

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

August 31, 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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS+

TFF 148

1 Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! since I laid my
2 I feel bet - ter, so much bet - ter, since I laid my
3 Feel like shout - ing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!" since I laid my

bur - den down. Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le -
bur - den down. I feel bet - ter, so much
bur - den down. Feel like shout - ing. "Hal - le -

lu - jah! since I laid my bur - den down.
bet - ter, since I laid my bur - den down.
lu - jah!" since I laid my bur - den down.

Let us pray. We come before you with heavy hearts, burdened by our sin. We confess that we have been trying to carry this alone, and realize that we cannot. We choose to lay our burdens down at your feet, trusting in your infinite wisdom and love. Fill us with your peace that surpasses all understanding. Help us release this worry and find rest in your presence. Guide me, Lord, and show me the path forward. In your name, we pray. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

God is Here!

ELW 526

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 God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7a

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.

⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
^{7a} for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

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

PSALM 112 (*Read Responsively*)

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God's commandments!
² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.
⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.
⁶ **For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**
⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink,**

until they see their desire upon their enemies.

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION+ *Lead Me, Guide Me* (Refrain Only)

ELW 768

GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.
⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

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

Please Sit

MESSAGE

Frank W. Anderson

Please Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

As We Gather at Your Table

ELW 522

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations, we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence *especially*.... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For all the saints who from their labors rest, we give thanks. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

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

Please Stand

OFFERING HYMN+

We Plow the Fields and Scatter, vs. 1

ELW 680

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest

is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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

Blessed are you, God Most High!

We give thanks for your holy covenant, your promise to Abraham, your mercy to the house of David, your word spoken through the prophets, and your beloved Son, the dawn of our salvation.

We praise and magnify you, O God! **We praise and magnify you, O God!**

Blessed are you, Jesus Christ, forgiving Savior, merciful Lord.

We trust in your tender compassion. You are the good Samaritan, we the wounded traveler. You are the sweeping woman, we the lost coin. You ate with Mary, Martha, and Zacchaeus, and you filled Emmaus with your resurrection.

We praise and magnify you, O God! **We praise and magnify you, O God!**

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.

For this meal and for your presence within it, we sing:

We praise and magnify you, O God! **We praise and magnify you, O God!**

Blessed are you, Holy Spirit, Power of the Most High. As you came to Mary, come to us and to this meal. Welcome us home, that together we may feast on your love.

Feed us with the body of Christ, that we may be holy and righteous before you.

Heal us, that with Dorcas we may rise to serve those in need. Send us into all the world, preaching the power of your peace.

We praise and magnify you, O God! **We praise and magnify you, O God!**

Blessed are you, Mighty One, Father, Son, and Spirit, Shepherd of forgiveness, Author of life, Light in our darkness. We join with the multitude of angels to praise and magnify your name, singing, Glory to God in the highest heaven, today, tomorrow, and forever. Amen. **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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Please Sit



1 I'm a - goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 2 I'm a - goin' - a feast on milk . . and hon - ey,
 3 I'm a - goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a - goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm a - goin' - a feast on milk . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm a - goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.



I'm a - goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 I'm a - goin' - a feast on milk . . and hon - ey,
 I'm a - goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on . . . milk and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross . . . Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

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

*Now We Join in Celebration
 In the Singing*

ELW 462

ELW 466

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. Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

*Great is Thy Faithfulness**

ELW 733

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Ushers: Paul Nevergoll, Steve Evans

Lector: Karla Maloney

Sacristans: Judith Nevergoll, Karla Maloney

+ indicates a musical selection to be sung throughout the Summer * indicates a Choir Boys Favorite

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of grandson Peter by Billy & Linda Miller.

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

TODAY, August 31st

9:15 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Pentecost 12

Sunday School—Fellowship Hall

Worship with Holy Communion



Monday, September 1st

Office Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 2nd

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

NO Beer & Hymns tonight

Wednesday, September 3rd

10:00 a.m. Bible Study—Proverbs, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, September 4th

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

Friday, September 5th

10:00 a.m. AA Meeting (Morning Group) ChEd

Next Sun, September 7th

9:15 a.m.

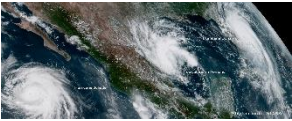
10:30 a.m.

Pentecost 13

Sunday School—Fellowship Hall

Worship with Jeff Dugger, preaching

LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF has boots-on-the-ground when mother nature strikes as well as in times of war and strife. Please consider a donation before the end of September, as we are in the midst of Hurricane Season. Your gift and compassion are appreciated.



*We're riding in the Okra Strut Parade on September 27th! Smiling faces & grandkids needed!!
Truck, driver, and hayrack/trailer also needed. Talk to Kris for details.*



LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS:

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

Ken & #Dot Black	#Miriam Shealy	Douglas Gourley	Gary McManus
*Don & Gwen Buff	#Larry Slice	Joy Gunter	Judy Olson
*Rose Colley	*Tommae Sligh	Bo Harris	Harry O'Quinn
*Helen Derrick	-----	David Heinrich	Brooke Pittman
#Barbara DeVore	Dea Baughman	Vicky Huggins	Jane Potts
#Virgie Dreher	Kristin Belusko	Jill Lee	Reggie Price
*Barbara Fowler	Cathy C.	Angie Matlosz	Marlene Stirewalt
*Alma Paulson	Donny Day	Terry Matlosz	Bruce Wheelchel
Grady & #Melinda Sharpe	Lisa Gillespie	Linda May	

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

Tyler Alexander, USMC: Sherri Spangler's grandson
Samantha Davis, USA; Gene & Diana Riley's niece
Zachary Davis, USN; Carolyn Cook's grandson
Grant Frick, SCNG-*deployed*; Linda Frick's grandson
Collin Maloney, USAOTS; Mike & Karla Maloney's son
Hunter Purvis USA-*deployed*; Jerry & Cheryl Baxter's son-in-law
2-17 Air Combat Squadron-*deployed*

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!!