

Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church

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Concord, NC 28025

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For more information: admin@mounthermonchurch.org

Rev. Emily Lemoine, Senior Pastor



5th Sunday after Epiphany

February 5, 2023

9:00 am



9:00 am Traditional Service

10:00 am Sunday School for all ages

10:55 Alive! Contemporary Worship

Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church is
a partner in the NC Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



– GOD GATHERS US TOGETHER –

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS(*Indicates to Stand if able)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Amen.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

***We will share the peace of Christ by whichever way you are comfortable.*

*GATHERING HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" Hymn #815

*APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.

*KYRIE

ELW p. 120

*THIS IS THE FEAST

ELW p. 122

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

– GOD SPEAKS TO US –

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Emily

THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-12

Kitty Smith

¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

³“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

^{9a}Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

PSALM 112:1-10 (read responsively)

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

⁸**Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire up on their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast
forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine
away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

THE SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-13

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the
mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing
among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in
weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation
were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit
and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the
power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this
age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's
wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.

⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not
have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 124

*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:13-20

Pastor Emily

The Gospel of Matthew the 5th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The Word of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"Are You Salty Enough?"

Pastor Emily

*SERMON HYMN

"Thy Word"

W&P 144

– WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE –

***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 THE PEOPLE**

OFFERING AND COLLECTING FOOD IN BASKETS

ANTHEM “Bring Forth the Kingdom”

***OFFERING PRAYER**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING** ELW p. 129

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** ELW p. 130

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***THE LORD’S PRAYER**

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

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**

***WELCOME TO COMMUNION**

Come and taste the joy of God!

**Communion is taken around the altar rail. Please come forward via the center aisle when an usher directs you. Kneel (or stand) around the rail and wait to partake communion. Once taken, remain for a blessing, then return to your seat by the side aisles.*

***If you need communion brought to you in your seat, please alert an usher.*

COMMUNION HYMN “Loaves were Broken, Words were Spoken”

– GOD EMPOWERS US AND SENDS US –

***BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace, now and forever.

Amen.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor’s rod † bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

HYMN #671

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Active Concerns: JoAnn Foster, Kelly Anderson, Beckie Perkins, Betty Barringer, Sheree Wright*, Mike Price*, LeaAnn Buckwell*, Ed D’Aloiso*

Continued Prayers for: Annie Stancil, Junior Barringer, Nancy Wilcox, Tony Stancil, Butch Stowe, Todd Stuver, Roxanne Fox, John Hahn*, Kathy Benson*, Barry Granda*, Tom Kennedy*, Lucy Kennedy*, Jim Bottoms*, Martha Summers*, Kathy Goforth*, Elender Coile*

In Special Facilities: Jeanine Woody (First Assembly Assisted Living)

*Indicates a friend or family member

If any name can be removed from the prayer list, please let the pastor know. Thanks!



Flowers in the Sanctuary are given today by:

Mike Faggart - In memory of his parents, Roy & Alice Faggart

Thank you to those serving today - February 5

Rev. Emily Lemoine

Kitty Smith

Mike Faggart

Ann & Tim Bolick

Barbara & Mike Linker

Greg Popham & Ross Gosse

Luke & Owen Fox, Anthony & Andrew DiBernardo

Caleigh Beaver, Cyrus & Gideon Sousley, Brett Gosse

Chris Beaver

Diane & Valerie Frank, Luther & Rebecca Beaver, Mike Fox

Ross Gosse

Mike Faggart

Melissa Fox or Nancy Jones

Pastor

Reader

Altar Guild

Communion Assistants

Ushers

Counters

Crucifer &

Acolytes

Accompanist

Vocalists

Streaming Tech

Sound Tech

Power Point

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MEN IN MISSION: Men in Mission will meet in Coffee House Tuesday, February 7th at 7:00 pm. This will allow the men to spend the second Tuesday with their Valentine. All men are invited to come and talk about Easter breakfast and discuss possible future projects.

Noon Ash Wednesday Meal: Patti Stuver is looking for assistance with the following for the meal that will be served at 11:00am on Ash Wednesday Feb 22nd: A pot of bean soup (no meat or bone), Cornbread, Saltines, Drinks, and Setup/Cleanup. If you can assist please email Patti at pjstuver@yahoo.com

READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

February 12: **1 Corinthians 3:1-9;** (Deut. 30:15-20, Psalm 119:1-8, Matthew 5:21-26)

February 19: **Matthew 17:1-9;** (Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 2, 2 Peter 1:16-21)

February 26: **Matthew 4:1-11** (Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7, Psalm 32, Romans 5:12-19)

SERVING NEXT WEEK - February 12

Reader: Mike Linker

Altar Guild: Mike Faggart

Communion Assts: Dan & Laurie Gleason

Ushers: Mike & Barbara Linker

Counters: Steve Sousley & Chris Beaver

FLOWER SIGN UPS (\$35 each)

2/12 The Tanner Family

Sam Lemoine

2/19 Jean Beaver

Chris & Christy Beaver

HAPPENING THIS WEEK: February 5-12

Today:	9:00am	Traditional Service (Sanctuary)
	10:00am	Sunday School for ALL ages
	10:55am	Alive! Contemporary Service (Fellowship Hall)
Monday:	7:00pm	Bible Study (Conference Room)
Tuesday:	7:00pm	Men in Mission (Coffee House)
Wednesday:	6:30pm	Handbells (Sanctuary)
Next Sunday:	9:00am	Traditional service (Sanctuary)
	10:00am	Sunday School for ALL ages
	10:55am	Alive! service (Fellowship Hall)