

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 16, 2021 - 8:15 & 10:30 AM



The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!



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

SPECIAL HOPE PRELUDE

"Because He Lives"

Dea Jones/Cathy Lowman

1. *God sent his Son, they called him Jesus;
He came to love, heal, and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there
to prove my Savior lives.*

2. *How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy he gives;
But greater still the calm assurance,
This child can face uncertain days
because he lives.*

*Refrain: Because he lives I can face tomorrow;
Because he lives all fear is gone;
Because I know, I know he holds the future,
And life is worth the living
just because he lives.*

Because He Lives; By William & Gloria Gaither, arr. Jack Schrader

CONGREGATIONAL READING OF HOPE EMPHASIS (front of bulletin)

+ + +

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - NEWBERRY COLLEGE TEMPLE TALK

We stand as able

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (8:15 only)

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.**

EASTER ACCLAMATION & GATHERING SONG

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

We turn and face the processional cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.

1 *Christ is the king! O friends, rejoice;
brothers and sisters, with one voice
let the world know he is your choice.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

2 *Oh, magnify the Lord, and raise
anthems of joy and holy praise
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

4 *Let Love's all reconciling might
your scattered companies unite*

*in service to the God of light.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

5 *So shall the church at last be one;
so shall God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

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: Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

We are seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *(10:30 only)*

Rev. Eric Fink

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 worship or drop them off at the church office. Easter season collection is for Mental Health ministries.

FIRST READING

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

Lector: A reading from Acts.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

(Acts 1:15-17, 21-26)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 1 *(10:30 only)*

Lector: Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**People: Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

Lector: They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

**People: It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Lector: Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**People: For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

SECOND READING

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

Lector: A reading from 1 John.

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. (1 John 5:9-13)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

We stand for the reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(10:30 only)*



GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John.

People: Glory to you, O Lord!

[Jesus prayed:] "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth." (John 17:6-19)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

We are seated

SERMON

Rev. Carl Taylor

We stand as able

HYMN OF THE DAY

"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*

*Chorus :
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*

"Give Us Clean Hands", CCLI Song #2060208
words and music by Charlie Hall
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†† HOLY BAPTISM †† (10:30 only)

Pastor: Through God's action in the water and word of baptism, Margaret Lee Pittman , will be made a child of God and incorporated into the body of Christ, the Church. Maggie is the daughter of Lindsey and Brandon Pittman. We welcome her into the fellowship that we share in Christ.

Pastor: In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

The pastor addresses those presenting the child for baptism.

Pastor: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your daughter baptized into Christ?

Parents: I do.

Pastor: As you bring Maggie to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people; bring her to the word of God and the holy supper; teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments; place in her hands the holy scriptures; and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that she may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Pastor: Do you promise to help Maggie grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: I do.

Pastor: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Maggie in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: I do.

We stand. The pastor addresses the congregation.

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support Maggie and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

People: We do.

Pastor: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

People: I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

People: I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

People: I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the son of God?

People: 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.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: 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

We are seated

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the Promised Land. By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Margaret Lee is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia!

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister continues in prayer:

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give Maggie new birth, cleanse her from sin, and raise her to eternal life. Sustain Maggie with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

People: Amen.

The cross is marked on the head of the newly baptized with anointing oil.

Pastor: Margaret Lee, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

People: Amen.

A lighted candle is presented to the newly baptized, along with the words of Jesus from Matthew 5:16

Pastor: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The baptismal group faces the assembly.

Pastor: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

The newly baptized is carried the newly baptized into the midst of the congregation as we sing:

BAPTISMAL SONG

"Borning Cry"

1 *"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."*

4 *"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."*

*Borning Cry; Text and Music: John C. Ylvisaker;
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Following the song, the newly baptized is given a Faith Chest from the congregation, in which to store items from her Faith Milestones in years to come.

HOPE MOMENT

A Bell of Hope is sounded, followed by the response:

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

People: All are more deeply formed and grounded in God's hope!

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: Holy God, in Christ Jesus the joy of the church is made complete. Root the church in your Word and unify us as Christ's body. Send us into the world as your loving people, ready to testify to your Spirit at work. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Mighty God, the world is your handiwork, displaying your creative impulse. Seas teem with life, forests reach up to praise you, and the mystery of life lies deep in the soil. Guard and keep this world for the well-being of all your creatures. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Gracious Sovereign, those who follow your ways are like trees planted near streams of water. Establish the leaders of nations and all in authority in your grace and truth. Strengthen them, so that the people they serve will have abundant life. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Generous Savior, you befriend those who are grieving, suffering, poor, lonely, outcast, rejected, or sick. Grant healing and love to all in need. Give them tangible signs of your steadfast love. We pray especially for: *Ed Brennan, Ann Lynn Caughman; Nancy Baldwin; LaTynia Taylor; Peter Creighton; Kyle Dymont; Evan Turnmire; Inge Lowery; Delores Harmon; Debbie Smith; Charles Kauffman; Margaret Blank; Bunie Talbert; baby Drew; Wayne Thoma, Bob Holmstrom; Kelly Koziol; Wilma Bracey; Randy Robertson; Karen Brand; Abby/Gina Cates; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud...*, Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Creator God, here in this community we share the gift of praying, learning, and supporting one another. Give us thankful hearts as we claim the gifts that are unique to us and keep us from being envious of others with different gifts. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Saving God, your wonderful promise is the gift of eternal life in Jesus. Through the witness of those who have died in you, strengthen us now in this gift of life. We cherish the memory of your saints. Hear us, O God.

People: 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.

People: Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

We remain in place and extend a sign of peace toward others (or blow our vehicle-horns from outside at 10:30 worship), sharing the words of the Risen Jesus, "Peace be with you."

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD & OFFERING PRAYER

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



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 & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER & INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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.**

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: We continue to temporarily offer 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 deposit the empty holder/glass in the white bucket on the chair.*

BEACON OF HOPE STATION

*As you come forward in the communion line, you are invited to pause at the Beacon of Hope station and write on a prayer slip: 1) any prayer of hope that is on your heart for yourself, for others, for our community, for the world; OR 2) anything related to a Spirit-tug you may feel in your heart for one of the 13 items on our Hope Emphasis "menu" (see back inside cover of bulletin). Simply drop the slip in the basket by the lighthouse—no names are needed, unless you would like one of our ministers to follow-up with you. **Please return your pencil to the "used pencil" basket after worship.***

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION SONGS "One Bread, One Body"

Refrain

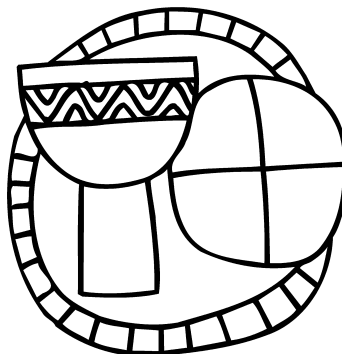
*One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.*

*1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. Refrain*

*2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. Refrain*

*3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. Refrain*

One Bread, One Body; Text and Music: John Foley, SJ; Text and Music © 1978 John Foley, SJ and OCP Publication; Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727349. All rights reserved.



"Bind Us Together, Lord"

*Refrain: Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together with cords
that cannot be broken,
Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together, Lord,
bind us together in love.*

1. *There is only one God.
There is only one King.
There is only one Body;
that is why we can sing: Refrain*

2. *You are the fam'ly of God,
You are the promise divine.
You are God's chosen desire,
you are the glorious new wine. Refrain*

Bind Us Together, Lord; Text and Music: Bob Gillman
Text and Music © 1977 Thankyou Music

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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.

People: Amen.

SENDING SONG

"Son of God, Eternal Savior"

1 *Son of God, eternal Savior,
source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
hallows all our human race,
you our head, who, throned in glory,
for your own will ever plead:
fill us with your love and pity,
heal our wrong, and help our need.*

2 *As you, Lord, have lived for others,
so may we for others live.
Freely have your gifts been granted;
freely may your servants give.
Yours the gold and yours the silver,
yours the wealth of land and sea;
we but stewards of your bounty
held in solemn trust will be.*

Son of God, Eternal Savior; Text: Somerset C. Lowry; Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: You are living beacons of God's hope for the world. Go in peace! You have a light to shine and a story to tell—God is love!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE HYMN

"May the God of Hope Go with Us"

May the God of hope go with us ev'ry day, to a world in need with news of the joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to ev'ry land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;

Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

May the God of Hope Go with Us; Text: Alvin Schutmaat; Music: ARGENTINA, Argentine folk melody

**PENTECOST CELEBRATION
ROOT BEER + HUMS/HYMNS**

*Sun. May 23rd starting at 5pm
Living Springs Lawn & Parking Lot*



**Pizza for Pyros Food Truck
Root Beer & Dessert
Musicians & Instruments**

Cheese & Pepperoni 10inch=\$9
Meat Lovers 10inch=\$12
Cards and Cash accepted

Bring your lawn chairs - we'll have spaced spots for everyone. (Lower your face coverings once in place for the celebration.) You can also eat and celebrate from your vehicle.

**RUSH HOUR MINISTRY
BE A BEACON OF HOPE
THUR, MAY 27, 430-630PM**

There is space for you! Be a beacon of hope on the sidewalk in front of Living Springs holding signs of HOPE, handing out goodies, and/or sharing a blessing to those traveling home from work or headed to work!

**Calling all LS People & Friends
WEDNESDAY HOPE TIME
May 19**

12 Noon (sanctuary)

6:45pm (fellowship hall)

+online meet.google.com/yqs-gsiq-uzk)

+++

**Thursday Hope-Casts
1:21pm Facebook & YouTube**



Through Jesus you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God - 1 Peter 1:21

**SPECIAL LOVE OFFERING
THRU PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 23!**

***Celebrating the
Retirement from
Newberry College
of our LS Brother
in Christ:***

***Rev. Dr. Wayne
Kannaday***



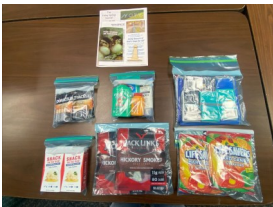
LS is honoring Wayne's ministry through a special love offering for Newberry College's Muller Center – a unique part of their ministry which helps college students explore God's purpose for their lives. Checks can be made payable to Living Springs and marked "Newberry-Pastor Wayne." Donations can also be made on Givelify. All gifts are being matched dollar-for-dollar by a special college grant.

WEDNESDAY HOPE TIMES

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. Invite a friend!

CARE PACKAGES FOR KYLE DEMENT

We are collecting items to send in care packages every couple of weeks to Kyle Dement, who has been deployed overseas. Cards/notes, snack items, hygiene products, batteries, zip lock bags, etc. Look for a box in the narthex.



MEALS ON WHEELS

We are looking for members to participate in our Meals on Wheels delivery. Living Springs delivers every Monday and Tuesday - timewise it takes about one and a half hours from pick-up to last delivery. Meals are pre-packed and masks are required. Contact Mike Davidson or Karen Kranz.

BACKPACKS

Couple of weeks remaining that are open to pack (signup: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baea92fa0f85-backpack>) and then we will continue to collect food items throughout the summer (please be cognizant of expire dates) - leave your items in the shopping carts in the admin building. We are "hoping" to do our stuff-a-bus event in August.

"ALTAR FLOWERS"

Are you looking for a way to glorify God and/or memorialize/honor someone near and dear to you? Make a floral contribution by ordering altar flowers. There is a signup outside Lisa's office or go to <http://goo.gl/mVvrGE> to reserve your date. Please let the office know who or what it is that you are celebrating OR maybe you just want to thank God for the many blessings you receive! To order flowers from our preferred florist, contact Blythewood Florist at 691-1820. If you use a florist of your choosing, please arrange for delivery with the office for the Friday prior to your date.

BUTTERFLY GARDENS OF HOPE!

We shared packets of butterfly garden seeds with the congregation & the community during Easter week.

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



GodAroundUs@livingspringscolumbia.org

HOPE MINISTRY PROJECT – CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

May 20th

In support of patient's families of children who are undergoing treatment at the Children's Cancer & Blood Disorder unit on the 5th floor of Prisma Children's Hospital, Living Springs is providing 24 meals on the third Thursday of each month. The meals are being delivered by our own LS members at Carolina Deli. Many of these families face the challenge of financial difficulties because of extensive medical expenses, missing work, longing to stay at the hospital with their children. To personalize this project, it will be an added comfort to include cards, pictures, poems with thoughts of comfort, words of encouragement, a handmade crocheted or knitted square with an embroidered heart, etc.!! You can drop your cards or other care items off at the church on a continuing basis by the third Thursday and we will see they get delivered each month.



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:

The Power of Prayer

Here in the Gospel of John, at the close of Jesus' final speech to his disciples before he is arrested and crucified, he engages in a remarkable, even visceral act of love. He prays for his disciples.

When we pray, God already knows, of course, what is on our hearts. We are not bringing God any new information. But when we pray, we bring ourselves uniquely into God's presence. In prayer, we bring to God our deepest and most intimate needs, and we make ourselves vulnerable in a way we seldom allow in day-to-day life. This vulnerability is what strengthens our relationship with God, as any repeated physical actions strengthen our muscles. But prayer is not only for our own needs. Unexpectedly perhaps, it is intercessory prayer that nourishes us like nothing else. When we petition God on behalf of another person, we go outside ourselves, becoming other-focused in the way Jesus so fervently invites us to be in his own prayer in today's gospel passage.

In this moment so close to the end of his life, Jesus prays not for himself but for his disciples, whom he loves: "Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. . . . But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves" (John 17:11, 13).

How extraordinarily powerful it is to hear someone pray for you! As Jesus prepares to send his disciples out to preach and teach and baptize in his name, he equips them with the tool that strengthens our every act: he prays. He names them, along with his gratitude and his concerns, before God. That is a gift the disciples will be able to carry with them wherever they go.

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HOPE MENU: 13 ITEMS!

meeting people where they are & looking for opportunities, in whatever way the Spirit leads you!

1. Greater intentionality in taking time to **"Be still and know that God is God"**
2. **Deeper prayer life & dwelling in God's Word** in our personal/congregation life
3. Specific training to develop, live, and share **faith-based hoping-coping skills for various stages & challenges of life**
4. Involvement by all ages in creative forms of **faith formation, worship/sacramental life**
5. Deeper involvement with **children/youth/young adults** by intentionally sharing the gospel message of hope with them and equipping **parents/families** to also do so **at home**
6. Boldly proclaim & share the joy of **God's grace for all**
7. Be active voices for the **unity we share as God's human family** - accepting and celebrating differences, rather than fostering divisions
8. Reach out to the **most isolated among us** - with special awareness of Sr. Adults & those in care facilities; teens/tweens/young adults; and those on society's margins
9. Regularly engage in listening, caring, loving **personal contacts**
10. Share in ministries that provide for **life's essential needs** - with special emphasis on growth in our food/hunger ministries
11. Be involved in ongoing **advocacy & justice ministry** that will have impact of hope in our community/societal systems
12. Share God's hope through support & partnership with **LSCDC children/families/staff**
13. Produce citizens of God's kingdom through **creative/innovative evangelism & service in our communities** that will open hearts/minds - and empower people to be leaders in faith, loving others & trusting God in every aspect of life

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!*

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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 WORSHIP 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).

WORSHIP NAME TAGS – In order to show hospitality, we ask everyone to stop by the welcome table and complete a name tag with our Hope theme verse. The tags help create a welcoming community for everyone - and allow communion ministers to speak your name.

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

May Bible "Book" of the Month: Psalms 51-100

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LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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