

# ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



*The Third Sunday of Easter*

**April 18, 2021**

*400 River Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29212*

*In the order of service, congregational responses are printed in **bold**.  
Please speak the responses **gently**. It is recommended that masks are worn during worship.*

## GATHERING

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Please Stand*

### GREETING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who forgives all out sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*  
Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

**Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.**

**Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.**

Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God, now and forever.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## GATHERING SONG

*Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!*

ELW 377

1 *Alleluia! Jesus is risen!  
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!  
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!*

### **Refrain**

*Jesus is risen and we shall arise.  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!*

2 *Walking the way, Christ in the center  
telling the story to open our eyes;*

*breaking our bread, giving us glory:  
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.  
Refrain*

3 *Jesus the vine, we are the branches;  
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;  
heaven to earth, Christ to the people,  
gift of the future now flowing to me.  
Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of 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: Acts 3:12-19**

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"<sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

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

### **PSALM: 4**

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**<sup>2</sup>“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

<sup>4</sup>Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?” Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

**<sup>8</sup>In peace, I will lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

### **SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7**

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

<sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

<sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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

*Please Stand*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *(Celtic Alleluia)*

*Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.*

## **GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

<sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

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

*Please Sit*

## **MESSAGE**

Pastor Frank W. Anderson

*Please Stand*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY      *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*      ELW 579**

1 *Lord, you give the great commission:  
"Heal the sick and preach the word."  
Lest the church neglect its mission,  
and the gospel go unheard,  
help us witness to your purpose  
with renewed integrity:*

### **Refrain**

*With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us  
for the work of ministry.*

2 *Lord, you call us to your service:*

*"In my name baptize and teach."  
That the world may trust your promise,  
life abundant meant for each,  
give us all new fervor, draw us  
closer in community: Refrain*

4 *Lord, you show us love's true measure:  
"Father, what they do, forgive."  
Yet we hoard as private treasure  
all that you so freely give.  
May your care and mercy lead us  
to a just society: Refrain*

## **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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness especially.... Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us. Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness 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

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*Day of Arising*

*Please Stand*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray... God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. **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.**

### LITANY FOR EASTER *inspired by Psalm 118*

You, Creator God, are so good! At all times, in all places, let all of creation sing praises to your holy name!

**You, O God, continually bless us with a love that endures forever.**

Though we find ourselves separated, uncertain, and distressed about the future, we know you are our God; the one who remains steadfast with us, and so we sing,

**You, O God, continually bless us with a love that endures forever.**

Your healing spirit makes us whole. In your presence our brokenness is transformed; our fears, you soothe.

**You, O God, continually bless us with a love that endures forever.**

Even as we question the world around us, we see your Spirit move and breathe life into our lives. Each day brings new challenges and new marvels. We rejoice in you and we are glad!

**You, O God, continually bless us with a love that endures forever.**

You go before us, and you follow close behind us. You are present in places where our congregation gathers, in our homes, and in our hearts. Your Spirit fills us with songs of thanksgiving and you place upon our lips sweet alleluias to your name.

**You, O God, continually bless us with a love that endures forever.**

To you we give praise! To the One who creates order from chaos, who inspires all good things, and guides us as a loving parent guides their children, we celebrate and glorify your name!

**You, O God, continually bless us with a love that endures forever.**

## SENDING

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

### BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen**

### SENDING SONG

#### *This Joyful Eastertide*

**ELW 391**

1 *This joyful Eastertide,  
away with sin and sorrow!  
My love, the Crucified,  
has sprung to life this morrow.*

*our faith had been in vain.  
But now has Christ arisen,  
arisen, arisen, arisen.*

3 *Death's flood has lost its chill  
since Jesus crossed the river.  
Lover of souls, from ill  
my passing soul deliver. Refrain*

#### **Refrain**

*Had Christ, who once was slain,  
not burst his three-day prison,*

### DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. **Amen.**

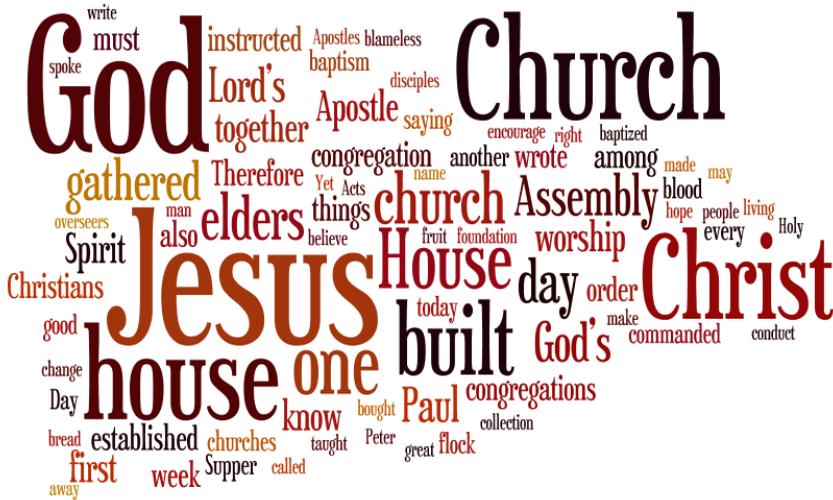
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**ASSISTING IN WORSHIP**

Interim Musician: Harold "Hoss" Jefferies  
Lector: Jeff Dugger  
Ushers: Gerry Goegeline, Paul Nevergoll

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given today to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of church founder and her three time great grandfather, Godfrey Dreher, and in loving memory of her parents by Sherri Spangler.



**THIS WEEK AT ST. MICHAEL'S**

TODAY, April 18

9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship—also streaming

*Third Sunday of Easter*

Tuesday, April 20

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, (*Back to Basics Group*) FH  
6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting, FH

Wednesday, April 21

10:00 a.m. Bible Study—FH studying Books of Samuel

Thursday, April 22

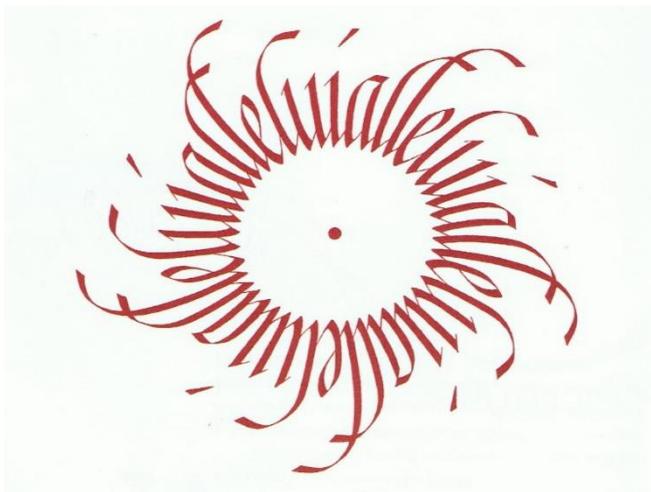
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

Next Sunday, April 25

9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship—Also streaming

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

*Monday and Friday Update Calls from Pastor Frank at 4:44 pm  
#KeepingUsConnected*



**LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS  
FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND\* OR ILL**



Roy Adams

John Martin Areheart

Dot Black

Gwen Buff

Joe Cooper

\*Helen Derrick

\*Virgie Dreher

\*Betty Flinsch

Diane Foster

June Fulmer

Lisa Gillespie

Jeanette Jacobs

Jill Lee

Mickey Lindler

Caroline McCauley

Scott McCauley Linda

Miller

Susan Norcutt

Jane Potts

\*Billie Schnabel

Miriam Shealy

\*Olene Sons

Richard Starnes

Ed Thomas

Dean Whitecotton

Bruce William

Crystal Wood

**FOR A SPECIAL MEASURE OF YOUR GRACE**

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

Tyler Alexander, grandson of Sherri Spangler, USMC

Samantha Davis, niece of Gene & Diana Riley, US Army

Grant Frick, grandson of Ted & Linda Frick, SC National Guard

Victor Frick, grandson of Ted & Linda Frick, US Army

Phil Lake, husband of Bridgett (Sloan) Lake, US Naval Reserve

George McArthur, son of Judith Tolhurst, USMC In Japan

Griffin McLeod, son of Amanda McLeod, SC National Guard

Brian Pipkin, son-in-law of Louie & Imogene Conder, SC Natl. Guard

William Woodruff, son of Jeff And Libby Woodruff, US Army



# ST. MICHAEL'S 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 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** available in the app store or [www.tithe.ly/give](http://www.tithe.ly/give). Set up a secure profile, search "St. Michael Lutheran" and click on our church. 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. An instant receipt is sent via email or text for your tax records, too.

**Restrooms are 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 with the service available via audio.

**Large Print** bulletins and **KID ACTIVITY PACKS** available from an usher

## *The People of St. Michael's, Ministers*

*The Reverend Frank W. Anderson, Pastor*

*Kris Esgar, Parish Administrator*

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