

# EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 15, 2018 - 10:45 AM



*When Amos told what he saw when God held up the plumb line of justice next to Israel—that the poor were being trampled—he was a threat to the power of priests and king. John the Baptist also spoke truth to power, and Herod had him beheaded. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: that all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them.*

## **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](http://www.livingspringscolumbia.org)

## SUMMER GATHERING SONGS

*Our gathering time through the summer will include a hymn sing with music selected by you!*

*Baptismal Anniversaries: Abigail Fox (7/15); Beverly Hoppert (7/15); Audrey Turnmire (7/21)*

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS/SUMMER HOPE MOMENT

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*(Silence for reflection - we kneel as able)*

Pastor: Eternal God our creator,

**People: in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ✚ forgives you all your sins.

**People: Amen.**

### ENTRANCE HYMN

*"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

*ELW #807*

### 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.**



# HYMN OF PRAISE



*Leader:* Glo - ry to God, Lord, in the high-est; and peace on



earth, good will to all.



*All:* 1. Glo - ry to God, Lord, in the high - est;  
2. Oh, might - y Lord you show your pow - er;



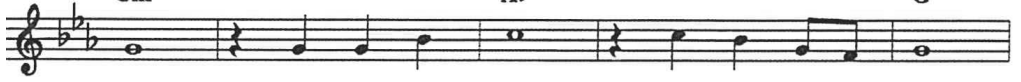
and peace on earth, good will to all. We give you  
en-throned in grace, you hear our prayer; for you a -



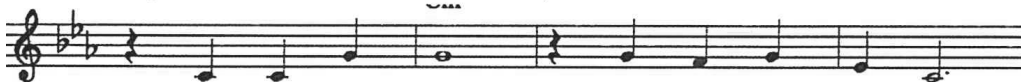
thanks, we praise your glo - ry, oh, heav'n - ly King,  
lone are true and ho - ly, for you a - lone



Lord God of all. Lord Je - sus Christ, God's on - ly  
are Lord of all. Lord Je - sus Christ, God's on - ly



Son; Lord Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.  
Son; Lord Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.



you take a - way the world's trans - gres - sions;  
Oh, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it,



Oh Lord, have mer - cy on us all.  
E - ter - nal God, for - ev - er One.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: **Amen.**

*We are seated*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Eric Fink

*Children, youth, and young at heart are invited to gather on the steps for a special message. Toddlers may be accompanied by parents. All may bring forward coins or dollars for the bucket collection (currently RICH Learning Summer Art & Reading Camp). 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:*

Children of God, sing your song and rejoice for the love that He has given us all. Oh, children of God, by the blood of His son we have been redeemed and we can be called children of God. Child-ren of God.

Words & Music by David Carr, Mac Powell, Mark D. Lee & Tai Anderson,  
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## FIRST READING

Lector: A reading from Amos.

This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'" And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no

prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'" (*Amos 7:7-15*)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 85:8-13**

Lector: I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people  
and to those who turn their hearts to you.

**People: Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

Lector: Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

**People: Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

Lector: The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.

**People: Righteousness shall go before the LORD  
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

### **SECOND READING**

Lector: A reading from Ephesians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. (*Ephesians 1:3-14*)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

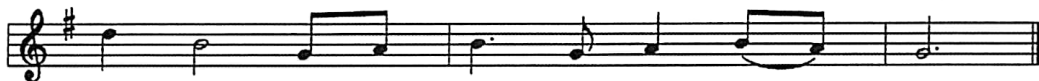
## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



1. Al - le - lu - ia, Christ our Sav - ior, all  
2. We are stand - ing in your pas - ture, Lord we  
3. Al - le - lu - ia, Christ our Sav - ior, all



glo - ry be to you; We are sheep with - out a  
know that we have strayed; Hear ye now the prayers we  
glo - ry be to you; Our hearts burn deep with -



shep - herd, by your word all life is re - newed.  
of - fer for your word that guides our way.  
in us as you fill us with your truth.

## **GOSPEL LESSON**

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**People:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Pastor:** King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the

guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb. (*Mark 6:14-29*)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*We are seated*

## **SERMON**

Rev. Eric Fink

*We stand as able*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"Live Christ"*

- 1. Live Christ, love Christ, Share Christ, be Christ  
All these things do today. All these things along your way.*
- 2. Live peace, love peace, share peace, be peace  
All these things do today. All these things along your way.*
- 3. Live hope, love hope, share hope, be hope.  
All these things do today. All these things along your way.*
- 4. Live love, love love, share love, be love.  
All these things do today. All these things along your way.*
- 5. Live Christ, love Christ, share Christ, be Christ.  
All these things do today. All these things along your way.  
All these things do today. All these things along your way.*

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from the book "On the Way to Somewhere" by Celia Whittler, published by Abingdon Press 2006

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

People: **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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Assist: Growing in faith and discipleship, we give thanks for God's merciful compassion as we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*+ A brief silence +*

Assist: God of truth, put your word of justice on our lips. Bless your church in our prophetic callings. Make us a living and persistent sign of your righteousness and your lovingkindness. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: God of heaven and earth, pour your healing power upon our fragile earth for us and for all who will inherit it. Inspire the work of engineers and environmentalists who seek sustainable sources of energy, food, and clean water. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: God of justice, hold your plumb line to the nations and all those in positions of authority. Redeem all harms caused by corruption and the hunger for power. Restore peace to our world. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: God of salvation, bring wholeness to all your beloved children. Anoint the hands of all caregivers, nurses, doctors, therapists, hospice workers, and chaplains. Bring abundance of life to all who long for healing, especially *Goldie Harmon; Marlene & Bob Jorgensen; Rachel Peterson; Jason Mascetta; Jack Dearhart; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud....* Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: God of tenderness, you adopt us as your own. Help us to provide nourishing care for all children in our midst. Inspire us with their creativity and energy. Heal and protect children who are victims of abuse, neglect, or scorn. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: God of the saints, you have claimed the faithful departed as your own and given them an inheritance in glory. Sustain us in faith until the fullness of time, when you gather up all things in heaven and on earth. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: Gracious God, we lift to you these prayers and the prayers of our hearts, trusting in your everlasting love and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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."*



*We are seated*

## THANKSGIVING MOMENT

### OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN

### MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

*We stand as able*

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*"We Are An Offering"*

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

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### OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Assist:** Let us pray.

**People:** **Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this 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.**

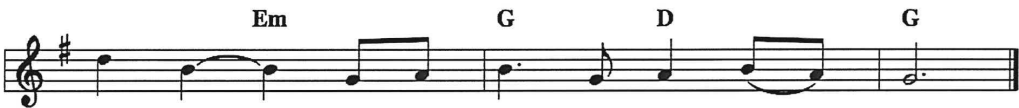
Pastor: *It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:*



1. God of pow - er, Lord al - might - y, earth and  
2. He is bless - ed, He is ho - ly, for his



heav - en bear your name; Ho - san - na in the  
love is one in the same. As the heal - ing you now



high - est to the one who comes to save.  
of - fer to the chil - dren of your name.

*Repeat first verse*

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering therefore his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Spirit of love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## 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: Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*We are seated*

## LAMB OF GOD



1. Oh, Lamb of God; oh, Lamb of  
2. Oh, Lamb of God, oh, Lamb of  
3. Oh, Lamb of God, oh, Lamb of



God, you take a - way our sins.  
God, have mer - cy on us all.  
God, you grant to us your 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 SONG

## "The Table"

### Verse 1

*I will feast at the table of the Lord  
I will feast at the table of the Lord  
I won't hunger anymore at His table*

### Chorus

*Come all you weary come and find  
His yoke is easy His burden is light  
He is able He will restore  
At the table of the Lord  
(At the table of the Lord)*

### Verse 2

*There is peace at the table of the Lord  
There is peace at the table of the Lord  
I won't worry anymore at His table (Chorus)*

### Verse 3

*There is healing at the table of the Lord  
There is healing at the table of the Lord  
Oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table (Chorus)*

### Verse 4

*I'm invited to the table of the Lord  
I'm invited to the table of the Lord  
He says come just as you are to His table (Chorus)*

### Bridge

*I know He has a place for me  
Oh what joy will fill my heart  
With the saints around the mercy seat of God (Chorus)*

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*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:** Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

**People:** **Amen**

## **BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*"Praise to You, O God of Mercy"*

ELW #208

## **DISMISSAL**

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

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**



## EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

### *Strange Mercy*

First the back story. Zechariah was speechless, literally. The day the angel, Gabriel, paid a visit to deliver the absurd news that Elizabeth, his wife, “getting on in years,” would have a child, he was struck speechless for doubting it. That was the first link in a chain of dramatic events. Months passed. The baby was born. On the day of ritual circumcision everyone expected he would be named Zechariah, after his father. Not so! The new father, still unable to speak, scribbled the name John on a tablet. Amazingly, his tongue flew loose with a prophecy we still echo in song today: “You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways” (Luke 1:76). That very day a haunting question arose among the people: “What then will this child become?” (Luke 1:66).

The macabre answer King Herod’s daughter gave when asked how he could reward her for dancing at his party seems a grim ending to a promising beginning: “Give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter” (Mark 6:25). There could be precious little reason to find solace in Zechariah’s words, “By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us” (Luke 1:78), when disciples recovered the baptizer’s mutilated body and laid it in a tomb. Strange mercy. Hearing the news, Jesus withdrew to a deserted place. His disciples did too.

Any attempt to justify all that is unjustifiable sinks beneath the weight of the truth. What is evil deserves no decoration.

The gruesome execution of John at the hesitant but brutal hand of Herod foreshadows Jesus’ own fate, the strange mercy of God “to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace” (Luke 1:79).



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# THANK YOU FOR SERVING TODAY!

## ASSISTING MINISTER

Jeff Day

## LECTOR

Lori Masad

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Wendy McKenzie

Trish Davidson

## USHERS

Bob Turnmire

Steve Padgett

Leslie Bloss

Randy Masad

## INSIDE GREETER

Lauren Bloss

## OUTSIDE GREETER

Adam Woodruff

## ACOLYTE

Walker Flores

## CRUCIFER

Wes Levitt

## TORCHBEARERS

Jeanette Bloss

Steve Bloss

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Eric Fink

## NAME TAGS

Karen Kranz

## MUGGER

Karen Kranz

## COFFEE

Karen Kranz

## ALTAR GUILD

Shirley Laingen

## COUNTERS

Wendy McKenzie

Karlene Stuart

Sue Hyman

## COUNCIL DISCIPLE

Wendy McKenzie



## Pentecost Seasonal

### Emphasis

*Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory!*

*Isaiah 6:3*

## LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**[www.livingspringscolumbia.org](http://www.livingspringscolumbia.org)**

Ministers: People of Living Springs

### *Ministry Staff:*

Rev. Eric Fink, Senior Pastor ..... [pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org)

George Donovan, Jr., Dir. of Music & Worship ..... [george@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:george@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Deac. Lexanne Graves, Min. of Faith & Life (Children & Families) ..... [lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Christopher Girardeau, Min. of Faith & Life (Sr. Youth & Young Adults).. [christopher@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:christopher@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Tammy Mancuso, Preschool Director..... [tmancuso@lslcps.org](mailto:tmancuso@lslcps.org)

Lisa Petty, Administrative Assistant ..... [lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Sherry Forsgren, Bookkeeper ..... [sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Mark & Laura Cunningham, Food Ministry ..... [laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Prayer Ministry ..... [prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto: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](http://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.