

2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



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

John 1:29, NRSV

JANUARY 18, 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. ***Amen.***

PRELUDE

Our Great God

Powell/CCLI #3493094

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,

the Creator of heaven and earth,

the Word who spoke life into being,

the Wind stirring the waters.

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 turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

**Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

**The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.
Amen.**

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

HYMN

Here I Am to Worship

Hughes/CCLI #3266032

Verse 1

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see, Beauty that made
This heart adore You, Hope of a life spent with You

So here I am to worship, Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy, Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2

King of all days, Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above, Humbly You came
To the earth You created, All for love's sake became poor

So here I am to worship, Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy, Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 3

And I'll never know how much it cost,
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

So here I am to worship, Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy, Altogether wonderful to me

GREETING

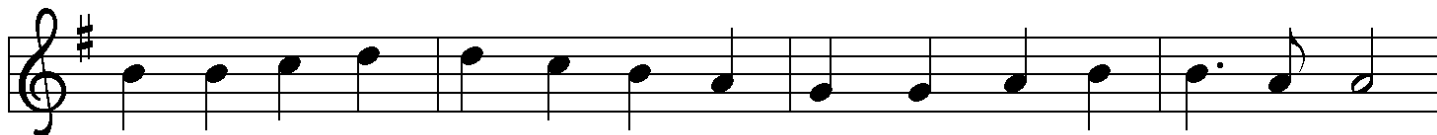
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

Glory Be to God in Heaven

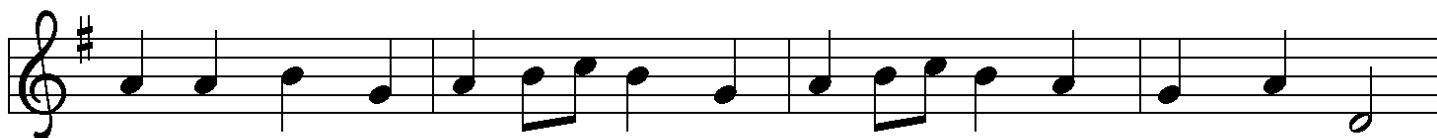
Augsburg Fortress #SB153820



- 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.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

ISAIAH 49:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹ Listen to me, O coastlands;
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born;
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- ² He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
- ³ And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- ⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord
and my reward with my God."
- ⁵ And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,

and my God has become my strength—
⁶ he says,
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”
⁷ Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
“Kings shall see and stand up;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

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

PSALM 40:1-11

We read responsively.

¹ I waited patiently upon the Lord,
who stooped to me and heard my cry.

***² The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit,
out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff,
making my footing sure.***

³ The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our
God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the
Lord.

⁴ Happy are they who trust in the Lord!

They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.

⁵ Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you!

⁶ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;

you have opened my ears:

burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

⁷ And so I said, "Here I am; come.

In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

⁸ 'I love to do your will, O my God;

***your law is deep within me.'* "**

⁹ I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, you know.

¹⁰ I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart;

I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance;

I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.

¹¹ You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

A reading from 1st Corinthians.

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, teaching us the way.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Emmanuel

McGee/CCLI #12949

C C/E F G G⁷ C C/B \flat

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,

A A/C \sharp Dm G⁷ G/B C

his name is called Em - man - u - el;

C/E F G G⁷ C C/B \flat

God with us, re - vealed in us;

A A/C \sharp Dm G⁷ F/C C

his name is called Em - man - u - el.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:29-42

The holy gospel according to St. John the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹ [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”³⁰ This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.”³² And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.”³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!”³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?”³⁹ He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon.⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed).⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

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.

SERMON


We stand.

HYMN

Lamb of God

Park/CCLI #2603988

A² F#m¹¹



1 Lamb of God, you take a - way the
2 Lamb of God, I'm ask - ing you to
(3) pre - cious blood of Je - sus Christ

D² E² A




sin of the world. Lamb of God, you
take a - way my sin. I con - fess that
cleans - es me from sin. The pre - cious blood of

F#m¹¹ D² E



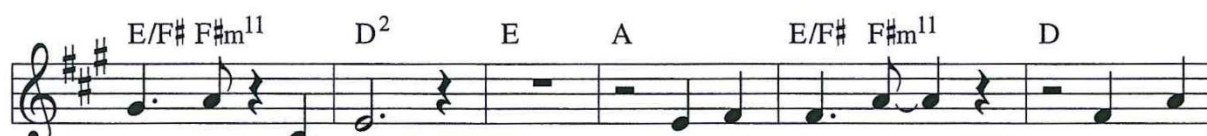
take a - way the sin of the world.
I've done wrong, I need your help a - gain.
Je - sus Christ cleans - es me from sin.

Refrain
A² E/F# F#m¹¹ D D/E E A



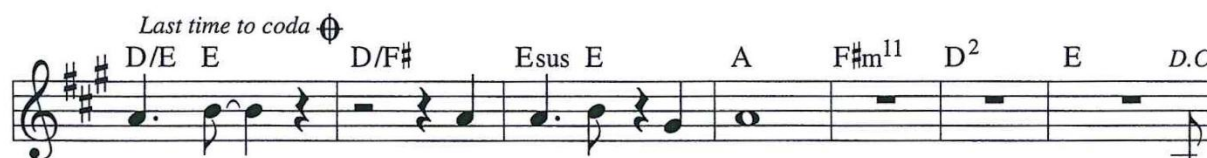
Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have

E/F# F#m¹¹ D² E A E/F# F#m¹¹ D




mer - cy on me. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

Last time to coda ⊕
D/E E D/F# Esus E A F#m¹¹ D² E D.C.



mer - cy, have mer - cy on me. 3 The

⊕ *Coda*
D/F# Esus E A F#m¹¹ D² E A²



Lord, have mer - cy on me.

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

As God's beloved children united in Christ, we pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Merciful God, receive our prayer

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **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

Behold the Lamb of God

Peterson/CCLI #7145907

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Holy Spirit Rain Down

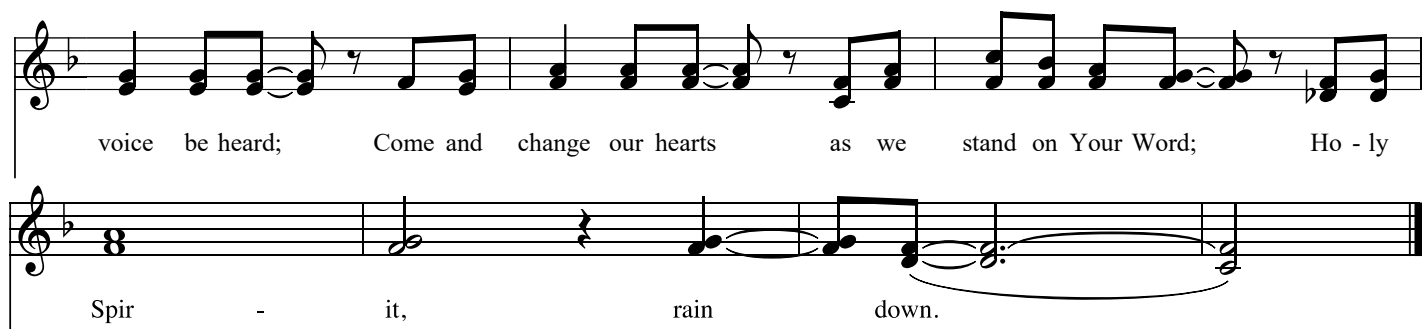
Fragar/CCLI #2405227

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of B-flat major (two flats), and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff begins with a 4/4 measure, followed by a repeat sign and a 6/8 measure. The second staff continues the melody with various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes. The third staff concludes the phrase with a final 4/4 measure. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly Spi - rit rain down, rain down; O Com - fort - er and Friend, how we need Your touch a-gain; Ho - ly Spir - it rain down, rain down; Let Your pow - er fall, let Your'.

Ho - ly Spi - rit rain down, rain down; O

Com - fort - er and Friend, how we need Your touch a-gain; Ho - ly Spir - it

rain down, rain down; Let Your pow - er fall, let Your



OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

God of majesty,

no eye has seen, no ear has heard

what you have prepared for those who love you,

yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.

Use what we have gathered

to feed us with the reign of God come near,

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE MEAL

Christ is truly present in the most ordinary and unexpected of places.

We gather around these elements consecrated by Pastor Gina.

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!
Come to the table; taste and see.

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.

MUSIC

Medley
Price

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.

Radiant God,
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood

*you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

THE SENDING

BLESSING

May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise
† bless you now and forever.
Amen.

HYMN

Goodness of God
Johnson/CCLI #7117726

I love you, Lord
For Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God
All my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night You are close like no other

I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful,
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now
I give you everything

Your goodness is running after, It's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now
I give you everything
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God
I will sing of the goodness of God

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

SENDING

The Blessing

Brown/CCLI #7147007

The Lord bless you — and keep you,
make his face shine — up - on — you and be gra - cious — to you.
The Lord turn his — face toward you and give you peace. .
— A - men, a -
-men, a - men. A - men, a -
-men, a - men.

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 Stephen Michael Price's birthday today by Wynne & Mary Price.



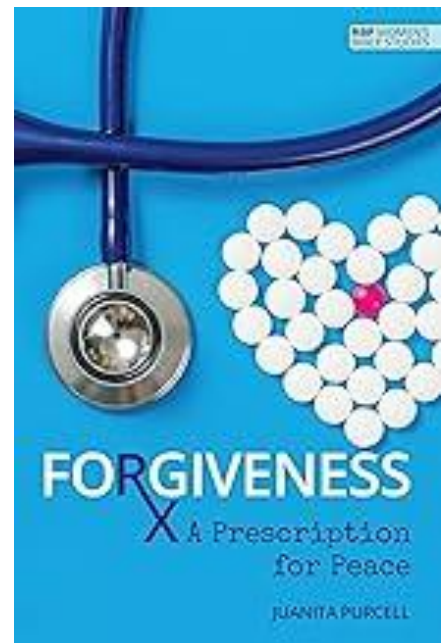
Join Us for a Health & Wellness Seminar!

Are you looking to kickstart a healthier lifestyle this year? Join us on **Sunday, January 25th, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm** at the **Mt. Hermon Fellowship Hall** for an inspiring afternoon with Michele Head. You'll learn practical tips for better lifestyle choices, explore wellness-focused diets, and discover secrets to healthy cooking. Light refreshments will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sponsored by the Care Team.

Forgiveness: A Prescription for Peace

Robin Machajewski and Danni Martin will be leading a Bible study about forgiveness. The studies will be held at the church on the following **Sundays at 1:30-3:30pm: 2/1/26, 2/8/26, 2/22/26, 3/1/26, 3/8/26, and 3/15/26.** 10 copies of the books have been donated. This Bible study will require some reading and self-reflection prior to meetings. If you are interested, please email Robin at **Robeanei@gmail.com** and she will coordinate getting a book to you prior to the study start date.



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

January 11, 2026

9:00 worship 51 + retreat 21 + live stream 148 = 220

Current & Benevolent	Received	*
Building Fund	Received	*
Building Improvement	Received	*

*Mt Hermon is in the process of installing a new system to track contributions. We will update the financials as soon as we can post into the new system.

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers:	Fran Bouknight	Blake Allen
	Ricky Bouknight	Jeff Price
Crucifer:	Brayden Rutherford	Sydney Bucknam
Acolyte:	Braydon Johnson	Chanler Coppens
Lector:	Kirby Johnson	Diane Boulware
Communion Assts:	Brayden Rutherford	Sydney Bucknam
	Kirby Johnson	Chanler Coppens
	Dylan Whitaker	Diane Boulware
	Nancy Addison	Parker Boulware
	Jamie Addison	Cheri Coppens
Audio:	Blake Allen	Brandon Donaldson
Video:	Breanna Metze	Marie Gardner
Flowers:	Wynne & Mary Price	Ann Bouknight

SERVING IN JANUARY

LOCK UP: Dion Metze

ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Price, Angie Hydrick

TABULATORS: Larry Amick, Angie Hydrick

MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayer

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

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

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Lauren Addy	Chris Carroll	Debbie Duval	Renee Greenbaum
Joye Haygood	Frankie Jackson	Elyse Kinard	Doris Maddox
Skyler Miller	Amanda Robinette	Jim Whitaker	Dennis Thurman

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*

Kaiden Howell,
friend of Jacquelyn Hawlik
Randy Stonehill, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer*
Linda Bennett, *mother of Beth Jordan*
Neice of Abbey Carroll's teacher
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*
Jimmy Maddox, *husband of Doris Maddox*



www.WeAreMtHermon.com

3011 Leaphart Road West Columbia, SC 29169

Monday – Friday 9:00am – 1:00 pm

803.794.6430 / 803.240.3143 cell/text

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

803.951.3784
803.240.3143 cell

PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com
Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Terry Swygert, *President*
Sheila Eargle, *Secretary*
Parker Boulware, *Financial Secretary*

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

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, January 18th - Youth Retreat

9:00 am Worship

10:30am Sunday School

Tuesday, January 20th

6:30 pm GR: Grief Group

Wednesday, January 21st

9:00 am Food Pantry

(Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price)

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Saturday, January 24th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Al & Laura Stevens, Frank Bouknight)

9:00 am CR: Tanzanian Inquiry/Planning meeting