

# SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost*

**August 15, 2021**

*400 River Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29212*

*In the order of service, congregational responses are printed in **bold**. Please speak the responses **gently**. As a courtesy, it is asked that masks are worn while moving about. For those who are vaccinated, please sit on the pulpit side of the sanctuary or the front pews on the lectern side. The rear lectern-side pews are for those who prefer or need to mask & physically distance.*

## GATHERING

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Please Stand*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,

**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, **+** the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

## GREETING

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

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*When Morning Gilds the Skies HOP for August*

**ELW 853**

1 *When morning gilds the skies,  
my heart awaking cries:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
When evening shadows fall,  
this rings my curfew call:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!*

2 *When mirth for music longs,  
this is my song of songs:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
God's holy house of prayer  
has none that can compare  
with "Jesus Christ be praised!"*

3 *No lovelier antiphon  
in all high heav'n is known  
than "Jesus Christ be praised!"*

*There to the eternal Word  
the eternal psalm is heard:  
oh, Jesus Christ be praised!*

4 *Let all of humankind  
in this their concord find:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let all the earth around  
ring joyous with the sound:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!*

5 *Sing, sun and stars of space,  
sing, all who see his face,  
sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
God's whole creation o'er,  
today and evermore  
shall Jesus Christ be praised!*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please Sit*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

## FIRST READING: Proverbs 9:1-6

*Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.*

<sup>1</sup>Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars.

<sup>2</sup>She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table.

<sup>3</sup>She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town,

<sup>4</sup>“You that are simple, turn in here!”

To those without sense she says,

<sup>5</sup>“Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed.

<sup>6</sup>Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight.”

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

### **PSALM 34:9-14 (Responsively)**

<sup>9</sup>Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD, for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

**<sup>10</sup>The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

<sup>11</sup>Come, children, and listen to me; I will teach you reverence for the LORD.

**<sup>12</sup>Who among you takes pleasure in life and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

<sup>13</sup>Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from lying words.

**<sup>14</sup>Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.**

### **SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:15-20**

*True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>15</sup>Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, <sup>16</sup>making the most of the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup>So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup>Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup>as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, <sup>20</sup>giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

*Please Stand*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heav'n descending;  
touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending.*

*Word almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.*

### **GOSPEL: John 6:51-58**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.*

[Jesus said,] <sup>51</sup>"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

<sup>52</sup>The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" <sup>53</sup>So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; <sup>55</sup>for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. <sup>56</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Word that speaks God's tender love, one with God beyond all telling,  
Word that sends us from above God the Spirit, with us dwelling,  
Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.*

*Please Sit*

## **SERMON**

Frank W. Anderson

*Please Stand*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*By Your Hand You Feed Your People*

**ELW 469**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of wisdom, enlighten your church. Guide theologians, biblical scholars, authors, and seminary professors as they seek greater knowledge and invite others into deeper understanding. Teach us to ask faithful questions and open our minds to new ideas. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, mend the earth. Cool warming oceans and preserve melting ice caps. Increase our awareness of changing climate patterns and reveal new approaches to the ecological challenges we face. Shield those in the path of hurricanes or tropical storms (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, direct our leaders. Grant them courage to lay aside political grudges and renew their determination to address difficult conflicts. Guide them in the work of reconciliation. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, tend to the wounded. Rescue those tormented by mental illness or mired in addiction. Ease the anxiety of those struggling with dementia. Come quickly to help all who are grieving and all those who suffer especially.... God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of beauty, inspire artists. Bless those whose visual and musical gifts enliven this assembly especially.... Bless the creative work of poets, hymnwriters, composers, painters, sculptors, and others that enrich our worship and daily life. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of resurrection, bring us to new life. Give us the living bread from heaven through which we abide in your love, and on the last day raise us with all the saints to eternal life especially Scott McCauley. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING

*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

*Please Stand*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast

of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

## **LITANY FOR PEACE**

*By Joe Wadsworth*

Gracious God; timeless and Ageless God; you have commanded us to love our enemies. You yourself gave your life for those who were motivated by hatred.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name....**

You have watched humanity fight and scrap. You have watched with sadness as your creation is hoarded and divided for spoil under the guise of dominion. Help us seek your will in our lives. Make us your ambassadors as well as your disciples.

**thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven....**

You sent your only Son so that your people; All your people, might truly know of your love and of your peace. That we might fully understand your AGAPE, your SHALOM. In a time of war, our hearts need your assurance and your presence confirmed. Our leaders need to sense your power is the strengths they employ.

**Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...**

It is so easy to reap a harvest of anger and revenge. Our hearts so easily fill with rage and discord. When war rages, sometimes our patriotism supersedes our mandate for peace and reconciliation. Forgive us our anger and grant us hearts of renewing peace. Help us be mirrors of your life even in times of discord.

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

And so, Lord God of Creation, Savior of the World, we pray for a new chapter of peace to open. Before the momentum of hatred eclipses our strength to control it, grant us peace within. Create in us a clean heart and peaceful mind. This is the nature of your Kingdom; this is the basis of your power, and this is the joy of your Glory. Give us peace.

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

## **BLESSING**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝ be upon us now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*Faith of Our Fathers*

**ELW 812**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. We are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Interim Musician: Harold “Hoss” Jefferies

Lector: Carolyn Cook

Ushers: Gerry Goegeline, Paul Nevergoll, Dean Whitecotton, Bo Harris

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in honor of their 63<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary today by Don & Gwen Buff.



***Safe Worship-**We urge everyone to follow the CDC guidelines in terms of appropriate activities and precautions based on rising transmission levels and your status as a vaccinated or unvaccinated individual or household. Please advise Pastor Frank, ushers, or council members if you have an accommodation or concern that has not yet been addressed and we will do our best to assist.*

***General:** We strongly encourage you to wear masks when inside church buildings due to rising transmission levels in the Midlands. Sanitizer & masks are available at the doors. The rear lectern-side pews remain reserved for those who prefer to **physically distance and wear masks**. We will leave offering plates at the doors.*

***Holy Communion:** Holy Communion continues to be offered on the first Sunday each month from your pew. Quiet Communion following worship will be offered on remaining Sundays. We continue to use individual “pods” with wine, juice or gluten free (wine) options!*





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

Bill Adams	Lisa Gillespie	Linda Miller
Roy Adams	Myrna Goegeline	Susan Norcutt
John Martin Areheart	Douglas Gourley	Jane Potts
Dot Black	David Hermanson	*Billie Schnabel
Don Buff	Jeanette Jacobs	*Olene Sons
Gwen Buff	Jim Johnston	Richard Starnes
Mary Catherine	Jill Lee	Ed Thomas
*Helen Derrick	Richard Lesnieski	Valerie Waites
*Virgie Dreher	Mickey Lindler	Bruce William
*Betty Flinsch	Caroline McCauley	
June Fulmer	Karen Meier	

***FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF SCOTT MCCAULEY***

**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  
Collin Maloney, son of Mike & Karla Maloney, US Army OTS  
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 & Libby Woodruff, US Army



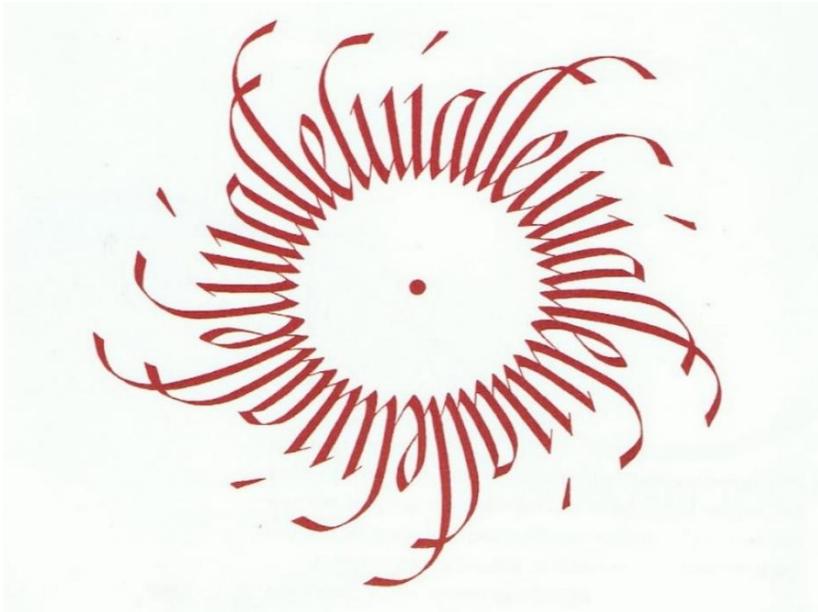


## Organ Fund

We are accepting donations to the organ fund in hopes of securing a replacement in the coming months due to the increasing failure of parts of our current well-loved and well used instrument!

Please indicate "organ fund" in the memo line on your check or envelope.

All support is greatly appreciated.



# 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.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 worship service available via audio.

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

## *The People of Saint Michael, Ministers*

*The Reverend Frank W. Anderson, Pastor*

*Kris Esgar, Parish Administrator*

**WiFi: StMichaels\_Guest PW: Sunday!!**

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