



**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!**

**November 22, 2020 - 9:30 am
Christ the King**

Quiet Gathering, Silent Prayer and Prelude

Handbells

Welcome and Announcements

HYMN "Rejoice, for Christ Is King!"

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- 1 Rejoice, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king adore;
rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore:

Refrain

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

- 2 Our Savior Jesus reigns, the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above: *Refrain*
- 3 His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n: *Refrain*
- 4 He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit
and bow to his command and fall beneath his feet: *Refrain*

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Holy One, **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,**

open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **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

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my

sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody: Psalm 95:1-7a

(Sing in Unison)

We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. (Ps. 95:7)

¹Come, let us sing | to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.

²Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.

³For you, LORD, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

⁴In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours. R

⁵The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.

⁶Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker.

^{7a}For the LORD | is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's
hand. R

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

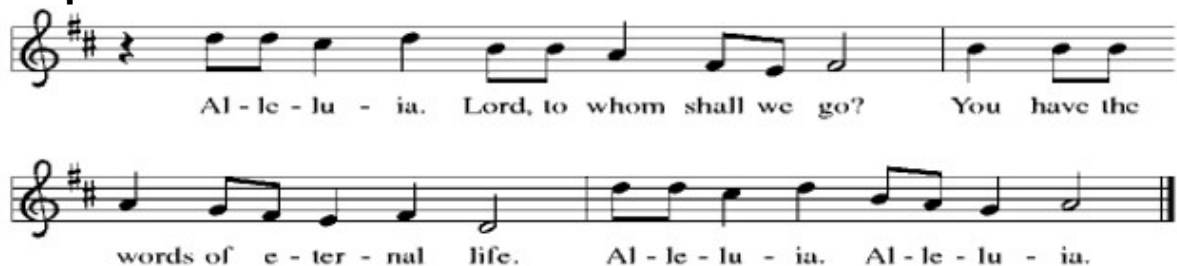
¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)

Gospel Acclamation



Holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:31-46

Glory to You, O Lord

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.

³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,

³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.'

⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

⁴⁴Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Nicene Creed

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

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Sharing of the Peace, Offering and Offertory Anthem

Amazing Grace

Jacob Lindler

Offering Prayer

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. **Amen.**

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 the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

HYMN "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

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- 1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn;
fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
the root whence mercy ever flows, the babe of Bethlehem.

- 3 Crown him the Lord of love--behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
- 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Dismissal

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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.

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!

Attendance last week	
9:30 Drive-in Service	165
Offering	\$7,525

Today's Helpers

Ushers & Greeters: Rudie Tarver, Donald Wise, Timmy Graham

Receiving Treasurer: Dean Wise

Lay Reader: Edith Hawkins

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, 803-360-5294,
pastorterry.mlc@gmail.com



- **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 90.1 FM on your radio for a more up-close and personal audio experience! 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!
- **On behalf of Silverstreet Lutheran Church** and to show our love for the Christ child, we would like to invite your congregation to a Drive-Thru Nativity in Nine Living Scenes. This will be a re-enactment of the Christmas story by members of our church on Sunday, December 20th, 6 - 8 pm.
- **Attention all Macedonia members over age 75:** If you're interested in having a free blue emergency address sign, please contact Jan Acquisto 803-924-9642.
- **Joint WELCA Meeting** on Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Please plan to attend.
- **The Goldies Christmas Meal** will be held at the church on Monday,

December 7th, 10 am.

- **We want to thank our church family and friends** for the many acts of kindness shown to us during the losses of both our sister and sister-in-law. Even during these difficult times, we have felt so grateful and blessed to be a part of this loving church and community. *Sincerely, Nancy & Rick Richardson*
- **The Joint Thanksgiving Service** will be held at Holy Trinity tonight at 6 pm. Pastor Bobby Morris will deliver the homily.
- **Thank you to everyone** who gave Christmas shoeboxes and donations for Samaritan's Purse. We received 31 boxes. Children around the world will find joy in receiving these!
- **Thank you for all the acts of kindness** shown to us during the sudden loss of our loved one, Jeremy Schumpert. We appreciate all of the prayers, food, cards, and congregational Altar flowers. We ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers during the days ahead. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. *-Tommy & Janet Brown and Cynthia Brown & Family*

Prayer Requests - Members

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

Prayer Requests - Friends

Marie Fulmer	Johnny Nobles
Jesse Key	Terry Shaver
Lynnette Lever	Duke Warren
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

Hospice of Laurens County, 1304 Springdale Dr., Clinton, SC 29325

- Joye Irons

Action and Reflection

The story of the sheep and the goats in Matthew 25 begins with the Son of Man on a throne. It is an image of a king sitting in judgment. In any era of human history, this image of an all-powerful ruler sitting in judgement would be consistent with our images of power and authority. What follows runs against all of our expectations. The king connects his presence to the people who are poor and oppressed. This does not fit our human practices of power. Even a benevolent leader is not seen in the presence of the least among us.

Though Jesus makes this connection, it is easy to read this story and get hooked into the power dynamics of judgment. We may wonder if we are a sheep or a goat and think about this status in an eternal sense as it relates to our relationship with God. This heavy reflection may lead us to think we might somehow have to earn our way into God's grace.

The theology of the cross finds Jesus exercising his kingship through the weakness of the cross. From the resurrection that follows this death, we receive the gift of life. This gift comes with the freedom to leave aside worries about eternity in favor of attending to faithful living today. If Jesus frees us from concern about our relationship with God, the story of the sheep and the goats becomes more of a checklist for grace-filled living than a scorecard for eternity. It becomes an invitation and a guide rather than an indictment.

Included in this invitation is an opportunity for reflection. Neither the sheep nor the goats realize how their actions have or have not been faithful. In this way the story gives us a simple gift by which to measure our path in faith and reflect on the ways we spend our days.

From sundaysandseasons.com.
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