

**Presentation of God's tithes and our offerings**

**Offertory**

† **Doxology**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;  
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. (Repeat)  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong!" Let the poor say, "I am rich  
because of what the Lord has done for us!" (Repeat)  
Give thanks. Give thanks.**

**Holy Communion**

**# 9**

**Prayer following Communion**

**SENDING FORTH**

† **Hymn**

*"How Firm a Foundation"*

**# 529**

† **Benediction**

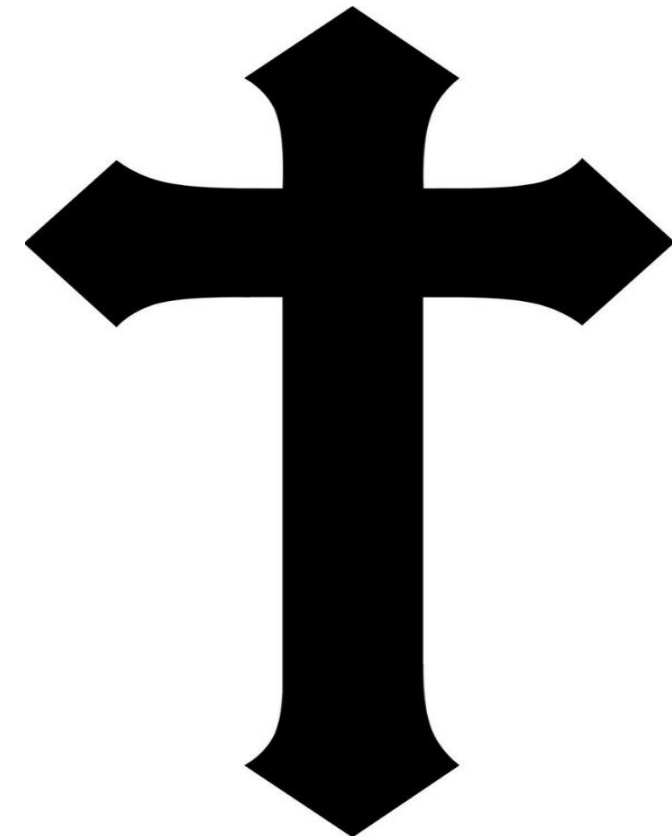
† **Postlude**

*†The congregation is invited to stand, as you are able.*



According to Thy gracious word, In meek humility,  
This will I do, my dying Lord, I will remember Thee.

Thy body, broken for my sake, My bread from heaven shall be;  
Thy testamental cup I take, And thus remember Thee.  
*--by James Montgomery (1825)*



**MORRIS CHAPEL  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

8533 Cox Mill Road, Sanford, North Carolina 27332

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Pastor cell (919) 802-8286 | [kseymour@nccumc.org](mailto:kseymour@nccumc.org)

Worship Celebration 9:30 AM

Fellowship Time 10:30 AM | Sunday School 11:00 AM

**The Rev. Connie Mitchell Shelton**

Raleigh Area Bishop

**The Rev. Kevin H. Seymour**

Pastor

**The Rev. Sunny B. Limm**

Fairway District Superintendent

**Nancy Martinez**

Assistant to the District Superintendent

# A Service of Word and Table

Third Sunday in Lent  
March 3, 2024 9:30 AM

The season of Lent invites us to learn to walk the way of the cross in reflecting on the depths of human sin even as we turn to our Holy God in praise.

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

### Ringing the Church Bell

### Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude**                      *“Agnus Dei” (Lamb of God)*                      **Leslie Orlovsky**  
by Georges Bizet, arr. by Rick Parks

**Choral Praise**                      *“I Will Call Upon the Lord”*                      **Choir**

### † Opening Sentences

People of God, now is the time when we worship God in spirit and in truth.

**Almighty and Holy God, this Sunday hour for worshiping you is not enough; and so we give you every hour of every day of our lives, as our living sacrifice offered continuously to you.**

We gather in this building dedicated to you, God, but the only temple we worship is the one raised by your Son, Jesus Christ.

**We reach up to you with familiar forms, prayers, and songs; knowing that would all fall short if it were not for your grace reaching down.**

Your house of prayer is not a place, or time, or a set ritual.

**It is your sheltering embrace that covers us continually with your love.**

† **Hymn of Praise**                      *“Lift High the Cross”*                      **# 159**

### † Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, we are a sinful people, we like to control things -- like the Jews in Jesus’s time who tried to control their lives by placing the Temple at the center of their adoration. Jesus threatened their temple and all their customs, because he called upon them to worship only you, the one who really has control over our lives. How many times have we tried to take control from you, by worshiping a church building, or a particular custom? And every time we do this, we set up that thing we worship for destruction, because you will tolerate no other gods before you. Forgive our sinfulness, God of our beginning and our end. Help us once again to bow down before you, and to submit our lives and fortunes to your gentle control. Take charge of our days. Lead us on the paths you choose. Because neither the stones of temples nor the wood of churches can add even one more breath to the extent of our lives. Only you, God, can save us, and only Christ can open the door to eternity for us. Amen.**

*(observance of silent confession)*

Take heart, brothers and sisters, for Jesus cleansed the temple, and Jesus has cleansed your souls. And as a sign of his truth and powers, Jesus offers us the temple of his body, that was destroyed and raised again in three days.

Rejoice and be glad, because God has given Jesus control over our destinies.

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

<b>Psalter Lesson</b>	<b>Psalm 19</b>	<b>Peggy Baker</b>
<b>Anthem</b>	<i>“Remember Me”</i>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Children’s Lesson</b>		<b>Stacey Burris</b>
† <b>Gospel Lesson</b>	<b>John 2:13-22</b>	
<b>Sermon</b>	<i>“Turning the Tables”</i>	<b>Kevin Seymour</b>

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† **Hymn of Response**                      *“Lord, I Want to be a Christian”*                      **# 402**

**MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PARISH NOTICES – March 3, 2024**

**WELCOME!**

Welcome to Morris Chapel United Methodist Church! We are delighted that you joined us in Christian Education and Worship today. Morris Chapel United Methodist Church welcomes visitors who are seeking a church home, those who join us for special occasions, and those who seek relief from life's burdens. Join us in praising God, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and giving thanks to a loving God for the blessings of the day!

**CALENDAR**

Every Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Service – in person and Livestream
Sunday	10:30 am	Fellowship Time
Sunday	10:45 am	Sunday Schools
Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study “Sunday’s Coming” Pastor Seymour (resumes 3/5)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Choir Practice – all are welcome

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**First Time Visitors!** We are so glad you joined us, and we hope you return! Please pick up a coffee mug with goodies and info at the front door area as you exit. It is a token of our gratitude and love for visiting our Worship Service. Be blessed

**The Mission Committee** is collecting items for The Haven, a safe house for abused men, women and children. They are requesting full size hair items such as shampoo, conditioner, mousse and hairspray as people can be there for 60 days or more. They also need of cleaning products like Clorox or Pine Sol. If you find it in your heart and can help, there will be collection bins in the church narthex and the Fellowship Hall. Thank you and God Bless

**Pastor Kevin will be speaking** at St. Luke UMC’s Community Lenten Series on Wednesday March 6 at noon. All are invited for worship and for lunch. Please call St. Luke at 919-776-2012 if you plan to attend so that the hosts will know how many to expect. 2916 Wicker St., Sanford.

**The Methodist Men’s Meeting** will be this Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the Fellowship Hall. We hope to see you there! Greg Vorholt 586-201-0687 gregvorholt@yahoo.com

**Holy Week & Easter Services** -- We will gather for Maundy Thursday worship at 7:15 PM on March 28 to recognize and remember the Last Supper. Easter Sunrise Service will be on the front lawn at 7:15 AM on March 31, followed by The Resurrection of our Lord at 9:30 AM. Please plan to attend, and invite family and friends to join us.

**Easter Cantata** practice is underway. If you still wish to join in see Jerry Keith for music. All are welcome.

**The FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE** is preparing a traditional St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Wednesday, March 13 at 5:00pm. Please sign up early as we'll need at least a week's notice! Thank you

**Pastor’s Tuesday Bible Study** is an extension of the Sunday Sermon! Class starts at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Every week is a different topic so you are never “behind” in this study. Come & see.... (resuming 3/5)

**A Delicious Time of Year** is quickly approaching. On March 13th (at Fellowship Dinner), March 17th and March 24th, we will be selling small chocolate covered peanut butter balls, peanut clusters, and Buckeyes priced at \$4.00 a bag. (Correct change greatly appreciated!) We hope you are all ready to stock up! Thank you in advance for supporting this fun project. The proceeds will go to the Men’s group and will be earmarked for decorations and choir robes. Project ladies are Terrena Shelton, Marion Huepper, Marcia Garcia and Mavis Harper.

**The 2024 Fellowship Hall Calendar** is posted in the Fellowship Hall on the left bulletin board just as you enter. **Committee Chairs**, please enter all meetings scheduled for the FH on this calendar. If an Announcement is needed for the church, email the bulletin preparers what you wish to have listed by Wednesday morning. Thanks!

**New Site: Accessing Sunday Sermons** is as easy and going on Facebook. Refresh your memory, rethink the messages, be enriched again. May God bless your devotion. <https://www.facebook.com/MorrisChapelUnitedMethodistChurch>

**PARISH NOTICES**

**Consider UMC Laity Courses** offered either through Zoom meetings or in person. Courses assist interested Christians in becoming Certified Lay Servants, Lay Speakers, or Lay Ministers. Visit [nccumc.org/laity/](http://nccumc.org/laity/) for explanations and available classes and locations in the upcoming months.

**The Center for Leadership Excellence** invites you to a webinar, *Looking Up: Acknowledging Grief, Embracing Hope* with Courtney Ellis. This is an invitation into simple, gentle, creative spiritual practices that encourage our hearts as we seek to live with open hands. Whether you’re holding the weight of grief, seeking to lead well through uncertain days, or just eager for a fresh encounter with the Spirit, Ellis is a wise and soulful guide. **Tuesday, March 19, 2024 1pm- 2pm** Go to <https://nccumc.org/leadership/looking-up-acknowledging-grief-embracing-hope/> to register

**Announcements: by noon on Wednesdays to Laurel Parker at [laurelparker@charter.net](mailto:laurelparker@charter.net) or (919) 271-0963  
 AND Mavis Harper at [mavisharper1944@gmail.com](mailto:mavisharper1944@gmail.com) or (919) 770-0489.**

**PLEASE word your announcement as you wish to see it printed.. Thank you**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

<b>Richard Angel</b> Sherry Baucom Vickie & Randy Buchanan Joey Campbell Kristie Casterlin Congregational Unity <b>Family of Diane Conti</b> Jimmy Clifton Family of Jackie Fitch <b>Christian Harper</b> Jeff Hartman Ron Hartman	Beth Hedging Mark Hickman Jimmie Holt Teresa Ingram Ann Jackson Evan & Leslie Johnson Nancy Johnson <b>Margaret Kilcullen</b> <b>Kenny Kosca</b> Charles Maddox Maude Maloney Five Marines killed	Ashley MacBurnett David MacBurnett Ann McLeod Maxine McLeod Rhonda McNeill Mike Phillips Susie Pierce Helen Rogers Anna Sanfilippo Shirley Salmon <b>Ron &amp; Peggy Scott</b> Becky Seymour	Kyle Smith Kenneth Spivey Lisa Stafford Isabelle Sturgill Joyce Key Thomas United Methodist Church United States of America Family of Harry Vasselion Pam Vaughan <b>Family of Nelson West</b> <b>Family of Polly Williams</b> Jimmy Womack Bob & Sandy Woolston
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**Weekly Attendance, Tithes & Offerings**      Attendance 2/25/24    73

<b>Tithes &amp; Offerings as of: 02/25/2024</b>	
2024 Budget - Needed to Date:	\$ 29,584.35
2024 Budget - Received to Date:	\$ 54,676.77
Running Surplus /(Deficit)	\$ 25,092.42

**WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

<b>Mar</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Children's Message</b>	<b>Lay Readers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Communion Servers</b>
<b>3</b>	Jason Morton Calleigh Baker	Stacey Burris	Peggy Baker	Drew Burris Gary Rosser	Richard Angel Pat Angel	Kevin Seymour Manuela Seymour Steve Huepper Marian Huepper
<b>10</b>	Rylee Ray Bryson Baker	Gillian Hubley	Isabelle Sturgill	Richard Angel Wayne Stack	Carolyn Saucier Janice Holder	
<b>17</b>	Jase Burris Cole Burris	Richard Angel	Doug Currin	Jason Morton Danny Baker	Drew Burris Laurel Parker	
<b>24</b>	Ian Carter Isabelle Sturgill	Krystle Ray	Gary Maddox	Richard Angel Pat Angel	Marian Huepper Marcia Garcia	
<b>31</b>	Paisley Kilmer Teagen Kilmer	Stacey Burris	Drew Burris	Dan Wissinger Melanie Wissinger	Scott Anderson Emma Anderson	

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS!**

Peggy Danielson	Lance Little	Nancy McDuffie
Shelby Truelove	Amy Brown	Danny Baker
Justin Ray	Faye Leslie	Morgan Cox
Debra Griffin	John Fancher	Teagan Kilmer
Carolyn Saucier	Warren Lewis	Lou Millar
Sandra Carter		Linda Stack

**There will be birthday cake in the Fellowship Hall after the Service!**