

Sharing our prayer concerns

Musical interlude

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

SENDING FORTH

† Hymn *"How Firm a Foundation "* **UMH No. 529**

† Benediction

† Postlude

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

Jesus, still lead on till our rest be won.
And, although the way be cheerless,
we will follow, calm and fearless;
guide us by Your hand to our Fatherland.

If the way be drear, if the foe be near,
let not faithless fears o'ertake us,
let not faith and hope forsake us;
for, thro' many a woe, to our home we go.

When we seek relief from a long-felt grief—
when oppressed by new temptations,
Lord, increase and perfect patience.
Show us that bright shore where we weep no more.

Jesus, still lead on till our rest be won;
Heav'nly Leader, still direct us,
still support, console, protect us,
till we safely stand in our Fatherland.
-- by *Nicolas Ludwig (1721)*



**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 Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

Jesus continues his determined journey toward Jerusalem. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus faithfully prepares to continue on his way to the city where he will be killed as prophets before him have. Although some Pharisees warn him that Herod is seeking to kill him, Jesus is fearless in his call, trusting the One who desire to gather God's children like a hen gathers her brood under her wing. The Psalmist proclaims confidence in God's protection and care; "The Lord is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear?" As we walk the way of the cross with Jesus, let us learn to trust the God who will shelter and conceal us, even as we wait on the Lord.

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Ringing the Church bell

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *"Wounded for Me"*

Leslie Orlovsky

Choral Praise *"Jesus Be Praised"*

† **Call to Worship**

To Father God we sing the eternal song;
Let Jesus Christ the Son be praised!

Jesus is joy for the meek;
Jesus is good to all who seek.

When bells upon the church-house ring;
To Holy Trinity the people will sing.

† **Opening Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you are our light and our salvation. Whom shall we fear? Teach us your way, and lead us onto a level path, Be our stronghold, Christ Jesus, in the face of our enemies. Let us dwell in your house this day and every day. For we do believe that we shall see your beauty in the land of the living. **Amen.**

† **Hymn of Praise** *"Rise Up, O Men of God "*

UMH No. 576

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Psalter Lesson

Psalm 27

Anthem

"Gather Us In"

Children's Lesson

† **Gospel Lesson**

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon

Kevin Seymour

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† **Prayer of Confession**

Holy One, we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again unto you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.

† **Words of Assurance and Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

† **Hymn of Response** *"Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes"* **TFWS No. 2138**

Ministry Moment

Methodist Men

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

Monday – Church Council Meeting, 7 PM

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

Church Council tomorrow night, 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.

The Methodist Men of Morris Chapel began approximately 20 years ago with Lou Millar and Bob Woolston leading the charge. The UMM ministry works to enhance the strength, vitality, and witness of the church by working in partnership to support all other ministry groups. Seeking to enhance spiritual growth among the men of our flock, the UMM ministry works in service to Christ and his church. Some notable activities are the Pancake Supper on Fat Tuesday, Breakfast on Easter morning, and a Spaghetti Supper in the fall. All men attending the church are invited to participate. **Drew Burris** serves as President.

Apportionments – Every year approximately 10 percent of our church budget goes to the NC Conference of the UMC. By forwarding these funds, we are doing our part to support the work of evangelism and human flourishing around the world. New churches are built, missionaries are sent forth, and basic humanitarian needs are met in places far away from here. In combination with the work we do here in our local community, Morris Chapel is always at work in mission down the street and around the globe.

Missions and Outreach

As the situation of Hurricane Helene has transitioned into 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.

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: Mike Cortez, Wren Craig, Michaela Flynn, Barry Mann, Linda Stack, Pam Summers.

Condolences: Families of Edwin Foushee, Connie McNeill.

Ongoing Concerns:

Christina Black Peggy Danielsen Maude Maloney Nancy Johnson	Kentucky Floods Rhonda McNeill Laurel Parker Susie Pierce	Valerie Robertino Ron & Peggy Scott Fred Spivey Antonio Strickland Joyce Key Thomas	Wayne Thomas Joanna Vassilion Pam Vaughan Western NC Bob Woolston
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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 3/9/25 **65**

Tithes & Offerings as of: 03/09/2025	
2025 Budget - Needed to Date:	\$ 39,056.72
2025 Budget - Received to Date:	\$ 63,953.21
Running Surplus /(Deficit)	\$ 24,896.49

Our budget is raised to meet the operational needs of the church and it provides for missional giving.
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 16	Ian Carter Isabelle Sturgill	Krystle Ray	Inge Hersman	Richard Angel Wayne Stack	Marian Huepper	
March 23	Callen Morris Jase Burris	Stacey Burris	George Orlovsky	Donnie Carter Ian Carter	Laurel Parker	
March 30	Paisley Kilmer Teagan Kilmer	Kevin Seymour	Manuela Seymour	Daniel Baker Bryson Baker	Donnie Carter	
April 6	Calleigh Baker Lincoln Riley	Gillian Hubley	Steve Huepper	Jason Kilmer Dan Wissinger	Richard Angel	Isabelle Sturgill George Orlovsky
April 13	Bryson Baker JC Ray	Manuela Seymour	Leslie Orlovsky	Ron Mercer George Orlovsky		

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.