

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 19, 2018 - 10:45 AM



Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

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, parents and children use guided activities to help our youngest worshippers 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

SUMMER GATHERING SONGS

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

Baptismal Anniversaries: Logan Mancuso (8/22); London Mancuso (8/22); Kathy Brennan (8/23);

Courtney Murray (8/25)

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

On this Sunday of our Annual Schoolbag Blessing, all students and educators are invited to come forward and place their schoolbags at the base of the altar during the Gathering Songs.



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.

We face the cross at the entrance of the sanctuary. We turn to follow the cross as it enters.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

ELW #689

APOSTOLIC GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Pastor: Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

We are seated

BLESSING OF SCHOOL BAGS, STUDENTS & EDUCATORS (& CHILDREN'S MESSAGE)

Leader: God is the source of all wisdom and knowledge. We ask God to bless those who seek to learn, their parents and teachers, and all whose labors support the ministry and blessing of education.

All who are educators or students this year (from preschool to graduate school), please stand. Whether you brought a bag or not, we want to offer a special prayer of blessing for you as you begin the year.

Leader: Parents, family members, and other caregivers, please stand and place a hand on your student or educator. Congregation, please extend your hand in blessing toward a student or educator close to you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, you have promised to be present with your never-failing love and care. Remind us that wherever we go, you are always with us. Fill us all with the joy of learning and teaching new things so that we may be better equipped to be your servants in and to the world - growing in kindness, sharing your blessings of grace, and learning respect for others. Bless, O Lord, all those who partner with our students. Whatever their task or role, guide them to do it in love and faithfulness to you, knowing that even the most ordinary task becomes extraordinary when done in your name.

People: Amen.

All students and educators are invited to come forward and gather at the steps. Following the litany below, a school bag gift will be distributed to our youth....

Pastor: Let us pray. God of all knowledge and wisdom, another school year is about to begin. We pray your blessing upon these school bags - and upon all the students, parents, teachers, and staff they represent. As this school year begins, support them as they learn, grow, and serve. Let each student and educator feel the love and support of this congregation, and grant this congregation the wisdom and means to meet their needs throughout the coming year. In Jesus' name we pray.

People: Amen.

Leader: When it's the night before going to school, and you pick out your clothes and make sure you have all your school supplies:

People: Jesus is with you!

Leader: When you get on the school bus, drive your car, or go to your time of learning:

People: Jesus is with you!

Leader: When you meet teachers, other students, mentors, or new friends during your learning:

People: Jesus is with you!

Leader: As you prepare to teach and make sure that all is ready for each new school day:

People: **Jesus is with you!**

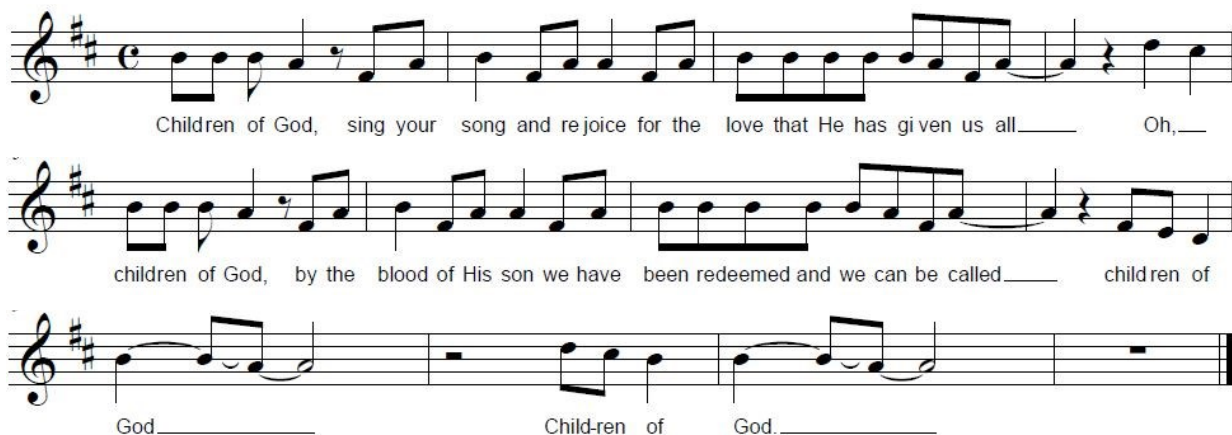
Leader: When you share with your family about your day at school:

People: **Jesus is with you!**

Leader: When you pray at night and thank God for family, friends, teachers, mentors, and the ability to learn:

People: **Jesus is with you!**

The Children's Message follows. 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 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 Proverbs.

Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, "You that are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight." (*Proverbs 9:1-6*)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 34:9-14

Lector: Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

**People: The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

Lector: Come, children, and listen to me;
I will teach you reverence for the LORD.

**People: Who among you takes pleasure in life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

Lector: Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.

**People: Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

SECOND READING

Lector: A reading from Ephesians.

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Ephesians 5:15-20*)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

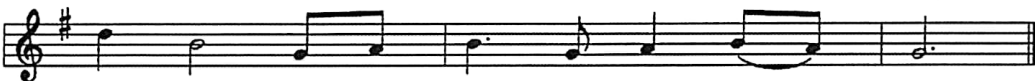
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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 John.

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

Pastor: [Jesus said,] "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."
(John 6:51-58)

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

"We Eat the Bread of Teaching"

ELW #518

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: Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

+ A brief silence +

Assist: O Lord, you build your church, the body of Christ, and sustain it with living bread. Let wisdom guide your church, and teach all its members the way of righteousness. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: O Lord, the wonders of your creation give you praise. Bless the work of musicians, composers, writers, and all artists, that through their gifts of creativity, we may join creation in praise of you. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: O Lord, we thank you for the diversity of the nations. Shower your wisdom and mercy upon all leaders and citizens. Give us all the courage to seek peace and pursue it. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: O Lord, send calm and perseverance to those who are troubled, sick, or living with great stress. Fill them with your Spirit and satisfy them with your presence, especially *Neva Burley; JoAnn Pulse; Goldie Harmon; Frank Weick; Patricia Breivik; Dylan Mondro; Michael Hart; Dale Dominick; Jim Shields; Kimberly Cantey; Barbara Erhardt; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud....*

Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: O Lord, we thank you for this congregation. Give us gratitude for the many blessings we enjoy, and inspire us to give thanks at all times. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: O Lord, we bless you for family, friends, and sisters and brothers in Christ who have guided us in wisdom and insight. Lead us into peace with all people until the day of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: Almighty and loving God, we look to you in hope and trust, knowing that you will do far more than we can ask or imagine, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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."

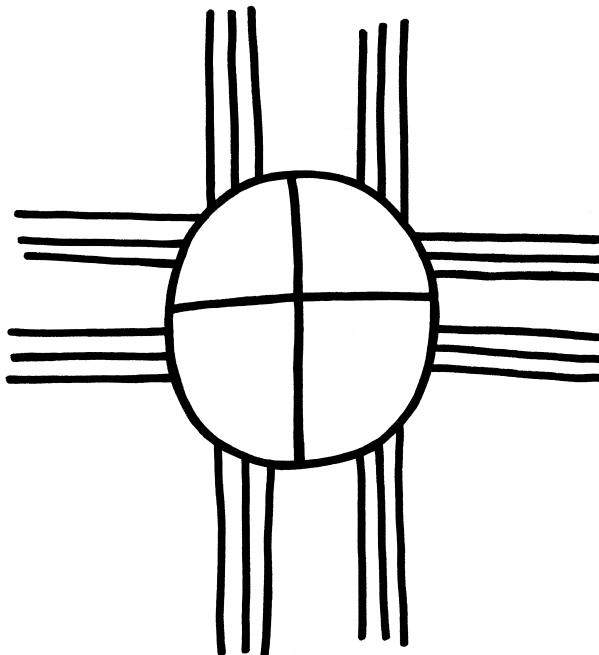
We are seated

OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

"There Is A Balm Gilead"

Anna Graves, soloist



OFFERTORY HYMN

"We Are An Offering"

The musical score is written on six staves of music in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. The lyrics are: "We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voice-es, 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 voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, with some triplets indicated by a '3' above the notes.

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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

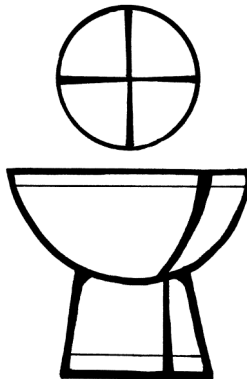


heav - en bear your name; Ho - san - na in the
love is one in the same. As the heal - ing you now



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

Repeat first verse



EUCHARISTIC 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 HYMN

"Jesus Messiah"

- 1. He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing*

*Chorus: Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners
The Ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah Lord of all*

- 2. His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing (To Chorus)*

*Bridge: All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You God
The Light of the world (To Chorus)*

*Ending: Jesus Messiah
Lord of all
The Lord of all
The Lord of all*

CCLI Song # 5183443
Chris Tomlin | Daniel Carson | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves
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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

"Voices Raised to You"

ELW #845

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Hungry for Meaning

The account of Viktor Frankl's survival in Nazi death camps, written in his famous memoir, *Man's Search for Meaning*, tells about the relentless days of wretched suffering. But most remarkable are his words about finding meaning in a grim wasteland of loss, the discovery of something that gives life in an existence pulsing with cruelty and death. Few of us face such horrors, but many of us do know what it is to rise into mornings that drift into hollowed out nights, days of empty passages.

During a long stretch of loneliness, the man paced vacantly through once joyful corridors that had become a maze of confused anguish. For anyone and no one to hear, he cried, shouted, "This is no life!" He wanted neither to live nor to die. Nothing—shopping, traveling, eating, drinking, going, coming, playing, working, hoarding, shedding—nothing had meaning.

Today, Jesus speaks of himself as living bread from heaven, his flesh for food and his blood for drink. The Gospel of John offers no details of the Lord's supper, no instructions spoken over bread and wine, no "Do this for the remembrance of me." Instead, here, Jesus' invitation is to share in his way of abundant life, in a word, "abide."

Abide. You are not alone. Abide. Jesus is with you. Abide in communion with the one who hugs lepers, expels demons, breathes with the dead, rescues the far gone, goes to prison, wants the unwanted, loves the shamed, forgives the guilty, serves the servant, blesses the thieves, welcomes aliens, cancels debts, listens to children, gives the blind kaleidoscopes, the deaf symphonies, and the voiceless a song. May this be our prayer today: "When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, oh, abide with me" (ELW 629).



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THANK YOU FOR SERVING TODAY!

ASSISTING MINISTER

Jan Berger

LECTOR

Steve Padgett

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Steve Bloss
Jeanette Bloss

USHERS

Karlene Stuart
Leslie Bloss
Cindy Day

INSIDE GREETER

Cathy Lowman

OUTSIDE GREETER

Adam Woodruff

ACOLYTE

Steve Bloss

CRUCIFER

Pat Bartucca

TORCHBEARERS

Alison Levitt
Wes Levitt

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Ashley Ramsey

NAME TAGS

Gay Walter

MUGGER

Charles Tracy

ALTAR GUILD

Cindy Day

COUNTERS

Steve Bloss
Jeff Tenhover
Vickie Crapps

COUNCIL DISCIPLE

Jeff Tenhover



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.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia

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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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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.