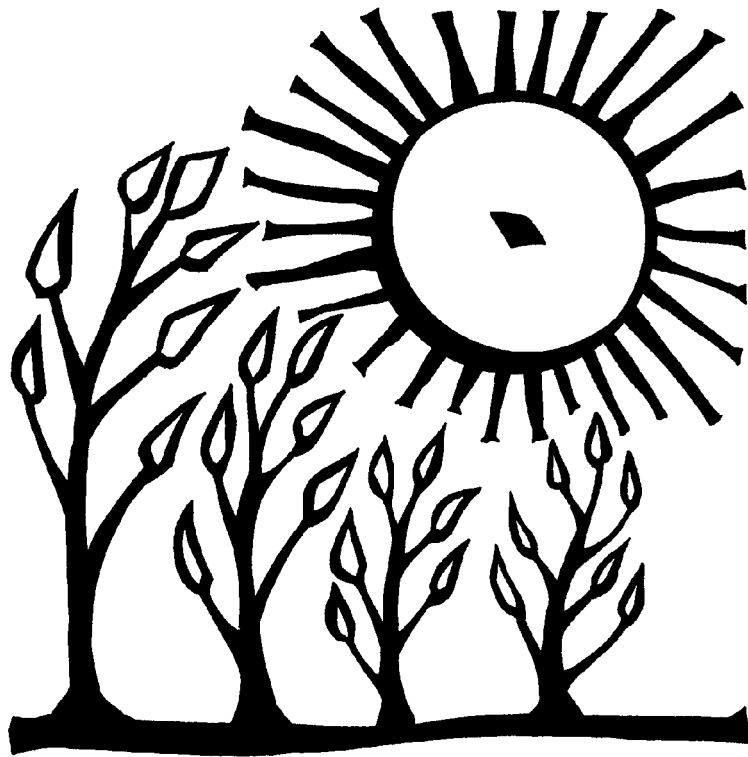


Service of Worship

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 2017

10:30 am



Ebenezer
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Ebenezer!

We hope you are blessed by your time in worship today. Please complete the "Welcome" insert and place it in the offering plate as it is passed.

Restrooms are located in the Education Building.

Devices for the hearing impaired are located on designated pews. For assistance, please see an usher.

A nursery for children three-years old and younger is available, beginning 9:15 am, for Sunday school and worship. The nursery is located across from the library in the Education Building. Our attendants are trained and willing to help. Parents are welcome to use the nursery for part or all of the worship service.

As you enter the worship space, please be sure to silence your cell phones.

+ GATHERING +
We gather to learn love for one another.

Preservice Music

We stand as able.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the † holy Trinity,
the one who fashions us, the one who heals us,
the one who reforms us again and again.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

We kneel as able or remain standing. Silence is kept for reflection.

Source of all life,

we confess that we have not allowed
your grace to set us free.

We fear that we are not good enough.

**We hear your word of love freely given to us,
yet we expect others to earn it.**

**We turn the church inward,
rather than moving it outward.**

Forgive us. Stir us.

**Reform us to be a church powered by love,
willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just,
and seek the healing of your whole creation.**

Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
and to empower our lives in the world.

Our sins are forgiven, † God's love is unconditional,
and we are raised up as God's people
who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

All stand and face the processional cross.

Gathering Hymn *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

Hymn 873

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.

Prayer of the Day

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

We welcome one another to worship and then we sit.

Welcome and Announcements

+ WORD +
God speaks to us in Bible readings.

Special Message

Hymn *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* Hymn 512

First Reading

Isaiah 25:1-9
(Pew Bible page 639)

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:1-9
(Pew Bible page 1073)

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

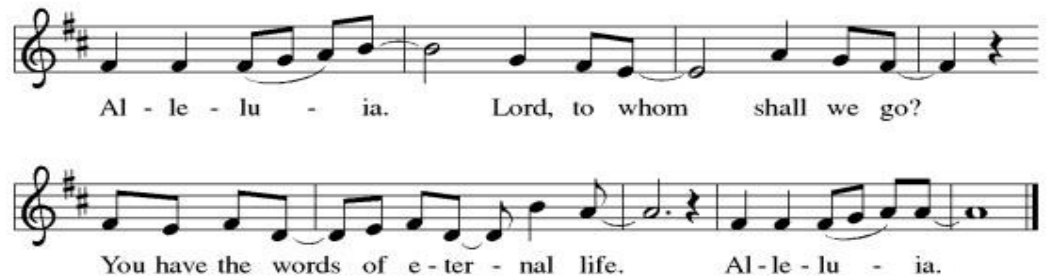
²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
We stand.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14
(Pew Bible page 902)

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.
We sit.

Sermon

Pastor Dreier

Silence is kept for reflection.

We stand.

Hymn of the Day

In Christ Alone

See Insert

Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

After the assisting minister introduces the prayers, we stand or kneel as able, for the petitions.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

All stand.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

We sit.

+ MEAL +

Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven."

An offering is collected to support the mission of the church.

Reception of the Offering

Musical Offering

What a Beautiful Name
Ebenezer Musicians

Ben Fielding

We stand.

Offertory Song

Holy Ground

Geron Davis

We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around.

Let us praise Jesus now.

We are standing in his presence on holy ground.

What is Holy Communion?

Holy Communion is our participation in the meal that Jesus celebrated with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. As Jesus' disciples now this meal is a participation in our Lord's life: he feeds us, forgives us, and unites us.

This meal, sometimes called "Eucharist" (meaning "thanksgiving"), connects us to our Lord and to all his people across time and space.

Offering Prayer

After the gifts have been presented, the prayer is said:

Let us pray...**Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day or season; We respond: *Holy, Holy, Holy*

How we Commune
Welcome to the table of the Risen Christ!

All baptized worshipers are invited to partake of the Eucharist, regardless of denominational affiliation. Come down the center aisle and either kneel or stand at the rail in front of the altar. Take the bread and dip it into the cup of wine.

If you require gluten-free wafers or grape juice, please let the ministers know. Return to your seat by way of the side aisles.

If you are unable to come forward please come down the side aisles on either side after the "Invitation" and communion will be brought to you. If you need to remain in your seat please notify an usher.

Any who do not wish to receive communion may fold their arms across their chest to receive a blessing at the altar.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Jesus' Words About Communion

Lord's Prayer

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - low - ed be your
name, your king - dom come, your will be done on
earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our
dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as
we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial and de -
liv - er us from e - vil, for the king - dom, the pow'r and the
glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er.

Invitation to Communion


Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
and make us one with you.

We sit.

Communion

Distribution Music

Lamb of God...



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.

*Lamb of God
Come As You Are*

Hymn 336
See Insert

When all have returned to their places, we stand or kneel.

Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray...Amen.

All stand.

+ SENDING +

We are blessed to go and serve God in the world.

All turn and face the processional cross.

**Sending Song
Blessing**

O Zion, Haste

Hymn 668

Dismissal

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Serving in Worship Today

The Rev. Melvin E. Amundson	<i>Presiding</i>
The Rev. Gary Dreier	<i>Preaching</i>
Karen Hardy	<i>Assisting</i>
Andreas Herzog	<i>Lector</i>
Andreas Herzog	<i>Element Bearer</i>
Buddy Bateman, Colleen Siniard	<i>Communion Assistants</i>



“Reaching out to draw others to Christ.”

- We place Jesus first in all that we do ·
- We share Christ wherever we are ·
- We welcome a diversity of believers and skeptics to experience Christ with us ·
- We seek to deepen our faith and discipleship ·
- We embrace the gifts of each and all ·

Strategic Directions

- We will offer worship opportunities with Biblically based, doctrinally sound preaching and inspiring music, energizing ourselves to do God’s work.
- We will welcome our neighbors and invite them to participate in all church programs.
- We will respond to the needs of all God’s people, seeking justice and peace, locally and globally.
- We will commit our time and resources to support God’s work through the South Carolina Synod and the ecumenical community.
- We will provide dynamic Christian education, immersing ourselves in God’s word.
- We will foster a sense of congregational community and genuine concern for the well-being of our members.

Ebenezer Lutheran Church

1301 Richland Street, Columbia, SC 29201
Office hours 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Monday-Friday Phone 803.765.9430
Website: <http://www.ebenezerlutheran.org>
The Rev. Melvin E. Amundson, Interim Senior Pastor
The Rev. Gary Dreier, Pastoral Associate
David E. Turner, Director of Music and Worship
Diane M. Oliver, Administrative Associate
Wendy Isgett, Accountant

