

FOURTH SUNDAY
in

LENT

MARCH 30, 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

Be with You

Mullins/CCLI #702118

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 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

We return to God, confessing our sin the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

*you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.*

*We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.*

*We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.*

*We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.*

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

*Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.*

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In † Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

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

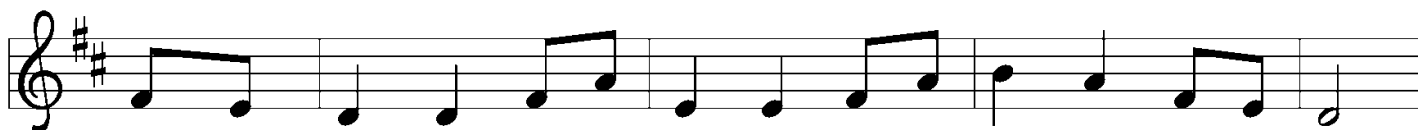
HYMN

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Wyeth/OneLicense #94979



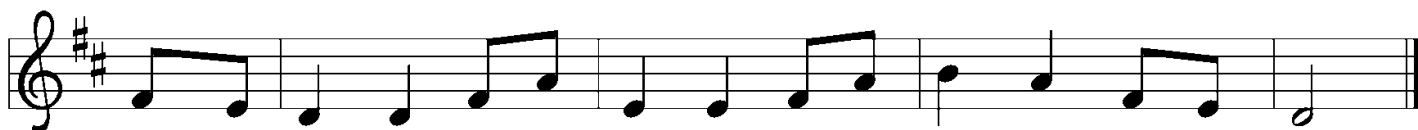
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

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.

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

Joshua 5:9-12

A reading from Joshua.

⁹ The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. ⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Word of God, teaching us the way.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32

¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

***² Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!***

³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

***⁴ For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.***

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

***⁶ Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers
to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow,
they shall not reach them.***

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

***⁸ "I will instruct you and teach you
in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.***

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule,
which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."

***¹⁰ Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.***

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

A reading from 2nd Corinthians.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Word of God, teaching us the way.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies #SB153820



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3,11b-32

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly,

bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. ²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S TIME

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

Good Good Father

Barrett,Brown/CCLI #7036612

Verse 1

I've heard a thousand stories
Of what they think you're like
But I've heard the tender whisper
Of love in the dead of night
and You tell me that You're pleased
And that I'm never alone
You're a Good, Good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

Verse 2

I've seen many searching for answers
Far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers
Only You provide
Because You know just what we need
Before we say a word
You're a Good, Good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are

And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, It's who I am, It's who I am

You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Verse 3

Love so undeniable I, I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I, I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still, As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still, Into love, love, love
You're a Good, Good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

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

Led by the Spirit, we turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

God in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. *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

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

Newton/CCLI #4755360

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Bread of Life

Hamilton, Meisenheimer/CCLI #7252237

D Em G D Em G

Verses

1. If you're hun - gry, come, tired_ and un - done, there's a
 2. Bring your wear - y mind, ev - ery tear you've cried, there is

D Em G D Em G D Em G

place for you, a place for you at the ta - ble._ If you're lone - ly, come,
 peace for you,___ peace for you at the ta - ble._ Lay your bur - dens down,

D Em G D Em G

fill your emp - ty cup,_ there's a drink for you,_ a drink for you at the
 hope is all a - round, you are wel - come here,___ wel - come here at the

D Em G G D/F# Bm A

Refrain

ta - ble._ Bread of life, Je - sus with us,___ heal - ing our hearts with love.
 ta - ble._

G D/F# Bm A

Bread of life, bro - ken for you,___ share with a - noth - er too._

G D Bm A G D D(sus4) D

There is e - nough. Oh there will al - ways be, so take this bread with me._

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

Gracious Provider,

you set your immense treasures among us,

opening your heart to the world.

*As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
Deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with
others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

THE MEAL

*Christ is truly present in the most ordinary and unexpected of places.
We gather around these elements consecrated by Pastor
Gina on Wednesday.*

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

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is here.

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 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

Communion Medley

Price

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 Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace
in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish
the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

THE SENDING

BLESSING

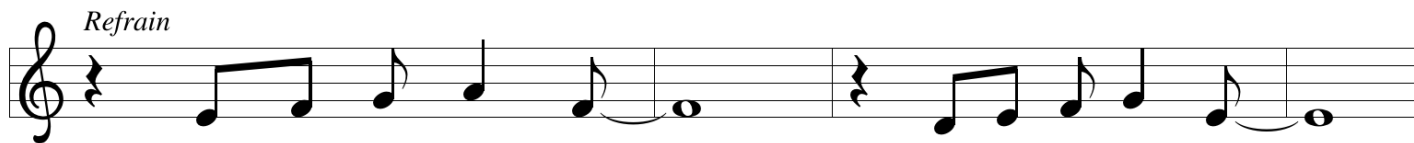
God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
† bless you now and forever. ***Amen.***

HYMN

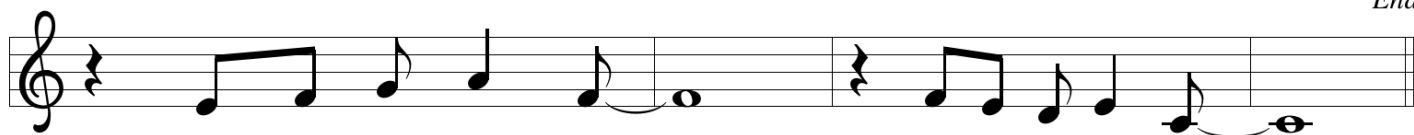
Change My Heart, O God

Sing Twice

Espinosa/CCLI #1565



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

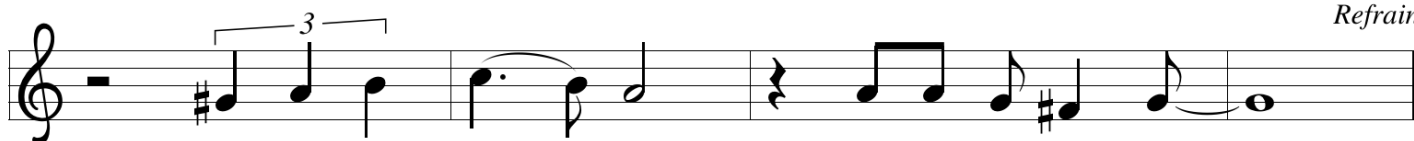


End

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Refrain

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

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

SENDING

The Blessing

Brown, Carnes, Jobe, Furtick/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. D.C. || D.S. |
-men, a - men. - 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 my loving wife Connie Bucknam by Herb Bucknam.



THE PINEVIEW RURITANS CLUB SHOE DRIVE

Please donate new or gently used shoes. They can be adult, childrens, womens, or mens shoes. There is a box in the breezeway for you to drop the shoes in. The shoe drive will run through May 31st. If you have any questions, please contact Charlene Corley or Diane Boulware.

Lenten Worship
Every Wednesday ~ March 12 - April 9
6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

BREAD
OF LIFE

A graphic with a yellow background. At the top, the text "Lenten Worship" is in a brown serif font. Below it, "Every Wednesday ~ March 12 - April 9" and "6:30 pm in the Sanctuary" are in a smaller brown serif font. In the center is a mosaic graphic of a sun or wheat stalk rising over a horizon, with yellow and gold tones and blue and green accents. Below the graphic, the words "BREAD" and "OF LIFE" are stacked in a large, brown, serif font. The "O" in "OF" contains a small white cross.

Spring flowers will decorate the sanctuary and the outside cross on Easter Morning.

If you would like to make a financial contribution to purchase flowers and have someone's name(s) listed in the memorial/honorarium bulletin, please make a donation by April 13th

Please call the church office if you have any questions 803.794.6430

JOIN US FOR MT. HERMON'S ANNUAL

EGGSTRAVAGANZA!

- *EGG HUNT
- *GAMES & PRIZES
- *PHOTO BOOTH
- *HOT DOG LUNCH
- **SHARING OF THE EASTER STORY**

SATURDAY APRIL 12

10:00 - 12:00

**MT. HERMON
FELLOWSHIP HALL**



REQUESTING

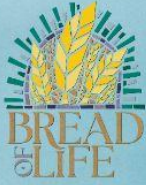
CANDY DONATIONS

FOR THE EGGSTRAVAGANZA!

- INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED
- SIZED TO STUFF IN EASTER EGGS
- DROP OFF AT CHUCH OFFICE

NEEDED BY SUNDAY APRIL 6

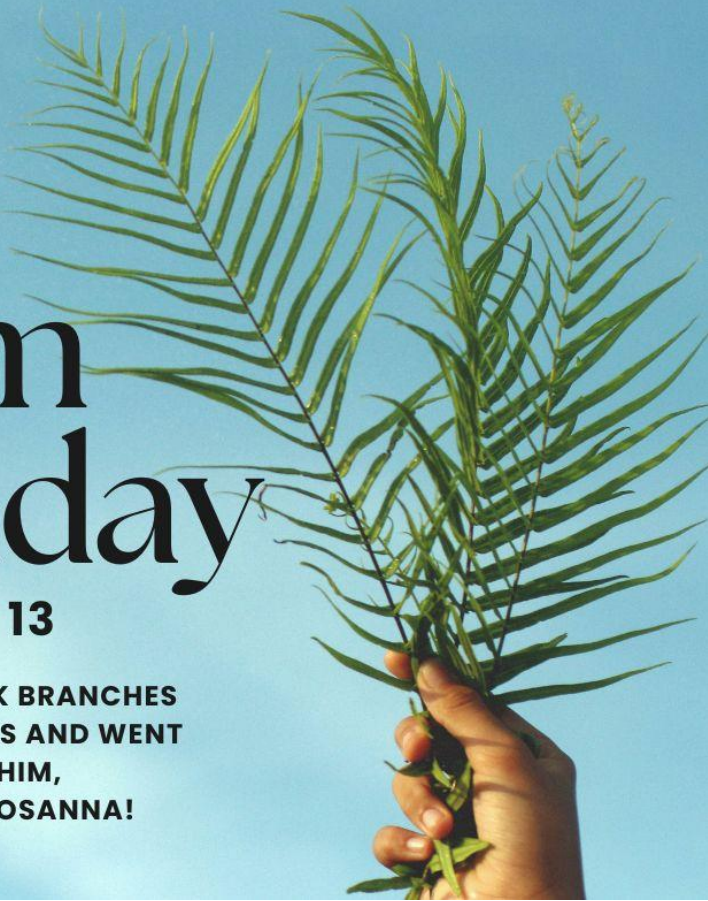




Palm Sunday

APRIL 13

“ SO THEY TOOK BRANCHES OF PALM TREES AND WENT OUT TO MEET HIM, SHOUTING “HOSANNA!



SAVE THE DATE

**MT. HERMON
PICNIC**

MAY 4, 2025

More details to come!



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

03/23/2025

In person attendance 95 +live stream 127 = 222

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$4,057.18
Building Fund	Received	\$600.00
Building Improvement	Received	\$100.00

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

N/A

We livestream each week to Facebook. Did you also know that we also livestream to YouTube? Like us on Facebook and subscribe on YouTube



@mthermonlutheran3011



WeAreMtHermon



Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church,
West Columbia, SC

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers:	Larry Amick	Frankie Jackson
	Kay Bryant	Melanie Jackson
Crucifer:	Quentin Kinard	Lawson Morris
Acolyte:	Mackenzie Burns	Avery Rawl
Lector:	DJ Plummer	Emily Morris
Communion Assts:	Quentin Kinard	Lawson Morris
	Mackenzie Burns	Emily Morris
	DJ Plummer	Kathy Cooper
	Danny Scott	Frankie Jackson Melanie Jackson
	Jenny Scott	Brayden Morris Danni Martin
Audio:	Ryan Corley	Mike Rawl
Video:	Rick Duval	Leah Rawl
Nursery:	Charlene Corley	Cassie Swygert
	DJ Plummer	Laura Carroll
Flowers:	Herb Bucknam	Jamie & Nancy Addison

SERVING IN MARCH

COUNCIL REP: Mary Koon

ALTAR GUILD: Mary Frances Sease, Diane Boulware

TABULATORS: Ann Addy, Mary Frances Sease

USHERS: Marion Leaphart, Dennis Thurman, Susan Busby

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, *Encompass*
Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Karly Addy	Bonnie Bouknight	Chris Carroll
Randy Clark	Debbie Duval	Debbie Fulmer
Michelle Gantt	Joye Haygood	Frankie Jackson
Dennis Thurman	Mary Frances Sease	Jim Whitaker
Wynne Price		

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*
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*
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*
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 Metztes*
Sam Lockridge, *friend of Scottie Marsh*
Mary Duffie, *mother of Alyson Price*
Thelma Moyer, *mother of Diane Boulware*
Kaiden Howell, *friend of Jacquelynn Hawlik*
Randy Stonehill, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer*
Linda Bennett, *mother of Beth Jordan*
Neice of *Abbey Carroll's teacher*



WeAreMtHermon

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*

803.951.3784

PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com

Svetlana Royal, *Director of Music*

Music@WeAreMtHermon.com

Roberta Smith, *Administrative Asst*

803.240.3143 cell

Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Terry Swygert, *President*

Ronnie Fulmer, *Vice President*

Sheila Eargle, *Secretary*

Frank Bouknight, *Treasurer*

Annette Price/Karen Nicholson, *Financial Secretary*

Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, *Sextons*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, March 30th

9:00 am Worship

10:30 am Sunday School

2:00 pm Porch Visits

Pastor Gina will be on Vacation through Monday. If you need immediate pastoral care, please call your Faith Family leader.

Tuesday, April 1st

5:00 pm Executive Team

6:00 pm GR: Grief Group

Wednesday, April 2nd

9:00 am Food Pantry

(Mary Price, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett)

6:30 pm Lenten Worship

7:00 pm Lenten Meals: Support Team

7:05 pm Handbell Practice

7:30 pm Choir Practice

Saturday, March 29th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Frankie & Melanie Jackson)