



**Macedonia Lutheran Church
49 Macedonia Church Road
Prosperity, SC 29127**

Established 1847, 173rd Year of Ministry

**YOUR HEALTH AND SAFETY ARE OF
UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO US! WE MUST REMAIN IN
COMPLIANCE WITH SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES;
THEREFORE, WE KINDLY REMIND YOU THAT
IT IS IMPERATIVE TO REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE FOR
THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE WORSHIP SERVICE.
UPON CONCLUSION OF THE SERVICE, PLEASE FOLLOW
THE DIRECTIONS OF OUR PARKING LOT ATTENDANTS
FOR A SAFE AND TIMELY EXIT SO THAT WE MAY ALL DO
OUR PARTS TO FLATTEN THE CURVE!
GOD BLESS!**

October 18, 2020 - 9:30 am
20th Sunday after Pentecost

Quiet Gathering, Silent Prayer and Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

HYMN "God Is Here!"

- 1 God is here! As we your people meet to offer
praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.
- 2 Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong
need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place. Here in honesty
of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.
- 3 Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants
of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.
- 4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of
change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's
dedication, all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Faithful God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

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.**

Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had

a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed:

²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody: Psalm 96:1-13

(Sing in Unison)

Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)

¹Sing to the LORD | a new song;

 sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

²Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;

 proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.

³Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations

 and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,

 more to be feared | than all gods. R

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;

 but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

⁶Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;

power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.
⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
 ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.
⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
 bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD. R
⁹Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
 tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.
¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!
 The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will
 judge the peo- | ples with equity."
¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
 let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all
 that | is therein.
¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing,
 O LORD,
 for you come to | judge the earth.
¹³You will judge the | world with righteousness
 and the peoples | with your truth. R

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be

among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:15-22

Glory to You, O Lord

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said.

¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Choir Anthem

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

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

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

May God; Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

HYMN "You Servants of God"

- 1 You servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish a-broad his wonderful name; the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol; his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!
- 2 Ascended on high, almighty to save, yet still he is nigh, his presence we have. The great congregation his triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!
- 3 Salvation to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a-loud and honor the Son. The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.
- 4 Then let us adore and give him his right, all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might, all honor and blessing, with angels above, and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

Thank you for your presence and participation in this worship service!
Love offerings are gratefully accepted in the bucket at the exit gates.

Today's Helpers

Ushers & Greeters: Chris Amick, Donnie Amick, Henry Auton

Receiving Treasurer: Patrick Hawkins

Lay Reader: Debby Fulmer

Organist: Pam Carroll 803-944-2758 pscarroll131@gmail.com

Music Director: Julie Livingston 803-295-1791
juliewillingham5@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Jeannie Cox 803-364-3786
macedonialutheranchurch@gmail.com

Pastor: The Reverend Terry Hundley

Special welcome to this Lakeshore Service! You are invited to dress casually and appropriately for outdoor worship. If you would like to become a member, be baptized or receive Holy Communion, please contact any Church Council member or the Pastor. Please ask an usher if you need assistance, and thanks so much for being with us today! Come again soon!

September 2020 Treasurer's Report	
Income received for the month	\$ 25,236.00
Income received year-to-date	\$ 218,605.06
Expenses for the month	\$ 25,086.26
Expenses year-to-date	\$ 136,170.52
Budgeted Expenses for 2020	\$ 290,010.00

**A detailed copy of the Income/Expense Report, as well as a list of Dedicated Accounts with the totals, is placed on the bulletin board in the parish hall and in the narthex each month at the end of the Council meetings (several copies are available to take). If you have any questions or concerns, please see one of the council members or Melissa Amick, Church Treasurer.

Attendance last week	
9:30 Drive-in Service	163
Offering	\$5,037

A special welcome to Pastor Terry Hundley and his wife, Sharon! This is Pastor Terry's first Sunday preaching here at Macedonia Lutheran Church. He comes to us after serving seven years at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Mount Pleasant, SC. We are so happy to have him and Mrs. Hundley join our church family!

- **DON'T STOP NOW!!! LAKESHORE SERVICES** will continue until further notice, so please continue to join us for worship by car or boat! While present at our drive-in service, you can now tune in to 87.7 FM on your radio for a more up-close and personal audio experience! Also, a copy of our weekly bulletin is now available online for those who are watching on

Facebook or in a boat. Just visit our website at macedonialutheran.net, click on the bulletins tab and select the bulletin to view it. As other changes arise, we will announce them here at the service, on our Facebook page "Macedonia Lutheran Church – ELCA" and on our website macedonialutheran.net. We are truly blessed to be able to come together for drive-in worship, and we sincerely appreciate the love and support of our members and this wonderful community!

- **Please complete council ballots** and return them to a ballot box at the gate as you exit. You may also return your completed ballot by mail to the address on the front of this bulletin. If you choose to return your ballot by mail, please feel free to omit any identifying information such as your name and/or address and place the church's address on the return address portion of the envelope as well.
- **Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes** will be available in the hallway outside the church office. Brochures will be included in each box. Please return filled boxes by Sunday, November 15th. Thank you in advance for your support of this wonderful ministry to provide a little joy in the lives of children around the world.
- **Our sincere sympathies go out** to the family and friends of Seber Ray Amick with his passing on Saturday, October 3rd. May you all be comforted and supported by the eternal love and promises of our risen Christ.
- **Thank you all very much** for the thoughts, prayers and cards. I miss being able to come to church and wish I could be here! -*Wayne Fulmer*
- **Sincere condolences go out to** the family and friends of Elizabeth "Lib" Dawkins Adams with her passing on Monday, October 5th. May you all be comforted and supported by the eternal love and promises of our risen Christ.
- **During times of illness and death**, the prayers and visits and remembrances of loved ones and friends are especially precious. They are most gladly and gratefully received. Thank you so very much for yours. I am heart-broken, of course. Barbara Alice and I made our marriage vows here at "Macedonia" 65 years ago. Please keep me in your prayers. -*Frank Lyerly*
- **Fall Festival, November 1st** - (Social Distance) Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat 5pm to 6pm – Theme – "RESPECT". We need a MINIMUM of 20 cars to set up to hand out treats (provided by the church). If you are willing to participate with handing out treats, please let Chris Amick or a member of the Christian Education committee know. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

- **Golden Agers booklet:** If you did not receive a copy of the annual booklet at last week's Homecoming service and would like a copy, please contact the church office. Thank you!
- **Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Grace congregation** will not be able to hold its annual Free Community Thanksgiving Meal. Instead, they are going to prepare and distribute free Thanksgiving meal boxes of traditional fixings to individuals or families who are in need in our community. Free Thanksgiving meal boxes will be distributed at Grace Lutheran Church, Prosperity, on Sunday, Nov. 22nd from 1-3 pm. Call the church office at 803-364-3331 to reserve your box. Reservations will be taken through Monday, Nov. 16th or until all boxes have been reserved, whichever comes first.

Prayer Requests - Members

Dovie Adams	Juanita Fulmer	Joe Sabbagha
Ann Amick	Ola Mae Fulmer	Shelby Seibert
Jeannette Ayers	Craig & *Tina Hipp	Jimmy Shealy
Dorothy Berenbrok	Joye Irons	Katie Mae Slice
Mickey & Angela Bowers	Richard & Freida Koon	Larry Tolbert
Tommy & Janet Brown	Frank Lyerly	Nellie Woods
Christy Bundrick	Dale McCain	Mickey Yarbrough
Wayne & Lynn Dowd	Carrie Pritchard	
JoAnn Fulmer	Karen Ruff	

Prayer Requests - Friends

Marie Fulmer	Johnny Nobles
Jesse Key	Terry Shaver
Lynnette Lever	Onie Wilder
Geraldine Morris	Michael Wise

Nursing Home & Hospital Prayer Requests

Saluda Nursing & Rehab Center, 581 Newberry Hwy., Saluda, SC 29138

- Judy Kesler, Room 224
- Wayne Fulmer, Room 214

The Heritage at Lowman, PO Box 444, White Rock, SC 29177

- *Janette Cain, Room 319, Cana Hall

The Image of God

The Pharisees and Herodians come to Jesus with a seemingly simple question: "Is it lawful to pay taxes or not?" In a deft move characteristic of his ministry, Jesus refuses to pick a side. He doesn't debate them, but reframes the whole question. In doing so, he creates space in which they are open to hear a new possibility and be amazed.

The imperial coin bears the image of the emperor, just as our currency bears the image of our nation's favored leaders. What bears God's image? You! In the first chapter of Genesis we learn that all of humankind is created in the image of God, blessed, and entrusted with caring for every living creature.

When Jesus says, "Give . . . to God the things that are God's" (Matt. 22:21), we are reminded that there is nothing in this world and nothing in ourselves that is beyond the scope of God's care. Like the money stamped with the ruler's image, we see what God treasures in the face of every person on the planet: ourselves and our neighbors, those we love and those we fear. God's own image is in every race, every age, every gender identity, every ability. Each of us shines forth a unique facet of who God is. All that we have and all that we are is from God and for the sake of the whole world.

The sacred image in us is reinforced every week when we take part in the celebration of Holy Communion. As we are fed with the body of Christ, we pray that we too might "give ourselves away as bread for the hungry" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 114). Nothing is ours to keep. All is gift from God, freely given and constantly renewed. Set free by the promises of God's steadfast presence and generosity, we may live with open hands and open hearts.

From sundaysandseasons.com.
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