

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 19, 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

- 1 *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!*
- 2 *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!*
- 3 *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!*
- 6 *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!*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please Sit

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb

led to the slaughter.
And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,
“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”
²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

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

PSALM 54 (Responsively)

¹Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

²Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

⁴Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.

⁵Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

**⁶I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name,
O LORD, for it is good.**

⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

SECOND READING: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.^{4:}

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you

engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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 9:30-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

Please Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Children of the Heavenly Father

ELW 781

Congregation sings vs. 1&4; Leaders sing vs. 2&3

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.

God of community, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of creation, we pray for this hurting earth. Awaken in us a new desire to care for this world and empower us to support agencies, organizations, and individual efforts to heal our environment. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of cooperation, we pray for nations of the world embroiled in conflict. Inspire leaders to listen to each other and work towards peaceful solutions to disagreements. Protect the vulnerable, especially children, who cannot find safety in their home or country. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of comfort, we pray for all who live with mental or physical illness. Help them find appropriate care. Bring healing and wholeness when the path forward seems bleak. We pray especially for.... Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of compassion, we pray for the young people of this congregation. Renew in us your call to welcome the children in our midst. As they grow, strengthen their faith and our commitment to them. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of consolation, we give you thanks for our loved ones who have died and pray for all who grieve today. Shine your grace on all your saints. 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

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

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

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

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
Congregation sings vs. 2&4; Leaders sing vs. 1&3

ELW 588

DISMISSAL

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

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Interim Musician: Harold "Hoss" Jefferies
Lector: Jeff Dugger
Ushers: Paul Nevergoll, Bo Harris, Gerry Goegeline, Dean Whitecotton



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!

THE LADIES OF SAINT MICHAEL are collecting hygiene items for Sistercare through mid October. Please place items in the narthex or deliver to the office. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plates. Thank you for your generosity.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MICHAEL

TODAY, Sept 19 *Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost*

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. **Worship**—also streaming

Tuesday, Sept 21 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

6:00 p.m. **LMM Midlands Conference--FH**

Wednesday, Sept 22 10:00 a.m. Bible Study—Studying II Kings

Thursday, Sept 23 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, (*Back to Basics Group*) FH

Next Sunday, Sept 26 *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!



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.

REMINDER!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 @ 6 PM

MIDLANDS CONFERENCE MEETING

*Hosted By Saint Michael LMM
All Men Welcome!*



Blessing of the Animals **Sunday, October 3rd – 3:30 pm**

Pawsome Pack-tivities begin at 3 pm
Pawsitive Playtime, K-9 Kritter Kourse, Treats!
Special Blessing Certificates

LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS
For The Family & Friends of Richard Lesnieski



FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND* OR ILL

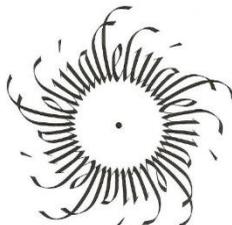
Bill Adams	David Hermanson	Jane Potts
Roy Adams	Jeanette Jacobs	*Billie Schnabel
John Martin Areheart	Jim Johnston	*Olene Sons
Dot Black	Jill Lee	Richard Starnes
*Helen Derrick	Mickey Lindler	Ed Thomas
*Virgie Dreher	Caroline McCauley	Valerie Waites
*Betty Flinsch	Karen Meier	Bruce William
June Fulmer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

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



CONGRATULATIONS TO BILL & ELOISA KNIGHTEN who were married September 17th in the Pastor's Study.



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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