

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 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

Please Stand if you are able

Alleluia, Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

GATHERING SONG *Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing* **ELW 807**

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *The Day of Resurrection vs. 1-3* **ELW 361**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, 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: Acts 2:42-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the

an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

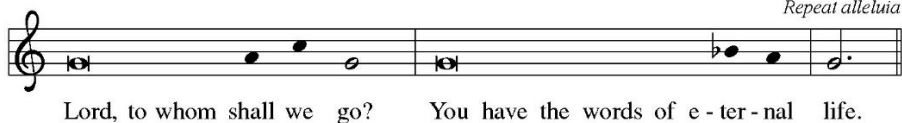
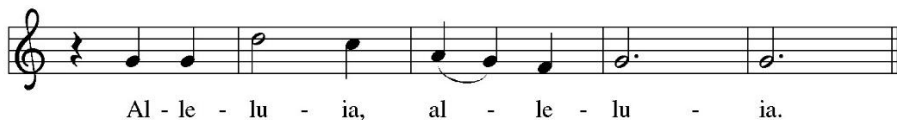
²² “He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

Please Stand if you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 10th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

[Jesus said:] ¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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 Lord's My Shepherd

ELW 778

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Shepherding God, draw all people to yourself and lead them in paths of righteousness. Embolden your church to enter the valleys of the world and guide us beside the still waters of your grace. We pray for military and prison chaplains serving near and far. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love and instruct our hearts in your ways. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of your creation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and advocate for human rights. Bring an end to oppression and save us from the temptation of violence or vengeance. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured *especially*... Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to our heavenly home. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **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. 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

All People That On Earth Do Dwell

Choir

Please Stand

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray... Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



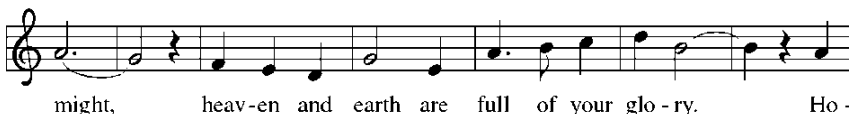
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



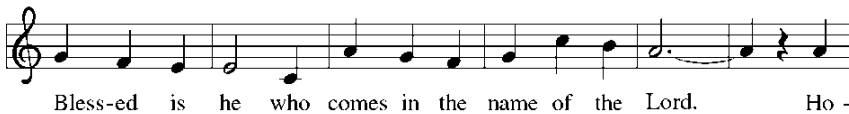
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and



might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

This is the day that in joy and delight we join with all the angels of heaven and all the creatures on earth to sing our praise and thanksgiving to you, all holy and mighty and glorious God. For Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

This is the day that you gave light to the earth. This is the day that you saved the Israelites through the sea and with your pillar of fire led them to freedom.

Now every night is as bright as day, and that light is Christ: **Thanks be to God.**

This is the day that you broke the chains of death. This is the day that, marrying heaven to earth, you washed away sin, rescued us from evil, and brought us your peace. The Lamb who was slain has begun to reign, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

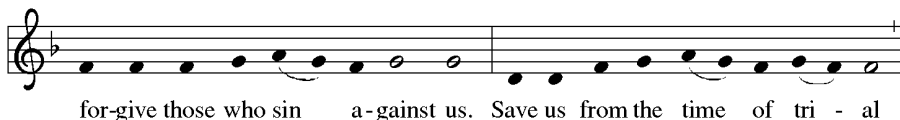
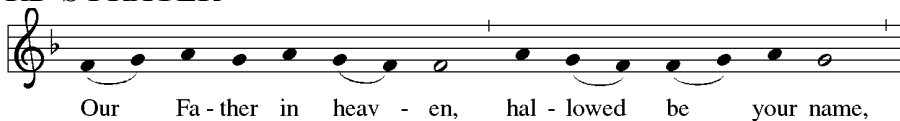
On this day send us the power of your Holy Spirit. Revive us with the body and blood of our risen Savior. Illumine our lives with your presence, and shine your Morning Star over the whole human race, for that light is Christ: **Thanks be to God.**

All holy and mighty and glorious God, radiant Father, victorious Son, and shining Spirit, we bless your salvation, we sing of your mercy, and we praise your victory through all time and space, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACS p.39





and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

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



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.

Please Stand

COMMUNION SONGS

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

ELW 789

ELW 782

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray... Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✚ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

ELW 774

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006042. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector: Rita Anderson

Sacristans: Sabrina Whitecotton, Karla Maloney

Ushers:

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today to the glory of God and in honor of the 29th Wedding Anniversary of Mike & Joyce Burgess. Congratulations!

FIREFLIES OUTING IS TUESDAY, MAY 26th! We meet at the church at **5:15 for the 7:05 am** game. We plan to take our *upscale* bus to and from the church to avoid driving and parking hassles. If you work downtown, you can meet us at Segra Park! RSVP to Kris please.



SAVE-THE-DATE:
Community Shred Day –
Thursday, May 14th
from 11 am til 1 pm

Our Charitable Partner will be
Transitions Veteran’s Program

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL 4:55 pm M/F Update Calls from Pastor Frank!

TODAY, Sunday, April 26 Easter 4

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Choir Warmup

10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion

Tuesday, April 28 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

Wednesday, April 29 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Thursday, April 30 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

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

Next Sunday, May 3 Easter 5

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

FOR FRIENDS--#HOME, ^REHAB, *SENIOR LIVING AND/OR ILL

Ken & #Dot Black

**Don & Gwen Buff*

#Barbara DeVore

#Virgie Dreher

**Barbara Fowler*

#Terry Matlosz

**Alma Paulson*

Grady & #Melinda Sharpe

**Tommae Sligh*

Kate Brighton

Charlie (8yo, leukemia)

Donny Day

Lisa Gillespie

Douglas Gourley

Joy Gunter

David Heinrich

Vicky Huggins

Jill Lee

Patrick Lindler

Angie Matlosz

Gary McManus

Harry O’Quinn

Jane Potts

Phyllis Ruttonsha

Marlene Stirewalt

Ed Thomas

Bruce Wheelchel

Dean Whitecotton

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

Tyler Alexander, USMC: Sherri Spangler’s grandson
 Samantha Davis, USA-Europe; Gene & Diana Riley’s niece
 Zachary Davis, USN-deployed; Carolyn Cook’s grandson
 Grant Frick, SCNG-deployed; Linda Frick’s grandson
 Liam Maloney, SCNG; Mike & Karla Maloney’s son



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 available in the app store or www.stmichael1814.com/online-giving. One-time or recurring gifts can be scheduled, eliminating the need for carrying cash or check writing. The process is quick, secure, and funds are deposited immediately. Designations for

memorials 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 worship service available via Facebook Live.

Large Print and Kids Celebrate bulletins 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!!