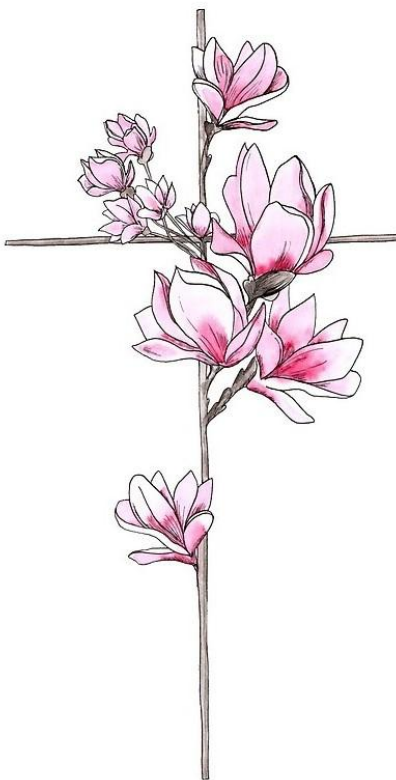


SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Miriam Adams Shealy
November 17, 1935 – October 18, 2025

Celebration of Life
October 27, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

*In the order of service, congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

GATHERING

The Paschal Candle is burning to signify the Christian's assurance of eternal life through the Resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

PRELUDE

Please Stand if you are able

PROCESSIONAL

Just As I Am

ELW 592

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our sister, Miriam, to give thanks for her life, to recommend her to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief. **Thanks be to God.**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation. He comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

GATHERING HYMN

Blessed Assurance

ELW 638

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

A pall is placed in remembrance of Miriam's baptism—a sign of being clothed with Christ in baptism.

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you. **We glorify you.**

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you. **We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you. **We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister, Miriam Adams Shealy. We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please Sit

WORD

FIRST READING: Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; ³ he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

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

FAMILY REMEMBRANCES

SECOND READING: Isaiah 41:10

¹⁰ do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you; I will help you;
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

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

SOLO

I Can Only Imagine

Candice Conder Pipkin

Please Stand if you are able

GOSPEL: John 14:1-6

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

¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

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

Please Sit

MEDITATION

Pastor Frank W. Anderson

Please Stand if you are able

HYMN

Here I Am Lord

ELW 574

APOSTLES’ CREED

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. **Hear us, Lord.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. **Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. **Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind. **Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love. **Hear us, Lord.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. **Hear us, Lord.**

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. **Hear us, Lord.**

Grant us grace to entrust Miriam to your never-failing love which sustained her in this life. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, and remember her according to the favor you bear for your people. **Hear us, Lord.**

God of all grace, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give you thanks because by his death Jesus destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING

COMMENDATION

Let us pray. Let us commend Miriam Adams Shealy to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Miriam. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of

everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

RECESSIONAL

How Great Thou Art

ELW 856

The family will follow the pastor to the cemetery for the Committal.

All friends are welcome to join them.

COMMITTAL

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Holy God, holy and powerful, by the death and burial of Jesus your anointed, you have destroyed the power of death and made holy the resting places of all your people. Keep our sister, Miriam, whose body we now lay to rest, in the company of all your saints. And at the last, O God, raise her up to share with all the faithful the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The bell tolls 89 times for each year of Miriam's life on earth.

A reading from John:

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. (John 12:23-26)

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our sister, Miriam, and we commit her body to its resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless her and keep her.

The Lord's face shine on her with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon her with favor and + give her peace. **Amen.**

Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her.

Merciful God, you heal the broken in heart and bind up the wounds of the afflicted.

Strengthen us in our weakness, calm our troubled spirits, and dispel our doubts and fears.

In Christ's rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to everlasting life. Renew our trust in you that by the power of your love we shall one day be brought together again with our sister Miriam.

Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace.

Thank you for the many acts of kindness shown to our family.

*Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Miriam Adams Shealy
by the Saint Michael Lutheran Church Congregation.*

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SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

400 RIVER ROAD + COLUMBIA SC + 29212

OFFICIATING	The Rev'd Frank W. Anderson
MINISTER	Pastor, Saint Michael Lutheran Church

ACCOMPANIST	Karen Shevenell
	Cantor, Saint Michael Lutheran Church



MIRIAM ADAMS SHEALY

Miriam Adams Shealy, 89, passed away peacefully at her home on the shores of Lake Murray in Irmo, SC on Saturday, October 18, 2025. She was surrounded by her loving family and all the memories and treasures that meant so much to her. Miriam was a daughter of the late Heyward “Shorty” Adams and Annie Mae Kyzer Adams of Leesville. She was predeceased by sister Edith Durst Giddens and brother Charles Adams, as well as her beloved husband, Wyman Douglas Shealy, and eldest son, Wyman Douglas Shealy, Jr (Robyne) of Chapin. Surviving are sons Craig Adams Shealy (Jana) of Leesville and Joel Patrick “Joe Pat” Shealy (Christie)

of Pawleys Island. Miriam adored her 5 grandchildren, Adam Shealy (Denise), Shelton Shealy, Nina Shealy, Ethan Shealy, Rivers Shealy, and her only great grandchild, Vance Shealy.

Miriam, a lifelong Lutheran, was a member of, and active in, the following churches throughout her life: Cedar Grove Lutheran, Redeemer Lutheran (founding member), St Thomas Lutheran and, ultimately, Saint Michael Lutheran.

After a successful education at Red Star School and Batesburg Leesville High, she attended Newberry College where she excelled in the collegiate environment. She was active in student government, a cheerleader, and ultimately voted as May Queen, of which she was very proud.

Miriam spent a number of years teaching elementary education before committing herself to a busy family life with three active sons and a husband. Later reborn as a real estate agent focusing on Lake Murray and the surrounding area, she went on to great success and established many lasting friendships in the process.

Known to all for her love, compassion, and humor, Miriam will be missed greatly and always celebrated for a life well lived. During her final years she never missed an opportunity to express sincere gratitude for all things, large and small, with which the Lord blessed her.

A service and burial will be held Monday, October 27, 2025 at 2:00 in the afternoon at Saint Michael Lutheran Church, 400 River Road, Columbia, SC 29212. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Lutheran Hospice – Midlands.