

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 2, 2018 - 10:45 AM



*Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We, having been washed in the word when we were born in the font, return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.*

## G.I.F.T. Zone Worship-Learning Area For Parents

We offer the parent-friendly G.I.F.T. Zone (in the left-hand transept of the main sanctuary) so that parents may share the worship experience with their children in a meaningful, stress-free way. This parent-friendly worship experience is located in the left-hand side area of the sanctuary. **Every child in the G.I.F.T. Zone should be accompanied by a family adult**—as the purpose is to provide an area for parents to help teach their children the routines and meaning of worship (until they are old enough to worship in the pews for the entire service).

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. Parents and children use guided activities to help our youngest worshippers follow the readings, sermon, hymn, creed, and prayers. This is an awesome way for parents to share the rhythm of worship and have children/ parents engaged together in worship with the whole congregation, while learning the liturgy. At the 10:45 service, our nursery is also available for ages 0 - 3 (for children who have not yet reached the point to focus and benefit from the G.I.F.T. Zone activities).



## Living Springs Lutheran Church

4224 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223

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

## GATHERING SONG

*We pause for reflection to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

*Baptismal Anniversaries: Eric Nelson (9/4); Bob Gabbard (9/7)*

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the ✝ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

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

Pastor: Source of all life,

**People: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn ourselves inward, rather than moving outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be your people powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

Pastor: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ✝ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**People: Amen.**

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

### ENTRANCE HYMN

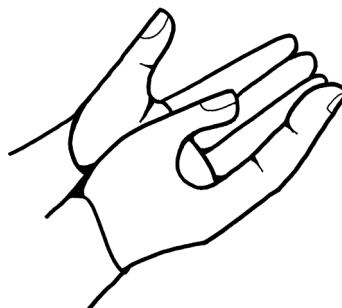
*"Let Justice Flow Like Streams"*

ELW #717

### 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 AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. *(We pause in prayer and then respond)*



Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. *(We pause in prayer and then respond)*



Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. *(We pause in prayer and then respond)*



Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. *(We pause in prayer and then respond)*



Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor: Help, save comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. *(We pause in prayer and then respond)*



A - men.

Pastor:

**People:**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

**People: O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*We are seated*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Seminarian Christopher Girardeau

*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 Habitat for Humanity Build). 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 the little children, all the children of the world.*

*So we gather in His name, offering our love and praise.*

*Jesus loves the little children of the world.*

(Tune by C.H. Woolston, Public Domain. Alt. Text by G. Donovan, Jr.)

## **FIRST READING**

Lector: A reading from Jeremiah.

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children. *(Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9)*

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 15**

Lector: LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**People: Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;**

Lector: they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**People: In their sight the wicked are rejected,  
but they honor those who fear the LORD.  
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

Lector: They do not give their money in hope of gain,  
nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

**People: Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.**

## SECOND READING

Lector: A reading from James.

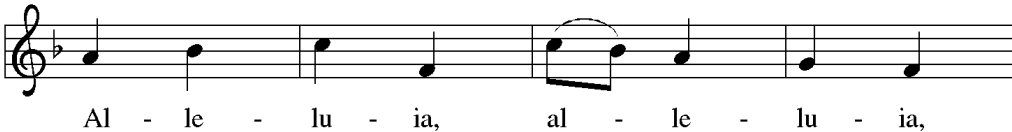
Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. (*James 1:17-27*)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

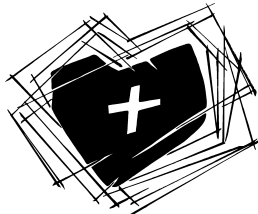
**People: Thanks be to God.**

*We stand for the reading of the Gospel*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Repeat alleluia*



## GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

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

Pastor: Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person." (*Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*)

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

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

ELW #793

## 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: Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

+ A brief silence +

Assist: Gracious God, we pray for all those who labor to bear your word into the world by welcoming the stranger, healing the sick, and caring for the orphan. Embolden your church to take up the cross against the powers of oppression and death.

Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: Creative God, we pray for the earth. Keep watch over those who rescue endangered species and repair scorched landscapes. Make us good stewards of creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: Sovereign God, we pray for the nations of the world, for governments, leaders, and citizens. Watch over all those driven from their homes by war and violence. Inspire us to be a light of hope for a troubled world. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: Loving God, you call us to serve our neighbors. Bless our vocations as we fill the cups of the thirsty, the plates of the hungry, and the hearts of the lonely. Make our presence your presence for all who sorrow and need healing, especially *the Kranz family; the Smith/Harmon family; Neva Burley; JoAnn Pulse; Frank Weick; Anita Gabbard; Logan Smith; Goldie Harmon; George Bush; the Varn family; Frances Wilson; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud...*

Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: Welcoming God, at tables around the world, through story and meal, strangers become guests and guests become friends. Embolden this congregation to always extend the wide-armed welcome you extend to us. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses whose lives inspire us to loving service including *Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, renewer of the church*, whom we commemorate today. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Assist: Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

**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

*"To God Our Thanks We Give"*



Re - a - mo le - bo - ga, re - a - mo le - bo - ga,  
To God our thanks we give, to God our thanks we give,



re - a - mo le - bo - ga mo - di - mo wa ro - na.  
to God our thanks we give, our thanks to God we give.

Text: Botswana traditional, as taught by Daisy Nshakazongwe; tr. I-Loh; Text © 1986 World Council of Churches and the Asian Institute for Liturgy and Music.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assist: Let us pray.

People: **God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.**





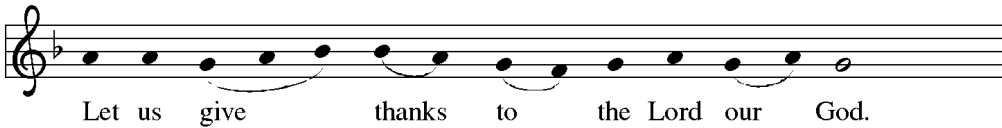
# GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**



Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**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 - er and might,



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **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:** Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.

**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 SONG

### "Give Us Clean Hands"

*We bow our hearts we bend our knees  
Oh Spirit come make us humble  
We turn our eyes from evil things  
Oh Lord we cast down our idols*

*Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob*

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## DISTRIBUTION SONG

### "Take, O Take Me As I Am"

Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, accessible style with quarter and eighth notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots in both staves.

*Text: John L. Bell; Text © 1995 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent; All rights reserved. Used by permission.*



*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:** Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

**People: Amen**

## **BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN "10,000 Reasons"**

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

*Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name*

*The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;  
It's time to sing Your song again.*

*Whatever may pass, and whatever comes before me,  
let me be singing when the evening comes*

*Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name*

*You're rich in love and you're slow to anger,  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.*

*For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find*

*Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name*

*And on that day, when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near, and my time has come;*

*Still my soul will sing Your praise unending;  
ten thousand years and then forevermore!*

*Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name*

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## **DISMISSAL**

**Assist:** Go in peace. Sound the good news.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

### *What Matters*

Remember grammar lessons? Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and pronouns all had specific purposes in a sentence, specific placements, and specific punctuation to go with them. The lesson drilled into grammar students was that knowing the rules about how to use words correctly is extremely important. Using slang and profanity was rebellion against those rules. Certain words and phrases may evoke feelings in each of us. The misuse of your and you're and nonstandard words like irregardless can irritate; words that some consider gross, like moist and vomit, can cause physical reactions. Even though we are taught that it's sticks and stones that break our bones, some words can injure us more deeply than any rock.

When some religious leaders are offended by how the disciples are eating, Jesus counters their complaints with one of his own: "Isaiah was right; you like to talk big, but you care more about your traditions than you do about honoring God." He tells those listening that being grammatically correct—following tradition—isn't what is necessary. The motivation behind the words we chose to speak and the impact those words have on others is what matters.

James, in today's second reading, takes Jesus' message a step further and tells his readers to "be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves" (James 1:22). We can't just listen, or only consider, or simply hear, then move on believing we did everything we were supposed to do. This is akin to caring more about whether a message is written with proper grammar than what the message actually says. James tells us that "the word" isn't just meant to evoke feelings in us, but to compel us to do the word.

For James, "the word" was true belief in God and doing the word—living that true belief—was caring for those in need, especially those who were sidelined or invisible because they didn't conform to strict guidelines or customs.



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### ✚ COMMEMORATIONS FOR TODAY ✚

#### **Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, died 1872**

Grundtvig was, with Søren Kierkegaard, one of the two great Danish theologians of the nineteenth century. As a pastor, he battled the prevalent idea that Christianity was more a philosophy than divine revelation. He wrote over a thousand hymns.

# THANK YOU FOR SERVING TODAY!

## ASSISTING MINISTER

Mike Davidson

## LECTOR

Sarah Schultz

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Laura Turnmire  
Audrey Turnmire

## USHERS

Karlene Stuart  
Walker Flores  
Wes Levitt  
Steve Bloss

## INSIDE GREETER

Jeanette Bloss

## OUTSIDE GREETER

Marshall Hurlbert

## ACOLYTE

Walker Flores

## CRUCIFER

Leslie Bloss

## TORCHBEARERS

Alison Levitt  
Gail Buchanan

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Christopher Girardeau

## NAME TAGS

Karen Kranz

## FLOWERS

Bloss family

## MUGGER

Karen Kranz

## COFFEE

Todd Gunvalson

## REFRESHMENT

Judy Lawrence

## ALTAR GUILD

Linda Hayes/Nancy Baldwin

## COUNTERS

Bob Turnmire  
Steve Padgett  
Doug Danner

## COUNCIL DISCIPLE

Doug Danner



## Pentecost Seasonal Emphasis

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. - Galatians 5:22-23a

## LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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[www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia](https://www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia)

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

Ministers: People of Living Springs.

*Our Ministry Staff contacts are:*

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)  
Deacon Lexanne Graves, Min. of Faith & Life (Children & Families).....[lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org)  
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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 green 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 GREEN SLIPS** - may be completed and placed in the offering plate for prayer requests, God Stories, guest information, address/phone updates, and a record of communing. Please complete at least one slip during 2018 to ensure we have a record of 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 green slip and place in the offering plate (or call/email the office). Please indicate if your request is for public or private prayer.