

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 26, 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. Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please Sit

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat!" ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our

strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors?’ ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

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

PSALM 19:7-14 (Responsively)

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?

Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

**¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

SECOND READING: James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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 9:38-50

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

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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

Frank W. Anderson

Please Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712

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.

We pray for the church and its ministry. Bless the newly baptized and encourage them in their journey of faith. Sustain all members of the body of Christ in lives of prayer, service, and worship. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for natural wonders of your creation (*local waterways, forests, and natural areas may be named*). Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for those in authority. Give them wise minds and compassionate hearts. Strengthen in them a desire to protect the vulnerable and care for those underserved. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, or any other disease. Provide them with peace and resilience for the days ahead. Sustain caregivers with energy and patience. We pray for those on our prayer list, especially.... Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the worship leaders of this congregation: musicians, readers, and ushers. Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all your saints, those we have loved and known and those from every time and place. Continue to guide us by their example and reassure us of your promised salvation. 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 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

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

ELW 800

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

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: Kate Brighton

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

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in memory of Ralph Smoak, Sr. and Carrol B. Mayer by Bill & Ann Smoak.

***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

<u>TODAY, Sept 26</u>	<i>Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost</i>
9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Worship —also streaming
<u>Tuesday, Sept 28</u>	12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, (<i>Back to Basics Group</i>) FH
<u>Wednesday, Sept 29</u>	10:00 a.m. Bible Study—Studying II Kings
<u>Thursday, Sept 30</u>	12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, (<i>Back to Basics Group</i>) FH
<u>Next Sunday, Oct 3</u>	<i>Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost</i>
9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Worship —also streaming
3:00 p.m.	Animal activities begin
3:30 p.m.	Blessing of the Animals

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



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



Organ Fund

We have a potential replacement! More at the Annual Meeting in November!!

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
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
Zachary Davis, grandson of Carolyn Cook, US Navy
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

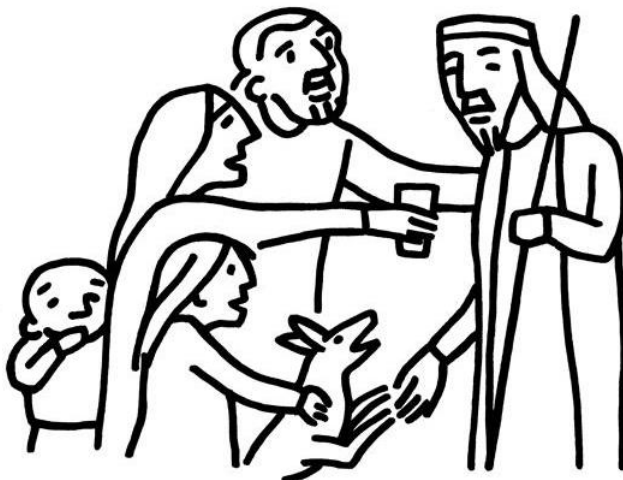


SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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