

# SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



*First Sunday of Lent*

February 22, 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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water

Christ offers: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **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**

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, 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: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7**

*Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.*

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

<sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the

garden, <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

<sup>3:1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die, <sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

## **SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19**

*Through Adam’s disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ’s obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.*

<sup>12</sup> Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned <sup>13</sup> for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup> And the gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

*Please Stand if you are able*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”

<sup>4</sup> But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’  
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ”

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

*Please Sit*

## MESSAGE

Frank W. Anderson

*Please Stand if you are able*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*A brief silence.*

God of all grace, grant faith to your church. Give to all the baptized the will to resist temptation and to worship and serve you alone. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all creation, tend this earth. When human greed and disobedience threaten this planet and the life it contains, lead us by your Spirit into ways of reverence, awe, and gentleness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all nations, preserve us from trouble. Surround all living in places of violence with your steadfast love and give resilience to all who work for peace. Grant courage to those who challenge, especially around issues of racism and systemic oppression. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who are sick, give peace to all who groan in grief, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated. *Especially we pray for . . . .* Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all people, provide for our community. For any among us who hunger for bread, bring nourishment. For any among us who hunger for truth, speak your life-giving word. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all life, bring us to you. We thank you for your free and abounding grace, and for those who, by that same grace, now rest eternally in you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **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://www.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

### *Oh, I Woke Up This Morning*

Choir

*Please Stand if you are able*

## OFFERING HYMN

### *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

ELW 803, vs. 4

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

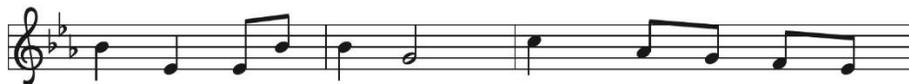
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



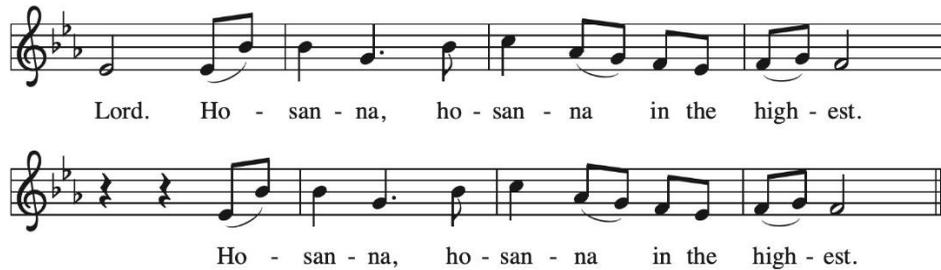
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God, Creator of our wilderness world, O God, Savior of the lost, O God, Comforter of the sick and suffering, we give you thanks for your everlasting might; we glorify you for your covenant of mercy.

For forty days you cleansed the earth with the waters of the flood.

For forty days you illumined Moses with the words of your law.

For forty years you fed your people with manna from heaven.

You became truly human in Jesus our brother.

For forty days, with fasting and prayer, he renounced the power of the devil.

*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.*

We extol his life. Amen: **Amen.**

We lament his death. Amen: **Amen.**

We celebrate his resurrection. Amen: **Amen.**

Transform us, O God, with your lively Spirit. Make this food into manna for our journey, the body and blood of your Son. Grant us with the Ninevites forty days of repentance.

Teach us your words of wisdom and justice. Renew the whole earth with baptismal grace. At the last, lead all your pilgrim people through our deserts to your Easter garden.

To you, O God, Creator, Savior, Comforter, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be our worship and praise, adoration and thanksgiving, now and forever. Amen.

**Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,  
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.  
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we  
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al  
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,  
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

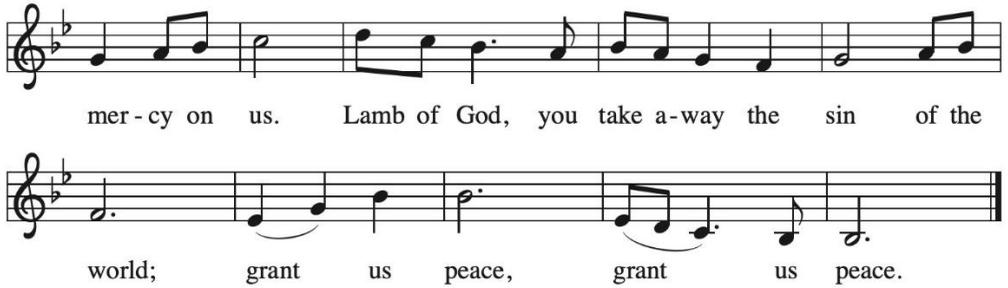
Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

*Please Sit*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**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**

*Thy Holy Wings  
Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

**ELW 613  
ELW 599**

*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. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ’s body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING**

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

**BLESSING**

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✚ bless you now and always.  
**Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Believe the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

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**ASSISTING IN WORSHIP**

Ushers: Gerry & Myrna Goegeline  
 Lector: Carolyn Cook  
 Sacristans: Kristi Kunar, Rita Anderson

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

**TODAY, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**First Sunday of Lent**

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Choir Warmup **10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion**

**Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Wednesday, Feb 25<sup>th</sup>**

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

*11:35 a.m. Soup*

**12:00 p.m. Midweek Worship**

**Host-St. Thomas/Chapin**

*6:00 p.m. Dinner*

**7:00 p.m. DF Cluster Worship-St. Thomas**

Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>

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

Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>

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

Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

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

**Next Sun, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Second Sunday of Lent**

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Choir Warmup **10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion**

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

*Ken & #Dot Black*

*\*Alma Paulson*

Joy Gunter

Gary McManus

*\*Don & Gwen Buff*

*Grady & #Melinda Sharpe*

Bo Harris

Judith Nevergoll

*\*Rose Colley*

*\*Tommae Sligh*

David Heinrich

Harry O'Quinn

*#Barbara DeVore*

Charlie (8yo, leukemia)

Vicky Huggins

Jane Potts

*#Virgie Dreher*

Donny Day

Alice King

Marlene Stirewalt

*\*Barbara Fowler*

Jackie Dunning

Jill Lee

Ed Thomas

*#Terry Matlosz*

Lisa Gillespie

Patrick Lindler

Bruce Wheelchel

*^Mitzi McTeer*

Douglas Gourley

Angie Matlosz

Dean Whitecotton

**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 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** 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 Administrative and Christian Education Buildings.

**Children are always welcome** in our worship service, but a nursery is located in the Administrative Building, if needed. 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*

*Remember our homebound and senior living friends! Send a card, text, call or visit.*

WiFi: StMichaels\_Guest    PW: Sundays!!