

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 18, 2021 - 8:15 & 10:30 AM



The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.



Living Springs 2021 -

Moving Forward in Faith to be ...

A CREATIVE, INNOVATIVE, LIVING BEACON OF GOD'S HOPE FOR ALL!

*With God's help & the Spirit's power,
we will strive to be a Body of Believers who:*

All are more deeply FORMED & GROUNDED IN GOD'S HOPE;

All are more fully EQUIPPED WITH HOPING-COPING SKILLS for life;


All are GOD'S ACTIVE HOPE-AGENTS in our daily, spiritual, communal lives.

Living Springs Lutheran Church

4224 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223

www.livingspringscolumbia.org

 @livingspringscolumbia

 Living Springs Lutheran Church

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS—JUSTICE MINISTRY TEMPLE TALK

We stand as able

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Pastor: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. *(Silence for reflection)*

Pastor: We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"*
We turn and face the processional cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.

1 *Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

2 *Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still he comes to give us life
and by his presence stills all strife.
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds; Text: Paul Z. Strodach; Music: Lasst Uns Erfreuen, Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln; Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress
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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. **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *(10:30 only)*

*This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia.*

*Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

We are seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (10:30 only)

Dea Jones

Children, youth, and young at heart are invited for a special message. You may collect your coins or dollars at home for the bucket collection and bring them to Sanctuary worship, to the Parking Lot Worship, or drop them off at the church office. Easter season collection is for Mental Health ministries.

FIRST READING

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

Lector: A reading from Acts.

[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. "And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out." (Acts 3:12-19)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 4 (10:30 only)

Lector: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**People: "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"**

Lector: Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.

**People: Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

Lector: Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

**People: Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

Lector: You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

**People: In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

SECOND READING

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

Lector: A reading from 1 John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. (1 John 3:1-7)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

We stand for the reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things." (Luke 24:36b-48)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We stand as able

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

1 *Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity:*

2 *Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us
closer in community: Refrain*

Refrain

*With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.*

*Lord, You Give the Great Commission;
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NICENE CREED

People: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- Pastor: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.
+ A brief silence +
- Pastor: Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- Pastor: Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
- Pastor: God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
- Pastor: Loving God, you call each of us to do justice, love kindness & walk humbly with you. Guide our justice ministry as we seek to bring hope to this community in regard to issues of mental health, education, housing, and community gun violence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- Pastor: Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness. We pray especially for: *Nancy Baldwin; Ann Lynn Caughman; LaTynia Taylor; Peter Creighton; Kyle Dymont; Inge Lowery; Delores Harmon; Ed Brennan; Debbie Smith; Charles Kauffman; Margaret Blank; Bunie Talbert; Bob Holmstrom; Kelly Koziol; Wilma Bracey; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud...* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- Pastor: Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.
- Pastor: God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us. Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- Pastor: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

We blow our horns or extend a hand toward others, sharing the words, "Peace be with you."

OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN

Offerings may be placed in the offering plates in the sanctuary communion line or the outside welcome table, as well as dropped off at the office during the week or sent through the mail. For those who wish to give electronically, you may use the secure Givelify app.

Google Play



App Store



OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC DIALOGUE & PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. **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: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pastor: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

People: Come, Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

People: Come, Holy Spirit.

Pastor: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, 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: The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

People: Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*ALL ARE WELCOME to partake of Holy Communion, for we believe this is the Lord's Meal (not ours) and open to Christians of any background, denomination, or tradition. As Lutheran Christians, we believe in the full presence of Christ in, with, and under the elements. Children are welcome to receive communion at as early age as desired (parent may consult with pastor), and communion instruction is provided as scheduled. For children (or others) not receiving the elements, a special blessing is offered. OUTSIDE - Please remain in place. Communion will be brought to you on the lawn or at your vehicle. INSIDE - Ushers will direct you to the front. **Please maintain at least 6-ft spacing while waiting & returning.***

*ELEMENTS: During Covid, we continue to temporarily use sanitary-packaged individual communion elements. The wafer is located under the plastic film on top of the sealed cup - you can pull back the plastic film for the wafer, and then peel off the aluminum seal to open the cup. Feel free to either eat the wafer or drink the grape juice first, depending on which is easier for you to open. Separate individually-packaged GLUTEN-FREE wafers are also available. *For INSIDE WORSHIP, we also have available an individual wine glass & traditional wafer at a separate station. Please commune at the station and return the plastic holder/glass to the container provided at the table.*

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"I'm a-Goin'-a Eat at the Welcome Table"

*1. I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table.
I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table one of these days.*

*2. I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey, one of these days.*

I'm a-Goin'-a Eat at the Welcome Table; Text: African American spiritual; Music: WELCOME TABLE, African American spiritual

"Come As You Are"

*Come out of sadness
from wherever you've been.
Come, broken-hearted, let rescue begin.
Come find your mercy. O sinner come kneel:
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal,
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.*

*Chorus:
Lay down your burdens,
lay down your shame.
All who are broken lift up your face.
O wanderer, come home; you're not too far.
So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart,
come as you are.*

*There's hope for the hopeless
and all those who've strayed:
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace.
There's rest for the weary, rest that endures.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure.
(Chorus)*

*Bridge:
Come as you are. Fall in His arms.
Come as you are.
There's joy for the morning.
O sinner, be still.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.
(Chorus)*

Come As You Are; CCLI Song # 7017790
Ben Glover | David Crowder | Matt Maher
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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & BENEDICTION

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

"Christ Is Alive!"

*1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.*

Thine is the Glory; Text: Edmond Budry, tr. R. Birch Hoyle;
Music: JUDAS MACCAVAEUS, George Frideric Handel;

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace! You have a story to tell—God is love!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



NEHEMIAH ACTION

Monday, April 26 @ 6:30pm

At the Nehemiah Action on April 26th, MORE Justice will have 1800 people (online) to ask local public officials for changes to make Columbia a better place for our neighbors. Living Springs as a congregation will have 150+ at the Nehemiah Action. Public officials have been fully informed about what to expect that evening and know what we will be asking. We have learned in the past few years that a big turnout by people of faith can bring positive change to the Midlands. "People Power" enables us to follow God's mandate to do Justice. This year MORE Justice is addressing four community problems: mental illness, affordable housing, gun violence, and education. Mark your calendar to attend the Nehemiah Action online on Monday April 26th, 6:30 pm. In the story of Nehemiah we hear that People Power is how the Prophet Nehemiah brought justice for his people. That same

People Power is needed today. Please join us on April 26th ! If you would like more information about the Living Springs Justice Ministry, please talk with a Justice Team Leader: Peg or Jim Zieche, Mike Davidson, Gwen Furcron, Gail Buchanan, Wayne Kannaday or Helen Doerpinghaus.

Use this link to register now for the Nehemiah Action

<https://forms.gle/5HwTh6xfKHweBAC37>

WEDNESDAY HOPE TIMES

April 28; May 5, 12, 18!

The word "hope" can be used in so many ways, including "wishing" we just had stuff—but what does Scripture tell us about the meaning of GOD's "sure & certain Hope" which we live and share? At Noon and 6:45, Pastor Carl and Pastor Eric will lead an exploration of scriptural teaching about God's hope, followed by an optional 15-minute time of hope, in which we share prayer & Holy Communion. Noon session is in the sanctuary; 6:45pm session will be on-line, as well as in-person in the fellowship hall. Spread the word and invite your friends!

BUTTERFLY GARDENS OF HOPE!

The Good News Team shared packets of butterfly garden seeds as part of our Rush Hour ministry to our NE Cola neighbors as the stopped for the light at Hard Scrabble and Clemson the Monday of Holy Week. Many were very thankful at the Easter blessings and wishes that were passed as well as the seeds. Several said we had made their day.



Share with us your (or your friends/family/neighbors) butterfly garden photos and stories to

GodAroundUs@livingspringscolumbia.org

BACKPACK FOOD MINISTRY



Would you like to help with packing the bags for our backpack program? Signup Genius has the schedule for the remainder of the school year. Two to three people can pack at a time or maybe you would like to do it as a family project?

Contact Karen Kranz for details or questions. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baea92fa0f85-backpack>.

Calling all LS People & Friends

"HOPE SUNDAY" KICKOFF!

April 25th, 8:15 & 10:30

+ + +

WEDNESDAY HOPE TIMES

April 28; May 5, 12, 19

Pastor Carl & Pastor Eric

12 Noon (sanctuary)

6:45pm (fellowship hall+online)



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER:

We Are Fed

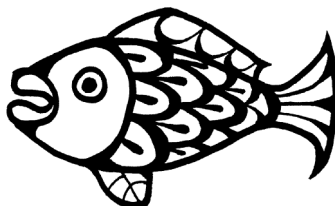
It appears the gospel writers knew that people would question whether Jesus was indeed fully human. Details such as how he wept at the death of his dear friend Lazarus, lost patience with those who had turned the temple into a marketplace, and was a bit annoyed with his mother when she asked him to help out at the wedding in Cana remind us that Jesus felt many of the things we feel ourselves.

Similarly, in case anyone wondered if Jesus had really risen from the dead, Luke tells us how, after Jesus appeared to his disciples, he asked for something to eat. This may seem like a small detail, but there's no doubt it is an important one. After all, only people who are living and breathing must eat; there is no getting around that physical need.

However, this detail does not remind us only that Jesus really was raised from the dead. It also brings to mind the many times Jesus gathered around a table with a great variety of people, feeding them in both body and soul. As we remember each of these interactions, we are reminded that even though we do not dine with Jesus in the flesh, today he is still at work to nurture us.

Jesus feeds us through his words of forgiveness, through the love of our family and friends, and through the blessing of community. Most notably, Jesus feeds us at the Lord's supper, where he invites all to taste and see God's goodness and grace. Through bread and wine we are fortified with Christ's body and blood to be witnesses to God's love out in the world as we go about our daily work, bless one another with our time and gifts, and serve our neighbors in need.

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WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!

*We rejoice in your presence, as we join with others throughout the world for worship this Sunday!
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 pray that that God's healing grace may truly touch every aspect of your life!

+ + +

*If you are looking for a church family to offer you and your family support, fellowship,
growth in faith, and opportunities to share the love of God with others,
we invite you to come experience the Spirit's presence at Living Springs.*

Everyone is welcome here - to share in the grace and unconditional love given us through Christ!

WELCOME GUESTS! – We are especially blessed by your presence today and look forward to worshipping with you again. Please take time to sign the welcome book in the narthex. To learn more about becoming part of Christ's family of faith here at Living Springs, please contact the Pastor Carl (803-736-0661) or Pastor Eric (803-917-2749).

RESTROOMS – are located in the Administration Building. Greeters/ushers will be happy to show you the way. Restrooms are equipped with diaper changing stations.

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, call the office (803-736-0661) or send an email to: prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org

April Books of the Month: Philipians & Colossians

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LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Office: (803) 736-0661

Child Development Center: (803) 736-0776

Ministers: People of Living Springs. Our Ministry Staff contacts are:

Rev. Eric Fink, Senior Pastorpastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org

Rev. Carl Taylor, Associate Pastorpastorcarl@livingspringscolumbia.org

Tammy Mancuso, Director, LS Child Development Centertmancuso@lsccdc.org

Lisa Petty, Good News Coordinator/Administrative Assistantlisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org

Seminarian Isaac Taylor, Sr. Youth Associateisaac@livingspringscolumbia.org

Deacon Lexanne Graves, Coordinator E-Outreach Ministrieslexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org

Virginia Herlong, Choral Directorvirginia@livingspringscolumbia.org

Laura Turnmire, Handbell Directorlaurabells@livingspringscolumbia.org

Sherry Forsgren, Bookkeepersherry@livingspringscolumbia.org

Mark & Laura Cunningham, Food Ministrylaurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org

Prayer Ministryprayer@livingspringscolumbia.org