

First Time Visitor

Common Worship Questions

Where do I go?

100 Twelve Oaks Dr., McCormick, SC – at the corner of St. Rt. 378 and Twelve Oaks Dr.

Parking is readily available in the large lot adjacent to the church and fellowship hall. Many spaces are available for handicap parking if needed. The Sanctuary for worship is in the building on the left toward St. Rt. 378. Please come in through the double glass doors into the “narthex” or greeting space, and you will be only steps away from our beautiful sanctuary. Restrooms are down the hallway straight ahead and the Bridge gathering space is on the right. Our ushers and visitor’s table are in this area we call the “narthex”.



When should I arrive for worship?

Services start on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. (October-April) and 10:30 a.m. (all year long) Many people arrive a few minutes before the service to prepare for worship and greet those around them. If you're running late for worship, don't worry — just find a seat and join in with the service. We are so happy to have you join us in worship!

What should I expect when I get there?

As you enter the narthex an usher will hand you a bulletin with details about the service. If you let them know you're visiting, they can help you with any questions you may have. You will be directed to the Visitor’s Welcome Table and asked to sign our guest book, fill out a name tag, and receive a welcome bag from the church. From there, you may choose to mingle in the narthex, or proceed into the sanctuary and sit where you wish. Hymnals and Bibles are readily available under the pew in front of you. The bulletin you receive upon entering will guide you in finding hymns in the red book. At times, a small red book is passed down each pew for attendance purposes. We are happy to have you sign the book so that we may send you a note thanking you for your visit.

What should I wear?

You will find a wide variety of clothing choices at Lutheran Church By The Lake , ranging from casual to formal. If in doubt, you should feel comfortable wearing business-casual attire at any service.

Is there a nursery?

At Lutheran Church By The Lake, we welcome children to join us in worship. If you are in need of nursery services, we can arrange to live-stream the service to our fellowship hall, the ARK, where parents may participate in the services and children may feel free to play under their parents' watchful eye. .

Can I share in Holy Communion?

We trust that Jesus Christ is fully present in the meal of Holy Communion (also called The Lord's Supper or Eucharist). All baptized Christians whether or not they are members of this congregation, are welcome at Christ's table.

During distribution, an usher directs worshipers forward by row. You may choose to kneel at the altar rail or stand. You will first be offered "the body of Christ" or wafer, followed by a second communion assistant offering wine or grape juice, "the blood of Christ" which you will remove from the tray. You will then rise, dispose of your cup in the basket, and return to your seat by the side aisles. Typically, the pastor will offer instructions before communion.

Gluten-free and non-alcoholic communion elements are available.



If you do not participate in Holy Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing during distribution. When you come forward, cross your arms across your chest to let the pastor know you would like a blessing.

After the Service what happens?

Following the Sending Hymn and Dismissal, "Go in peace. Serve the Lord" the congregation responds: THANKS BE TO GOD", and the pianist begins to play the postlude, or end of service music. The congregation files out, greeting the pastor as they depart. Please be sure to mention to the pastor that you are visiting. Many people share greetings and look forward to meeting with visitors during this time. We hope that you will find our worship together meaningful and return to worship with us again soon!