

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 12, 2026



MT. HOREB LUTHERAN CHURCH
101 East Boundary Street
Chapin, SC 29036

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church! We greet one another as sisters and brothers in Christ welcoming all who are visiting. It is good that you are here to worship and we encourage you to sign our guest book in the entry hall. Please fill out a visitor's card in the pew holders and place it in the offering plate. HOLY COMMUNION is open to all who are baptized and confess their faith in Jesus and acknowledge Him to be Lord. Those unable to partake of wine are assured that the Church affirms our Lord's presence in, with, and under the bread alone.

PRELUDE: "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" Arr. Benton Price

GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the People of God
to be forgiven, enlightened, fed, and sent into world to serve.*

WE CONFESS AND RECEIVE FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, $\dagger$ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

Amen.

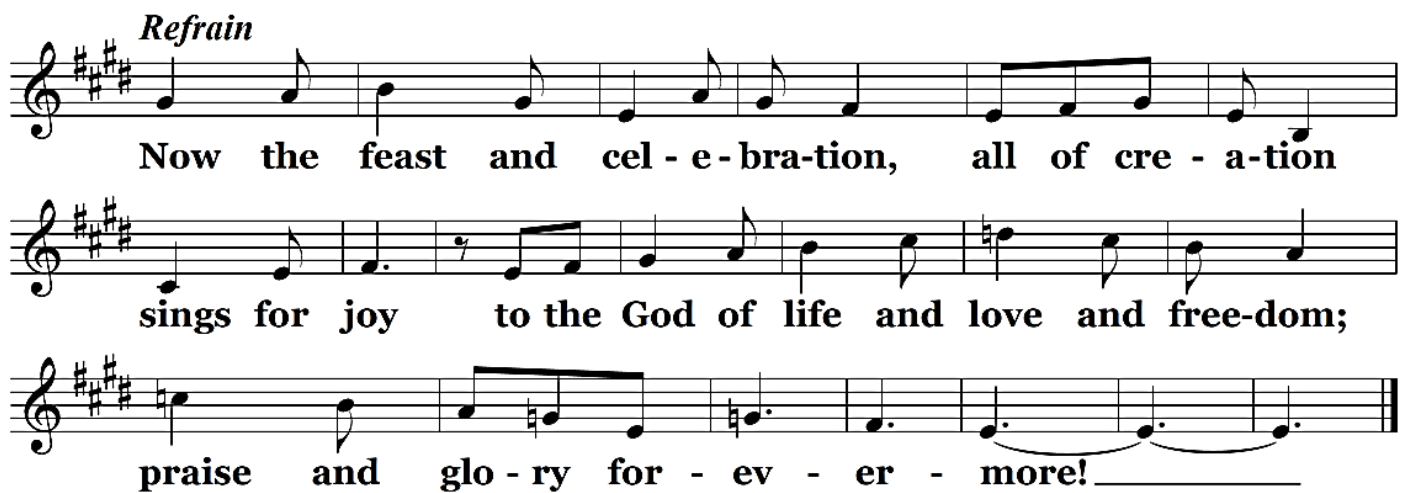
WE GATHER TO SING: HYMNAL#514 O WORD OF GOD INCARNATE

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

SONG OF PRAISE: *Now the Feast and Celebration (Join the choir in singing the refrain)*

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God. **Refrain**
2. Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ forever. **Refrain**
3. For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God; to make all things new. **Refrain**

Text: Marty Haugen b. 1950

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

We sit.

THE WORD

We hear **the word** of God's promise in Scripture and in preaching. This includes the readings, the sermon, hymns and the Apostles' creed, prayers of intercession and the passing of the peace of Christ.

"We will recount to generations to come the power of the Lord (Ps. 78:4)."

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹² For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

L The Word of the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM: Psalm 65: 9-13

The Psalm today will be a paraphrase of Psalm 65, "Sing to the Lord of Harvest" ELW 694. It will be sung by the choir only.

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is ¹ full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide ¹ for the earth.

¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth ¹ out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and ¹ bless its increase.**

¹¹ You crown the year ¹ with your goodness,
and your paths over- ¹ flow with plenty.

¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be ¹ rich for grazing,
and the hills be ¹ clothed with joy.**

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak
them- ¹ selves with grain;
let them shout for ¹ joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

L The Word of the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

We stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord!**

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P The Gospel of the Lord!
C **Praise to you, O Christ!**

We sit.

YOUTH MESSAGE

SERMON: "WHO WANTS TO PLANT A GARDEN WITH ME?" REV. RONALD D. PHILABAUM

We stand.

WE SING TOGETHER HYMN #679 FOR THE FRUIT OF ALL CREATION

TOGETHER WE AFFIRM WHAT WE BELIEVE AS WRITTEN IN THE 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.

WE PRAY TOGETHER IN HOPE

P God of Grace,
C **Hear our prayer**

WE SHARE CHRIST'S PEACE WITH EACH OTHER

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

THE MEAL

In the Word read and proclaimed, God speaks to us the word of Promise. In the Lord's Supper it is a "visible word" of the invisible promise of which Martin Luther speaks – God feeds us with the promise and presence of Christ Jesus. We begin with our own offerings from what God first gave us to use:
money, bread and wine, and praise and thanksgiving.

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Arr. Hal H. Hopson

OFFERTORY SONG: *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

10

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here be - low; Al - le -
- lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Je - sus Christ, whose pow'r up -
lifts! Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia!

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

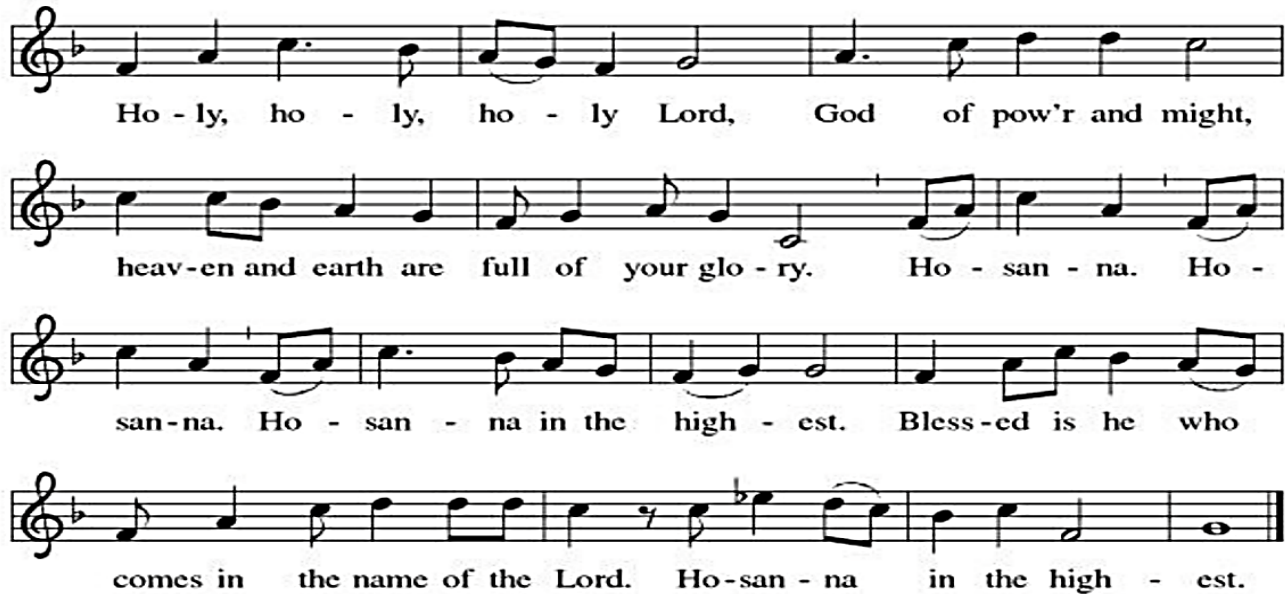
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be_ with you. **And al - so_ with you.**
Lift_ up_ your hearts! **We lift_ them to the Lord!**
Let us give_ thanks to_ the Lord our_ God.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You have revealed your glory as the glory also of your Son and of the Holy Spirit: three persons equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, yet one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Holy COMMUNION PRAYER

P Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and

cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C 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.



WE ARE INVITED TO THE LORD'S TABLE

P Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love.
Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith.
Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole.
Come, old and young, for there is room for all.

WE SIT.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

WE SING TOGETHER HYMN #512 Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

WE SING TOGETHER HYMN #516 Almighty God, Your Word is Cast

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

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

C Amen.

P Let us pray: Almighty God, before whose face the human generations pass away, we thank you that as the broken bread was gathered into one loaf, the broken fragments of our history are gathered up and healed by the redeeming act of Christ. Send us forth in peace, form us into what we celebrate here, the body of Christ in the world. Nourished by this sacrament, give us strength and courage to serve you in daily life with joy and singleness of heart, through the same Lord Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Our worship comes to a close. We have gathered as a body of believers, received instruction, have been nourished and commissioned to be Christ's body in service to the world.

We are now ready to go and proclaim the good news that has inspired us to authentically love all of God's people as Jesus loves us. We pray that our expressions of love and service reflect who Jesus is in us. We give thanks that we get to come back together to celebrate freely this awesome God who loves us and forgives us, even when we mess up.

BENEDICTION

P May our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you
in your going out and your coming in from this day and forever more.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: Hymn #547 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

DISMISSAL

P What will you do with what you've learned today?

C **I will go and share Christ today!**

P As you go in peace, how will you encourage others?

C **I will share my joy with somebody each day!**

POSTLUDE: Festival March David Laskey

Announcements

Serving Today Sunday, July 12

Lay Reader	Pete Ayoub
Acolyte	Wilson Hutchens
Audio/Video	Camille (Audio), Taylor Ann (Video)
Communion Assistants	Esther Philabaum, Billy Griffin, Travis Goodman
Altar Flowers	Bill & JoAnn Dukes To the Glory of God

Serving Next Sunday, July 19

Lay Reader	Pat Lewandowski
Acolyte	Charlotte Hutchens
Audio/Video	Marion (Audio), Zach (Video)
Communion Assistants	Bonnie Counts, Katie Morgan, Wayne Addy
Altar Flowers	Pam & Ray Shear in honor of their Children & Grandchildren

Please keep the following in your prayers:

*Bishop Ginny Aebischer
Les Ahrens
Janelle Barrett
Dan DeFreese
Beth Ellis
Barbara Feltman
Jesse Frick
Kevin Frick
Louis Kolb
Carol Lindler
Craig Lindler
Aubrey & Mary Nell Metts*

*Phyllis Metts
Bill Moser
Emma Olsen
Peggy Roche
Margaret Robinson
Bill Stockdell
Lynette Shealy
Zack Slice
Jennifer Smith
Paul Sweatman
Gayle Wicker
George L. Williams*

Stewardship

Thank you for your generosity!
To give online,
scan the QR code or visit
mthoreb.net/donate.



Can we pray for you?

Visit mthoreb.net to submit a request.

*Long-term and friend/family requests are printed in the
monthly newsletter.*

Last Sunday Attendance

In-person: 106
Online: 61

Friendship Circle meets July 17, 2026, at 11:30 am at Chapin Ale House.

All are welcome!!!

This Week at a Glance

SUN	July 12	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Faith Formation Classes Worship & Holy Communion Congregational Council
MON	July 13	10:00 a.m.	Visitation Team Meeting
TUES	July 14	4:30 p.m.	Kindred Strings Practice
WED	July 15	10:00 a.m.	Fiber Friends
THUR	July 16	9:30 a.m.	Pray and Play
FRI	July 17	11:00 a.m.	Friendship Circle

*Stay connected with everything happening at The Mount!
Sign up for our weekly e-news at www.mthoreb.net and follow us on Facebook.*

When you know of a church member, whether it is a family member, friend, or acquaintance who has been unable to attend Sunday services or other events at Mt. Horeb, and would like to receive a visit from the Visitation Team, please let the church office know by calling 803-345-2000 or emailing the frontdesk@mthoreb.com.



Blessing Bags

Thank you for your help in collecting items for a blessing bag for those in need. Agape has assembled, and the bags are ready for pick up and delivery ... if you feel safe in doing that.

You may take as many bags as you think you can pass out. Please be mindful of bags being left in hot cars. After next Sunday (July 19), Agape will pick up and deliver any still left over.

In Luke 10:25-37, Jesus reminds us that a "neighbor" isn't defined by geography, race, religion, or politics. Instead, it's anyone you meet along the way who needs help. Thank you for being a helper.

Publishing Deadlines

Sunday Bulletins: Announcements and Prayer Lists: Monday at 10:00 a.m.; submit via email to the office, frontdesk@mthoreb.net, or via Jotform

Newsletter: 15th of each month; all information and submissions to Stan Shealy at mayorstan@att.net

Thank You Fellowship Team

It takes our entire church family pulling together to host a cohesive event, from making phone calls, writing a bulletin, getting pictures and taking pictures, setting up microphones and cooking meals to running the livestream and cleaning up.

Thank you for cheerfully stepping up at the last minute to host our missionaries from Japan, Pastor Megan and Tee Sieng. Your hospitality made them feel incredibly welcomed, and the meal was a tremendous blessing to everyone who attended.



A special shout-out goes to the Fellowship Ministry Team for rising to the challenge. Our missionaries were still talking about how wonderful it was the next day!

As Jesus tells us in John 15:5, *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."* I am so grateful to serve as your pastor. Your joyful attitudes and positivity create wonderful momentum that truly glorifies Him.

Gratefully,

Pastor Ron

Empowering Tomorrow: A Community Forum on the Future of Education

Over a decade ago in Haiti, a 15-year-old boy proudly shared a milestone with me: he had just completed the third grade. In a country where the average annual income was under \$1,000, the \$300 school tuition meant families had to choose which child—if any—could receive an education. Here in the United States, we hold a privilege that boy could only dream of: access to education. Yet today, our own system stands at a critical crossroads. Driven by rapid technological shifts, new teaching methodologies, and diverse philosophies, the landscape of American education is changing faster than ever. How we navigate these changes is one of the most vital conversations of our time.

Join the Conversation

We invite you to step into this vital dialogue at our upcoming **Community Forum Series**.

- **Date:** Tuesday, August 18th
- **Location:** The Fellowship Hall

We are hosting state and community education leaders to examine the shifting landscape of American schools and the unique challenges our students face.

Why Your Voice Matters

Education is not just a school issue—it is a community issue. Whether you currently have children in school, raised students in the past, or simply care about the future of our neighborhood, this forum is for you. When we provide our youth with a robust, well-rounded education, we actively shape the community leaders of tomorrow. Right now, education is a passionate topic across the country. Every stakeholder is asking the same fundamental question: *How do we make this work for the best possible outcome?*

A Safe Space for Diverse Perspectives

Our goal is to open our doors, lower our guards, and begin a conversation rooted in mutual respect. We share a common desire to give our children the opportunity of a lifetime: to learn, grow, and thrive in a safe environment.

We do not expect to solve every problem or agree on every point. However, we can take the first step together here in the sanctity of our church, where **All Are Welcome**.

Help Us Spread the Word

Change begins with a single conversation, but it grows through community. Please share this invitation with your neighbors, family, and friends, and post it to your social media networks. Let's dive in together. We look forward to seeing you there.

Growing together in Christ,
Pastor Ron

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Parish Musician:

Jim Boatwright

Preschool Director:

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Secretary: Greg Shealy
Treasurer: Lisa Smith

Members

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Tom Griffin
Sandra McKie
Lillie Free
Furman Miller
Pam Pope
Bill Dukes
Betsy Edgerton
Ashley Williams

Overseas Missionaries:

Pastor Megan Tee and Tee Sieng

Megan.Tee@elca.org
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