin Oliver, *sister of Michelle Gantt*
Jimmy Maddox, *husband of Doris Maddox*



WeAreMtHermon

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor*
Administrative Asst

www.WeAreMtHermon.com

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CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Terry Swygert, *President*
Diane Boulware, *Secretary*
Parker Boulware, *Financial Secretary*

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

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, March 15th ~ Youth Sunday

9:00 am Worship
10:30 am Sunday School
11:30 am CR: Teach Team
1:30 pm EW: Bible Study

Tuesday, March 17th

6:00 pm CR: Finance Team
6:00 pm GR: Grief Support
7:00 pm EW: SACK

Wednesday, March 18th

9:00 am Food Pantry
(Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price)
6:30 pm Lenten Worship
7:00 pm Lenten Meal - Pulled Pork by Outreach Team

Thursday, March 19th

6:00 pm CR: Outreach Team

Saturday, March 21st

9:00 am Food Pantry (Swygerts, Carrolls, Greg Bowman)
9:30 am CR: Tanzania Meeting