

Resurrection Lutheran Church

PO Box 427 — 8160 Old State Road

Cameron SC 29030

(803) 823-2915

rlccameron@windstream.net • www.cameronrlc.org



Pastor: Rev. Eric Little
Organist: CB Bull
Lay Assistant(s): Bayne Haigler
 “ Next Sunday: Brett Evans
Sound & Recording System Doug Doster
 “ Next Sunday: Richard Smith
Altar Flowers: Lois Porth and Gwen Fulmer
 “ Next Sunday: Mary Jo Spiers
Nursery: Ashley Stowe and Mollie Haigler
 “ Next Sunday: Somer Lynne Haigler and Megan Bozard
Acolyte and Crucifer Corbin Johnson and Megan Bozard
 “ Next Sunday: Bryson Baldwin and Will Bozard
Altar Guild: Katie Haigler and Somer Lynne Haigler
Ushers: Brad Stowe, Capt., Bryan Baldwin, Jim Gates, Monty Rast

[Please see announcements printed in the back of this bulletin.]

Resurrection and St. Matthew's Lutheran Parish

Cameron, South Carolina

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Opening Prayer – Please stand

Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy, full of kindness, out of your great love, you raise us up from sin and death and make us alive together with Christ. Write your word upon our hearts and restore in us the image of your love that, by your Spirit, our way of life may become the way of Christ, through whom we pray. **Amen.**

Dialogue

You are the treasured people of the Lord,

a people holy to the Lord our God.

Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Gathering Hymn #886: Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Congregation may be seated and remain seated during the hymn service.

THE STORY BEHIND “IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL”

In the late 19th century, Horatio Gates Spafford was a successful lawyer and a devoted Christian living in Chicago. By all appearances, life had been generous to him. He enjoyed a thriving legal practice, a loving marriage to his wife Anna, five cherished children, and a faith that shaped their home. Yet, within a few short years, that seemingly secure world would be shattered.

In 1871, disaster struck when the Great Chicago Fire ravaged the city, destroying

much of Spafford's real estate investments and wiping out a large portion of his wealth. As he struggled to recover from this financial ruin, another, more personal tragedy followed, the death of his young son from scarlet fever. Though grief filled their household, the Spaffords clung firmly to their faith, trusting God as their refuge in sorrow.

Two years later, hoping for rest and spiritual renewal, the family planned a journey to Europe to join their close friend, the renowned evangelist Dwight L. Moody, during a revival tour. At the last moment, urgent business matters delayed Horatio, and he sent Anna ahead with their four daughters, Annie, Maggie, Bessie, and Tanetta, aboard a French steamship.

Midway across the Atlantic, tragedy struck once more. The ship collided with another vessel and sank within minutes. Of the more than 300 passengers on board, only a few survived. Anna was rescued unconscious, clinging to floating wreckage, but all four daughters were lost to the cold, unforgiving sea. Upon arriving in Cardiff, Wales, Anna sent her husband a heartbreaking telegram containing just two words: "Saved alone."

Overcome with grief, Horatio immediately boarded a ship to reunite with his bereaved wife. As the vessel passed over the very waters where his daughters had perished, he stood quietly on deck, reflecting amid the rolling waves. In that sacred moment of sorrow, an extraordinary peace settled over his heart, a peace that defied human understanding. From that experience, he penned words that would echo through generations:

When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

"It Is Well With My Soul" is not a hymn of denial, but a profound declaration of faith. Born in the depths of anguish rather than ease, it stands as a testimony to unwavering trust in God amid life's fiercest storms. Through the centuries, this timeless hymn has brought comfort to millions, reminding us that even when everything around us is broken, divine peace can still reign within the soul.

Hymn #785: When Peace Like a River Vs. 1 and 4

THE STORY BEHIND "MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS"

In a quiet English morning in 1834, a simple truth began to take shape in the heart of Edward Mote. The world around him felt uncertain, yet his thoughts

kept returning to one steady assurance: hope that does not rest on Christ will never stand. As he walked to work, those thoughts formed into words, and by the time the day had begun, the opening lines of a hymn were already alive on paper.

Edward Mote did not grow up surrounded by faith. His early years were shaped more by practical labor than spiritual teaching, as he worked as a cabinet maker long before becoming a pastor. His journey to Christianity was gradual and deeply personal, marked by reflection, conviction, and a growing confidence in Jesus Christ as the only sure foundation for life and salvation. The hymn draws its strength from Christ's parable of the wise man who built his house upon the rock. In that image, Mote found a powerful way to describe faith itself. Storms may rise, winds may beat fiercely, but what is built on solid ground remains unshaken. In contrast, anything founded on human effort, emotion, or earthly success eventually collapses like a house built on sand.

At the heart of the hymn stands its most memorable declaration: "All other ground is sinking sand." With these words, Mote expressed a lifelong conviction. Righteousness is not something to be earned, and hope is not something to be manufactured. Both are gifts secured by Christ alone, by His sacrifice, His faithfulness, and His unchanging love.

Years later, when Edward Mote was serving as a pastor, his congregation sought to reward him with a financial gift. He gently declined and instead offered them the hymn he had written. It was a quiet testimony to the very message he preached: riches fade, but a hope anchored in Christ endures forever.

Today, "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" continues to echo in churches around the world. Sung in moments of joy and in seasons of trial, it reminds believers that when every other foundation gives way, Christ remains the solid Rock, firm and faithful through every storm.

Hymn #596: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less vs. 1 and 4

THE STORY BEHIND "O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST"

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" is one of the most enduring hymns in Christian worship, written by Isaac Watts in 1719. It was inspired directly by Psalm 90, a prayer attributed to Moses, a psalm that reflects on God's eternal nature in contrast to the frailty and brevity of human life.

Isaac Watts wrote the hymn at a time when England was no stranger to uncertainty. Life expectancy was short, plagues were still part of living memory, and political and social instability were common. Against this backdrop, Watts sought to give believers words that anchored their faith not

in changing circumstances, but in the unchanging nature of God.

Rather than paraphrasing Psalm 90 word for word, Watts reimagined it in language that ordinary worshippers could sing and internalize. He emphasized God as a refuge across generations, the same God who had helped the faithful in the past and would remain trustworthy in the future. Lines like “Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home” offered deep reassurance to congregations facing loss, fear, and uncertainty.

The hymn gained even greater significance over time. It has been sung at moments of national mourning, remembrance services, and funerals. Its association with remembrance comes from its sober reflection on time, mortality, and God’s everlasting presence. The stately tune most commonly used today, “St. Anne,” further reinforces its solemn and majestic character.

What has kept “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” relevant for over three centuries is its timeless message: human life may pass quickly, but God remains constant. In every age, past, present, and future, He is portrayed as both protector and home for His people.

In seasons of uncertainty, grief, or reflection, this hymn continues to remind believers that their hope is rooted not in fleeting years, but in an eternal God who never changes.

Hymn #632: O God, Our Help in Ages Past vs 1-3

THE STORY BEHIND "WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS"

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” was written in 1855 by Joseph M. Scriven, an Irish-born poet who later emigrated to Canada. The hymn was born not out of comfort, but deep personal sorrow and quiet faith.

Scriven’s life was marked by profound loss. As a young man, he was engaged to be married in Ireland when tragedy struck, his fiancée drowned the night before their wedding. Heartbroken, Scriven eventually moved to Canada, hoping for a fresh start. Yet sorrow followed him there too. Years later, he lost his mother, and his fragile health often left him struggling.

It was during one of these painful seasons that Scriven wrote the words of the hymn, not as something meant for public worship, but as a private letter of comfort to his grieving mother. In the letter, he reminded her (and himself) that no matter how heavy life’s burdens became, they could be carried to Jesus in prayer. The hymn’s central message comes directly from Scripture, especially James 5:16 and Philipians 4:6, emphasizing prayer, trust, and the compassion of Christ:

“What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer.”

Scriven never intended the poem to become famous. In fact, it was only later—after friends discovered the verses—that it was published. The hymn was eventually paired with music composed by Charles Crozat Converse in 1868, giving it the gentle, comforting melody the world now knows.

Today, “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” remains one of the most cherished hymns across Christian traditions. Its enduring power lies in its simplicity and honesty: it speaks to human pain, unanswered questions, and the quiet assurance that believers are never alone.

At its heart, the hymn is a testimony that Jesus is not distant or indifferent, but a faithful friend, one who listens, understands, and invites every burden to be laid at His feet.

Hymn #742: What a Friend We Have in Jesus vs. 1 and 3

THE STORY BEHIND "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY"

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” is one of the most beloved hymns of Christian worship, especially associated with Trinity Sunday and moments of reverent praise.

The hymn was written in 1826 by Reginald Heber (1783–1826), an Anglican bishop and poet. Heber composed the text specifically for Trinity Sunday, drawing inspiration from the Bible’s repeated declaration of God’s holiness.

The opening words echo the heavenly worship described in Isaiah 6:3 and Revelation 4:8, where angels and living creatures cry out, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.” By repeating “holy” three times, the hymn reflects the mystery of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God in three persons.

Heber’s lyrics emphasize God’s majesty, power, purity, and mercy, presenting a vision of a God who reigns in glory yet lovingly receives the praise of His people. Each stanza builds a sense of awe, inviting all creation, saints, angels, and humanity, to join in worship.

Although Reginald Heber died shortly after writing the hymn, it was published posthumously in 1827 and later paired with a tune composed by John Bacchus Dykes in 1861. The tune’s strong, majestic melody perfectly complements the hymn’s solemn and exalted text, helping it become a staple in churches around the world.

Today, “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” continues to be sung as a timeless expression of adoration, reverence, and theological depth, reminding worshippers of God’s eternal holiness and the mystery of the Trinity.

Hymn #413: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! Vs. 1 and 2

THE STORY BEHIND "LOVE DIVINE ALL LOVES EXCELLING"

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” is one of the most cherished hymns in the Christian tradition, a radiant expression of God’s perfect love and the believer’s longing for spiritual transformation. The hymn was written in 1747 by Charles Wesley, the great English hymn writer and a central figure in the Methodist movement. Wesley, who authored more than 6,000 hymns, wrote this text during a period of deep theological reflection on holiness, grace, and the transforming power of divine love.

At its heart, the hymn is a prayer. Wesley draws heavily from Scripture, especially passages in 1 John, which proclaims that “God is love,” and from the teachings of Christ on perfect love. The opening line, “Love divine, all loves excelling,” sets the tone by lifting God’s love above every human affection. For Wesley, divine love was not distant or abstract; it was active, personal, and capable of renewing the human heart completely.

The hymn also reflects Wesley’s strong belief in Christian perfection, a doctrine that emphasized growing into spiritual maturity through God’s grace. When the hymn pleads, “Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be,” it expresses the hope that believers can be gradually shaped into Christ’s likeness. This was not about human effort alone, but about surrendering fully to God’s work of love within the soul.

Over time, the hymn became closely associated with the tune “Hyfrydol,” a Welsh melody composed by Rowland H. Prichard in the nineteenth century. The marriage of Wesley’s profound text with this soaring, tender tune helped the hymn spread widely across denominations, making it a staple in churches around the world. Its gentle rise and fall beautifully mirrors the hymn’s movement from longing, to transformation, to joyful praise.

Today, “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” continues to be sung at worship services, weddings, and special celebrations of the Christian faith. Its enduring appeal lies in its timeless message: a longing for God’s love to dwell within us, reshape us, and draw us ever closer to heaven. Through this hymn, generations of believers have found words for their deepest prayer, that divine love may reign fully in their hearts and lives.

Hymn #631: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling vs. 1 and 4

The Apostles Creed

Peace

Offering

ELECTRONIC GIVING...



Special Music

Doxology

Responsive Prayer

Let us pray.

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.
Send your gift of peace to all the nations of the world and keep them under your care.

Show us your mercy, O God,
And grant us your salvation.

Give us the joy of your saving help again,
And sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

Let your way be known upon the earth;
your saving health among all the nations.

Let not the needy be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and sustain me with your Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear my prayer,
and let my cry come before you. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Sending

May the peace of God enfold us,
The love of God uphold us,
The wisdom of God control us. **Amen**

Sending Hymn #661: I Love to Tell the Story

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Pastor Eric...

will be out of town from April 28th -May 5th. If there are any pastoral emergencies while Pastor Eric is out of town, please call Pastor Mitch Evans (803) 347-6013.

Bible Study...

will be this Wednesday, May 6th at RLC. St. Matthew's Lutheran will not have bible study this week.

It's graduation season...

and we would like to acknowledge all those who are graduating this spring. Please send the information to the church office (name of student and high school or college) so we can list it in the bulletin.

Lutheridge Day Camp...

Will be held June 22-26, for rising 1st-6th graders. Registration forms are located on the table outside the fellowship hall.

Snacks Needed...

There is a sign up sheet on the table next to the Fellowship hall with snacks you can sign up to get for Day Camp. If you sign up to get snacks, please place them in the kitchen by June 21st. Thank you in advance for helping Day Camp be successful.



SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 3, 2026

Wednesday 10:00 am
Next Sunday 10:00 am
11:00 am

Bible Study: RLC
Sunday School: RLC
Worship: RLC



MEMBERS:

Chris Philpot
John Capizzi, III

Alison Weeks—Daughter-in-law of Perry and Martha Ann Weeks

MILITARY:

Andrew Pekarek
Carrie Nelson

SC SYNOD STAFF:

Deacon Kimberly Heindl,
Asst. to the Bishop

Kathryn Lamar—mother of Kathy Rast, grandmother of Ansley and Erin
Rev. Rick Carter,
Asst. to the Bishop

Rev. Ginny
Aebischer, Bishop

Rev. Yehiel Curry,
Presiding Bishop—ELCA

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF THE PARISH:

Carol Rivers—wife of Delmar Rivers
Patsy Brooks—friend of Esther Dufford
Courtney Line—granddaughter of Lois “Bud” Porth
Eleanor Bassett—friend of Caroline Porth
Matthew Wannamaker—friend of Gary Porth
Rhett Tindall—friend of Larry Barwick
Julie Crider Layton—friend of Gwen Fulmer
Mack Shirer—brother of Martha Ann Weeks

Roy Lockett—friend of Gary Porth

Matthew Lizewski—friend of Gary Porth
David Mellon—brother of Chris Philpot
Karen Kennedy—cousin of Mickey Weeks
Gregg Culler—friend of Mitzi and Mickey Weeks
Delane Cochran—friend of the Community
David (Shack) Felkel—friend of Doris Giese
Donnie Fulmer—husband of Gwen Fulmer

Rosie Such—friend of the Barwick's

Jennifer Davies—family of the Barwick's

David Adden—friend of the Community

Nan Barwick—mother of Larry Barwick

John Rich—friend of Larry Barwick

BJ Harrelson—mother of Deborah Porth

Pete and Pam Lesesne—family of Larry Barwick

Sally Sonne—mother of Peter Sonne

Virginia Moore—friend of David Rast

Gary Ryder—friend of Larry Barwick

Butler Spiers—daughter of Will and Amelia Spiers

Debbie Roland—friend of the Community

Sarah Longshore—daughter of Josh Gates

Anna Jendral and her Family—friends of Heber and Gloria Rast

Michelle Isgett—daughter-in-law of Reta Westbury