

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



James Andrew Sons
February 21, 1928 – June 18, 2022

Funeral Service
June 22, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.

*In the order of service, congregational responses are printed in **bold**.
Please speak the responses **gently**. It is recommended that masks are worn during worship.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Please Stand

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 brother, James, to give thanks for his life,
to recommend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

A pall is placed in remembrance of James'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 brother, James. We thank you for giving him 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: Galatians 2:17-21**

¹⁷But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. ¹⁹For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; ²⁰and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

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

SECOND READING: Psalm 145

¹I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.

²Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name forever and ever.

³Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.

⁴One generation shall laud your works to another,

and shall declare your mighty acts.

⁵On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

⁶The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.

⁷They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

⁸The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹The LORD is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.

¹⁰All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your faithful shall bless you.

¹¹They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and tell of your power,

¹²to make known to all people your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
The LORD is faithful in all his words,
and gracious in all his deeds.

¹⁴The LORD upholds all who are falling,
and raises up all who are bowed down.

¹⁵The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.

¹⁶You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷The LORD is just in all his ways,
and kind in all his doings.

¹⁸The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.

¹⁹He fulfills the desire of all who fear him;
he also hears their cry, and saves them.

²⁰The LORD watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.

²¹My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.

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

Please Stand

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 4:12-28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,

on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles —

¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

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

Please Sit

MEDITATION

Pastor Frank W. Anderson

SPECIAL MUSIC

Because of Him

Darlene Griffin, piano

Please Stand

THE 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 James to your never-failing love which sustained him in this life. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, and remember him 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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

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

COMMENDATION

Let us commend James to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant James. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him 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.

SENDING SONG

A Mighty Fortress

ELW 504

+ + + + +

*A graveside service will be held at Elmwood Cemetery,
located at 501 Elmwood Avenue + Columbia*

COMMITTAL

Elmwood Cemetery, 501 Elmwood Avenue + Columbia

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 brother, James, whose body we now lay to rest, in the company of all your saints. And at the last, O God, raise him 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 94 times for each year of James'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 brother, James, and we commit his body to its resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless him and keep him.

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

The Lord look upon him with favor and + give him peace.

Amen.

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

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 brother James.

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.

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

400 RIVER ROAD + COLUMBIA SC + 29212

**OFFICIATING
MINISTER** The Reverend Frank W. Anderson
Pastor, Saint Michael Lutheran Church

CANTOR Karen Shevenell
Cantor, Saint Michael Lutheran Church





James Andrew Sons 1928-2022

James Andrew Sons, 94, of Lexington, SC, was called into the arms of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on June 18, 2022. He joins his beloved wife of 73 years, Olene Sons, who passed on May 2, 2022.

James is predeceased by his parents, Lester and Essie Lee Sons. James was the 5th of 12 children. He graduated from Lexington High School in 1945 and then joined the Air Force where he was in Radar Tech School, from there he was assigned to the Strategic Air Command. He then worked with King Pontiac in downtown Columbia. James worked with the South

Carolina Department of Mental Health for 35 years where he then became manager of the Engineering and Transportation Division. He then enjoyed traveling the world with Olene, well into their retirement. James and Olene were members of the Saint Michael Lutheran Church since 1951 where they were members of the choir as well as the evangelism committee.

James is survived by his daughter, Jami Page (Trey) of Mt. Pleasant; step-grandsons, Nick (Maddie) and Matt Page; great-grand baby, Penny; two special nephews, Woody Sons (Stephanie) and Tracy Sons (Sherry); a very special grand-nephew, Jeffrey Sons; two sisters, Ann Watkins and Margie Carter, both of Lexington; as well as many wonderful nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at Saint Michael Lutheran Church with interment to follow at Elmwood Cemetery. The family will receive friends an hour prior at Saint Michael Lutheran Church, Columbia.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to Saint Michael Lutheran Church, 400 River Road, Columbia, South Carolina, 29212.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared online for the Sons family at www.caughmanlexington.com.