

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 12, 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,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ✙ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

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

All Creatures Worship God Most High

ELW 835

HOP for September

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 <i>All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia!</i></p> <p>2 <i>Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia!</i></p> | <p>3 <i>Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong,
drive far the shadows, join the throng:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, so rich in care,
praise God in colors bright and rare:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia!</i></p> <p>6 <i>O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia!</i></p> |
|--|---|

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please Sit

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

PSALM 116:1-9 (Responsively)

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

²for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴Then I called upon the name of the LORD:

"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

⁵Gracious is the LORD and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

⁶The LORD watches over the innocent; I was brought low, and God saved me.

⁷Turn again to your rest, O my soul. for the LORD has dealt well with you.

**⁸For you have rescued my life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**

⁹I will walk in the presence of the LORD in the land of the living.

SECOND READING: James 3:1-12

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes.

Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire

the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine yield figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

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

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

If you but trust in God to guide you with gentle hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there beside you when crosses come, in trying days. Trust then in God's unchanging love; build on the rock that will not move.

GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 8th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are

ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving, offer your service faithfully.
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving, you'll find this promise true to be.
This is our confidence indeed: God never fails in time of need.*

Please Sit

SERMON

Pastor Randy Derrick

Please Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Revealing God, you have made yourself known through bread and wine, water and word. Continue to nurture your church, that it is a place where your presence is experienced and shared. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Creating God, you brought life into being and called it good. Bring new creation to lands devastated by tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires, and other disasters (*recent destructive events may be named here*). Restore forests and curb overflowing waters. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Protecting God, you desire all people to live in peace and safety. Provide for all who are in danger. Strengthen first responders to help meet to the complex needs of others.

Provide care and compassion as they face trauma themselves. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Transforming God, you announce release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed. Break chains of discrimination and injustice. Amplify voices that go unheard and inspire us to advocate for the those who are overlooked. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Forming God, you gather this community together. Shape our communal life, that in our prayer, praise, and worship, we honor you and encourage one another. Keep our disagreements civil and increase our joy in working together. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Redeeming God, you accompany your people through every stage of life. We give you thanks for the saints who now rest in your embrace (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; 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

Night With Ebon Pinion

Please Stand

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

LITANY FOR PEACE IN OUR COMMUNITIES *Based on Psalm 88*

By night we cry out, by day we rage at each other,

God of peace, hear us and help us.

Calm us, quiet us, settle us,
to hear the cry of those who are hurting,
Steady us, balance us, ground us,
let us listen to the troubles around us,

God of peace, hear us and help us.

Root us in patience, embed your love within us,

Plant us in the soil of sorrow, and re-create us in empathy,
Forgive us, pardon us, free us from bigotry and blindness,
God of peace, hear us and help us.

Support us, sustain us, protect us,
as we find words to begin dialogue,
Restore us in charity, refresh us with hope,
Enfold us with unity, enrich us in love,
Embrace us with courage, temper us with gentleness,
God of peace, hear us and help us.

Help us see You in those around us,
Help us build communities of unity and justice,
So that someday we may rejoice in your welcome, and enter your Kingdom
singing your praise, for ever and ever. **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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, ✚ one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.
Thanks be to God.

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Guest Pastor: Pastor Randy Derrick
Interim Musician: Harold “Hoss” Jefferies
Lector: Carolyn Cook
Ushers: Paul Nevergoll, Bo Harris, Gerry Goegeline, Dean Whitecotton

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God, in memory of Ralph Smoak, Sr. and in honor of Katie Smoak’s birthday, by JoAnn Smoak.

WELCOME TO PASTOR RANDY DERRICK, who is our guest preacher today. Pastor Randy retired after 40 years at Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church in Prosperity, SC and originally hails from the Leesville and Hopkins communities. Most importantly, this courageous man drives a school bus! A USC and LTSS grad, he is also a classmate of Pastor Dwight Wessinger! Pastor Randy has studied theology in Europe, Israel and China. We are so blessed to have Pastor Randy sharing his many gifts with us this morning.



***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!*

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL

TODAY, Sept 12

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

9:15 a.m.

Sunday School

10:30 a.m.

Worship—also streaming

Tuesday, Sept 14

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

6:00 p.m. Council Meeting--FH

Wednesday, Sept 15

10:00 a.m. Bible Study—Studying Kings

Thursday, Sept 16

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

Next Sunday, Sept 19

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

9:15 a.m.

Sunday School

10:30 a.m.

Worship—also streaming

4:55 pm Monday and Friday Update Calls from Pastor Frank!

REMINDER!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 @ 6 PM

MIDLANDS CONFERENCE MEETING

Hosted By Saint Michael LMM

All Welcome!



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.

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



Bill Adams
Roy Adams
John Martin Areheart
Dot Black
*Helen Derrick
*Virgie Dreher
*Betty Flinsch
June Fulmer
Lisa Gillespie
Douglas Gourley

David Hermanson
Jeanette Jacobs
Jim Johnston
Jill Lee
Richard Lesnieski
Mickey Lindler
Caroline McCauley
Karen Meier
Linda Miller
Susan Norcutt

Jane Potts
*Billie Schnabel
*Olene Sons
Richard Starnes
Ed Thomas
Valerie Waites
Bruce William

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



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. 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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