SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



LIGHT THE WAY

Faith & Freedom in Song

November 1, 2026
3:00 p.m.

400 River Road + Columbia, South Carolina

Chuck Wilson, Organist



W. Chuck Wilson, a former Public and Private school Music Teacher and Gifted and Talented Coordinator currently serves as Director of Music and Organist at the Highland Park United Methodist Church in Florence. SC. Formerly he served as Organist and Choir Master at Church of the Holy Comforter in Sumter where he currently resides. He also was Chairman of the Diocesan Commission of Music and Liturgy and Diocesan Council.

Chuck is employed as the HR Director and Community Development for his family's businesses to include UBI, Inc., the largest Af. American Insurance Agency in the county and as Principal of Faber-Wilson Strategies, a Political and Educational firm. In addition to stints at the Arts Council, he is an active member of Rotary, Kiwanis, Optimist and on the National Board of Sertoma and University of South Carolina Partnership Board. He is a proud Gamecock where he double-majored in Music Education and Political Science and is also an Alumnus of Gupton-Jones College of Funeral Service.



Michael Baier, Cellist

Michael Baier, the Director of Orchestras at Alice Drive Middle School, Sumter, SC, has overseen a remarkable growth in the orchestra programs with enrollment swelling to 400 students over the past fifteen years. He also co-directs the Sumter REACH gifted strings program and serves as a studio instructor, guiding students to success in Regional and All-State Orchestras.

Mr. Baier holds a Bachelors of Music with a Performance Certificate in Double Bass from the University of South Carolina and a Master's degree in Music Education from North Greenville University. He has been honored as Teacher of the Year by his school, the Sumter Chamber of Commerce, and local media outlets, while guiding his students and ensembles to top ratings at the SC Performance Assessments and performing at the SCMEA Annual Conference in 2023. Michael and his wife, Krystin, are the proud parents of James, 4 and Belanna, 1.

OUR PROGRAM

Arioso For Cello and Organ - J.S. Bach

For All the Saints — Congregational Song

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897

Shall We Gather At the River — Congregational Song

1 Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain

Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.

2 On the margin of the river,
washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever,
all the happy golden day. *Refrain*

3 Ere we reach the shining river,
lay we ev'ry burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver,
and provide a robe and crown. *Refrain*

4 Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace. *Refrain*

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

Shall We Gather At the River — *Improvisation*

Amazing Grace — *Improvisation*

Amazing Grace — Congregational Song

1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand
years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian — Congregational Song

1 Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart,
in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart,
in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2 Lord, I want to be more loving in my
heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart,
in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

3 Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart,
in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart,
in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart,
in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart,
in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Text: African American spiritual

There is a Balm in Gilead — Congregational Song

Refrain

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Sometimes I feel discouraged
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. *Refrain*

2 If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all." *Refrain*

3 Don't ever be discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

Deep River — *Improvisation*

On Jordan's Stormy Banks — Congregational Song

1 On Jordan's stormy bank I stand,
and cast a wishful eye
to Canaan's fair and happy land,
where my possessions lie.

Refrain
I am bound for the promised land,
I am bound for the promised land;
oh, who will come and go with me?
I am bound for the promised land.

2 All o'er those wide extended plains
shines one eternal day;
there God the Son forever reigns
and scatters night away. *Refrain*

3 No chilling winds or pois'nous breath
can reach that healthful shore;
sickness and sorrow, pain and death,
are felt and feared no more. *Refrain*

4 When shall I reach that happy place
and be forever blest?
When shall I see my Savior's face
and in God's bosom rest? *Refrain*

Text: Samuel Stennett, 1727-1795

Welcome Table — Congregational Song

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table,
I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table,
some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table,
I'm goin'-a eat at the welcome table,
some of these days.

2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey,
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey,
some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey,
I'm goin'-a feast on milk and honey,
some of these days.

3
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
I'm goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
some of these days.

Text: African American spiritual

Have You Got Good Religion — Congregational Song

1 *Leader*
Have you got good religion?
All
Cert'nly, Lord!
Leader
Have you got good religion?
All
Cert'nly, Lord!
Leader
Have you got good religion?
All
Cert'nly, Lord! Cert'nly, cert'nly, cert'nly, Lord!

2 *Leader*
Have you been redeemed?
All
Cert'nly, Lord! . . .

3 *Leader*
Have you been to the water?
All
Cert'nly, Lord! . . .

4 *Leader*
Have you been baptized?
All
Cert'nly, Lord! . . .

Text: African American spiritual

Every Time I Feel the Spirit Congregational Song

Refrain
Ev'ry time I feel the spirit
moving in my heart, I will pray.
Ev'ry time I feel the spirit
moving in my heart, I will pray.

1 Upon the mountain my Lord spoke,
out of his mouth came fire and smoke.
Refrain

2 All around me looked so fine,
asked my Lord if all was mine. *Refrain*

3 Jordan river, chilly and cold,
chills the body but not the soul. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

Every Time I Feel the Spirit *Improvisation*

+ + + + + + +

Please join us following the program for refreshments and good fellowship in the Fellowship Hall behind the church and Administrative Building

Restrooms are located in both the Administrative and Fellowship Buildings.
Ushers are happy to provide directions.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church
The Reverend Frank W. Anderson, Pastor
Karen Shevenell, Cantor
Kris Esgar, Parish Administrator

Pleasant Spring A.M.E. Church
The Reverend Marion F. Reeves Sr., Pastor
111 Pleasant Springs Ct, Columbia, SC
www.pleasantspringame.org

WiFi: StMichaels_Guest PW: Sunday!!



On behalf of the congregations at Saint Michael Lutheran and Pleasant Spring A.M.E., we would like to thank you for sharing the events of this day with us. Please come visit again.

We are grateful for any donations made today. Offering plates are located at the main entrance and the choir side doors. Proceeds from the concert will go to the Music Program to help with future community concerts and musical events. Should you like to assist with Af Am Cemetery upkeep, please indicate on your check or envelop. If you would like to give online, see below.

Tithe.ly online giving is available in the app store or www.stmichael1814.com/online-giving. One-time or recurring gifts can be scheduled, eliminating the need for cash or check writing. The process is quick, secure, and funds are deposited immediately. Designations for memorials, cemetery upkeep, or special gifts can be indicated. An instant receipt is sent via email or text for your tax records, too. We appreciate your generosity.

SAINT MICHAEL
AFRICAN AMERICAN CEMETERY

1814 - 1922

The following will appear on the monument at the cemetery with a schematic of burial sites

This burial ground has historic connections to Saint Michael Lutheran Church (Founded 1814) and Pleasant Spring A.M.E. Church (Founded 1869).

From the beginning, Saint Michael included enslaved persons in worship, accessing the balcony of the Blue Church (1814-1880) through a separate door for their use.

In 1842 the congregation listed 27 men and 31 women on their 'Names of Coloured Members' roll, all of them enslaved.

In 1869, five men purchased 2 acres of land from J. R. Shuler to found Pleasant Spring A.M.E., with July Spence (buried here) as one of the Founding Elders.

After Emancipation, the cemetery, known also as the 'Dreher Cemetery', continued to be used until 1922.

There are 16 headstones that have full names on them and 13 footstones, some with initials, some without. There is one fieldstone with hand-inscribed initials.

A survey of the cemetery estimates there are over 160 graves in all.

This stone is erected to the glory of God and in loving memory of all laid to rest here: young and old, male and female, enslaved and free.

"***There's just one last favor I'll ask of you***
See that my grave is kept clean."
Blind Lemon Jefferson

Thank you for treating this sacred space with dignity and respect.