



*Sermon on the Mount
Laura James ca. 2010*

Sunday, February 1st Scout Sunday

Our Ministry Staff contacts are:

Rev. Emily Willhide: pastoremily@incarnationlutheran.com
Teresa Boykin; CDC Director: cdc@incarnationlutheran.com
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Elliott Stewart; Handbell and Choir Director: choir@incarnationlutheran.com

Sunday School (all ages): 9:00 am

Nursery (ages 3 and under): 9:45 am- 11:15 am

Worship: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

(10 a.m. Worship is also live streamed on Facebook.)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

Office: 803-256-2381

CDC: 803-661-6378

www.incarnationlutheran.com

www.facebook.com/IncarnationLutheranChurch



WELCOME TO INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH! We are a congregation of the South Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

**This is Christ's church.
There is a place for you here.**

We are a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person, regardless of race, gender, orientation, ability or disability, socioeconomic status, or citizenship. We affirm that all people are beloved children of God and created in the image of God. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

WORSHIP

- We gather to worship God in community because we believe that in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ all things are made new, including us, and that God has brought us together for a purpose.
- Our worship language is drawn from scripture, and you may recognize many parts of it from your Bible.
- The worship bulletin includes our order of worship and will direct you to hymns/songs (located in our red hymnal), or to different parts of the liturgy (in the front half of the ELW). If you're not sure what something means, please ask a neighbor or an usher.
- During worship, there are directions to be seated or to stand as able. Please do what you are able and what makes you comfortable.

HOLY COMMUNION

We invite you to join with us in the sacrament of Holy Communion, as Jesus invites us all to the table. The Ushers will direct you to the front of the church to receive communion. Please take an empty communion glass from the trays at the front of the church. The innermost ring of glasses are pre-filled with grape juice for those who prefer juice to wine. There are discard trays by the side aisles. Gluten free wafers are also available. Children are welcome to participate when they and their families think they are ready, and after a conversation with the pastor. If you are unable to come forward, please indicate that to the Ushers, and the Pastor will bring communion to you in your pew.

CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN WORSHIP!

The whole church is blessed by the presence of children in worship, wiggle and all. They will learn to participate in church by watching you and the congregation as we stand, sit, pray, and sing together. Coloring pages, crayons, Quiet Mazes, and activity bags are available in the narthex to help them if they get a little restless. There is also a nursery located in our educational building next door, staffed with two qualified caregivers.

RESTROOMS

As you face the altar, the men's restrooms are through the door on the right side and down the hall. The women's restroom and an accessible family restroom are through the door on the left side. A diaper changing station is available in the family restroom.

LIVESTREAM

Worship is live-streamed on Facebook and can be found on Incarnation's Facebook page. A link is also available on our website: incarnationlutheran.com

ASSISTIVE LISTENING IS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

Please ask the Ushers for help if you have difficulty either in locating the devices or using them.

Welcome to Worship

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

✠ Fourth Sunday after Epiphany • February 1st, 2026 ✠

Worship Notes: • We are in setting 4 of the ELW • Our Lector is John Sawicki • Our Crucifer is Jimmy McFarland • Our Worship Assistant is Jimmy McFarland •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Fantasia on "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" Dieterich Buxtehude

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Please stand as able and face the back of the church.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

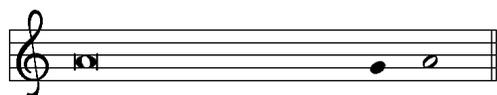
Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ✠ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 308 (verses 1-4)

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright
WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

KYRIE: S147



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



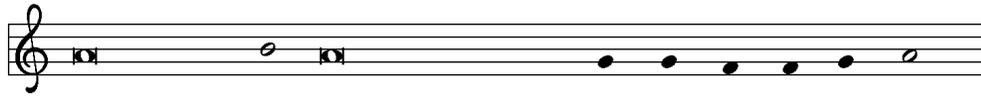
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: s149

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

³“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 15

Read responsively

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

² **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: S151



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

Please stand as able.

Before the Reading: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
 5 “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
 6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
 7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
 8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
 9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
 10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 11 “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

After the Reading: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Emily Willhide

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 710

Let Streams of Living Justice
THAXTED

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.

HYMN: ELW 751

O Lord, Hear My Prayer
HEAR MY PRAYER

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
 OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*

The image shows musical notation for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes “Merciful God.” We respond: “**Receive our prayer.**”

HYMN: ELW 751

O Lord, Hear My Prayer
HEAR MY PRAYER

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

The offering plate will be passed throughout the Congregation for those not using online giving.

ANTHEM:

“Come, Ye Sinners”

Men’s Chorale

OFFERTORY HYMN: ELW 884

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
OLD HUNDREDTH

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING: s152

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.
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: S153



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: ELW 873

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart
MARION

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on "Marion"

Matthew Whitehouse

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult and Children's Sunday School: 9:00 am

Nursery (Ages 3 and under): 9:45-11:15

Worship: 10:00 am

Office Hours: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm M-F

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205 • (803) 256-2381

Prayer List

Current Concerns: The Family of Calla Parsons, Pat Chandler, Phil Harris, Ray Peterson, Katie Barone, Rick Richardson, Walter Lindler, Joe and Sue DeMichael, Welda McCullough, Ken Gehler, Bill Lamb, and all homebound, caregivers, and victims of violence.

Continuing Concerns: Margaret Welch, Melissa Parker, Bishop Ginny Aebischer, Zach Jenkins, Elliott Milliken, Carson McCoy, Mary Rivers, Chip Schuster, Grady Lindler

Military: Daniel Scruggs, Hilary Compton (Kim Yerrick's niece), Tyler Owens (Kim Yerrick's nephew), Christopher McFarland (Jimmy and Kathy McFarland's Son), James McFarland (Jimmy and Kathy McFarland's Grandson).

Financial Update

	Actual	Plan	Difference
Last week	\$1,460	\$6,348	(\$4,888)
Month-to-Date	\$20,508	\$25,393	(\$4,885)
Year-to-Date	\$20,508	\$25,393	(\$4,885)

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, February 3rd:

10:00 am Quilting Group

Wednesday, February 4th:

6:00 pm Handbell Practice

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, February 8th:

9:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Worship - Souper

Bowl Sunday

11:15 am Annual Meeting

11:30 am Confirmation

11:30 am Soup Cookoff

Giving to ILC:

Please consider giving to Incarnation Lutheran Church's ministries and projects.



Annual congregational meeting will be held Sunday, February 8th after worship

MEETING

Stewardship Snippet
February 1st, 2026

In this month of love, let your dreams blossom, for the opportunities and possibilities are endless.

**WELCOME
TROOP 8
BSA!**





INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Souper Bowl of Caring
Soup Cookoff

Join us on Sunday, February 8th for our congregational meeting followed by the "Soup Cookoff" for the Souper Bowl of Caring! We will be collecting donations for food ministries. Proceeds will benefit Harvest Hope and the Little Free Pantry.

If you would like to enter your soup into the competition to win the Golden Ladle, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or email the office at office@incarnationlutheran.com



L    O

All women are cordially invited to a
Valentines tea on Sunday, February 15th
from 3:30-5:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Sharing Tea
Brings Warmth and Caring to Your Day
Let's Get Together to Share Stories
With Friends, Old and New
Sip Some Tea and Become Renewed




When you come to the Tea, please bring deodorant for men and women, razors, shampoo, bath towels and washcloths, all purpose basic cleaning spray solutions (no bleach), dishsoap, laundry detergent, cleaning sponge, broom and dustpan, bucket, mop and floor cleaner (no bleach or ammonia), grocery store gift cards - Food Lion is best

RSVP to the office
(803) - 256-2381
office@incarnationlutheran.com

V   E

CDC IS HIRING
WHO DO YOU KNOW?

We are hiring full-time and part-time caregivers for our preschool and school age programs. We offer flexible scheduling, benefits, a friendly work environment, and serve the best families in the city. We are located near the university campus and are happy to work around class schedules. We would love to talk to you.

Incarnation Lutheran Child Development Center
DSS licenses # 21329 and #21248

Resumes should be forwarded to
cdc@incarnationlutheran.com

Reach out for a chat to 803.422.1905