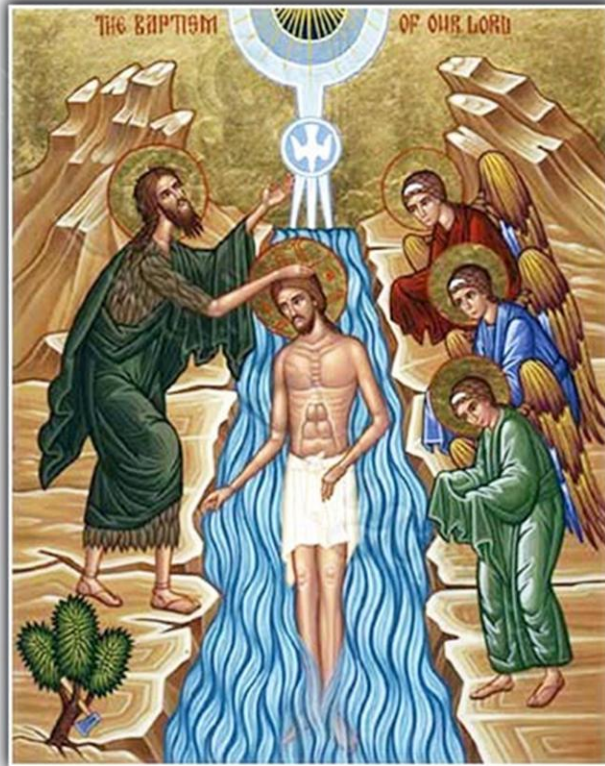


# SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



## *Baptism of Our Lord*

**January 11, 2026**

*400 River Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29212*

*In the order of service, congregational responses are printed in **bold**.  
Our worship **begins** at the Prelude, as we hear God's word in music.*

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

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#### *All Creation Sings Setting 12*

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*Please Stand if you are able*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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.**

Let us 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.**

### GATHERING HYMN

*Remember and Rejoice*

**ELW 454**

### 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.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please Sit*

# WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9**

*God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.*

- <sup>1</sup> Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.
- <sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street;
- <sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- <sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
- <sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people  
upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:
- <sup>6</sup> I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and  
kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,
- <sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
- <sup>8</sup> I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.
- <sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43**

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

- <sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about

doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please Stand if you are able*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

*Repeat alleluia*

### GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God’s child.*

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

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

*Please Sit*

### MESSAGE

Frank W. Anderson

*Please Stand if you are able*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized*

ELW 304

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

*A brief silence.*

Steadfast God, give courage to your servant church. Heal our divisions and unite us in mission. Uphold our lay leaders, missionaries, pastors, and bishops, and all who proclaim hope in a broken world. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs. Create in us an urgent desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good creation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile warring enemies and end cycles of violent retribution. Defend the rights of prisoners, detainees, and all who flee from persecution. Sustain international aid workers and peacemakers. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Provide safety and support for those seeking asylum or in need of shelter. Be near to the dying, and comfort all who are grieving or ill *especially*.... Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we may serve Christ by loving one another, our neighbors, and our enemies. We pray for travelers and those who are homebound. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Promising God, in baptism we die and rise with Christ. We give thanks for those who have gone before us, and we trust that we will join them in your everlasting peace.

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.**

*Please Sit*

# THANKSGIVING AND MEAL

*We give in grateful response for all God's gifts; God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## OFFERING

*We offer **secure online giving** through [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly). Please see the back page for more. Offering plates located at each entrance/exit. If you need an envelope or assistance, please ask an usher.*

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Take Me to the Water*

Choir

*Please Stand if you are able*

## OFFERING HYMN

*As With Gladness Men of Old*

**ELW 302, vs. 4**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. 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.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

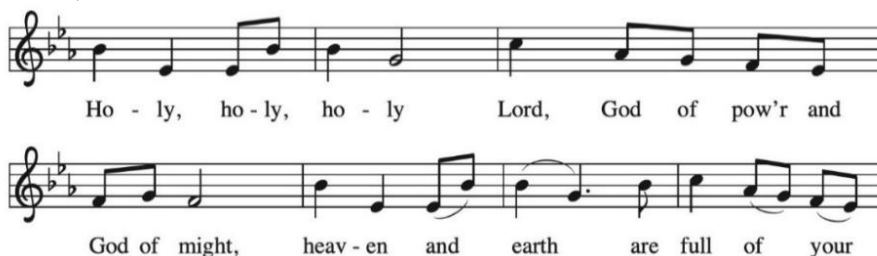
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

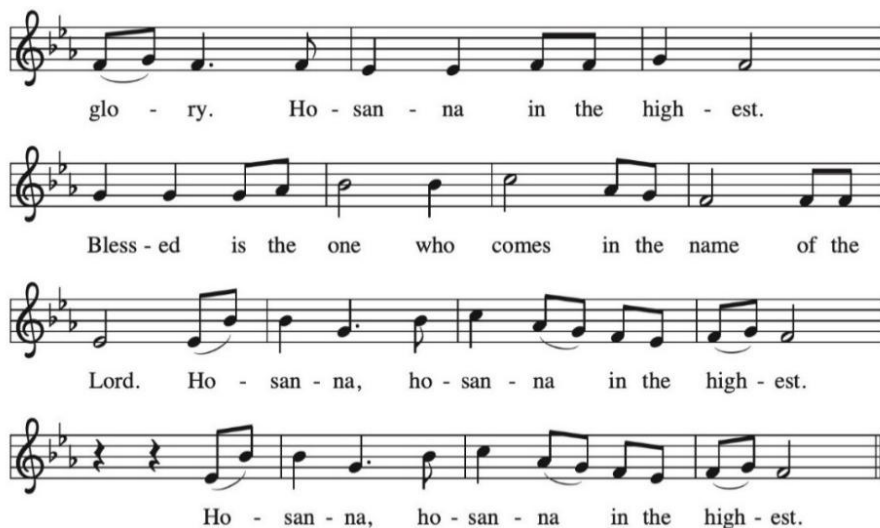
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Almighty Lord, we praise your shining light, your glowing grace. From before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised us life forever. Within the earth's deep sadness, we laud your great and glorious might. Despite our tears and sinning, we sing of the gladness of your mercy.

We praise your Son, our Morning Star. Christ is our diamond bright, our treasure dear. He is our living Savior who has ransomed us in love. He keeps us yours and fails us never—today, tomorrow, and every day.

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

With joy we tell our story:  
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

We call for your Spirit on us and this meal. Refresh our souls with this heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son. Nourish us as branches of your tree, and enlighten us with your undying flame.

We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son, we exult in the Spirit. Transport us in



our yearning, and be for us the end and the beginning, our purest pleasure, our victorious crown, our never-ending love.

And so we pray and praise:

Amen, amen.

**Amen, 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.**

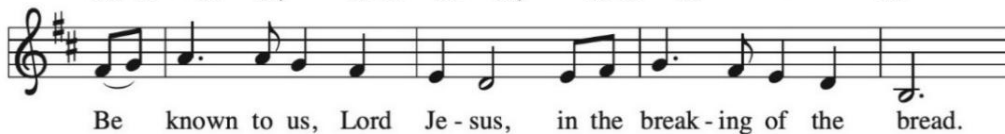
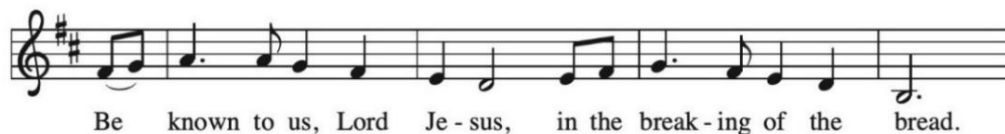
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Come to the table; taste and see.

*Please Sit*

## LAMB OF GOD



## COMMUNION

*Holy Communion is offered to all who believe in Jesus Christ, who confess their sins, and seek forgiveness. For those who are able, an usher will instruct the congregation when to come forward using the center aisle; please return to your pew using the side aisles. Wine, juice (white), and gluten-free wafers are available. Please alert an usher if you require assistance so communion can be brought to you.*

### COMMUNION HYMNS

*Crashing Waters at Creation  
Spirit of Gentleness*

**ELW 455  
ELW 396**

*Please Stand if you are able*

### COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. 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.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

### 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.**

### SENDING HYMN

*The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

**ELW 551**

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

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### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Ushers: Harry Metz, Brian Kunar  
Lector: Linda May  
Sacristans: Kristi Kunar, Rita Anderson

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in gratitude for all the baptized who live out their faith every day by Pastor Frank Anderson.

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**THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL**    *Mon & Fri Update Calls from PFA at 4:55 pm*

**TODAY, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

***Baptism of Our Lord***

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Choir Warmup

***10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion***

Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

6:00 p.m. Council Meeting—Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

***10:00 a.m. Bible Study—Red Letter Jesus—Fellowship Hall***

Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. AA Meeting (Morning Group) ChEd

Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup>

***9-10 a.m. Choir Rehearsal--Choir Room***

**Next Sun, January 18<sup>th</sup>**

***Epiphany 2***

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Choir Warmup

***10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion***

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**LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS: FRIENDS--#HOME, ^REHAB, \*SENIOR LIVING**

*Ken & #Dot Black*

Lisa Gillespie

*\*Don & Gwen Buff*

Douglas Gourley

*\*Rose Colley*

Joy Gunter

*#Barbara DeVore*

Bo Harris

*#Virgie Dreher*

David Heinrich

*\*Barbara Fowler*

Vicky Huggins

*^Mitzi McTeer*

Jill Lee

*\*Alma Paulson*

Patrick Lindler

*Grady & #Melinda Sharpe*

Angie Matlosz

*\*Tommae Sligh*

Terry Matlosz

*Dea Baughman*

Gary McManus

*Donny Day*

Harry O'Quinn

*Jackie Dunning*

Brooke Pittman



Jane Potts

Marlene Stirewalt

Ed Thomas

Bruce Whelchel

**MEMBERS & FAMILIES OF THE US ARMED FORCES & MILITARY, INCLUDING:**

Tyler Alexander, USMC: Sherri Spangler's grandson

Samantha Davis, USA; Gene & Diana Riley's niece

Zachary Davis, USN-*deployed*; Carolyn Cook's grandson

Grant Frick, SCNG; Linda Frick's grandson

Hunter Purvis USA-*deployed*; Jerry & Cheryl Baxter's son-in-law

# SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*



**If you are a guest, welcome!**

Ushers have *Connections Card* to drop it in the offering plate so that we can get to know you better. As you leave, be sure to introduce yourself to the pastor. If you would like to learn about membership or have any questions, please call the church office. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

**Tithe.ly online giving** direct via the ONLINE GIVING tab at [www.stmichael1814.com](http://www.stmichael1814.com) and available in the app store, [www.tithe.ly/give](http://www.tithe.ly/give). One-time or recurring gifts can be scheduled. The process is quick, safe, and funds are deposited immediately.

**Restrooms located** in both Administrative and Christian Education Buildings.

**Children are always welcome** in our worship service, but for those who desire it, a nursery is located in the Administrative Building. We stream via Facebook Live.

**LARGE PRINT** bulletins and **Children's** books & activities available from an usher.

## *The People of Saint Michael, Ministers*

*The Reverend Frank W. Anderson, Pastor*

*Karen Shevenell, Cantor*

*Kris Esgar, Parish Administrator*

*Wishing you Joy and Happiness in the New Year.*

WiFi: StMichaels\_Guest    PW: Sundays!!