

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 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

Lord God, We Praise You

ELW 558

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. Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he 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 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and “A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

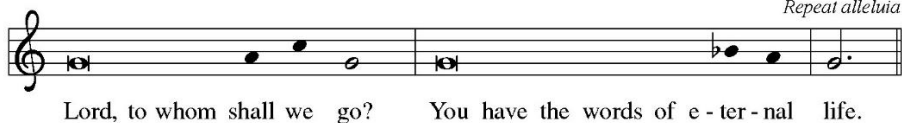
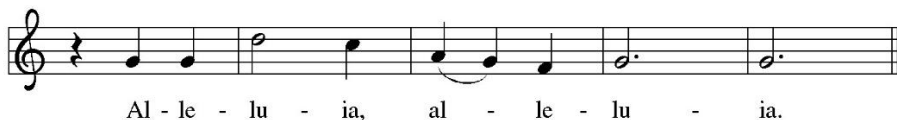
⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

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

Please Stand if you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 14th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

You Are the Way

ELW 758

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.

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and

valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick *especially*.... Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. 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](https://www.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

Making Their Way

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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.', and '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.

The image shows five staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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 -', and '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.

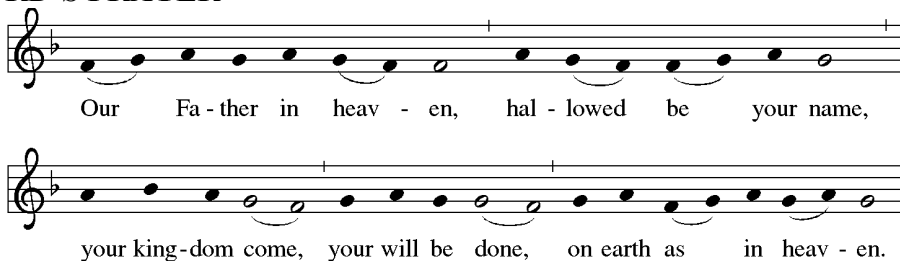
On this day send us the power of your Holy Spirit. Revive us with the body and blood of our risen Savior. Illumine our lives with your presence, and shine your Morning Star over the whole human race, for that light is Christ: **Thanks be to God.**

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



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 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

*O Jesus, I Have Promised
Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am*

ELW 810

ELW 814

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

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW 389

DISMISSAL

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

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector: Linda Frick Ushers: Brian & Kristi Kunar

Sacristans: Judith Nevergoll, Karla Maloney

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of our mothers, Harriet and Dorothy, by Frank and Mary Anderson.

FIREFLIES OUTING IS TUESDAY, MAY 26th! We meet at the church at **5:15 for the 7:05 pm** 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 = Transitions Veteran’s Program

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

<u>TODAY, Sunday, May 3</u>	<i>Easter 5</i>
9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
10:00 a.m.	Choir Warmup
10:30 a.m.	<i>Worship Service with Holy Communion</i>
<u>Tuesday, May 5</u>	12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (<i>Back to Basics Group</i>) FH
	5-7 p.m. Beer & Hymns @ Craft & Draft, Irmo
<u>Wednesday, May 6</u>	10:00 a.m. Bible Study—Red Letter Jesus, Fellowship Hall
<u>Thursday, May 7</u>	12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (<i>Back to Basics Group</i>) FH
<u>Friday, May 8</u>	10:00 a.m. AA Meeting (<i>Mid Morning Group</i>) ChEd
<u>Saturday, May 9</u>	10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
<u>Next Sunday, May 10</u>	<i>Easter 6—Mother’s Day</i>
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

<i>Ken & #Dot Black</i>	<i>*Alma Paulson</i>	Joy Gunter	Harry O’Quinn
<i>*Don & Gwen Buff</i>	<i>Grady & #Melinda Sharpe</i>	David Heinrich	Jane Potts
<i>#Barbara DeVore</i>	<i>*Tommae Sligh</i>	Vicky Huggins	Phyllis Ruttonsha
<i>#Virgie Dreher</i>	Charlie (8yo, leukemia)	Jill Lee	Marlene Stirewalt
<i>*Barbara Fowler</i>	Donny Day	Patrick Lindler	Ed Thomas
<i>#Terry Matlosz</i>	Lisa Gillespie	Angie Matlosz	Bruce Whelchel
	Douglas Gourley	Gary McManus	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!!