THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023 Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church Buies Creek, North Carolina

Searching questions! They haunt me night and day; Searching questions! They never go away.

> ~ "Searching Questions," lyrics by Ralph Carmichael, from Natural High: A Folk Musical about God, by Ralph Carmichael and Kurt Kaiser, 1970.

GATHERING

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

PRELUDE Voluntary on AURELIA **Edward Broughton**

Anne McClain, Organist

WELCOME Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

O The Lamb

Campmeeting Melody

† INVOCATION Based on the Collect for the Second Sunday in Lent, Mrs. Craddock The Book of Common Prayer

O God, whose glory it is to have mercy and to abundantly pardon: Be gracious, we pray, to those who have gone astray from your ways; be generous to those who search for you with inquisitive minds and wondering hearts; be patient with those who commit themselves to following you, and who yet are so often prone to stumble and wander along the path; and bring us all again with penitent hearts and hopeful faith to embrace and hold fast to the truth and love that is ours in Christ Jesus. This we pray in his name, by your grace, and in the power of the Holy Spirit; Amen.

† HYMN OF PRAISE 350

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

CALL TO CONFESSION (responsively)

Edward Beddingfield, Pastor

Psalm 40: 1-4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 16-17

I waited patiently for the Lord; the Lord inclined to me and heard my cry.

The Lord drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry clay;

the Lord set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

Happy are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud or go astray after false gods.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;

burnt offerings and sin offerings you have not required;

but you have given us open ears, that we may hear.

I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.

Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me;

let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me.

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;

may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!"

As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer, O my God; O Lord, do not delay!

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Mr. Beddingfield

PROCLAIMING

† ANTIPHON 12

Great is the Lord

GREAT IS THE LORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON Brittany Montgomery, Supervised Ministry Student

Children may meet Ms. Brittany at the pulpit steps and then return to their seats afterwards.

GOSPEL

John 3: 1-12

Mrs. Craddock

Nicodemus comes to Jesus by night.

SERMON Searching Questions Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Ms. Montgomery

arr. Lloyd Larson

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;

for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your Holy Word. Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness, that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory.

O teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility. Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity. Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority. Words of power than can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us: truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on your promises; and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your church is built, and the earth is filled with your glory. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Bread

Invitation to the Lord's Table Mr. Beddingfield I Corinthians 11: 23-25 For I received from the Lord what I also delivered unto you . . .

Prayer of Consecration

Mrs. Craddock Mrs. Craddock

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

John 6: 54

The Cup

John 6: 56

Mrs. Craddock

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood

live in me, and I live in them."

The Promise

I Corinthians 11: 26

Mr. Beddingfield

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till he comes again.

INVITATION TO GIVE and OFFERTORY

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Marty Parks

SENDING

† HYMN OF INVITATION and SENDING FORTH 334 Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

stanzas 1 and 3

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY

now and forevermore. Amen.

Mr. Beddingfield

ASSURANCE

† BENEDICTION

Ad. fr. John Claypool

Mr. Beddingfield

Go now into God's world as those who are called to be God's people, remembering as you go that by God's goodness you were born into this life, by God's grace you have been kept to this very hour, and by God's love, fully revealed in Jesus Christ, you are being redeemed,

POSTLUDE

God's Love Shine on You

arr. Geoffrey Edwards

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: Al Upshaw, David Price, Will and Christine Roberts, Harriet Enzor, Betty Wallace, Jimmy Jung, Carolyn Walker, Linda Smith, Mary Lou Ellen, Pauline Calloway

Family and Friends: Amanda and Melanie Alexander (cousins of Gracie Jonas), Marshall Woodall (father of Cindy Avrette), Aubrey Adams (granddaughter of Donna Penny), Christopher Hoyle (son of Ofelia Hoyle), Bethany Blosch (great-niece of Ofelia Hoyle), Brian Worth (friend of Cindy Avrette), Lacy Massey (step-father of Jeff Pope), Kinsley Griffo

Emerald Health and Rehab Center (Lillington, NC): Pat Stiller

Deacons for March 2023: Cherry DeVane and Derek Hogan Deacons for April 2023: Laura Rich and Tammy Scarborough

Ushers Today: Al Hardison, Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson and Linda Lunnev

Ushers March 12: Siu-Ki Wong, Brandon Brown, Beverley Howard and Matthew Sadler

No Kid's Church Today

The flowers in the sanctuary were arranged by Gail Cogdill and are given to the glory of God, with grateful appreciation to Gail, and in loving memory of Sarah Beddingfield by her family. Sarah's birthday is March 9th.

TODAY, March 5th

Friends Class - Sunday School: 8:45 a.m. (In Person & Online)

Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (In Person & Online)

Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library) Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

No Kids' Church Today

Youth - Sunday School: 6:00 p.m. (Online)

TUESDAY, March 7th

Coffee & Conversation - Coffee Break with Meredith:

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Creek Coffee)

WEDNESDAY, March 8th

Children's Choir: 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)

Simple Supper - *Breakfast for Supper*: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Classroom) Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)

Adult Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall) Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

MARCH 2023

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

Friends Class - Sunday School: 8:45 a.m. (In Person & Online)

Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (In Person & Online)

Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library) Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary) Kids' Church: 10:15 a.m. (Library)

Youth - Sunday School: 6:00 p.m. (Online)

Deacon's Meeting: 7:00 p.m.

Children's Choir: 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)

Simple Supper - Sausage, Cabbage & Potatoes: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Classroom) Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)

Adult Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall) Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)





For March, we will collect age appropriate toys/fun items.

For the younger age groups (less than 15 years old) non-breakable toys would include: small cars, balls, dolls, small stuffed animals, puzzles, jump rope, sidewalk chalk, card games, legos, etc. (NO toy weapons please.)

For the older age groups (15-17 year olds) fun items would include: for boys: flashlight, small thermos, light blanket, earbuds, small tool kit, fishing gear, books, hunting/fishing/sports magazines, etc. for girls: jewelry, books, earbuds, skin care products, hair accessories, small travel-sized hair dryer, etc.

Deliver your items to the church office during the week or place in the basket on Sunday mornings.

We also welcome monetary donations to go toward the purchase of backpacks and Bibles. Designate your donation as 'Backpacks.'

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- Clothes Closet: Next Date TBD
- Harnett Food Pantry: collecting non-perishable foods and egg cartons



Needed for March- - Canned Sliced Peaches You may also make a monetary donation to Memorial Baptist Church and put 'Food Pantry' on the memo line.

Buddy Backpack: collecting "nab crackers"



[cheese with cheese or cheese with peanut butter] You may also make a monetary donation to Memorial Baptist Church and put 'Buddy Backpack' on the memo line.



You may place your offering in the offering plate during the service, or use this QR code to donate using various. 限息 tab on the website. Thank you for giving to Memorial Baptist Church.

Check the bulletin board for more community announcements.

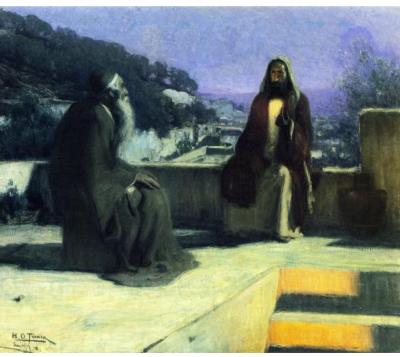
Memorial Baptist Church

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Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm Other Staff: By Appointment



"Nicodemus Visiting Jesus," oil on canvas by Henry Ossawa Tanner, 1899, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia

MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent March 5, 2023

Memorial Baptist Church is an inviting, inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith open to all persons who want to walk with us in following the way of Jesus. If you mourn and need comfort; if you're weary and need rest; if you feel friendless and need friendship; if you need a Savior; if you need love; if you need help; whoever you are and whatever your circumstances, we open the door and in the name of Jesus bid you come.

The Rev. Edward Beddingfield, Pastor Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor Dr. Phillip and Susan Morrow, Ministers of Music Anne McClain, Organist Mariamarta Conrad, Worship Assistant Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant Wayne Smith, Custodian