

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

“Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed”

UMH No. 359

† Benediction

† Postlude

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

Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is ... Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you. – Pope Francis.



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

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025 9:30 AM

Psalm 148 proclaims God's praise. All creation is called to praise the One who spoke all things into being, the One who is exalted, the One whose glory is above the heavens and the earth. In John's gospel, Jesus teaches that loving one another is one way to glorify God. In Jesus's life and ministry, God is glorified, and so Jesus calls us to follow him in the way of sacrificial love.

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

## Ringling the Church bell

# Prelude

*"Meditation"*

## Leslie Orlovsky

## Choral Praise

*“All I Need Is You”*

## ✦ Call to Worship

*UMH No. 304*

Easter people, raise your voices, sounds of heaven in earth should ring.

**Christ has brought us heaven's choices, heavenly music, let it ring.**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Easter people, let us sing.**

## † Prayer

Lord Jesus, teach us to love one another today. Give us patience with the limitations of others, and give others patience with our limitations. Help us to be gracious when we hear expressions that are different from our own. Help others to be gracious toward us, too, Lord Christ. Keep us in remembrance that we are siblings in Christ, made one in your Body and give us grace to see others as you see them. **Amen.**

✦ **Hymn**

## *“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”*

**UMH No. 133**

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

## Psalter Lesson

## Psalm 148

## Drew Burris

## Anthem

*“Melody of Love”*

## Children's Lesson

# Richard Angel

## † Gospel Lesson

## John 13:31-35

## Sermon

## “Our Savior’s Dying Wish”

Kevin Seymour

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† Hymn

*“They’ll Know We Are Christians by our Love”*

**TFWS No. 2223**

## † 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.**

## 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**

Monday – Church Council meeting, 7 PM.

Tuesday – Pastor’s Bible study, “Sunday’s Coming.” 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday – Choir practice, 630 PM.

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

## **For the good of the Church**

**Vacation Bible School. June 1 – 5 from 6 to 8 PM.** *Wonder Junction* - Teaching kids that there’s no greater joy than praising the name of the Lord all day long. 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.

Our turn for **Family Promise is coming up. Meals need to be furnished for 2 nights: May 26 and 27.** If you’re interested in giving a meal to a family in transition, **please get in touch with Karen Rosser.**

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

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

## **Church Administration**

**Church Council will meet tomorrow night at 7 PM.** Your leadership team plans and carries out the ministries of the church for the purpose of making disciples of Jesus Christ. Danny Baker serves as Chair.

**The Finance Committee** raises our budget and makes reports regarding our financial status. The Treasurer maintains our accounts and ensures that expenditures are made according to Council policy and approval. For questions or concerns regarding the finances of Morris Chapel, see Stacey Burris.

## **Missions and Outreach**

“All worldly joys are less than that one joy of doing kindnesses.” –John Wesley

**Thank you! from Haven House**—*Friends of Morris Chapel, thank you for your recent contribution. We are very grateful for your generosity and support of our organization. We could not do our work without community members like you are.* Haven helps people heal from abuse, works to end domestic violence and sexual assault through community, education, and intervention.

**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.

**Blankets for neglected and abused children.** Morris Chapel provides blankets for the Child Advocacy Center in Harnett County on an on-going basis. 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.

## **Faith Formation**

Pastor Kevin’s Tuesday morning meets at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We call it “Sunday’s Coming” and it is attuned to the church year and the life of Morris Chapel. All are welcome.

## Keep these in your prayers

**Condolences:** Family of Patricia Griffin.

Mike Berryman Christina Black Cathie Ciccotelli Noah Clifton Mike Cortez Peggy Danielsen Greg Davison	Elva Hall Brooks Howard Edith Howard Janet Hunter Maude Maloney Frances Mathews Evan Johnson Nancy Johnson	Olivia Love Rhonda McNeill Laurel Parker Susie Pierce Valerie Robertino Danielle, Bill, and Nora Jean Rachko	JC Ray Margaret & Fred Spivey Ron & Peggy Scott Pam Vaughan Western NC Bob Woolston
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**Prayer requests** may be sent to Pastor Kevin at [kseymour@nccumc.org](mailto:kseymour@nccumc.org), or call / text 919-802-8286.

### Weekly Attendance, Tithes & Offerings

Attendance 5/11/25 **78**

Tithes & Offerings as of: 05/11/2025	
2025 Budget - Needed to Date:	\$ 74,207.76
2025 Budget - Received to Date:	\$ 93,047.41
Running Surplus /(Deficit)	\$ 18,839.65

Thank you for your generosity toward our budget which makes our shared work possible. May God bless all that we have and all that we give so that sinners will know salvation and the suffering will know mercy.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

### Serving in Worship

	Acolytes	Children's Message	Lay Readers	Ushers	Greeters	Communion Servers
<b>May 18</b>	Calleigh Baker Bryson Baker	Richard Angel	Drew Burris	Morgan Baker Bryson Baker	Danny Baker	
<b>May 25</b>	Calleigh Baker Lincoln Brewer	Krystle Ray	Inge Hersman	Jason Kilmer Donnie Carter	Laurel Parker	
<b>June 1</b>	Rylee Ray Bryson Baker	Stacey Burris	George Orlovsky	Ron Mercer George Orlovsky	Marian Huepper	Gary & Karen Rosser
<b>June 8</b>	Jase Burris Cole Burris	Gillian Hubley	Manuela Seymour	Justin Ray JC Ray	Donnie Carter	

**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.