

# SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Reformation Sunday*

**October 27, 2024**

*400 River Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29212*

*In the order of service, congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

## GATHERING

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dean Whitecotton

### PRELUDE

*Please Stand*

### GATHERING HYMN

*The Church's One Foundation*

**ELW 654**

### 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, who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,**

**but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.**

**We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.**

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.**

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,**

**and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

**Amen.**

### 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** *Cantor sings verse, congregation sings refrain*

**ELW page 184**

*Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,  
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.*

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

**This is the Feast**

**ELW page 187**

*This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.  
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.*

*This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.  
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

*This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.*

**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.*

<sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>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*)



- <sup>1</sup>God is our ref- | uge and strength,  
a very present | help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;**
- <sup>3</sup>though its waters | rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.
- <sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,  
the holy habitation of | the Most High.**
- <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the | break of day.
- <sup>6</sup>**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth | melts away.**
- <sup>7</sup>The LORD of | hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
- <sup>8</sup>**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;**
- <sup>9</sup>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.
- <sup>10</sup>**“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”**
- <sup>11</sup>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.*

<sup>19</sup>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.

<sup>20</sup>For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

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

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>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*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**ELW page 188**

*Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia.*

## **GOSPEL: John 8:31-36**

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 8<sup>th</sup> 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.*

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

<sup>33</sup>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’?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to

sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

*Please Sit*

## MESSAGE

Mary W. Finklea

*Please Stand*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**    *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*

**ELW 517**

## 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

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

Lord of all, we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature's cycle of life includes and requires both life and death. Instill in your people a mission of preservation and appreciation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond *especially*... Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community to be ever reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, in Christ's resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **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 the convenience of **secure online giving** through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly). Please see the back page for more information about online giving. Offering plates are currently located at each entrance/exit for your convenience. If you need an envelope, please ask an usher.*

### SPECIAL MUSIC

David Heinrich, guitar

*Please Stand*

### OFFERING HYMN

*God Extends an Invitation*

**ELW 486**

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through 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; 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:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**ELW page 190**

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.*

*Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life.

Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay,

the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm.

Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:

The earth is full of your glory:

**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.

In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection.

Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.

Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.

Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:

The earth is full of your glory:

**The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

*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.*

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:

The earth is full of your glory:



**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead.

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ.

Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth.

Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again:

The earth is full of your glory:

**The earth is full of your glory.**

Amen, and amen. **Amen, and 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**

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

*Please Sit*

**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.*

**LAMB OF GOD**

**ELW page191**

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.*

**COMMUNION HYMN** *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

**ELW 596**

**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. Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

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

## BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful ✚ bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

**ELW 504**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Sacristans: Rita Anderson & Judith Nevergoll

Lector: Kris Esgar

Ushers: Bob & Rita Anderson

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given today to the glory of God by Pastors Frank & Mary Anderson in honor of the congregation of Saint Michael Lutheran Church.

**WE WELCOME PASTOR MARY W. FINKLEA** of the SC Retreat Centers as our guest pastor. She serves as liaison between local congregations and the ministries of Camp Kinard & Coastal Retreat. We are so appreciative that Pastor Mary is with us today.

**FREE WILL OFFERING FOR REFORMATION SUNDAY**—We are collecting for the SC Retreat Centers today in addition to our regular offering. This is in honor of Pastor Mary preaching for us today. Thank you for your generosity.



*We are looking for volunteers for the Treat Trail on Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> as well as monetary or treat donations (individually wrapped candy or snacks, small toys). Thank you.*

**THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL** 4:55 pm Mon & Fri Update Calls from Pastor Frank!

**TODAY, October 27** 9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
*Reformation* 9:45 a.m. Choir warmup  
*Wear Red!* 10:30 a.m. **Worship with Holy Communion—also streaming**

**Tuesday, Oct 29** 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

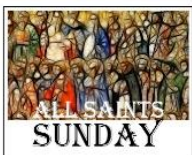
**Wednesday, Oct 30** 10:00 a.m. Bible Study – Pastoral Epistles - Fellowship Hall  
 5-7ish Treat Trail at Irmo Village Shopping (Craft & Draft)  
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room



**Thursday, Oct 31** 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

**Friday, Nov 1** 10:00 a.m. AA Meeting (*Mid-Morning Meeting*) ChEd

**Next Sunday, Nov 3** 9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
*All Saints* 10:00 a.m. Choir Warmup  
 10:30 a.m. **Worship with Holy Communion—also streaming**



*Please let Kris know if you have a loved one who may not be on our All Saints list for the past year. We remember and acknowledge our loved ones lost in 2024 next Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.*



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

*Dot Black	*JoAnn Smoak	Mickey Lindler	
*Bob Bowers	-----	Crosby Livingston	Harry O'Quinn
*Don & Gwen Buff	Kristin Belusko	Sharon Lundy	Brooke Pittman
*Rose Colley	Donny Day	Angie Matlosz	Jane Potts
*Helen Derrick	Lisa Gillespie	Terry Matlosz	Grady Sharpe
*Virgie Dreher	Douglas Gourley	Caroline McCauley	Melinda Sharpe
*Barbara Fowler	Joy Hunter	Gary McManus	Richard Starnes
*Alma Paulson	David Heinrich	Bob Michelsen	Marlene Stirewalt
*Miriam Shealy	Alice King	Paul Nevergoll	Bruce Whelchel
*Tommae Sligh	Jill Lee	Judy Olson	Sabrina Whitecotton

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

Tyler Alexander, USMC; Sherri S's grandson	Collin Maloney, USAOTS; Mike & Karla's son
Samantha Davis, USA; Gene & Diana's niece	Griffin McLeod, SCNG; Mandy's son
Zachary Davis, USN; Carolyn's grandson	Hunter Purvis USA; Jerry & Cheryl's SIL
Grant Frick, SCNG; Linda F's grandson	

# 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](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, eliminating the need for carrying cash or check writing. The process is quick, safe, and funds are deposited immediately. Personal information is secure, and you can change your giving profile at any time. Designations for memorial or special gifts are available on the drop down fund menu. An instant receipt is sent via email or text for your tax records, too.

**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 available from an usher.

## *The People of Saint Michael, Ministers*

*The Reverend Frank W. Anderson, Pastor*

*Karen Shevenell, Cantor*

*Kris Esgar, Parish Administrator*