

who beckons us to leave tomb-like safety and trust the gracious invitation to live joyfully. We believe we are an Easter people, a sign that with God all things are possible.

Presentation of God's tithes and our offerings

Offertory

† Doxology #94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Holy Communion Hymnal #13

Prayer following Communion

SENDING FORTH

† Hymn "Easter People Raise your Voices" # 304

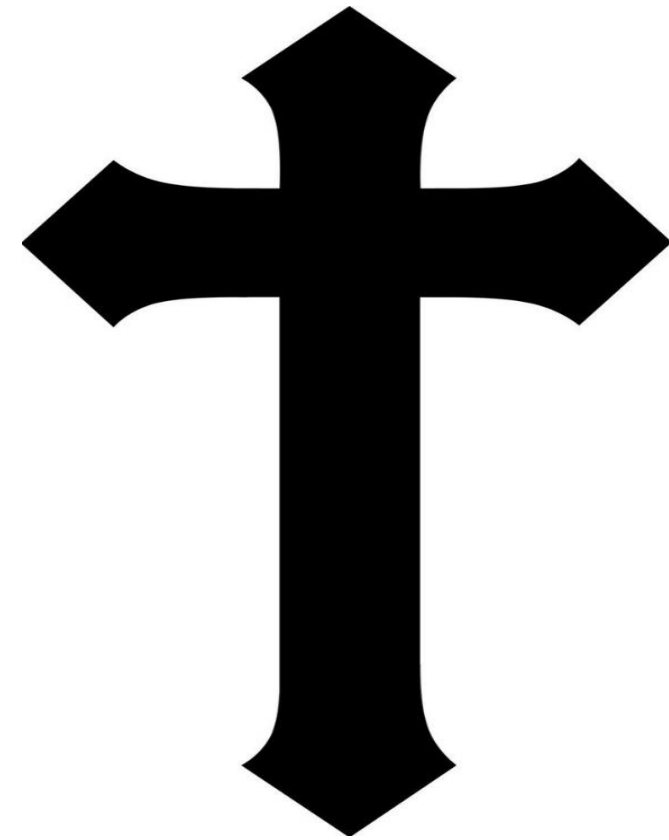
† Benediction

† Postlude

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

For your meditation:

"All humankind desires peace,
but very few desire those things that make for peace."
—Thomas a' Kempis



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

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

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024 9:30 AM

We have entered the Easter Season, also known as the Great Fifty Days, that began at sunset on Easter Eve and continues through the day of Pentecost. The season focuses on Christ's resurrection, the giving of the Holy Spirit on the first Easter (John 20) and the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). Today we are focusing on Jesus' greeting to his confused and fearful disciples of "Peace be with you" and Jesus asking them to receive the Holy Spirit so they can have the peace of Christ as they face the chaos and fear in which they are living.

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Ring the Church Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

"O, Divine Redeemer"
By Charles Counod, arr. Rick Parks

Leslie Orlovsky

Choral Praise

"He is Lord"

Choir

† Call to Worship

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth,

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his,

We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name, For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. -Psalm 100

† Hymn of Praise

"Lord of the Dance"

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Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus, we have come to this sanctuary from a whirlwind of activities and overloaded schedules, hoping to see your presence and to know a quietness of spirit. Even in worship we often find it difficult to quiet our cluttered minds and stop thinking about the things we have done and have yet to do. In this time of worship as we praise and thank you may we get caught up in your hope and comfort. May our worship be dominated by your overwhelming presence which brings us peace. O God, help us to concentrate on you, to hear your Word, and to be open to your Holy Spirit, that we may worship you in Spirit and in truth. Amen.

Prayer Response

"Spirit of the Living God"

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Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Epistle Lesson

1 John Ch.1 - 2:2

Drew Burris

Anthem

"One at Your Table"

Choir

Children's Lesson

Gillian Hubley

† Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31

Sermon

"Peace Amid Chaos"

Rev. Lenora Sue Job

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayer of Confession

God of mighty deeds and quiet encounters, who comes to us in the Spirit of Jesus of Nazareth, open our eyes and ears to your presence and remind us of what we have seen and heard in the Scriptures and in the ministry of Jesus. We confess that we have ignored your presence even though you are alive and with us; that we fail to sense your nearness to us for we are too busy to look for you; that we do not search the Scriptures so you can reveal yourself to us through your Holy Word. God, forgive us and grant us your peace. Amen.

Assurance and Pardon

When we commit our lives to Jesus Christ, through God's great love for us, God heals our brokenness and forgives our sin. Loved, we are sent to love; forgiven, we are sent to forgive; given grace, we can offer our gifts to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.

† Hymn of Response

"Christ is Alive"

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An Easter Affirmation of Faith

We believe in an Easter God, who raised Jesus from the dead, who transforms darkness into light, hatred into tolerance and despair into hope. We believe God is always working for good, changing death into a resurrection and new life. We believe in the risen Christ, who befriends us on our roads of searching and worry; who touches us through song and silence, word and gesture; who calls us by name to enter eternal life. We believe in the Spirit, the hidden presence behind every resurrection,

MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ANNOUNCEMENTS & PARISH NOTICES – April 7, 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 (no class 4/2 & 4/9)
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 Scholarship Committee has scholarship applications ready. See Danny Baker for a copy. He also can email the application to you, so let him know. See Danny for any questions you may have. Applications can be returned to either Danny or Pastor Kevin but must be returned no later than May 1. Thank you.

Please join us Wednesday, April 17, 2024—5:00-6:30 for a time of fellowship and JANICE HOLDER’S CHICKEN STEW w/ Slaw, Vegetables, Desserts and Beverages. Dinner will be served from 5:00pm—6:30pm. If you are unable to attend after RSVPing, *please let us know* by contacting Carol Martell at 919-498-5654 or email: martell6064@gmail.com.

Canned Food Drive is TODAY! If you forgot, just bring some next week as the bin remains in the Narthex and can be filled anytime! Remember – no glass containers. Our donations are added to the food pantry at Love Grove AME Zion Church to help feed hungry neighbors. We appreciate your generosity.

New Church Directory with Color Family Photos is being planned for this spring! SAVE these dates: June 13,14,15! The Portrait Café will be on premises in the Fellowship Hall to take member and attendee photos as well as extended family photos! More details regarding how, when & where to sign up and time frames to follow very soon!

The Mission Committee thanks you, congregation, for your generous donations of hair products as well as cleaning products for The Haven. They say “Thank you and God bless you” as well.

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...Our group is growing.(**no class 4/2 &4/9**)

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 by Wednesday morning what you wish to have listed. Thanks!

PARISH NOTICES

Two excellent websites for the North Carolina UMC will give you information on all sorts of lay ministries available and other courses/classes offered through the Methodist Churches. Go to cle@nccumc.org and/or communications@nccumc.org.

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

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

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sherry Baucom Lucas Bell Debbie Bryan Vicke & Randy Buchanan Joey Campbell Jayden Cockran Congregational Unity James Dean Linda Dilley Abby Faulkerson Jeff Hartman Ron Hartman	Mark Hickman Jimmy Holt Family of Teresa Ingram Ann Jackson Evan & Leslie Johnson Tom Kirby Nanci Lenori Colin Ludwig Charles Maddox Maude Maloney Ann McLeod Maxine McLeod	Foster McNeill Rhonda McNeill Mike Phillips Susie Pierce Jeff Popke Helen Rogers Al Rushatz The Royal Family Russian attacks Shirley Salmon Anna Sanfilippo Richard Saucier Ron & Peggy Scott	Becky Seymour Norman Sloan Family Kyle Smith Phil Spivey Lisa Stafford Joyce Key Thomas Ukraine churches United Methodist Church United States of America Pam Vaughan Ruth Watson Jimmy Womack
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Weekly Attendance, Tithes & Offerings

Attendance 3/31/24 146

Tithes & Offerings as of: 03/31/2024	
2024 Budget - Needed to Date:	\$ 48,074.58
2024 Budget - Received to Date:	\$ 76,964.02
Running Surplus /(Deficit)	\$ 28,889.44

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Worship Volunteers-- you are respectfully asked to arrange for a substitute in the event that you cannot fill your assigned slot. Thank you.

Apr	Acolytes	Children's Message	Lay Readers	Ushers	Greeters	Communion Servers
7	JC Ray Bryson Baker	Gillian Hubley	Drew Burris	Jack Harper Mavis Harper	Crystal Burichin Gail Thomas Travis Thomas	Rev. Sue Job Don Job Deb Callodonato George Orlovsky
14	Jason Morton Calleigh Baker	Richard Angel	Inge Hersman	Greg Vorholt Gary Maddox	Doug Currin Crystal Burichin	
21	Rylee Ray Bryson Baker	Krystle Ray	George Orlovsky	Carolyn Saucier Danny Baker	Dan Wissinger Melanie Wissinger	
28	Jase Burris Cole Burris	Stacey Burris	Manuela Seymour	Donnie Carter Ian Carter	Jack Harper Mavis Harper	
May 5	Ian Carter Isabelle Sturgill	Gillian Hubley	Steve Huepper	Daniel Baker Bryson Baker	Hank Richards Margaret Spivey	Kevin Seymour Manuela Seymour Greg Vorholt Cindy Vorholt

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for Birthday Cake after the Service! Thank you!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

Jimmy Cameron 4/01
Wilma Dorman 4/03
Cindy Strickland 4/08
Veronica Law 4/10
Donna Maddox 4/12

Donna Carter 4/14
Tim Thomas 4/17
Laurel Cameron 4/20
Rylee Ray 4/22

Brandy Baldwin 4/25
Walt Hersman 4/25
Gillian Hubley 4/28
Ronald Mercer 4/28
Shannon Cox 4/30