

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 4, 2018 - 10:45 AM



The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The ten commandments are one of the chief parts of Luther's catechism, a core piece of baptismal instruction. They begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods.

G.I.F.T. Zone Opportunity For Parents & Young Children

We introduce our kid-friendly worship experience, located in the left-hand transept area of the main sanctuary. For families who wish to take advantage of the G.I.F.T. Zone, there is child-friendly worship furniture plus adult chairs for parents. Feel free to sit in the special area throughout the service with your child - or come to the area with your child following the Children's Message. During this middle section of the service, Deacon Lexanne Graves will be in the area to guide parents and children through activities to help our youngest worshipers follow the readings, sermon, hymn, creed, and prayers. This is an awesome way to keep children engaged in worship with the whole congregation - and learn the liturgy until they are able to worship in the pews for the entire service. We offer the G.I.F.T. Zone so that parents may share the worship experience with their children in a meaningful, stress-free way. At the 10:45 service, our nursery is also available for ages 0 - 3 (for those yet unable to benefit from the G.I.F.T. Zone activities.)



Kid Friendly Worship Experience



Growing
In
Faith
Together

Living Springs Lutheran Church

4224 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223

www.livingspringscolumbia.org

GATHERING MUSIC

"Canticle of the Turning"

ELW 723

As we gather, we remain seated and join in singing to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Baptismal Anniversaries: Alice Renaud (3/1)

(Individuals meet the Pastor at the font for a special blessing in recognition of their anniversary.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

(Silence for reflection - we kneel as able)

Pastor: Merciful God,

People: Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet. We were silent when we should have said something. We acted when we knew better. We were still when we know we should have moved. For the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Pastor: People of God, look to the ✚ Son, given to heal you and set you free because God loved the world so much. Take hold of life—eternal life!

People: Amen.

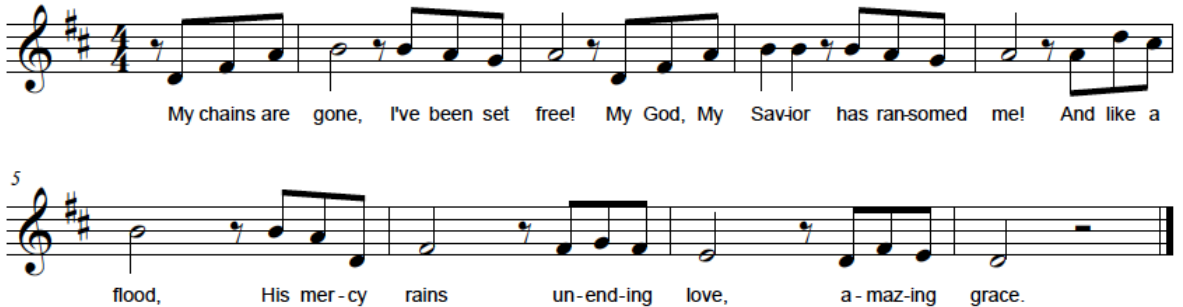


ENTRANCE SONG

"Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone"

*Verse 1: Amazing Grace, How sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see. (to Verse 2)*

*Verse 2: 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed. (to Chorus)*



My chains are gone, I've been set free! My God, My Savior has ransomed me! And like a
flood, His mer-cy rains un-end-ing love, a-maz-ing grace.

*Verse 3: The Lord has promised good to me
his Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures. (to Chorus, 2x)*

*Verse 4: When we've been there 10,000 years,
bright shining as the Sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
then when we first begun. (to Chorus, 2x)*

APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

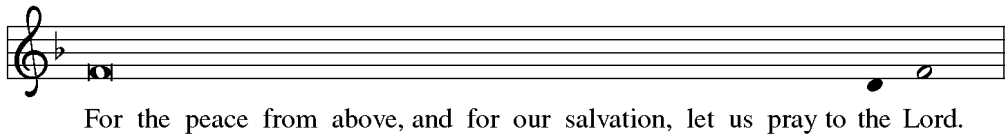
People: **And also with you.**



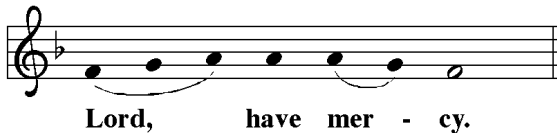
KYRIE



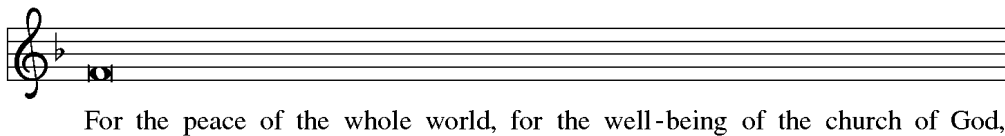
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



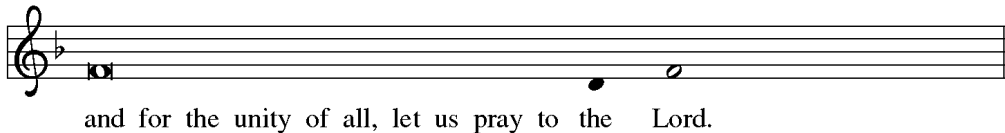
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



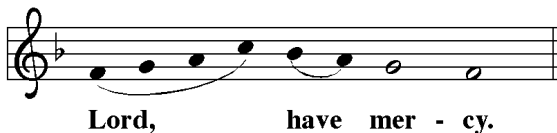
Lord, have mer - cy.



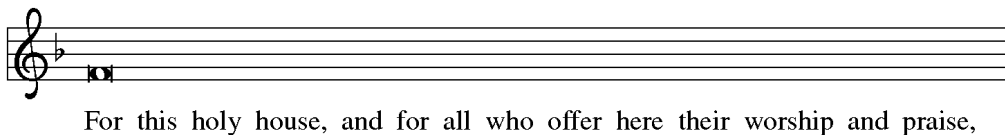
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



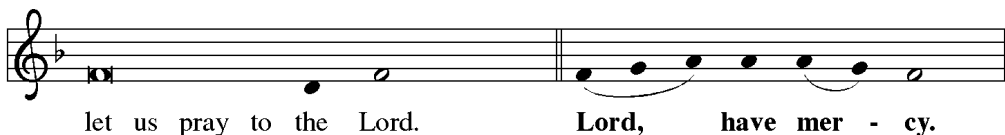
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



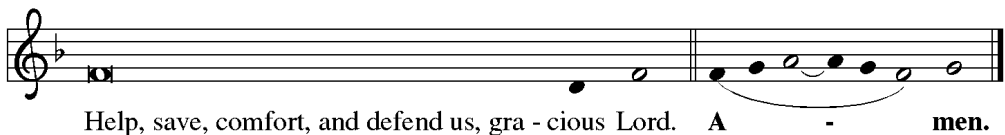
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

We are seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Deacon Lexanne Graves

Children and young people gather on the steps. Toddlers may be accompanied by parents. All may bring forward coins or dollars for the Lenten bucket collection (Harvest Hope Food Bank). Following the message, young children and parent(s) are invited to the G.I.F.T. Zone for special activities that help young ones participate in worship through the middle portion of the service. As the children gather, we sing:

*Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.*

(Text by Anna B. Warner, ELW 595)

FIRST READING

Lector: A reading from Exodus.

God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. (*Exodus 20:1-17*)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 19

Lector: The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

**People: One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

Lector: Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

**People: their sound has gone out into all lands,
and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

Lector: It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**People: It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

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

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

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

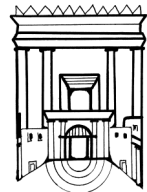
**People: More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

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

**People: Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Lector: Above 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.

**People: Let 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

Lector: A reading from 1 Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. (*Romans 4:13-25*)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

We stand for the reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor: The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.
(John 2:13-22)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We are seated

SERMON

Rev. Eric Fink

At the sounding of the chime, we kneel as able.

CALL TO PRAYER

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

Text: Psalm 102:1-2; Taizé community, adapt.; Music: Hear My Prayer, Jacques Berthier © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc.

We are seated

SILENT PRAYER

During the time of silent prayer, you are invited to come place a prayer slip in the prayer basket (at the center of the praying congregation). As the chime sounds again, the prayer basket is taken to the prayer station beneath the Lenten cross (formed from wood of the Cross-Oak that once stood at LS entrance). We then continue with the spoken prayers.

We kneel as able

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Pastor: We pray for this assembly gathered in prayer. We lift up the petitions of prayer placed at the cross of your Son this day, as well as all Lenten Prayer Partners. Receive our prayers with your power and love. God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: We pray for the church. For those who study your Word, for those preparing for Faith Milestones, and for elders who inspire us with the depth of wisdom and experience they offer. Lead us faithfully in the way of the cross. Unite us as one body in Christ, and empower us with courage to live out the love of Jesus in the world. God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: We pray for the world. For sheep, cattle, and all domesticated livestock. For wild creatures, service animals, and pets. Provide shelter, food, and safe drinking water for every living creature. Protect the earth from disaster and harm. God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: We pray for the nations. Teach us to honor one another as you command. Protect those forced from their homes in search of safety and freedom. Guide lawmakers, peacekeepers, and all who work toward reconciliation and justice. God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: We pray for those in need. For those who lack what they need for daily life. For people whose lives are consumed by their possessions. For those who grieve, and for all who are ill or suffering, especially *Anita Gabbard; Colleen Franks; Stephanie Joyner; Janet Bate; Bunie Talbert; Sam Gordon; Dennis Daye; Noval Kranz; Christopher Duncan; Shannon Woodard; Roger Smith; Tristan Groscost; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud....* God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: We remember with gratitude those who have gone before us. Inspire us by their witness and example. Bring us with them into the joy of eternal life with you. God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

People: Amen.

PEACE IS SHARED

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

We greet one another, with the words that the risen Jesus spoke to his disciples: "Peace be with you." 9

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

We are seated

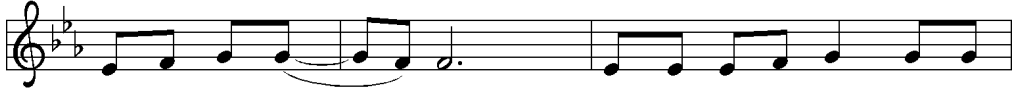
OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN

We stand as able

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your



pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.



Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me



with your free Spir - it. Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God,



and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assist: Let us pray.

People: **Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: *It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me. "

LORD'S PRAYER

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

People: **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

We are seated

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



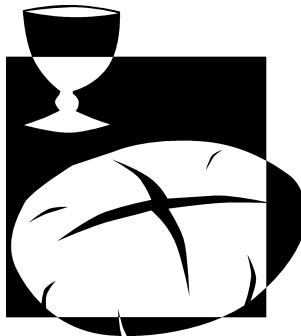
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*This meal is the Lord's Supper of grace and is open to ALL Christians of any background or denomination. As Lutheran Christians, we believe in **Christ's true presence** in, with, and under the elements. We invite you to have your name tag visible so that the ministers may include **your name** as they offer you the elements. Communion at Living Springs is by **intinction** (bread is dipped into the wine or grape juice). In response to the words, "Body of Christ, given for you. Blood of Christ, shed for you," each worshipper may respond with, "**Amen.**" If you require a **gluten free wafer**, please let your worship assistant know so they can accommodate you. Each chalice contains two compartments: wine is located in the larger compartment, while **alcohol-free grape juice** is located in the smaller compartment for those who require it. After receiving the elements, you are welcome to remain kneeling at the rail for meditation and prayer (others may simply fill in the open spaces). **Children** who have not received communion instruction are invited to come forward for a special blessing. Simply fold your hands to indicate you would like to receive the blessing.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"I Am the Bread of Life"

ELW 485

Leader sings stanzas. All Sing Each Refrain

We stand after all have received communion

EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING & PRAYER

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

People: **Amen**

Assist: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

ELW 705

(While we sing, we turn and face the processional cross as it is carried out the center aisle.)

DISMISSAL

Assist: Do Justice! Love Kindness! Walk Humbly with God!

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT:

Spring Cleaning

Greek mythology tells a story about one of the greatest cleanup jobs of all time. The superhuman Hercules is given the challenge of clearing out a gigantic stable where thousands of animals are living. No one thinks he can do it. But, being quite clever, Hercules diverts a river to run through the stables. As the waters pour through, all the grime and filth is swept away.

In today's gospel, Jesus tackles the "mess" that has built up in the temple in Jerusalem. He overturns tables and drives sellers from the temple courts where they have set up shop. Jesus' actions show his resolve to clear out all that clutters and distracts from our relationship with God. He boldly points to the injustices he sees around him and acts to eradicate them. With his words and his actions, Jesus moves through the world and through people's lives, sweeping away everything that has no place in God's kingdom.

During Lent we invite Christ into our communities and congregations for some spring cleaning. We direct our attention toward those places where injustices and distractions have built up, and we pray for God to go to work through Christ. Assembled together, we remember and renew our baptisms. We return each week to have the waters of baptism rush over our lives and through our hearts. Some will take on practices to reflect this desire for purification—giving more space for prayer, simplicity, and silence. Some will declutter their lives by practicing generosity—giving out of their abundance to those with great need. Whatever our practices, we can come together in the hope of God's sanctifying power in our lives.



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THANK YOU FOR SERVING TODAY!

ASSISTING MINISTER

Mike Davidson

LECTOR

Anne Ducate

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Anne Ducate

Bob Turnmire

USHERS

Steve Bloss

Karlene Stuart

Laura Stuart

Walker Flores

INSIDE GREETER

Linda Hayes

OUTSIDE GREETER

Austin Padgett

ACOLYTE

Lauren Bloss

CRUCIFER

Wes Levitt

TORCHBEARERS

Steve Bloss

Jeanette Bloss

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lexanne Graves

NAME TAGS

Karen Kranz

MUGGER

Laura Turnmire

REFRESHMENTS

Judy Lawrence

ALTAR GUILD

Jan Berger

COUNTERS

Steve Bloss

Jeff Tenhover

Vickie Crapps

COUNCIL DISCIPLE

Jeff Tenhover



Lent Seasonal Emphasis

Going a little farther, Jesus threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want."
- Matthew 26:39

LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Ministry Staff:

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George Donovan, Jr., Dir. of Music & Worship george@livingspringscolumbia.org
Deac. Lexanne Graves, Min. of Faith & Life (Children & Families) lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org
Christopher Girardeau, Min. of Faith & Life (Sr. Youth & Young Adults).. christopher@livingspringscolumbia.org
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Sherry Forsgren, Bookkeeper sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org
Mark & Laura Cunningham, Food Ministry laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org
Prayer Ministry prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP THIS DAY!

We greet all who worship in the name of the Risen Savior!

May the Spirit speak to your heart the message of God's redeeming love for everyone, through the grace shown to the world in Jesus.

We gather as a community of disciples. Our center is Jesus Christ, and we are here to know and share the blessing of his forgiving, healing hand.

If you have any questions about our congregation, please call 736-0661, drop by our office (M - F 8:30-4:30) or visit our website at www.livingspringscolumbia.org.

WELCOME GUESTS! – We are especially blessed by your presence today and look forward to worshipping with you again. Please take time to fill out the blue slip in your bulletin and/or sign the welcome book in the narthex. New members are always welcome into our congregation. To learn more about becoming part of Christ's family of faith here at Living Springs, please contact the office (736-0661) or Pastor Eric (917-2749).

BULLETIN BLUE SLIPS - may be completed and placed in the offering plate for prayer requests, guest information, address/phone updates, and a record of communing. Members, please complete at least one blue slip during 2018 to ensure we have a record of your communing.

SEASONAL NAME TAG – In order to show hospitality, we ask everyone to stop by the table under the portico and complete a name tag with our seasonal scripture verse. The tags allow everyone to use names as we share the Peace - and allow communion ministers to speak your name (*please make sure your name is visible when you come to the altar rail*).

RESTROOMS – are located in the Administration Building on both levels. Greeters/ushers will be happy to show you the way. Main level restrooms are equipped with diaper changing stations. For your child's safety, please accompany them when they leave the Sanctuary to use the restrooms.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS - are now available, please see an usher or greeter.

HEARING ASSISTANCE – The ushers have headsets which will amplify the sound for you. Please return to an usher or leave in the pew at the conclusion of the service.

GLUTEN-FREE WAFERS & ALCOHOL-FREE GRAPE JUICE– are available during communion, for those who desire either.

G.I.F.T. ZONE - is a special area in our worship space for parents and young children who wish to worship together with more child-friendly furniture and special resources to utilize during worship.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS – are distributed during the children's sermon.

NURSERY – is available for infants-3 years old during the 10:45 Worship Service; located downstairs in the preschool in the Education Building. Greeters/Ushers will be happy to assist you.

CHILD SAFETY – is very important to us, so we ask at least 1 adult to accompany your child if he/she leaves the Sanctuary during worship. Please do not allow children to play on the playground without parental supervision. During the week, church doors are kept locked to maintain security for our Preschool. Please ring the intercom by the office doors to check in.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME – is held each week following the 8:15 service and prior to the 10:45 service, inside the education building.

OUR PRAYER MINISTRY – As a community of disciples, we pray for one another and others - not just in times of illness, but also for praise, thanksgiving, and forgiveness. If you have a prayer request, simply fill out the bulletin blue sheet and place in the offering plate (or call/email the office). Please indicate if your request is for public or private prayer.