

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!

Sharing our prayer concerns

Musical interlude

Prayers for the Church and the world

SENDING FORTH

† Hymn *“God of the Ages”* UMH No. 698

† Benediction

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



Come, share the Spirit, God has called us to ventures in the life of faith,
to bring good tidings to the needy, to tell of victory over death.
Christ speaks and all of life is new; God’s word is pure and it is true.

Come, drown your sins beneath the waters where life flows from the granite rock.
The stone from which our Lord has risen, our cornerstone and building block.
Christ speaks and raises from the dead all those who hear the living word.

Come, God invites us to the banquet that every people soon will share,
with shouts of joy and loud thanksgiving before God’s throne we will appear.
---Robert A. Hobby

The end of summer is here and so it’s time to for new opportunities to grow in our faith
in God and revive our desire to serve others. It’s time to head back to church, and as we
connect with each other, let’s invite someone to join us on the life-changing journey of
discipleship and ministry.



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 11:00 AM

The Rev. Connie Mitchell Shelton	The Rev. Kevin H. Seymour
Raleigh Area Bishop	Pastor

A Service of the Word

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025 9:30 AM

The prophet Jeremiah reminds God’s people of all that has been given, and their response to God’s goodness. Luke’s parable of the wedding banquet turns traditional notions of power upside down as Jesus calls on his disciples to extend radical hospitality, welcoming those people on the fringes of society into the very center of the celebration. Following the invitation of these scriptures, Morris Chapel will be a community where all are invited and all are welcome.

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Ring the Church bell

Prelude	<i>"I Need Thee Every Hour"</i>	Leslie Orlovsky
Choral Praise	<i>"I Love You Lord"</i>	Leslie Orlovsky Steve Huepper

† Call to Worship

Praise be to God the Father Almighty.
We praise him in his holy temple.

Praise the Lord Jesus with trumpet sound.
He is the way, the truth, and the life. Alleluia!

Praise God the Holy Spirit.
Alleluia!

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!
Alleluia and Amen!

† Prayer

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

† Hymn	<i>"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"</i>	UMH No. 557
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PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson	Jeremiah 2:4-13	George Orlovsky
Anthem	<i>"He Touched Me"</i>	Sue Buie
Children’s Lesson		
† Gospel Lesson	Luke 14:1, 7-14	
Sermon	<i>"The Church Banquet"</i>	Kevin Seymour

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† Hymn	<i>"All Things Bright and Beautiful"</i>	UMH No. 147
† 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, Sunday School at 11.

On the Horizon

Remember to bring non-perishable food items to share with the food pantry next week.

Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 3 at 7:00 pm. We welcome all who would like to join us. No try outs necessary!

Children & Youth, Sept. 3. Young disciples of all ages will meet on Wednesday night (9/3) from 6 – 7 PM.

Tuesday mornings with Pastor Kevin will resume on September 9. We meet at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited to join us for discussion of our life together at Morris Chapel.

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. 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.

Covered dish / pot-luck lunch will be served, so bring something to share.

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

Acolyte Spotlight



Calleigh Baker

Our Acolyte Spotlight this week is on Calleigh Baker. Calleigh is 12 years old, and she's the daughter of Daniel & Morgan Baker. Her favorite activity is dancing, and ALL her dance teachers are her favorites. At school, she likes Math as her favorite subject. At the dinner table she likes steak & baked potato, with ice cream for dessert. Favorite color: royal blue, but she's really fine with all shades of blue; hanging out with friends is her best past-time; and her favorite dance style is lyrical and jazz and hip-hop and acro! Thank you, Calleigh, for serving in worship at Morris Chapel.

Keep these in your prayers

New this week: Troy Adams; Family of: Aidan Albright.

Troy Adams Peggy Baker Peggy Danielsen Elizabeth Day Elva Hall Bobby Holder	Laura Holder Brandon Isenhour Larry Johnson Nancy Johnson Charles Maddox	Tracey Manness Nancy McDuffie Rhonda McNeill Laurel Parker Susie Pierce	Danielle Rachko Ellie Swanson Ron & Peggy Scott Shelby Truelove Betty Zann
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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: 60

Tithes & Offerings as of: 08/24/2025	
2025 Budget - Needed to Date:	\$ 132,792.83
2025 Budget - Received to Date:	\$ 144,952.84
Running Surplus /(Deficit)	\$ 12,160.01

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.

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 Lesson	Lay Readers	Ushers	Greeters	Communion Servers
August 31	Calleigh Baker Lincoln Brewer		George Orlovsky	Jason Kilmer Dan Wissinger	Richard Angel	
Sept. 7	Rylee Ray Bryson Baker		Manuela Seymour	Ron Mercer George Orlovsky	Crystal Burichin	Isabelle Sturgill George Orlovsky
Sept. 21	Jase Burris Cole Burris	Krystle Ray	Steve Huepper	Justin Ray JC Ray	Gail Thomas	
Sept. 28	Ian Carter Isabelle Sturgill	Stacey Burris	Leslie Orlovsky	Drew Burris Gary Rosser	Janice Holder	

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.