

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**

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

UMH No. 384

† **Benediction**

† **Postlude**

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

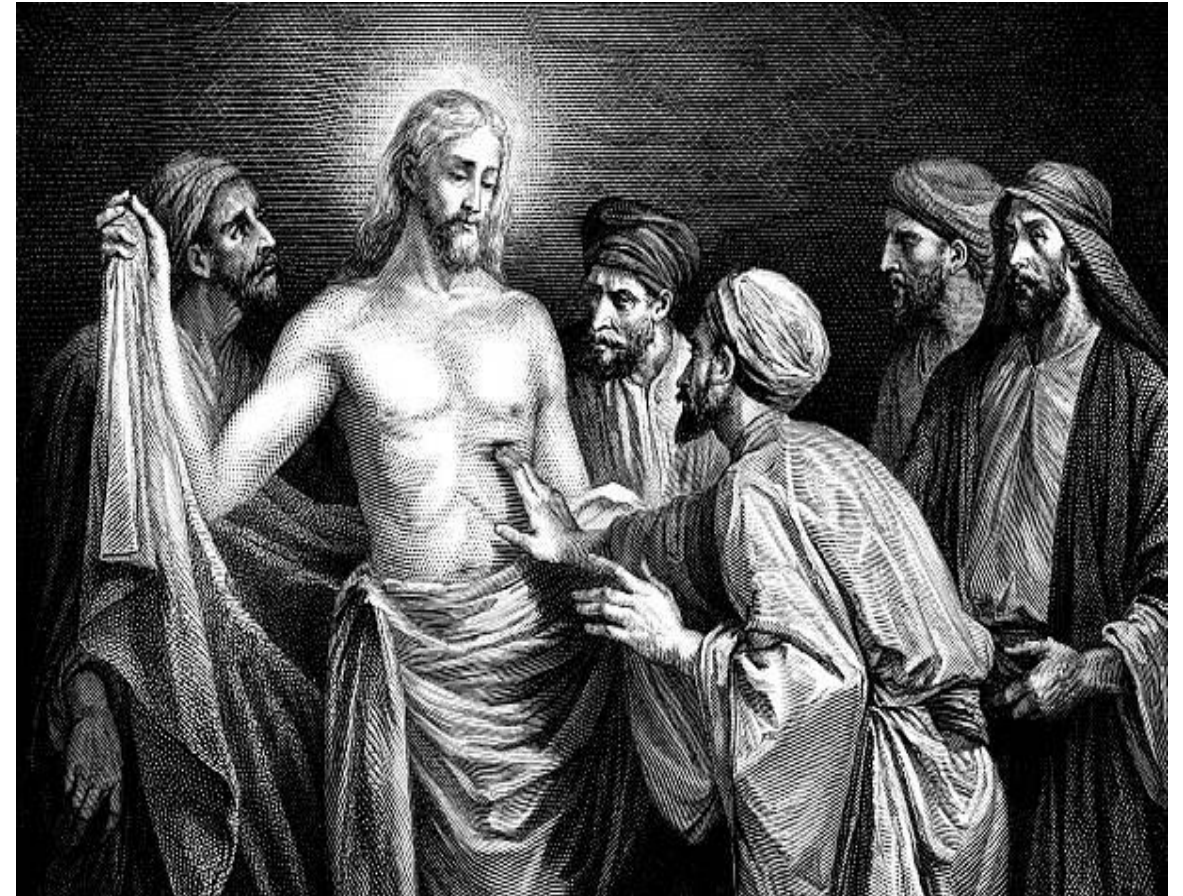
O sons and daughters of the King, whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,
today the grave has lost its sting. Alleluia!

When Thomas first the tidings heard that some had seen the risen Lord,
he doubted the disciples' word. Lord, have mercy!

At night the apostles met in fear; among them came their Master dear
and said, "My peace be with you here." Alleluia!

"My pierced side, O Thomas, see, and look upon my hands, my feet;
not faithless but believing be." Alleluia!

No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side.
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia!



JESUS APPEARS TO THE DISCIPLES

**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 10:45 AM

The Rev. Connie Mitchell Shelton
Raleigh Area Bishop

The Rev. Kevin H. Seymour
Pastor

A Service of the Word

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025 9:30 AM

This morning we continue to celebrate Jesus's Easter victory, and in today's Scripture passages we see two resurrection appearances to his disciples. Thomas will not believe until he has seen physical evidence of the miracle, but Jesus commends those who believe in him without first seeing.

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Ringing the Church bell

Prelude *"O Divine Redeemer"* **Leslie Orlovsky**

Choral Praise *"He is Lord"*

† Opening Sentences

The first disciples told Thomas, "We have seen the Lord." But Thomas refused to believe until he had touched Jesus' wounds.

God, save us from our own doubts.

Jesus appeared to Thomas and removed all his doubts. Then Jesus said, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

God, give us faith when we cannot see.

Open your holy scriptures to us, O God, so that we can be filled with belief.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, so that we can know.

† **Hymn** *"Easter People, Raise Your Voices"* **UMH No. 304**

† Prayer

Lord Jesus, we gather this Sunday after Easter to give thanks that your work among us continues. We praise you for not ceasing to reach out for us, to come to us, to knock on our door even after your victorious defeat of sin and death. We have showed up to worship today because, in one way or another, you showed up to each of us. You came to us, refusing to allow our sin, our fear, our doubts and infidelity to defeat your determination to be in relationship with us. Thanks for being the Savior and Friend we didn't deserve. **Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Psalter Lesson **Psalms 118:14-29** **Calleigh Baker**

Anthem *"Rolled Back Stone"*

Children's Lesson **Stacey Burris**

† **Gospel Lesson** **John 20:19-31**

Sermon *"Leaping over Doubt"* **Kevin Seymour**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† **Affirmation of Faith** **UMH No. 888**

Leader:

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand,
and by which we are saved:

People:

Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit.

Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.

† **Hymn** *"Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"* **UMH No. 312**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

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

This week at Morris Chapel

Wednesday – Choir practice, 630 PM.

Sunday – Worship service @ 930 AM, fellowship time, and then Sunday School.

For the good of the Church

Food Pantry – Remember to bring non-perishable food items next week for the food pantry at Love Grove AME Zion Church. Seasonings, flour, and cooking oil are very much appreciated also.

Vacation Bible School. Wonder Junction - Teaching kids that there's no greater joy than praising the name of the Lord all day long. June 1 – 5. Time, TBD. Reach out to **Krystle Ray** if you are interested in volunteering your time and talents to this rewarding ministry to the young people in our church. Please note you must have completed the Safe Sanctuary training to serve with us in at VBS.

Chat with Pastor Kevin -- Sunday at 10:45 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Is there something you'd like to know more about in our ministry together?

Would you like to know your Pastor a little better?

Perhaps you'd like to arrange for a time to discuss a matter of pastoral care.

All are welcome to come and chat with the Pastor today at 10:45 in the Fellowship Hall.

The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee works to hold our Pastor accountable to expectations and also supports our Pastor and his family. Any feedback that you have regarding our Pastor, whether positive or negative, should be shared with PPRC Chair Sandra Carter.

Missions and Outreach

Blankets for neglected and abused children. It will soon be time for us to tie some more blankets for the Child Advocacy Center in Harnett County. This will be a continuing effort to meet the nurtured needs of God's children who have come into harm's way. If you wish to offer financial support, make your check to Morris Chapel and indicate "blankets" on the memo line. See **Karen Rosser** if you'd like to tie some blankets.

Local charities--Morris Chapel provides annual financial support to the following: The Breadbasket, Christians United Outreach Center, El Refugio, Family Promise of Lee Co., Haven House, and the Helping Hand Clinic.

Family Promise Fundraiser. May 20 at the Elks Lodge in Sanford, 5:30-7:30 PM.

Tickets are \$25 each -- food tasting, raffle, and silent auction. Call 919-718-1540.

Faith Formation

Tuesday morning study with Pastor. We will resume our class meeting on Tuesday May 6 at 10 AM. All are welcome to join us for this time of Faith Formation called "Sunday's Coming." Classes meet for approximately one hour, and each session stands on its own – so you'll never be behind. Come and try it out some time.

Keep these in your prayers

Condolences: Family of Roberta Garcia.

Peggy Baker Christina Black Noah Clifton Mike Cortez Peggy Danielsen Greg Davison Michaela Flynn	Pam Gillis Elva Hall Maude Maloney Evan Johnson Nancy Johnson Nancy McDuffie	Rhonda McNeill Laurel Parker Susie Pierce Valerie Robertino Danielle, Bill, and Nora Jean Rachko Johnny Ray Margaret & Fred Spivey	Ron & Peggy Scott Paul Sodergren Pat Stone 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 4/20/25 **104**

Tithes & Offerings as of: 04/20/2025	
2025 Budget - Needed to Date:	\$ 62,490.74
2025 Budget - Received to Date:	\$ 83,250.94
Running Surplus /(Deficit)	\$ 20,760.20

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
April 27	Jase Burris Cole Burris	Stacey Burris	Calleigh Baker	Drew Burris Gary Rosser	Janice Holder	
May 4	Callen Morris Jase Burris	Kevin Seymour	Manuela Seymour	Richard Angel Wayne Stack	Linda Dilley	Paisely Kilmer George Orlovsky
May 11	Paisley Kilmer Teagan Kilmer	Manuela Seymour	Isabelle Sturgill	Donnie Carter Ian Carter	George Orlovsky	
May 18	JC Ray Bryson Baker	Richard Angel	Drew Burris	Daniel Baker Bryson Baker	Danny Baker	
May 25	Calleigh Baker Lincoln Brewer	Krystle Ray	Inge Hersman	Jason Kilmer Dan Wissinger	Laurel Parker	

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.