

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025

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

GATHERING HYMN

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

ELW 424

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, 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: Acts 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

¹ Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.'

⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

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

PSALM 148 (*Sung Responsively*)



- ¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.
- ² **Praise the LORD, | all you angels;**
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.
- ³ Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.
- ⁴ **Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,**
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.
- ⁵ Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,
- ⁶ **who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,**
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.
- ⁷ Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;
- ⁸ **fire and hail, | snow and fog,**
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God’s will;
- ⁹ mountains | and all hills,

fruit trees ¹ and all cedars;
¹⁰ **wild beasts ¹ and all cattle,**
creeping things and ¹ flying birds;
¹¹ sovereigns of the earth ¹ and all peoples,
princes and all rulers ¹ of the world;
¹² **young ¹ men and maidens,**
old and ¹ young together.
¹³ Let them praise the name ¹ of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over ¹ earth and heaven.
¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all ¹ faithful**
servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. ¹ Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

¹ I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them and be their God;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

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

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Sung twice, in canon*

1



You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!

GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I

have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

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

Please Sit

MESSAGE

Frank W. Anderson

Please Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY *Great God, Your Love Has Called Us*

ELW 358

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness *especially....* Wipe away every tear. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abide with all who are victims of racism, especially people who are doubly marginalized because of gender, sexuality, or ability. Destroy all forms of systemic oppression, and renew our commitment to healing the wounds of our collective body in this community and beyond. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love. Guide us by their example, until we join them in your eternal home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of 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 **secure online giving** through [Tithe.ly](https://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

Christ, Our Peace

Choir

Please Stand

OFFERING HYMN*

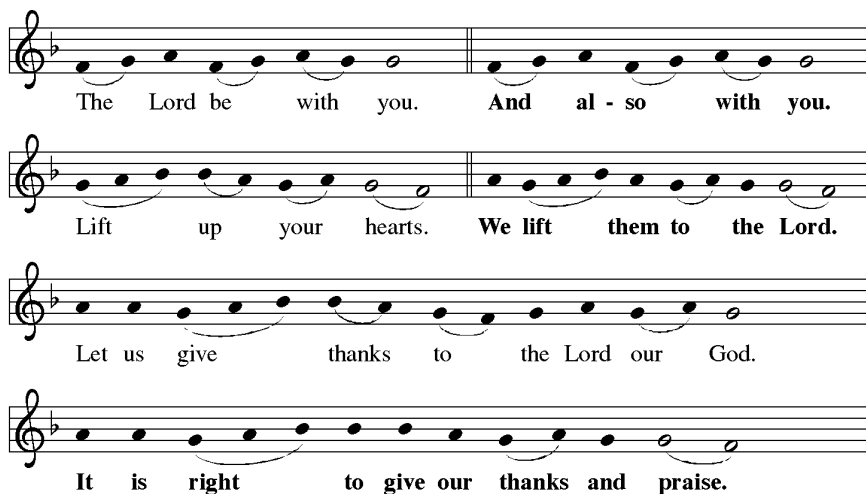
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

ELW 172

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **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.

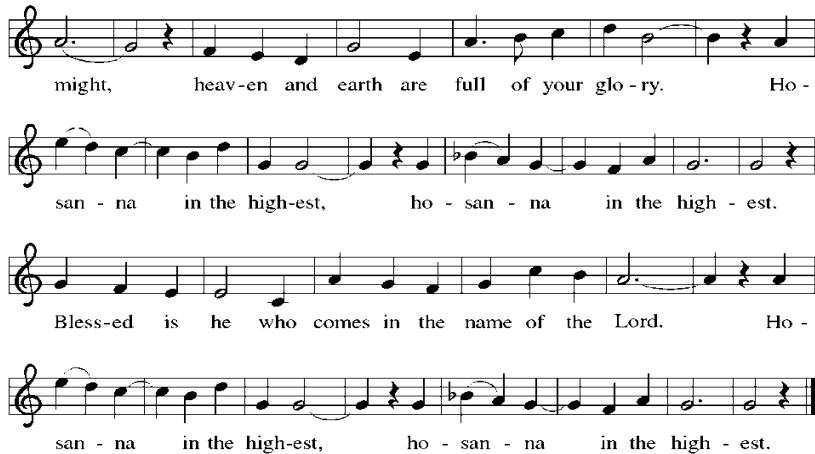
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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



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 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.**

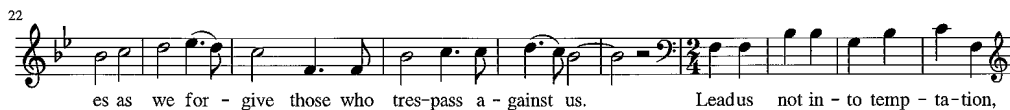
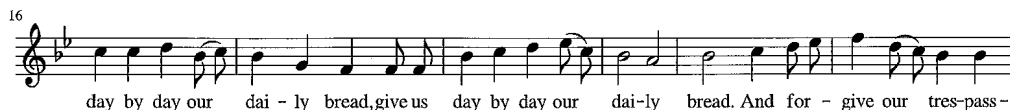
All holy and mighty and glorious God, radiant Father, victorious Son, and shining Spirit,

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.**

*Saint Michael Lutheran Church 1852 Lord's Prayer**

H.S. Hoy



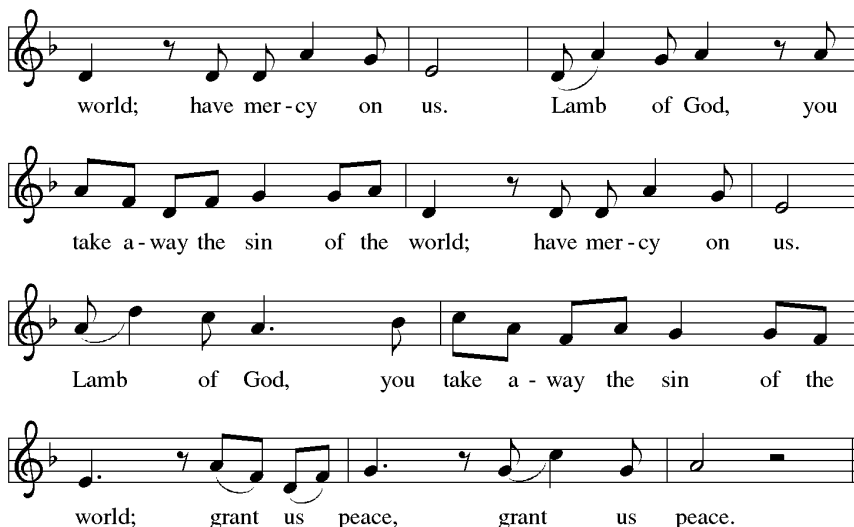
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Please Sit

LAMB OF GOD





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

I Come with Joy
Crashing Waters at Creation

ELW 482
ELW 455

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. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Lead Me, Guide Me
Leader sings verses, Congregation sings refrain

ELW 768

DISMISSAL

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

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia! **Thanks be to God.**

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Ushers: Bill Smoak, Mike Burgess
Sacristans: Carolyn Cook, Deborah Heinrich
Lector: Carolyn Cook

** indicates a musical selection to be sung throughout the Easter Season*

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Gerry & Myrna Goegeline.

PLEASE CHECK THE FLOWER CALENDAR FOR OPEN DATES IN MAY, JUNE & JULY. THANK YOU!

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

TODAY, May 18th

Easter 5

9:15 a.m.

Sunday School—Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m.

Choir Warmup—Choir Room

10:30 a.m.

Worship with Holy Communion

Tuesday, May 20th

12:00 p.m.

AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

6:00 p.m.

LMM Dinner Meeting—Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 21st

10:00 a.m.

Bible Study—Proverbs, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, May 22nd

12:00 p.m.

AA Meeting (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

Friday, May 23rd

10:00 a.m.

AA Meeting (Morning Group) ChEd

Saturday, May 24th

9-10 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room

Next Sun, May 25th

Easter 6

9:15 a.m.

Sunday School—Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m.

Choir Warmup—Choir Room

10:30 a.m.

Worship with Holy Communion


Military Appreciation Project! We have 120 troops currently deployed from the 2-17 Air Calvary Squadron out of Ft. Campbell. One of our officers has mentioned that many of his soldiers do not receive a lot of mail or care packages. *We can help!* LMM will pay the shipping costs for our “care packages”. Items suggested include: Notes & Cards, Pop Tarts, candy (not chocolate), peanut butter or other packaged crackers, cliff bars or other protein bars. Homemade cookies also appreciated—keep in mind things could melt in the hot transport planes. We will collect through July 4th so there may be a couple “packages” sent in the interim if collections go well. Thanks in advance.



Gerry Goegeline will be placing **Memorial Day Flags** in the cemetery for our veterans. Talk to him if you can help at the end of the week!

LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS:

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

Ken & #Dot Black	Grady & #Melinda Sharpe	Bo Harris	
*Bob Bowers	#Miriam Shealy	David Heinrich	
*Don & Gwen Buff	*Larry Slice	Jill Lee	
*Rose Colley	*Tommae Sligh	Mickey Lindler	
*Helen Derrick	-----	Angie Matlosz	
#Barbara DeVore	Kristin Belusko	Terry Matlosz	
#Virgie Dreher	Donny Day	Gary McManus	
*Barbara Fowler	Lisa Gillespie	Judy Olson	
*Alma Paulson	Douglas Gourley	Harry O'Quinn	
#Diana Riley	Joy Gunter	Brooke Pittman	
		Jane Potts	
		Reggie Price	
		Lara Small	
		Marlene Stirewalt	
		Bruce Whelchel	

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

Tyler Alexander, USMC; Sherri S's g'son	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-deployed; Baxter'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 and available in the app store, 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 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 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

WiFi: StMichaels_Guest PW: Sunday!!^