

Sharing our prayer concerns

Musical interlude

Prayers for the Church and the world, the Lord's Prayer

SENDING FORTH

† Hymn "Standing on the Promises" UMH No. 374

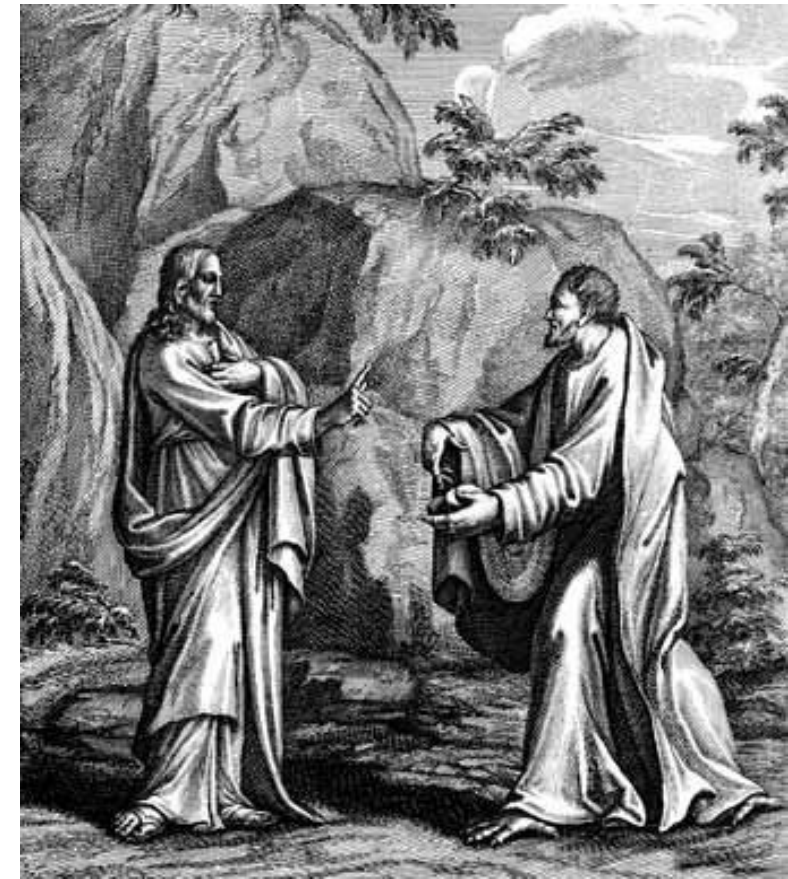
† Benediction

† Postlude

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

About our guest preacher, Elias Ballew.

Elias grew up in Roanoke Rapids, NC and went to NC State for undergrad. After some time in the Marine Corps and working in non-profit work, he began working in ministry in 2019 as a youth pastor at St. Luke UMC in Sanford. He graduated from Duke Divinity School in 2022, working at St James UMC in Raleigh as a youth pastor during his time in seminary. He began his first pastoral appointment at SPUMC in July 2022 as the associate pastor. He is excited to work with the youth group, to shepherd them in their faith journey, and to connect them to God, the church, and to the conference. He loves leading worship, preaching, and presiding at the communion table. In his free time, he enjoys running and working out. He also enjoys hiking, playing disc golf, and taking trips to beautiful places in the area and around the world. He has an older brother Caleb, a twin sister Olivia, and two cats Cal and Hobbes.



THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8533 Cox Mill Road, Sanford, North Carolina 27332

Office – (919) 499-4949

Pastor cell (919) 802-8286 | kseymour@nccumc.org

Service of Worship | 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

A Service of the Word

The First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

Today is the First Sunday in Lent. In this time of following along with Jesus in his journey to trial, prosecution, crucifixion, we prepare ourselves for the great day of resurrection. Until that great and coming day, we go forth in penitence and sacrifice to hold his goodness in remembrance and to grow in his likeness.

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Ring the Church bell

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *"God So Loved the World"* **Leslie Orlovsky**

Choral Praise *"Jesus Be Praised"*

† Call to Worship

Sing Praises to God, the Lord is our refuge.
We find mercy in the shade of the Most High.

Give thanks for the Son, who tasted the life of the flesh.
Hail to the Lord Jesus, who turned the tempter away.

Bow down today and cry out: Jesus Christ is Lord!
All who call on him in faith will be saved from their enemies.
Praise to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

† Opening Prayer

O God our deliverer, you led your people of old through the wilderness and brought them to your promise. Guide us now to follow the Savior that we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory that Jesus brings.
Amen.

† **Hymn of Praise** *"O God Our Help in Ages Past"* **UMH No. 117**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson **Deuteronomy 26:1-11** **Drew Burris**

Anthem *"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"*

Children's Lesson **Richard Angel**

Gospel Lesson **Luke 4:1-13**

Sermon **Elias Ballew**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† **Hymn of Response** *"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"* **UMH No. 66**

Affirmation of Faith *"A Lenten Creed"* (Philippians 2:6-11)

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Presentation of God's tithes and our offerings

Offertory

† **Doxology** **OLD HUNDRETH**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

WELCOME TO MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
~ This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it! ~

This week at Morris Chapel

Tuesday – “Sunday’s Coming” Bible study class with Pastor Kevin, 10 AM

Wednesday –Choir practice, 6:30 PM.

Sunday – Worship Service at 9:30 AM, Fellowship with snacks and coffee at 10:30, Sunday School at 11.

For the good of the Church

PPRC meeting tomorrow night. Monday March 10 at 7 PM. Bill Gross, Karen Rosser, Drew Burris, Krystle Ray, Sarah Kilmer, Gary Rosser, Sandra Carter (Chair). **The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee** works to hold our Pastor accountable to expectations and also supports our Pastor and his family. If you have feedback to offer or questions about this, please see Sandra Carter.

Church Council meets Monday, March 17 at 7 PM. Your Church Council plans and carries out the ministries of the church, both the administrative work and the program areas. Please speak to Chair Danny Baker if you have questions or concerns.

Scholarship applications are now available. Stop by the church office after worship to pick one up. See Danny Baker if you’d like to know more.

Missions and Outreach

Western North Carolina Disaster Response –The Western North Carolina Conference resources United Methodist Churches and their communities in North Carolina's 44 westernmost counties. Of those 44 counties, 22 were directly impacted by Hurricane Helene. The WNCC and its churches organized swiftly after Helene devastated their area. Supplies have been distributed to the local communities, neighboring churches, local fire departments, and other partnering organizations. The WNCC has collected and delivered water to the impacted areas, fed thousands of their neighbors, delivered diapers and formula to the doors of families in need, opened their facilities to provide free childcare for families of first responders and emergency personnel, set up charging stations and WIFI hotspots, provided access to shower trailers and laundry facilities, distributed thousands of cleaning kits to local communities and emergency services, and offered hospitality and shelter for emergency personnel. As we transition into the relief phase of this disaster toward the longer phase of cleanup and recovery, the UMC has begun sending in Early Response Teams to help. Hundreds of United Methodists have signed up to complete the required ERT training to serve during the stabilization phase between relief and recovery as the conference continues to host Early Response teams from across the nation.

Morris Chapel has sent \$10,526.14 and two truckloads of supplies.

Ready to put Christian love into action? Projects are set up locally and across the world for relief efforts, for human flourishing, and for evangelism. Work is available for disciples both young and old through the **United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, umvim.org**. See Bill Gross or Pastor Kevin.

Fellowship

Refreshments after worship -- Our time together after worship is a precious moment of the week. Please consider volunteering to provide light refreshments on a Sunday morning. The sign-up poster is on the wall next to the kitchen counter.

Faith Formation

Sunday School classes are now ready for children. Teachers are in place waiting for your precious children, so be sure to bring them by for lessons. Growing up in God’s word is a blessing. Two adult classes are offered every Sunday also.

Keep these in your prayers

New this week: Christina Black, Nancy Johnson, Laurel Parker.

Ongoing Concerns:

Peggy Danielsen Edwin Foushee Maude Maloney	Valerie Robertino Ron & Peggy Scott Rhonda McNeill Susie Pierce	Kentucky floods Fred Spivey Antonio Strickland Joyce Key Thomas	Wayne Thomas Joanna Vassilion Pam Vaughan Western NC
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Prayer requests may be sent to Pastor Kevin at kseymour@nccumc.org, or just call / text 919-802-8286. If any matter is close to your heart, it is never too big or small for the God we love and adore.

Weekly Attendance, Tithes & Offerings

Attendance 3/2/25 **58**

Tithes & Offerings as of: 03/02/2025	
2025 Budget - Needed to Date:	\$ 35,151.04
2025 Budget - Received to Date:	\$ 61,714.29
Running Surplus /(Deficit)	\$ 26,563.25

Our budget is raised to meet the basic operational needs of the church.
See Finance Chair Stacey Burris if you have questions about church finances.

Serving in Worship

	Acolytes	Children's Message	Lay Readers	Ushers	Greeters	Communion Servers
March 9	Jase Burris Cole Burris	Richard Angel	Drew Burris	Drew Burris Gary Rosser	Danny Baker	
March 16	Ian Carter Isabelle Sturgill	Krystle Ray	Inge Hersman	Richard Angel Wayne Stack	Laurel Parker	
March 23	Callen Morris Jase Burris	Stacey Burris	George Orlovsky	Donnie Carter Ian Carter	Marian Huepper	
March 30	Paisley Kilmer Teagan Kilmer	Gillian Hubley	Manuela Seymour	Daniel Baker Bryson Baker	Donnie Carter	

Notice to all who are scheduled to serve -- you are respectfully asked to arrange for a substitute in the event that you cannot fill your assigned slot.

If you have changes, let Pastor Kevin or Peggy Baker know.

Thank you for serving the good of God's church.