

Presentation of God’s tithes and our offerings

Offertory

† **Doxology**
a child and youth member shall bring forth the offering

Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me he will stay close beside me all the way;
If I love him when I die, he will take me home on high.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Sharing our prayer concerns

Musical interlude

Prayers for the Church and the world

SENDING FORTH

† **Hymn** “Heralds of Christ” **UMH No. 567**

† **Benediction**

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

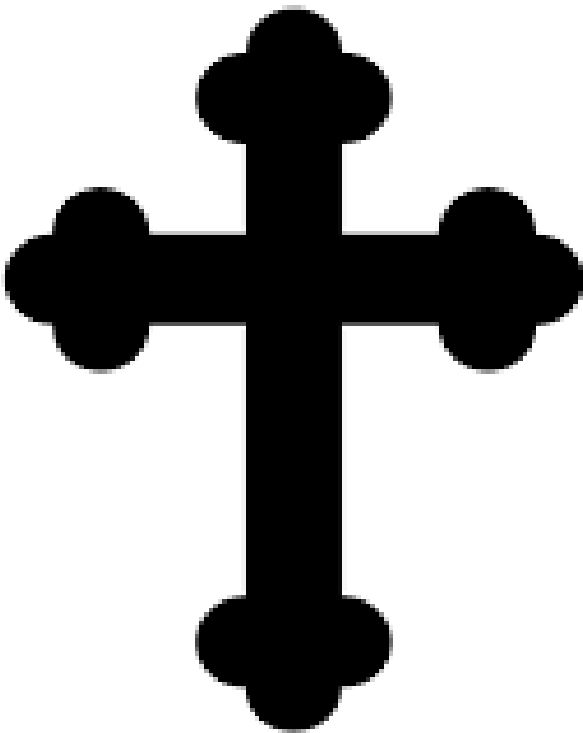
I got news, I got news, O Lord, I got good news.
I got a crown up in a that kingdom, ain’t a that good news.

I got a robe up in a my kingdom, ain’t a that good news.

I got a harp up in a that kingdom, ain’t a that good news.

I got a song up in a that kingdom, ain’t a that good news.
I’m a gonna lay down this world, gonna shoulder up a my cross,
gonna sing my song a for my Jesus.

I’m gonna play my harp a for my Jesus.
I’m gonna put on my robe a for my Jesus.
I’m gonna wear my crown a for my Jesus, ain’t a that good news.
I got news, I got news, O Lord, I got good news.



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 Service 9:30 AM

Fellowship Time 10:30 AM | Sunday School 10:45 AM

The Rev. Connie Mitchell Shelton
Raleigh Area Bishop

The Rev. Kevin H. Seymour
Pastor

A Service of the Word

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 17, 2025 9:30 AM

In this morning’s Gospel reading, Jesus has fiery words that warn of the divisions his ministry will bring. He urges us to seek spiritual discernment just as we learn to interpret the appearance of earth and sky. When the prophet Malachi speaks of a refiner’s fire, he speaks of the one come to purify God’s people like gold and silver. Only then will their offerings be pleasing to the Lord.

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Ring the Church bell

Prelude	<i>"The Solid Rock"</i>	Leslie Orlovsky
Choral Praise	<i>"Praise the Name of Jesus"</i>	Ladies Ensemble

† Call to Worship

Glory be to the Father,
He’s the maker of heaven and earth.

Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pains:
poured for us the life-blood from his sacred veins.

Glory be to the Spirit who is the giver of life.
Alleluia! Amen!

† Prayer

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

† Hymn	<i>"How Firm a Foundation"</i>	UMH No. 529
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PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson	Malachi 3:1-6	Inge Hersman
Anthem	<i>"Merciful Savior"</i>	Ladies Ensemble
Children’s Lesson		Stacey Burris
† Gospel Lesson	Luke 12:49-56	
Sermon	<i>"Friendly Fire"</i>	Kevin Seymour

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† Hymn	<i>"For All the Saints"</i> (verses 1,4,6)	UMH No. 711
† Affirmation of Faith	<i>"The Apostles’ Creed"</i>	UMH No. 881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Announcements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer

WELCOME TO MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ***~ I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" ~***

This week at Morris Chapel

Sunday – Worship service @ 930 AM, fellowship time 10:45.

On the Horizon

Church Council will meet on August 25. We are all thankful for the lay leadership of the church. Your Church Council plans and carries out the ministries of the Church. All are invited to speak to Chair Danny Baker or Lay Leader Karen Rosser concerning matters important to you.

Homecoming Sunday, September 14. To Morris Chapel's great delight, we will be treated to "*The Man from Aldersgate*," a one-man play by BJ Johnston on the life and times of John Wesley. Tracing his life and times, we'll see and hear how this remarkable man rode over 250,000 miles on horseback to bring the Christian message of renewal to the English speaking world.

Do plan to be here on Sunday, September 14th and bring a friend.

Missions and Outreach

The Little Free Library is now in operation. Given in loving memory of Greg Garcia, all are invited to leave a book for another to read, or take a book for yourself to enjoy. Brother Greg believed that books open doors to expanding our minds and to virtuous living. The library is located outside at the shelter.

Acolyte Spotlight



Callen Morris

Our Acolyte Spotlight this week is on Callen Morris. Callen is 6 years old, and he's a first-grader at Tramway Elementary School. Favorite sport: baseball; favorite food: Pizza; Snickers with peanut butter for dessert. His favorite subject in school is Physical Ed. Callen's favorite toy is his dirt bike. One of his favorite things to do is to tear things apart and then put them back together as something completely different. He's the grandson of Warren & Barbara Lewis, and we are thankful that he makes worship at Morris Chapel so special.

Keep these in your prayers

New this week: Families of Jerry Bayles, Winston Martin.

Troy Adams, Peggy Baker, Elizabeth Day, Betty Zann.

Donna Carter Peggy Daniels Elva Hall	Nancy Johnson Maude Maloney Tracey Maness	Rhonda McNeill Laurel Parker Susie Pierce	Ellie Swanson Ron & Peggy Scott Shelby Truelove
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Send prayer requests to Pastor Kevin @ 919-802-8286, kseymour@nccumc.org,
or use the yellow prayer card request found in your pew pocket.

Weekly Attendance, Tithes & Offerings

Attendance last Sunday: 50

Let none appear before the Lord empty-handed; all shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you. – Deuteronomy 16:17.

Tithes & Offerings as of: 08/10/2025	
2025 Budget - Needed to Date:	\$ 124,981.49
2025 Budget - Received to Date:	\$ 137,203.00
Running Surplus /(Deficit)	\$ 12,221.51

Thank you for your generosity towards our budget which makes our shared work possible. I am honored to serve this flock called Morris Chapel, which has since the year of our Lord 18 and 60, stood against the forces of hatred, fear, and indifference. I pray this church will forever stand as a beacon of light for all that is good and right and everlasting. May God be praised in the music we sing, the liturgy we make, and by the mercy spread out to the community through us, the baptized. I pray that the gifts you bring to this house will be consecrated for the holy work where lives dead in their sins will rise to life anew in Jesus Christ.

– Pastor Kevin.

Serving in Worship

	Acolytes	Children's Message	Lay Readers	Ushers	Greeters	Communion Servers
August 17	Paisley Kilmer Teagan Kilmer	Stacey Burris	Inge Hersman	Donnie Carter Ian Carter	Pam Summers	
August 24	JC Ray Bryson Baker	Kevin Seymour	Bryson Baker	Daniel Baker Bryson Baker	Donnie Carter	
August 31	Calleigh Baker Lincoln Brewer	Manuela Seymour	George Orlovsky	Jason Kilmer Dan Wissinger	Richard Angel	
Sept. 7	Rylee Ray Bryson Baker	Richard Angel	Manuela Seymour	Ron Mercer George Orlovsky	Crystal Burichin	Isabelle Sturgill 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.