

# DECEMBER 1, 2024

# 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

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Hudson/OneLicense #WL600034-4

# 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.* 

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow 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

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy, We confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might, We confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

God of our midst, We confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: It is Christ the Lord, our Savior, In whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, received the grace and forgiveness of God through Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

Amen.

As fully forgiven children of God, turn and face the altar as the cross passes you. The King Shall Come HYMN Davisson/CCLI #3600818 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks, 1 old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and 2 Not of die. as ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose Oh, bright - er than the 3 glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our Oh, bright - er than that 4 race The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty 5 brings. gilds the hills and life when beau - ty east - ern to joy a - wakes. like the but crowned with glo - ry sun that lights the morn-ing sky. death, de - spite the lone-some place of rage of foes. and left the when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face. day

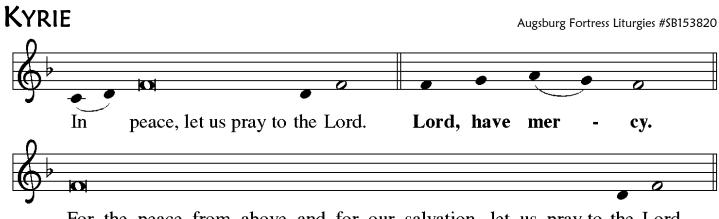
#### GREETING

the

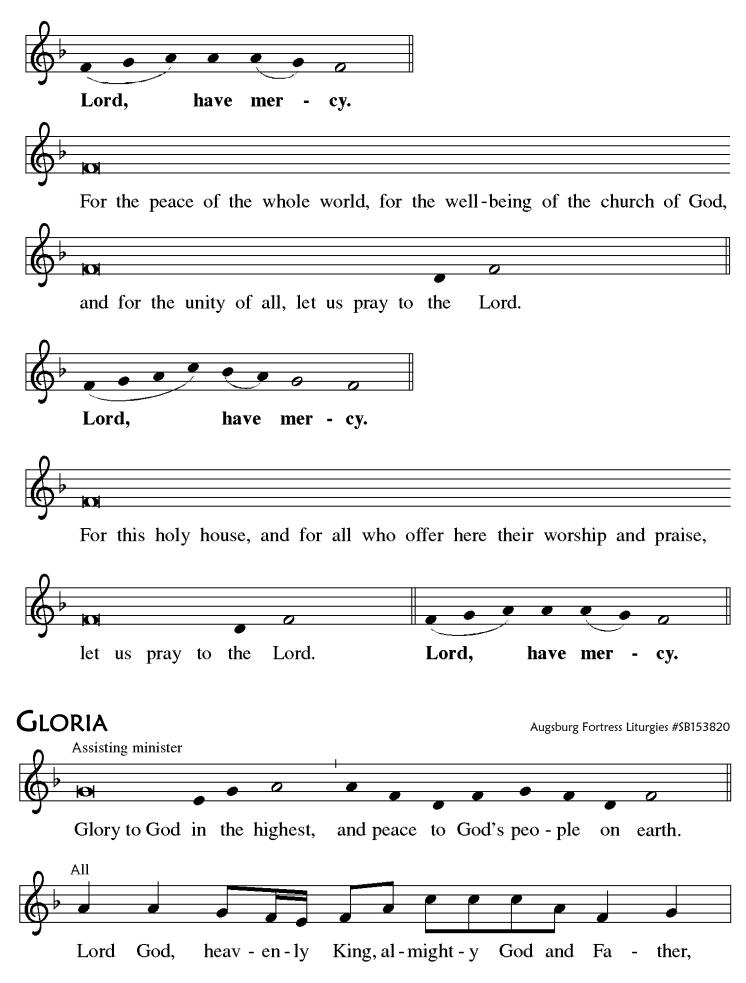
Hail, Christ the

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! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.





### PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. We sit.

# THE WORD

#### Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from Jeremiah.

<sup>14</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup> In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Word of God, pointing to the light.

### Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM 25:1-10

<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup> My God, I put my trust in you;

let me not be put to shame,

nor let my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>3</sup> Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous. <sup>4</sup> Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

<sup>5</sup> Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

### <sup>6</sup> Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

<sup>7</sup> Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup> You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

<sup>10</sup> All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

### 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A reading from 1st Thessalonians.

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup> And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Word of God, pointing to the light. *Thanks be to God.* 

#### We stand. GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies #SB153820



#### GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter. *Glory to you, O Lord.* 

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup> "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and

all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

### LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

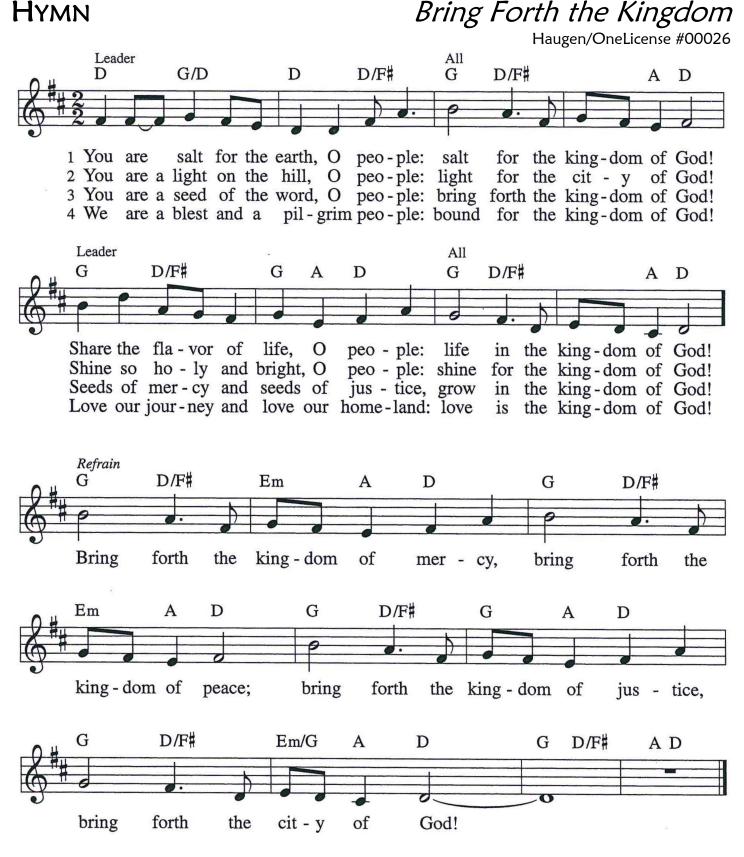
#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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

hope

#### We stand.



### 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 we prepare for Emmanuel, God with us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

#### Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. *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

My Lord What a Morning

African American Spiritual/Public Domain





pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together. Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

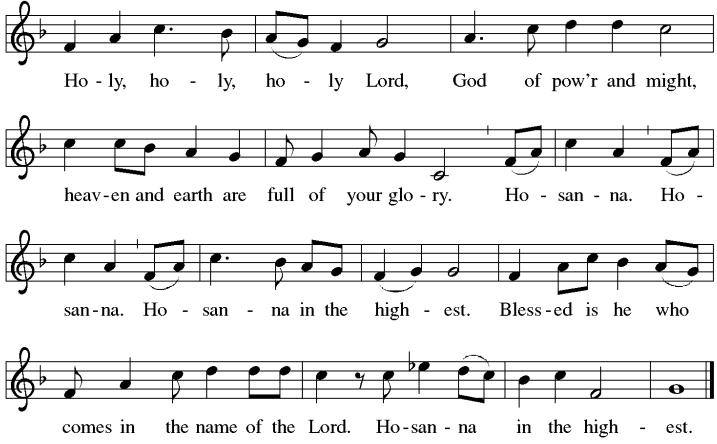
# THE MEAL

*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.* 

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave and by his glorious resurrection, opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



#### 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.* 

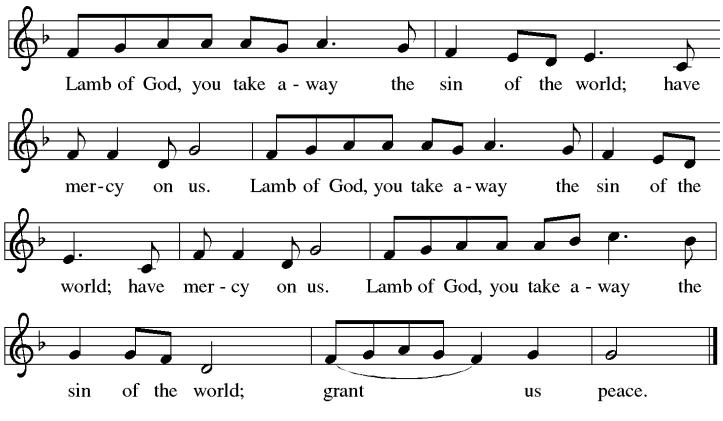
With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. *Come, Lord Jesus.*  Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. Make your Word take flesh in us. 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** God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.



We sit.

#### COMMUNION

Please come forward using the center aisle 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 outside aisles. Please return to your pews for a time of quiet prayer and meditation.

Music

Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn

Haugen/OneLicense #09936

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. Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.

# THE SENDING

Blessing

God of endings and beginnings,

God in the darkness and the light,

God, our hope for the journey,

bless and keep you now and forever. Amen.

Hymn

Soon and Very Soon Crouch/CCLI #11249



As the cross passes your pew, turn and face the entrance of the sanctuary. **SENDING** Brown, Carnes, Jobe, Furtick/CCLI #7147007



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.

Children are invited to come up to the front of sanctuary for practice,

# COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Mitch Steven's 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday on December 12<sup>th</sup> by Al, Laura, and Alyssa Stevens.



### Shock and Claus

Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 at Murray's in Cayce, SC. Each participant brings \$100, the meal will be paid out of the money collected and the

remainder will be given to the server as a generous tip. Please contact Frankie or Melanie Jackson if you would like to attend or if you have any questions.



Work is progressing on **Connor Eargle's Eagle project**! The damaged section of concrete has been replaced and painting will begin soon. We welcome any donations that are made as the pickleball court begins to take shape. It is Connor's hope that the court will

be a place where both church members and the community can play a sport that's rapidly increasing in popularity. Thank you for your support of this project.



#### WHILE WE WAIT

6:30 Wednesdays in Advent, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> will be held in the Fellowship Hall with a meal to follow. The 7:00 meal will be prepared and served by the Youth Ministry. They have many

events planned and are using this as a way of serving the community and also raising funds to offset some of the costs for their events.

"Bob the sax player" will be presenting a Jazzy Christmas program for Mt. Hermon and friends on Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 6:00. This will be a festive time for us to enjoy appetizers together as we continue to wait during the season of Advent.





The Mt Hermon littlest disciples will present the Christmas Story their style at the beginning of worship on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. You will not want to miss their telling of the story! The Worship and Music Team will be decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias this year. The cost of each poinsettias is \$10.00. If you would like to honor or remember someone with a poinsettia, please include your information in the Christmas Bulletin envelope or drop your check with the information in the offering plate. The information is needed in the church office by 9:00am on Wednesday, December 18th

(if possible would you allow the poinsettias to be used in worship through the January 7th worship service.)

### CHRISTMAS SERVICES

<u>December 24</u>

4 pm Family Christmas 7 pm Christmas Eve Service

#### TITHES AND OFFERINGS 11/24/2024 In Person 99 + Live Stream Worship 137 = 236 Community Thanksgiving In Person 87 + Live Stream Worship 129 = 216

Current & Benevolent	Received	n/a
Building Fund	Received	n/a
Building Improvement	Received	n/a

#### Honorariums and Memorials:

Due to holidays, information not available at time of printing bulletin.



Thank you to all who have called, texted, visited, sent a card, or helped in some way during the loss of my Mom. It is never easy, but being surrounded by so many amazing and caring people has certain helped during this difficult time. Thank you to Mt. Hermon for always opening the door to my Mom when she came to visit and always trying to make her feel at home here. *Devona Price* 

### SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers:	Blake Allen	Frank Bouknight
	Jeff Price	Herb Bucknam
Crucifer:	Sydney Bucknam	Mackenzie Burns
Acolyte:	Jacquelynn Hawlik	Brayden Morris
Lector:	Alyson Price	Mary Price
Communion Assts:	Sydney Bucknam	Mackenzie Burns
	Larry Amick	Brayden Morris
	Kay Bryant	Emily Morris
	Joel Price, Sr. Cameron Bucknam	DJ Plummer
	Danny Scott Jenny Scott	Charlene Corley
Nursery:	Charlene Corley	Leah Rawl
	DJ Plummer	Brittany Allen
Flowers:	Stevens Family	Price Families

# SERVING IN DECEMBER

COUNCIL REP: Terry Swygert

ALTAR GUILD: Mary Frances Sease, Diane Boulware

TABULATORS: Ann Bouknight, Diane Boulware

<u>USHERS:</u> Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Breanna Metze, Sheila Starkey

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# MT HERMON PRAYS

#### **Continual Prayer**

Patricia Bachman, *Asbury Arms* Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place* Bobby & 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, *Prisma Baptist* Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home* 

#### Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bonnie Bouknight	Chris Carroll	Randy Clark
Mary Frances Sease	Jim Whitaker	Joye Haygood

#### 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 Katy Madigan, friend of Marie 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* Jillian Stover, *friend of Erin Rose* 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 Family of David Kaylor, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price 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 Lutheran Disaster Recovery workers Hurricane Helene survivors and families

Mary Duffie, *mother of Alyson Price* 

# NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

#### Sunday, December 8th

9:00 am Worship
10:15 am Children's Choir
10:30 am Christmas Program Practice
10:30 am Sunday School
11:30 am Council Meets
12:00 pm FH: Reserved by Brittany Allen

#### Monday, December 9th

Gifts for Angle Tree Due 6:30 pm FH: Lutheran Men & Women

#### Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

Blankets for Wrap a Child due 6:30 pm Life Group at the Jacksons

#### Wednesday, December 11th

Meals on Wheels: Earl & Mary Frances 9:00 am Food Pantry (Ann Addy, Ann Bouknight, Sharon Keefe)

10:00 am Staff Meeting

- 12:05 pm FH: OneBody Service
- 6:30 pm Advent Worship
- 7:00 pm FH: Advent Meal
- 7:30 pm Handbells
- 8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

#### Saturday, December 14th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Swygerts & Carrolls)



www.WeAreMtHermon.com

3011 Leaphart Road West Columbia, SC 29169 803.794.6430

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor* Svetlana Royal, *Director of Music* Roberta Smith, *Administrative Asst*  803.951.3784 803.794.6430 PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com Music@WeAreMtHermon.com Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

#### CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Frankie Jackson, *President* Sheila Eargle, *Secretary* Annette Price/Karen Nicholson, *Financial Secretary*  Terry Swygert, Vice President Frank Bouknight, Treasurer Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, Sextons

# THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

#### Sunday, December 1st

- 9:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Children's Choir
- 10:30 am Sunday School
- 12:00 pm Porch Visits
  - 2:15 pm Christmas Program Rehearsal
  - 3:00 pm Confirmation Class

#### Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

5:30 pm CR: Care Team

#### Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

5:00 pm Executive Team

6:00 pm GR: Grief Group

#### Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am Food Pantry (Frank Bouknight, Angie Hydrick. Sherwood Garrett)

- 6:30 pm Advent Worship
- 7:00 pm FH: Advent Meal
- 7:30 pm Handbells
- 8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

#### Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00 am Food Pantry (Frankie & Melanie Jackson)
- 11:30 am Shock and Awe Breakfast