FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"No, I TELL YOU ... UNLESS YOU *REPENT,*

Luke 13:5, NIV

APRIL 21, 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**

Where Can I Turn for Peace

Meredith/email permission

EASTER PROCLAMATION Alleluia! Christ is Risen! *He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!*

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

He wash away our sin and all that separates us from God. Empower our witness to the resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. Amen

Please turn to the doors of the sanctuary to acknowledge the empty cross. Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty HYMN Dufner/OneLicense #36334 pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter "Come to me, all I will give. 1 me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest. "Come to 2 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur-dened; find re-fresh-ment in this place. 3 me, re - pen-tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame. "Come to of - fer, you would come to If you knew what gift I me and live." of - fer; Drink the cup of life I this be my guest." at ta - ble Come. re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn and seek my face." to me Come and know di - vine com-pas - sion, turn me, call your name." to Ι Refrain Je - sus, ev - er - flow-ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well. In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

GREETING

We gather for worship on this Easter Resurrection Sunday in the name of the Father, and **†** of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Kyrie



PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

O Lord Christ, you took our sins to the cross. Though your death, we are made new. Make us instruments to repent, forgive, and continue to be made whole. We pray this in the name of the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen We sit.

THE WORD

Luke 13:1-16

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

¹⁰Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?"

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

We sit. CHILDREN'S TIME

turn around

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.

repentance

We stand. **HYMN**

Lead Me, Guide Me

Akers/OneLicense #195322



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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen, and love has triumphed over fear, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

After each petition: God of grace, **hear our prayer**. Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in you abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. *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.

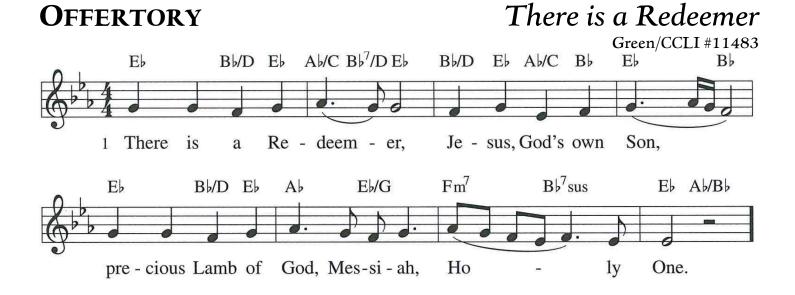
Friendship pads have returned to the pews. Please take a moment to sign the forms so that we may get to know our neighbors and we will also have a record of your communing.

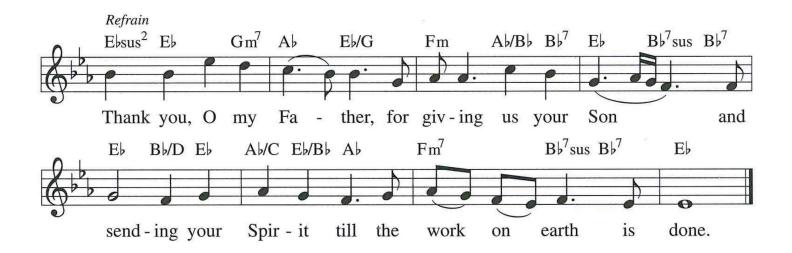
ANTHEM

We stand.

We Are Surrounded

Martin/OneLicense #217669





OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together. Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through 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; whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life.

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 Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you. *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

Thine is the Glory

Handel/Public Domain

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. Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The God of all, who raised **†** Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. *Amen*.

Go, My Children, With My Blessing HYMN Welsh Traditional/OneLicense #110843 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, a - lone. 1 nev er "Go, 2 my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, peace and pure. at and nour-ished, clos 3 "Go. my chil - dren, fed er to me. θ Wak - ing, sleep - ing, Ι am with you, you are my own. Here you learned how much love you, what Ι can Ι cure. Grow in love and love by serv-ing, ful and free. joy my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er. In Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry. Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you. e Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, own." you are my my chil-dren. sins for - giv - en, pure." Go. at peace and my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy ful free." Go, and

As the cross passes your pew, turn and face the entrance of the sanctuary. **SENDING** Go, Make Disciples

Hanson/OneLicense #118476



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 honor of our 24th Wedding Anniversary by Jamie and Nancy Addison.



The Outreach Team is continuing children's clothing for Cayce Elementary and Springdale Elementary. Items needed are new and gently used clothing sizes 5/6 through 16/18. New underwear is also needed. Containers are located outside the church office for this clothing.

TONIGHT ~ Youth will meet at the church for a NIGHT OUT!

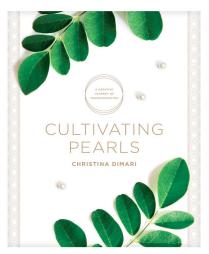
The youth will be going to an Escape Room and dinner!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! VBS will be June 23rd-27th



Ladies are invited to join a 7-week Bible through June 2 from 3:00-5:30 pm in the Education Wing (no meeting on Mother's Day, May 12) centered on Revelation 21 & 22. This study will incorporate creative coloring, journaling, and Bible analysis. Necessary materials consist of purchasing the "Cultivating Pearls" book, colored pencils, and a Bible. Some supplies will be





provided. For additional details, reach out to Jessica Goodwin at gracefullyaltered@gmail.com.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS 04/14/2024 In Person 85 + Live Stream Worship 97 = 182

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$ 2,472.86
Building Fund	Received	\$ 2,682.00
Building Improvement	Received	\$125.00

Honorariums and Memorials

In memory of Gene Schofield by Myra & Carl Kinard, Jeff & Alyson Price

In memory of Gale Garrett by Myra & Carl Kinard, Jeff & Alyson Price

In memory of Jenny Dixon by Angie Hydrick

In memory of the birthdays of our precious Dads Love, David, Scottie & Jacob



We are planning another grief support group for anyone that wants to share stories, vent, ask questions and grieve in a safe and supportive environment. If you are interested in joining us, please email Sheila Starkey at Starkey.sheila@gmail.com or call or text at 803-315-2990

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers:	Frank Bouknight	Teddy Koon
	Dion Metze	Joe Koon
Crucifer:	Brayden Rutherford	Mackenzie Burns
Acolyte:	Chanler Coppens	Brayden Morris
Lector:	Frankie Johnson	Emily Morris
Communion Assts:	Frank Bouknight	Joe Koon
	Frankie Jackson	Mary Koon
	Braydon Rutherford	Brayden Morris
	Chanler Coppens	Emily Morris
	Daryl Leigh Anthony	Mackenzie Burns
Nursery:	Katie Donaldson Melanie Jackson	Leah Rawl Brittney Allen Brayden Morris
Flowers:	Jamie & Nancy Addison	Danny Scott

SERVING IN APRIL

COUNCIL REP: Cyndi Leaphart ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Price, Angie Hydrick TABULATORS: Diane Boulware, Ann Bouknight USHERS: Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Marie Gardner, Brandon Donaldson

MT HERMON PRAYS

Family of Jenny Dixon, sister of Larry Amick and Kay Brayant

Continual Prayers

Patricia Bachman, Asbury Arms Dot Mathias, home Alberta Berry, home Lauvenia Butts, Lakeside Place Bobby & Doris Carver, Presby Home Georgianna Gray, home James Hallman, Lakeside Place Marie Kleckley, Lex Ext Care Gene & Jane Sexton, Phoenix Asst Living Gloria Mathias, home Jean Shealy, Lakeside Place Tom Roof, home Cyndi Thurman, home Linda Waters-Hamilton, home

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bonnie BouknightParker BoulwareEaston DonaldsonJim Whitaker

Chris Carroll

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayers

Nigel Tetley, friend of Sherwood Garrett Paula Miller, friend of Brittany Allen Wayne Kneece, uncle of Michelle Gantt Derwin Rish, friend of Michelle Gantt Jody & Libby Ortmann, lost their daughter, Sallie, on Christmas Day, Sallie was the "adopted daughter" of Fran Bouknight Roger Spires, friend of Chris Carroll Quentin Oswalt, Angie Hydrick's nephew, deploying to Iraq Phil Dennis, brother of Lavonne Roof Sandra Watson, aunt of Courtney Bucknam Please note that this prayer list Joyce & Doug Gilbert, coworkers of Courtney Bucknam Sarah Harmon, friend of Courtney Bucknam has been updated. If you wish to Hannah Pierce, friend of Jaquelyn Haulik add someone back to this list, Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family, friends of Debra & Dave Butts please send an email to Cindy Maples, mother of Jennifer Miller office@WeAreMtHermon.com Wes Hopkins, nephew of Jennifer Miller Will Pickett, friend of Jennifer Miller Paul Garner, friend of Robert Haygood Mrs. William L. Coleman Jr (Carolyn), friends of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart Jaimie Womack, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price Cynthia Mallard, friend of Sheila Starkey and Beth Jordan Blase Rhine, grandson of Frank & Bonnie Bouknight Cynthia Rabon, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price Connie Furtick, friend of Kim Fulmer Josh Jackson, friend of Joel Price, Jr. Brannon Yonce, friend of Michelle Gantt Katy Madigan, friend of Marie Carroll Billy Huckabee, friend of Danny Scott Jamie Spell, friend of David Marsh Louise Cooper, Kelli Mills Dawn McIlwain-Merck, friend of Robin Ellisor John Catoe, family of the Ellisors Jillian Stover, friend of Erin Rose *Debbie Dearman, neighbor of Kathy Cooper

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, April 28th

9:00 am Worship
10:30 am Sunday School
3:00 pm Cultivating Pearls/Bible Journaling 101

Tuesday, April 30th

6:00 pm GR: Grief Group

Wednesday, April 30th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett)
9:00 am Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Life Group at The Jacksons
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, May 4th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Lynn Bouknight & Karen Nicholson)







www.WeAreMtHermon.com 3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, SC 29169

803.794.6430

WeAreMtHermon

Rev. Gina D. Metze, Pastor803.951.3784Svetlana Royal, Director of MusicBreanna Metze, Parish Administrator803.794.6430

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, April 21st

- 9:00 am Worship
- 10:30 am Sunday School
- 11:30 am CR: Teach Team
 - 1:00 pm Porch Visits
 - 3:00 pm Cultivating Pearls/Bible Journaling 101
 - 3:00 pm Confirmation
 - 4:45 pm Youth Night Out-Meet at the Church

Tuesday, April 23rd

6:00 pm CR: Support Team

6:00 pm GR: Grief Group

Wednesday, April 24th

9:00 am Food Pantry (David & Debra Butts, Andrea Bowers)

- 12:05 pm OneBody Worship
 - 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 27th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Parker & Diane Boulware)