18th Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 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 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 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.

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, who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

We Gather to Sing: Hymn #634 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name *(Verses 1-4)*

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: *This is the Feast*





Prayer of the Day

P God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, 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.

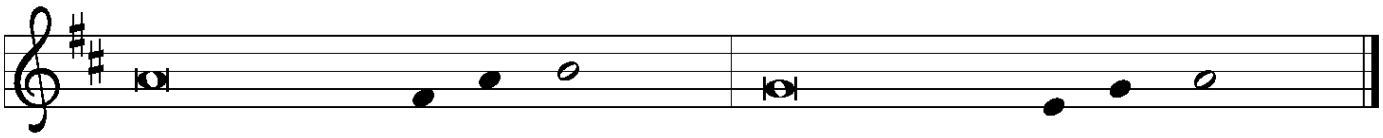
"We will recount to generations to come the power of the Lord (Ps. 78:4)."

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

1 The word of the Lord came to me: 2 What do you mean by repeating this proverb
concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth
are set on edge"? 3 As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you
in Israel. 4 Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child
is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.
25 Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way
unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? 26 When the righteous turn away from their
righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have
committed, they shall die. 27 Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they
have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. 28 Because they
considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall
surely live; they shall not die. 29 Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair."
O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?
30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says
the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your
ruin. 31 Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and
get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? 32 For I
have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

L The Word of the Lord!
C Thanks be to God!

Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9
Congregation sings bold print.



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1 To | you, O Lord,
I lift | up my soul.
2 **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,**
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.
3 Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.
4 **Show me your | ways, O Lord,**

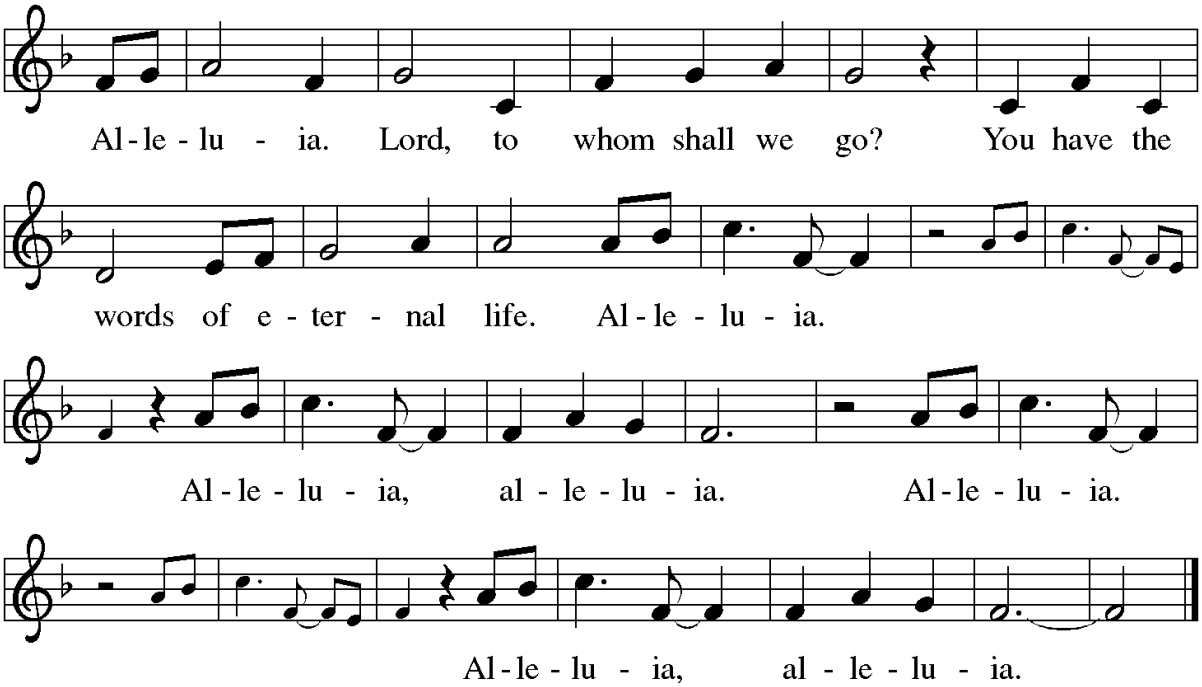
and teach | me your paths.
5 Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.
6 **Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,**
for they are from | everlasting.
7 Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the
sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.
8 **You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;**
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.
9 You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

1 If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, 2 make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
6 who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human,
8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name that is above every other name, 10 so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

L The Word of the Lord!
C Thanks be to God!
We stand.

Gospel Acclamation



P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord!

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

23 When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to
him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who
gave you this authority?" 24 Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell
me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 Did the
baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one
another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe
him?' 26 But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a
prophet." 27 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I
tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 28 "What do you think? A man had two
sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 29 He
answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the
second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. 31 Which of the
two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you,
the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For
John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax

collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

We sit.

Youth Message

Sermon: "When has forgiveness changed you?" Rev. Ronald D. Philabaum

We stand.

We Sing Together: Hymn #772 O That the Lord Would Guide My Ways *(verses 1,2, & 4)*

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 Hear us, O God.
C Your mercy is great.

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: *The Trumpet Sounds, The Angels Sing*

Offertory Song: Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord



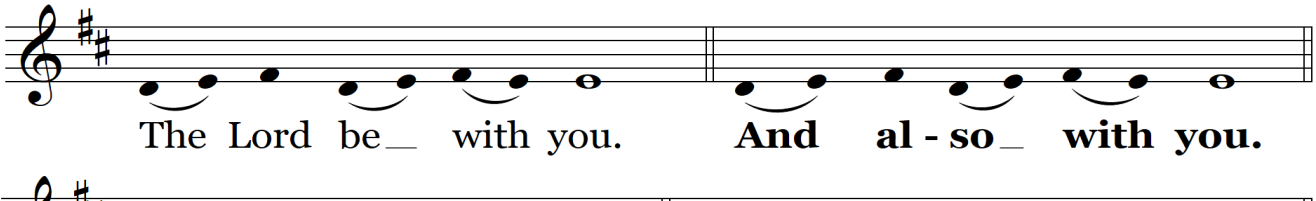
Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
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Offering Prayer

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.
Amen.

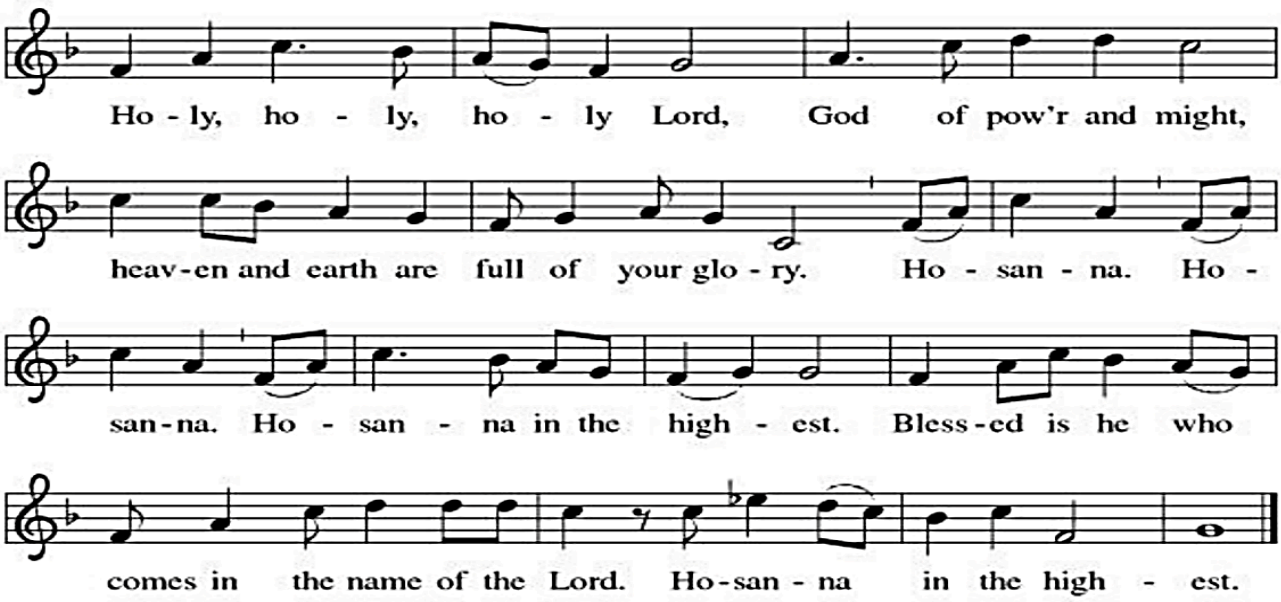
The Great Thanksgiving



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.

Blessing of the Elements

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:

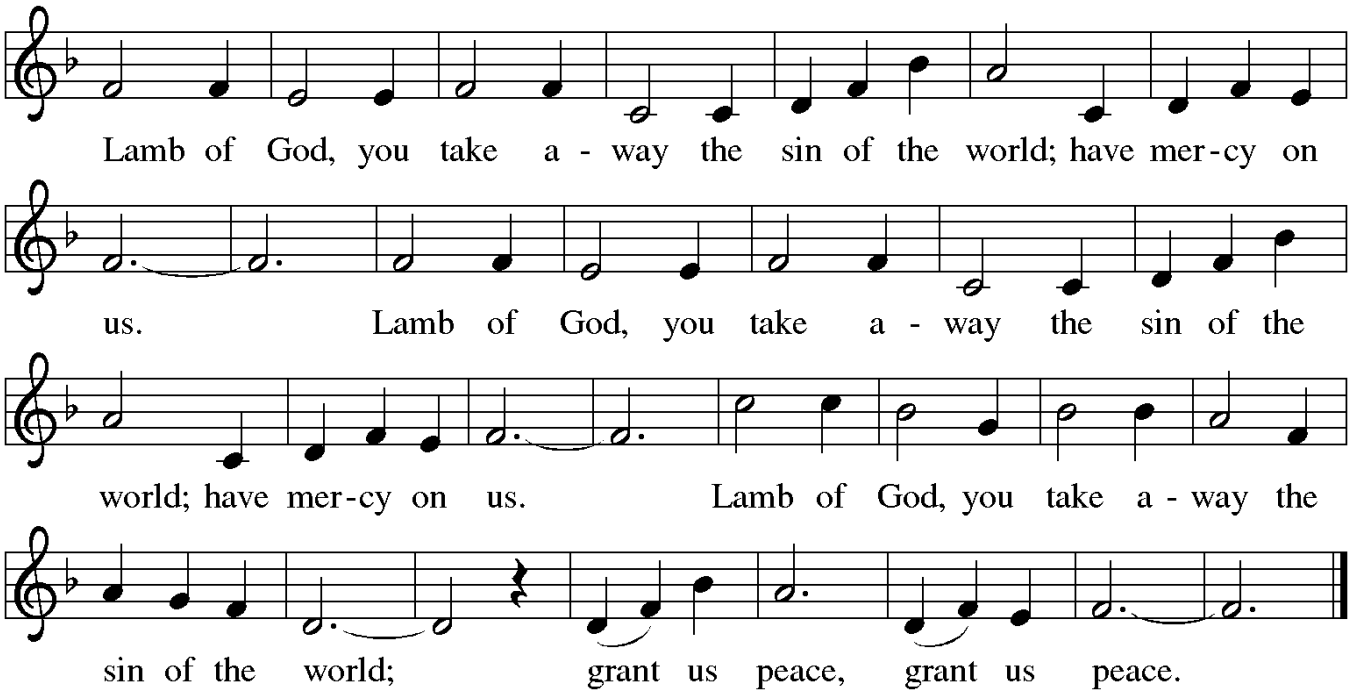
C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is 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



Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948
Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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We sing together: HYMN #461 All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

We sing together: HYMN #517 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

We stand.

Prayer After Communion
Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

Blessing
The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,

in the body of Christ Jesus.
Amen.
The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.
Amen.
The God of grace
☩ bless you now and forever.
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 Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
C Amen.

Sending Song: Hymn #618 Guide Me, Ever, Great Redeemer

Dismissal

P: Our worship is over, As we are sent into the world WHO will you put your trust in?
C: My God, I put my trust in you.
P: Then go in peace
C: To share God's peace with others…

Postlude

Announcements

Serving Today Sunday, September 27	
Lay Reader	Stan Shealy
Acolyte	Caleb Williams
Audio/Video	Marion (Audio), Zach (Video)
Communion Assistants	Stephanie Stoudemayer, Don Wise, Tom Griffin
Altar Flowers	Dan & Robbie DeFreese To the Glory of God

Serving Next Sunday, October 4	
Lay Reader	Tom Griffin
Acolyte	John Adams
Audio/Video	Rod (Audio), Barry (Video)
Communion Assistants	Travis Goodman, Ashley Williams, Wayne Addy
Altar Flowers	Buddy & Pat Johnson in honor of Our Grandchildren

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Janelle Barrett
Dan DeFreese
Barbara Feltman
Jesse Frick
Kevin Frick
Robbie Frick
Aubrey & Mary Nell Metts
Bill Moser
Peggy Roche
Margaret Robinson
Bill Stockdell
Lynette Shealy
Zack Slice
Jennifer Smith
Christine Thompson
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: 103
Online: 106

Friends of We Care,
We are delighted to invite you to our
Ground Dedication on our 40th Anniversary
Wednesday, September 30 at 12:30 pm at Chapin Road at Mountain Drive, Chapin
Contact: Alecia Klauk, Executive Director (803-345-3244)

This Week at a Glance			
SUN	**Sept 27**	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Nursery Available Faith Formation Classes Hospitality Fellowship Worship & Holy Communion Worship Team
MON	**Sept 28**	10:00 a.m.	Visitation Team Meeting
TUES	**Sept 29**	4:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Kindred Strings Practice Bible Study (last in this series) Dutch Fork Choral Society
WED	**Sept 30**	10:00 a.m.	Fiber Friends
THUR	**Oct 1**	9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	Pray and Play Social Ministry Agape 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.

Collecting FALL SONShine Bag Items!

October 4th to October 25th, let's fill the Fall SONshine Bags located in the Narthex. The Social Ministry's SONshine Bags are designed to bring "Son"shine to members who are unable to attend services. We start with 25 bags, but this number could change as the deadline gets closer.

We invite the congregation to help us fill these bags with snacks, puzzles, notepads, pens, pencils, or any other items that may bring a smile to our fellow members!

Bags will be picked up after service on **October 25th** and delivered by November 8th!

The Social Ministry Team appreciates your efforts with this project!

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

Lutheran Men in Mission Sunday
will be recognized
October 4th

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LUTHERIDGE!

We have an opportunity to join the
LUTHERIDGE 75TH BIRTHDAY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
that is inspiring an amazing season renewal at camp.
Lutheridge celebrates a legacy of faithful ministry and is preparing for the next chapter of ministry by:

- Completing updates to facilities so they continue to shine
- Building new spaces for campers and guests to expand camp capacity
- Strengthening ministry for future generations of campers and friends

We, at Mt. Horeb, can be a part of the amazing things happening at Lutheridge…
over the next few weeks we will hear different stories from members,
read bulletin inserts of the plans and progress, and will have the opportunity
to support Lutheridge through prayer and giving.

Mark your calendars for a great day
in the Mountains of N.C. on
October 6, 2026

- Transportation will be provided
- We will have lunch,
- Gather apples,
- Take a tour of Lutheridge with our own Diane and Stan Senn as guides.

- If you haven't been to Lutheridge since your camping days, come and let's see what is new.

Signup sheet is on the Welcome Table!!

Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church
101 East Boundary Street, Chapin, SC 29036
803-345-2000 – www.mthoreb.net

DISCIPLES:
All Members of Mt. Horeb

Sr. Pastor:
Ron Philabaum
pastorron@mthoreb.net

Parish Musician:
Jim Boatwright

Preschool Director:
Brittany Woodall
preschool@mthoreb.net

Treasurer:
Lisa Smith
treasurer@mthoreb.net

Administrator:
Pamela Alford
frontdesk@mthoreb.net

Cemetery:
cemetery@mthoreb.net

CONGREGATION COUNCIL
Officers
Vice Chair: Rod Davis
Secretary: Greg Shealy
Treasurer: Lisa Smith

Members
Diane Senn
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
https://teefamilymission.org/

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