

A Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church

17th Sunday after Pentecost

October 2nd, 2022



The season of Pentecost makes up almost half the church year. The Sundays following Pentecost are marked as “ordinary time,” but there is nothing ordinary about the mysterious workings of God in our midst. May this Ordinary Time be extraordinary as we witness the Holy Spirit moving all around us. We’re glad you’re here today!

To the parents of young children:

God put the wiggle in children, don't feel like you have to suppress it in God's house - all are welcome! If you need to bring your child out of the service, the nursery is open for you with a TV in it streaming worship.

**Indicates please stand as you are able*

Prelude

*Spirit, Open My Heart
Open Our Eyes, Lord*

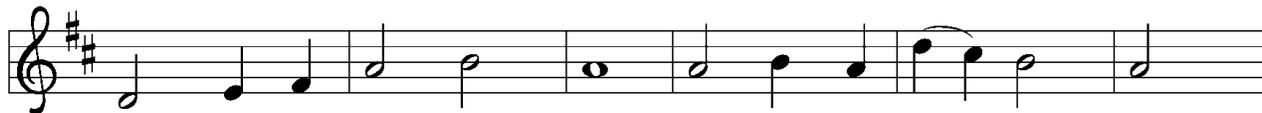
ACS #1043
W&P #113

Welcome

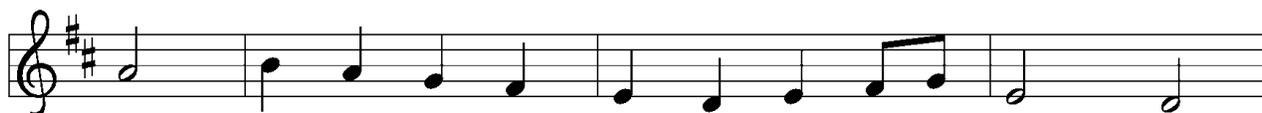
*Gathering Hymn

Come Down, O Love Divine

ELW #804



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

*Confession

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

All: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

All: Amen.

*Greeting

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

All: And also with you.



Refrain
All: Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



Leader:
1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, **All:** let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

*This is the Feast

Setting 8

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the
Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be
peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of
vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. 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, hon - or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Prayer of the Day

Leader: Let us pray. Benevolent, merciful God:

All: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed

Hymn

We Are Marching

ELW #866

First Reading - Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

A reading from Habakkuk.

¹The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. ²O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? ³Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1}I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ²Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. ⁴Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading - 2 Timothy 1:1-14

A reading from second Timothy.

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-

discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Setting 8



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***Gospel Lesson - Luke 17:5-10**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 17th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Molly Kuekes

*Hymn of the Day

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

ELW #759



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

*Apostles' Creed

Leader: Gathered into one body, we profess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All: 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 power of 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 Intercession

Leader: As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

After each prayer petition:

Leader: God of Grace, **All: hear our prayer.**

*Sharing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

Musical Meditation

I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light

ELW #759

*Offering Prayer

Leader: Let us pray. Gracious God,

All: In your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Preface

Pastor: 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

*Words of Institution

Pastor: 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.

*The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

All: 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.

*Invitation to Communion

Pastor: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

All: Amen.

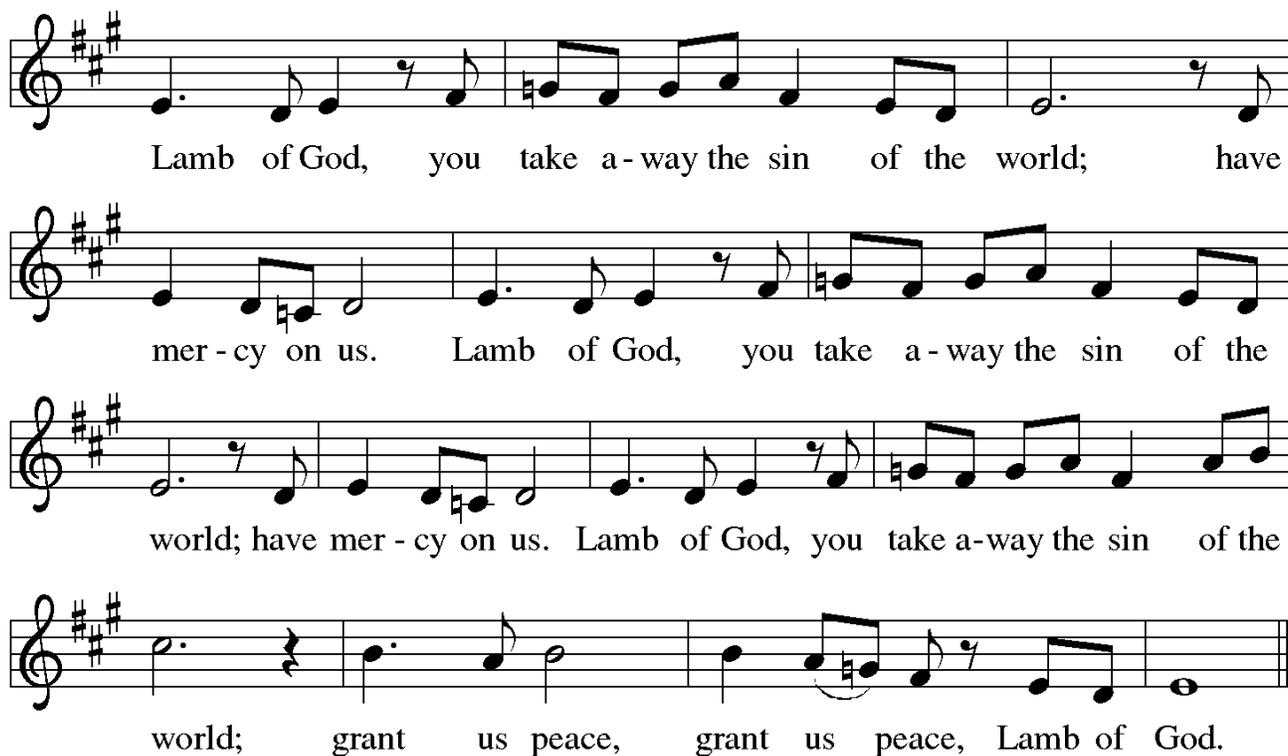
Distribution of Holy Communion and Offering

All are welcome at the Lord's Table, so please join us. You are invited forward to kneel or stand at the altar rail to receive communion. If you prefer to commune using the individually packaged elements, there are some on the altar rail. If you are giving an offering, you may leave it in the offering plate near the front on your way to the altar.

The Pastor will distribute the bread, let her know if you need a gluten-free wafer. The worship assistant will distribute the wine. Let them know if you prefer juice.

Lamb of God

Setting 8



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.

Communion Music *Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord* WOVS #671

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system is labeled 'Refrain' and includes the lyrics: 'Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris - en Lord;'. The second system continues the refrain with: 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.'. The third system contains a list of five numbered verses: '1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth;', '2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth;', '3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ;', '4 God has pro - claimed the just re - ward;', and '5 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,'. The fourth system concludes with the lyrics: 'he is the king of cre - a - tion.', 'Je - sus has died and has ris - en.', 'now we shall live . . . for - ev - er.', 'life for all peo - ple, al - le - lu - ia.', and 'joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.'. Chord symbols (F, Dm, Gm, C, Bb) are placed above the vocal line in each system. The word 'Refrain' appears at the beginning of the first system and at the end of the fourth system.

*Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

All: Amen.

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your
prais - es. I'm so glad you're in my life,
I'm so glad you came to save us. You came from heav-en to earth
to show the way, from the earth to the cross my debt to pay;
from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.

*Prayer After Communion

Leader: Let us pray. God of the abundant table,

All: you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Blessing

Pastor: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

All: Amen.

Pastor: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: The God of all grace ✚ bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

*Sending Hymn

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

ELW #777



- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev-ers bur-dened; find re - fresh-ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen-tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow-ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

*Sending

Leader: Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Step by Step

W&P #132

We'll be restarting our Tutoring Program this Tuesday here at A Mighty Fortress and we are looking for volunteers!! *No previous tutoring experience is required!* Please know that this program isn't all about teaching the students; building a relationship with your student is just as important (if not more important!). Yes, learning is important of course, but the main goal is for the students to know they have another adult in their life who cares about them. We'll begin with dinner each Tuesday at **5:45pm**, and then you'll meet with your student from 6pm-7pm. If you are interested or have questions, please reach out to Libby Holman (libholman@gmail.com).

Help support the AMF team in the 44th annual Charlotte CROP Hunger Walk on October 16, 2022. We are raising money to help alleviate hunger and poverty and help in disaster response. Because of the unique circumstances of the past year the needs are greater than ever.

Give cash or check (made out to CWS/CROP) donation to one of our walkers ... OR

Go to charlottecropwalk.org and contribute to the A Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church team or to one of our registered walkers

This year's walk will be a hybrid. Some of the team will walk here in the AMF community/neighborhood, and some will walk at Memorial Stadium, and some will "spirit walk" in their homes.

Plan now to participate in 2022. "Be a fighter"! Help fight hunger and poverty in Charlotte and around the world.

Senior Moment Workshop

Would you like to learn more about preventing falls and other home safety balance issues? What about a tax free 401 K distribution in 2022?

On October 19 (Wednesday) at 10:00 am, Mary Merlin and Katie Williams, both associated with Atrium Rehabilitation Center, will be in our Fellowship Hall, giving some tips on how to live safely at home through fall prevention and balance training. Greg Damron, an accountant, will also give us some information about taking the 401 K distribution for 2022 as a tax free contribution.

We are fortunate to have some talented folks in our church who are willing to share their knowledge with us.

Please come-have a snack and learn together about how we can improve our quality of life.

This is a good Senior Moment to have! Questions? Please ask Mary Merlin, Greg Damron, or Libby Holman.

Please sign up on the bulletin board so we will know how many to expect.



We invite you to prayerfully consider volunteering for an usher and/or worship assistant as the 2023 schedule is made during November and early December. If you have specific questions or concerns feel free to contact Pastor Molly (pastormolly@amflc.org) or Jim McGee (paj04@carolina.rr.com). Guidelines and training are available for each.

Youth Group Meeting!

TODAY - Following Worship



We will meet right after worship for a light lunch (kid-friendly of course). Then we'll hear Bible stories, sing songs, make crafts, and most of all, have FUN!

Calling all men of the AMF family and community! The Lutheran Men in Mission will be starting back meeting every 2nd Sat of the month. Starting this Oct 8th @ 9am the men will meet at the fellowship building for breakfast and fellowship. All you have to do is come as you are and all are welcome. Looking forward to seeing you there because this is the day to rejoice in the Lord and be glad in it!

Your Lutheran Men in Mission President:

Dwayne Graham
704-726-8215

Please join us for worship on Sunday Oct 23rd as we have a special worship service planned. During the worship service, the Lutheran Men In Mission along with some special guest, will be honoring Bob Stroup with the NC Lifetime Membership / Memorial.

To The Men Of AMF, This Fall, the National LMM is offering 2 opportunities to be a part of the One Year To Live Men's Retreat. Oct. 7-9 @ Tracey's Camp in Pinewood , SC & Oct 14-16 @ Camp Cherokee in Blacksburg , SC. Please contact Dwayne Graham if you are interested. 704-726-8215

Please save the date Oct 22nd. On this Sat starting at 8am will be having AMF's Work Day. We plan to do a lot of outdoor / indoor projects that is desperately needed around our beloved church. The more people show up the less work we have to do. The LMM will be providing coffee, water, doughnuts, and snacks. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Doug Wells or Dwayne Graham.

Prayer List

please contact our administrative assistant, Danielle (announcementforamf@gmail.com), if you want to add a name to the prayer list

Members: Elaine Beal, Greg Damron, Chris Dukes, Ranee Hedrick, Robin Hussey, Pastor John Merck and Nancy Merck, Barbara McGee, Betty Mick, Robin Moore, Betty Sigmon, April and Dustin Woolford, & Patti Skinner

Loved Ones: Rondal Bass (uncle of David Bass), Aiden Chirico (Edna Chirico's grandson), Sherry Harrell (former member), Linda Holden (friend of Edna Chirico), Cadie (Jan Huskey's granddaughter), Elmer Sundlie (Karen Sundlie's father), Ronnie Thomas (father-in-law of Alyssa McGee Thomas), Juniper (Paul Lover's granddaughter), & Kimberly LaMore (daughter of Barbara and Jim McGee's close friend), Henry Coffey (Whitney Cartier's friend), Jarrett Duvall (friend of Edna Chirico), & Xuan (Thih's wife)

Worship Leadership

Pastor – Rev. Molly Kuekes, pastormolly@amflc.org

Organist/Music Director – Penny Damron

Pianist/Choir Director – Patti Skinner

Guitarist – Charles Burton, Paul Lover, & Timothy Gentsch

Worship Assistant – Chris Dukes

Livestream Operator – Doug Wells

Ushers – Jeanna Sheldon & Terry Saunders

Sound Board Operator – Junior Bryant

Come worship in-person:

8200 McClure Circle, Charlotte, NC 28216

Or find us online:

www.amflc.org



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