

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 18, 2018 - 10:45 AM



God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's light and truth into our hearts. We see God's heart most clearly in the way Jesus shares human suffering, in an agony both the John and Hebrews readings describe.

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

"How Great is Our God"

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

*1. The splendor of the King
Clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice
All the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
And trembles at His voice*

*2. And age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the End
Beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb*

Chorus :

*How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God*

Bridge:

*Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God*

CCLI Song # 4348399; Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves
© 2004 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

*Baptismal Anniversaries: Patricia Brouwer (3/18), Linda Hayes (3/18), Walker Flores (3/23),
Patrick Lay (3/23), Rachel Sorial (3/24)
(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 HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

ELW 803

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.

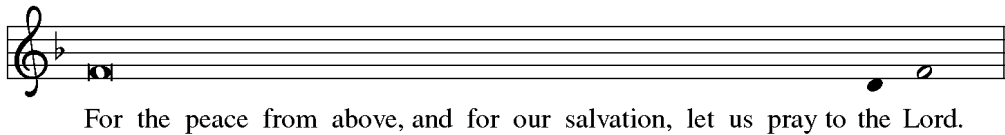
People: And also with you.



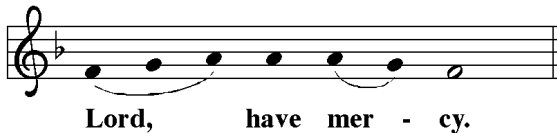
KYRIE



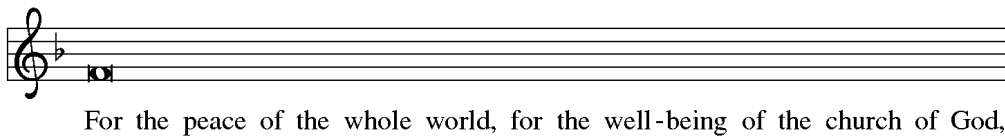
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



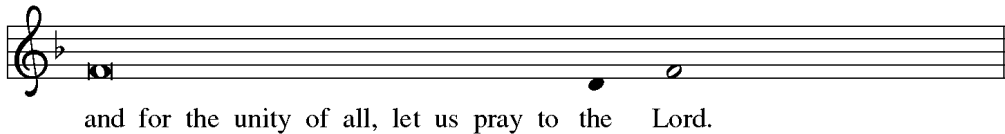
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



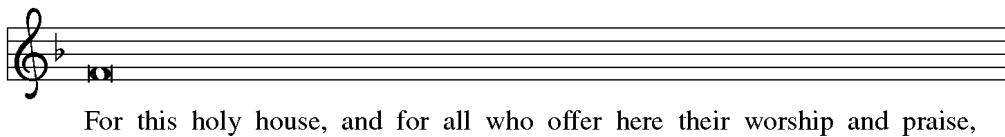
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



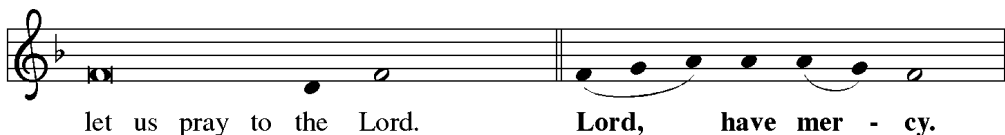
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



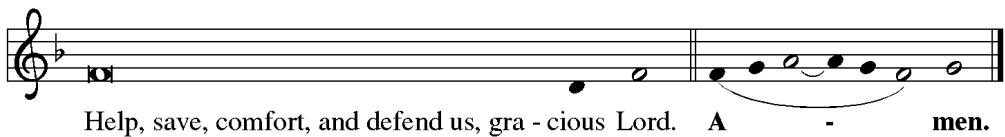
Lord, have mer - cy.



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: O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, 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

Seminarian Christopher Girardeau

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)

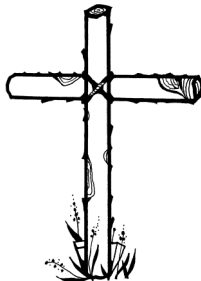
FIRST READING

Lector: A reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more. (*Jeremiah 31:31-34*)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 51:1-12

Lector: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**People: Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

Lector: For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

**People: Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

Lector: Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

**People: Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

Lector: Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**People: Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

Lector: Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

**People: Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

Lector: Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

**People: Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

SECOND READING

Lector: A reading from Hebrews.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek. (*Hebrews 5:5-10*)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

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: Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 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. "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him."³⁰ Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. (*John 12:20-33*)

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. Guide us into a deeper knowledge of your love and grace. Increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and service. We pray for evangelists, pastors, prophets, teachers, lay ministers, and all servants of the church. God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: We pray for the world. For seeds planted in hope of an abundant harvest. For fertile soils and sufficient rains. For shepherds and ranchers, farmworkers and seafood harvesters. For flowers and berries. For orchards, vineyards, and citrus groves. God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: We pray for the nations. For countries embroiled in long-term conflicts, and for communities scarred by political unrest and upheaval. Grant wisdom to the world's decision-makers. Guide them to work for peace and the well-being of all people. God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: We pray for those in need. For those who are lonely or isolated. For those affected by mental illness or inadequate educational opportunity. For those who approach the hour of their death. For the grieving and all who are ill, especially *Taralee Bartholomew; JoAnn Pulse; Bob Jorgensen; Stephanie Joyner; Janet Bate; Bunie Talbert; Sam Gordon; Mar Jane Lind; Vickie Meyers; Josh Rose; Willamina Reed; Deborah Dickey; Fr. Ed Kelly; Arlyn Kjosja; Ted/Debbie Duncan; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud....* God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: We pray for those preparing for baptism and faith milestones. For visitors, newcomers, and those who are returning after an extended absence. Deepen us in faith. Fill us with hope, and draw us all into your loving presence. God of mercy,

People: Thy will be done.

Assist: With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died, especially those who have been witnesses and examples to us. Bring us with them to the promise of resurrection and life eternal 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."

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

"Give Me Jesus"

Christopher Girardeau, Soloist

We are seated

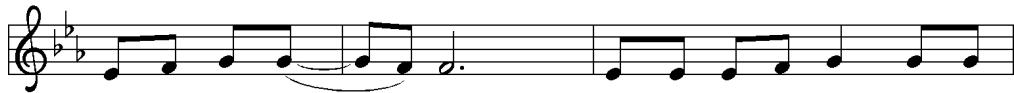
OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN

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

"What Wondrous Love is This"

ELW 666

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 *"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"*

ELW 659

(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.**



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT:

Falling for Jesus

In this final week of Lent we prepare to enter the story of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection and to be transformed and renewed in our baptismal identity through this story's movements. In our wider culture, however, the depth of meaning and experiences that the church walks through during Holy Week, which begins next Sunday, can be hidden behind secular celebrations of Easter.

The Greek inquirers in today's gospel remind us that people around us who are not Christian or do not celebrate Holy Week may still be curious about the origins and significance of Easter. Amidst chocolate bunnies and eggs, we may find ourselves, like Philip and Andrew, with opportunities to direct people's curiosity toward the Lord we come to meet each week.

Jesus' words to his disciples help us in our witness. He is the one who laid down his life for others out of love. In his life we find a willingness to give everything he has for his neighbors and loved ones, even for those who don't yet have a relationship with him. It is from just such a sacrifice that so much fruit has sprung forth. The church is part of that fruit, people across the centuries who have sought to live their own lives in the same way, offering love to the stranger and the outsider.

Each week we come together and reap the fruit of Christ's self-giving love. We hear it in his words. We taste it in the bread and wine of the table. We receive it in the care and consolation of other Christians around us. And as we receive so much from Christ and his church, we are empowered to let ourselves "fall" in service to others so that they too might see through us to Jesus Christ (John 12:24).



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THANK YOU FOR SERVING TODAY!

ASSISTING MINISTER

Adam Woodruff

LECTOR

Dea Jones

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Cindy Day

USHERS

Randy Masad
Leslie Bloss

INSIDE GREETER

Trish Davidson

OUTSIDE GREETER

Marshall Hurlbert

ACOLYTE

Jan Berger

CRUCIFER

Steve Padgett

TORCHBEARERS

Wes Levitt
Cynthia Edney

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Christopher Girardeau

NAME TAGS

Nancy Baldwin

FLOWERS

Jim & Sadonia Grimmer

MUGGER

Karen Kranz

REFRESHMENTS

Kellee Flores

ALTAR GUILD

Jan Berger

COUNTERS

Bob Turnmire
Steve Padgett
Doug Danner

COUNCIL DISCIPLE

Adam Woodruff



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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Ministers: People of Living Springs

Ministry Staff:

Rev. Eric Fink, Senior Pastor pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org
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.