

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Reformation Sunday

October 26, 2025

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

ELW SETTING ONE

pages 97-113

Please Stand if you are able

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

ELW pg. 97

GATHERING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

ELW 504

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 (*Sung Responsively*)

In Peace Let Us Pray to the Lord

ELW pg. 98

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the Feast

ELW pg. 101

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, 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: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

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

PSALM 46 (*Sung Responsively*)



- ¹ God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,
the holy habitation of | the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth | melts away.**
- ⁷ The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
- ⁸ **Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,**

what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;
⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.
¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;**
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”
¹¹ The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God.
²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

Please Stand if you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia with Verse

ELW Pg. 102

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 8th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

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

Please Sit

MESSAGE

Frank W. Anderson

Please Stand if you are able

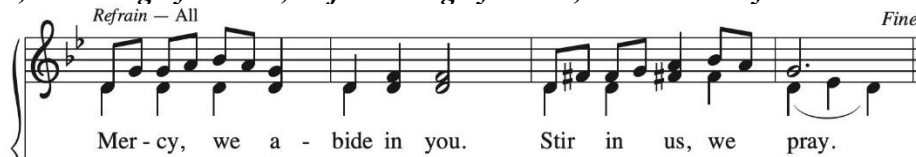
HYMN OF THE DAY *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*

ELW 729

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Renewed in God’s everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

ACS 1077, vs. 1 sung by Leader; Refrain sung by leader, second time by ALL



Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel.

Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world.

Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose

ACS 1077, vs. 2 sung by Leader; Refrain 1st by leader, 2nd by ALL

Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill (*especially*). Be our stronghold at all times.

Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another.

We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints. Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross.

ACS 1077, vs. 3 sung by Leader; Refrain 1st by leader, 2nd by ALL

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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. 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

The Lord is My Light

Choir

Please Stand if you are able

OFFERING HYMN

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

ELW 814

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 107

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW pg. 108

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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Please Sit

LAMB OF GOD

ELW pg. 112-113

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

***Come Now, O Prince of Peace
Listen, God is Calling***

ELW 247

ELW 513

Please Stand

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. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus’ name.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✚ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

ELW 654

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Ushers: Brian & Kristi Kunar

Lector: Paul Nevergoll

Sacristans: Karla Maloney, Carolyn Cook

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Matthew Blaine Colley by Bill & Lori Colley.

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**ANNUAL MEETING—SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH FOLLOWING
WORSHIP. POTLUCK LUNCH TO FOLLOW BUSINESS MEETING.**



Transitions is our community partner for October. Since 2011, they have placed more than 4087 people into permanent housing and served 2.75 million meals. New socks and underwear for both men and women are needed and appreciated. Gently used cold weather outer wear can also be donated. As always, monetary gifts are also welcomed. Your generosity and compassion are very much appreciated.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL *Mon & Fri Update Calls from PFA at 4:55 pm*
TODAY, October 26th

9:15 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

11:35 a.m.

Sunday School—Fellowship Hall

Worship with Holy Communion

Photos for Lilly's book—Please stay and help

Monday, October 27th

2:00 p.m.

Miriam Shealy Funeral

Tuesday, October 28th

12:00 p.m.

AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

Wednesday, October 29th

10:00 a.m.

Bible Study—James—Fellowship Hall

5:30 p.m.

Fellowship Dinner—British Bulldog (sit at 6:30 pm)

Thursday, October 30th

12:00 p.m.

AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

Friday, October 31st

10:00 a.m.

AA Meeting (Morning Group) ChEd

Saturday, November 1st

11:00 a.m.

9-10 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room

Celebration of Life for Larry Slice

Next Sun, November 2nd

9:15 a.m.

All Saints Sunday

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School—Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m.

Choir Warmup—Choir Room

Worship

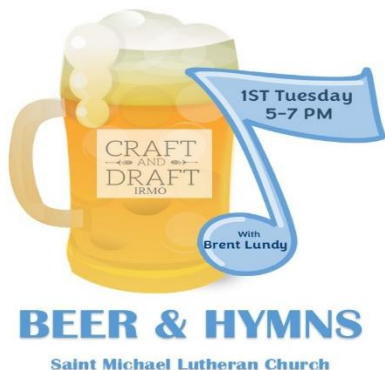
ADULT NIGHT OUT



We're finally getting together again for a night of fun & fellowship. Meet us at the British Bulldog on Bowers Parkway on Wednesday, October 29th at 5:30 for Cocktails. Dinner Orders will begin at 6:30 to allow time for the working members to meet us. Hopefully, we'll have the back room. Talk to Kris if you have questions.

The British Bulldog is an English style pub with good food, a variety of adult beverages & soft drinks. They specialize in showing all the major soccer/futbol games and tourneys.





Please Join us Tuesday, November 4th from 5:00-7:15 as we enjoy fellowship, a bite to eat, beverages and some familiar songs. You are NOT required to sing if you prefer to just listen and enjoy. It's a fun time for all and is open to the community, so feel free to bring friends.

Save-the-Date for our Ugly/Tacky Sweater Party on Tuesday, December 2nd at Craft & Draft for Beer & CAROLS!

CRAFT
AND
DRAFT

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It's time again for "Hands That Help".

*Each hand represents a child in an ESL family in our Lex/Rich 5 community that is struggling with language barriers and finances. As the parents strive to learn English to improve their job prospects, our church partners with the Adult Education program and other churches to provide some Christmas cheer. Please find a hand; age, gender, and favorite items or colors are noted. Gifts or gift cards should be UNWRAPPED and returned with the hand no later than **Sunday, December 9th** so the gifts can be distributed. There are brown shopping bags with handles available for your gifts if you need one. Please keep the value of your gift(s) to \$30 or less. See the bulletin board in the narthex for more information and suggestions.*





**LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS:
FOR FRIENDS--#HOME, ^REHAB, *SENIOR LIVING AND/OR ILL**

Ken & #Dot Black
*Don & Gwen Buff
*Rose Colley
*Helen Derrick
#Barbara DeVore
#Virgie Dreher
*Barbara Fowler
*Alma Paulson
Grady & #Melinda Sharpe
*Tommae Sligh

Dea Baughman
Donny Day
Lisa Gillespie
Douglas Gourley
Joy Gunter
Bo Harris
David Heinrich
Vicky Huggins
Jill Lee

Angie Matlosz
Terry Matlosz
Gary McManus
Harry O'Quinn
Brooke Pittman
Jane Potts
Reggie Price
Marlene Stirewalt
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; Carolyn Cook's grandson
Grant Frick, SCNG; Linda Frick's grandson
Hunter Purvis USA-*deployed*; Jerry & Cheryl Baxter's son-in-law
2-17 Air Combat Squadron-*deployed*



SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



If you are a guest, welcome! Please ask an usher for a blue *Connections Card* and drop it in the offering plate so that we can get to know you better. As you leave today, be sure to introduce yourself to the pastor. If you would like to learn about membership or have other 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 and available in the app store, 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 the 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

WiFi: StMichaels_Guest PW: Sunday!!