

A Service of the Word
The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2025

Both of today's scripture passages reflect on consequences and blessings.

Psalm 1 says, "Happy are those who... their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night."

In Jeremiah, those who place their trust in human things are said to be like a withering desert shrub, whereas those who trust in the Lord will flourish like those planted by water.

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Ring the Church bell

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *"I Need Thee Every Hour"* **Leslie Orlovsky**

Choral Praise

† **Call to Worship**

Holy Father, open up our lips.
And we will shout with praise!

Glory in the highest to God's only Son.
With Jesus there is peace on earth and good will to all people.

Holy Spirit, keep us safe in your shelter.
That I may dwell in your house all the days of my life.

† **Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, grant to us the desire and the discipline to mark and to digest the wisdom of your word. In this hearing, show us the way to Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us be happy by taking delight in your word by day and by night. **Amen.**

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

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Psalter Lesson	Psalm 1	Calleigh Baker
Anthem	<i>"Trust and Obey"</i>	
Children's Lesson		Stacey Burris
Old Testament Lesson	Jeremiah 17:5-10	
Sermon	<i>"A Matter of the Heart"</i>	Kevin Seymour

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† Hymn of Response	<i>"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"</i>	UMH No. 400
Prayer of Thanksgiving		
The Lord's Prayer		
Presentation of God's tithes and our offerings		
Offertory		
† Doxology		LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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!**

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” Faith Formation 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

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper – March 4 at 5 PM. All ages are invited to come and enjoy pancakes, bacon, and lots of syrup. This is a celebration just before we begin the season of Lent – a time of penitence and sacrifice.

Ash Wednesday Worship – Join us for a brief service of prayer, reflection, and the Imposition of Ashes on March 5 at 5 PM. This service begins the 40-day journey to Holy Week and Easter. All are welcome.

The choir will begin practice on the Easter cantata this week. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome. Rehearsals are on Wednesday’s at 6:30 PM. See Jerry Keith.

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.

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.

Missions and Outreach

Family Promise – Week of March 10. Meals are provided to families whose housing situation is in transition. See Karen Rosser if you’re interested in providing a meal for a family.

Disaster Response, ERT Training – Training will be offered at various locations to equip volunteers to join Early Response Teams. ERTs assist survivors without causing further harm or being a burden to the affected community. See Bill Gross or take a look at: <https://nccumc.org/disaster/training/>

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.

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.

Keep these in your prayers

New this week: Mike Berryman, Rick Billings, Chris Carver, Mitch Darroch, Katie Lacy, Lindsay Rattner, Donna Skoen, Fred Spivey, Wayne Thomas.

Condolences: Families of Donna Callodonato, Karen Thomas.

Ongoing Concerns:

Peggy Danielsen Deb Callodonato Richard Campbell Jeff Cummings	Edwin Foushee Henry Hall Maude Maloney Carol Martell	Rhonda McNeill Susie Pierce Valerie Robertino Ron & Peggy Scott	Jackson Snipes Pam Summers Joanna Vassilion Pam Vaughan
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Prayer requests may be sent to Pastor Kevin at kseymour@nccumc.org, or just call / text 919-802-8286 any time at all. If any matter is close to your heart, it is never too big or small for the God we love and adore. Let me hear from you.

Weekly Attendance, Tithes & Offerings

Attendance 2/9/25 **82**

Tithes & Offerings as of: 02/09/2025	
2025 Budget - Needed to Date:	\$ 23,434.03
2025 Budget - Received to Date:	\$ 47,684.07
Running Surplus /(Deficit)	\$ 24,250.04

Serving in Worship

	Acolytes	Children's Message	Lay Readers	Ushers	Greeters	Communion Servers
Feb. 16	JC Ray Bryson Baker	Stacey Burris	Calleigh Baker	Jason Kilmer Dan Wissinger	Margaret Spivey	
Feb. 23	Calleigh Baker Lincoln Brewer	Gillian Hubley	Isabelle Sturgill	Ron Mercer George Orlovsky	Linda Dille	
March 2	Rylee Ray Bryson Baker	Manuela Seymour	Doug Currin	Justin Ray JC Ray	George Orlovsky	Donnie Carter Sandra Carter
March 9	Jase Burris Cole Burris	Richard Angel	Drew Burris	Drew Burris Gary Rosser	Danny Baker	

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.