

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

Our light grows dim, the air is thick with doom,
And everywhere our souls are crushed with fears.
Yet high above the carnage and the gloom
The call resounds across the teeming years:
Lift high Christ's cross! Serve God, and trust God's might!
I do believe the world is swinging toward the light.

~ Georgia Harkness (ad.), Methodist theologian
and philosopher, 1891-1954.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* Victor Johnson
Anne McClain, *Organist*

WELCOME John 8: 12 Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*
The Light of the World.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *O The Lamb* Campmeeting Melody

† INVOCATION (*responsively*) Psalm 23 Mr. Beddingfield
The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
he leadeth me beside the still waters; he restoreth my soul.
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.**

**Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.**

† GATHERING HYMN 61 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* BRADBURY
stanzas 1, 3 and 4

CALL TO PRAYER (*responsively*) I John 1: 5-9 Meredith Lanier Craddock,
Associate Pastor

This is the message we have heard from the Lord and proclaim to you:

That God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

If we say that we have fellowship with God while we are walking in darkness,
we lie and do not live according to the truth;

**But if we walk in the light as God himself is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.**

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us;

**But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just,
and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Brittany Montgomery, *Supervised Ministry Student*

ASSURANCE OF GRACE I Peter 2: 9-10 and Ms. Montgomery
II Corinthians 9: 15

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts
of the One who called you out of darkness and into his marvelous light.

Once you were no people, but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift.

PROCLAIMING

ANTHEM *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* arr. Joel Raney

GOSPEL John 9: 1-42 Mr. Beddingfield and Ms. Montgomery
The Man Born Blind.

REFLECTION IN SONG *Amazing Grace* John Newton/Chris Tomlin
(*My Chains Are Gone*)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

(*Chorus*)

*My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior, has ransomed me
And like a flood his mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace.*

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

(*Chorus, twice*)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below will be forever mine
Will be forever mine . . . You are forever mine.

* *Following the Reflection in Song, children may meet Mrs. Meredith and
Ms. Brittany at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Kid's Church.*

SERMON *So You Think You Can See?* Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and The Lord's Prayer (*unison*) Mr. Beddingfield

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.

INVITATION TO GIVE and OFFERTORY *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* Lloyd Larson

SENDING

† HYMN OF INVITATION and SENDING FORTH 456 PRECIOUS LORD
Precious Lord, Take My Hand

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield

† BENECTION *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,
now and forevermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Recessional in a Gregorian Mode* Henry Kihlken

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

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

Family and Friends: Danny Thomerson (*former MBC organist*), Beverly Bowers
(*grandmother of Charissa English*), Lacy Massey (*step-father of Jeff Pope*), Christopher
Hoyle (*son of Ofelia Hoyle*), Bethany Blosch (*great-niece of Ofelia Hoyle*), Amanda and
Melanie Alexander (*cousins of Gracie Jonas*), Marshall Woodall (*father of Cindy
Avrette*)

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

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in celebration of Jac Whatley's
March 21st birthday
from Kathy and his family.*

Deacons for March 2023: Cherry DeVane and Derek Hogan

Deacons for April 2023: Laura Rich and Tammy Scarborough

Ushers Today: Jeff Pope, Derek Hogan, Ron McLamb and Joshua
Taylor

Ushers March 26: Nancy Brady, Bob Cisneros, Barrett Kesling and
Miles West

Kid's Church: Meredith Craddock and Brittany Montgomery



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

TODAY, March 19th

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)

Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Kids' Church: 10:15 a.m. (Library)

WEDNESDAY, March 22nd

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

Simple Supper - Nacho Bar: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Classroom)

Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)

BUSINESS MEETING: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

FRIDAY—SATURDAY, March 24th—March 25th

YOUTH LOCK-IN: 7:00 p.m - 7:00 a.m.

MARCH 2023

26 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)

Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Kids' Church: 10:15 a.m. (Library)

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

Simple Supper - Spaghetti: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Classroom)

Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)

Adult Bible Study - The Resurrection and the Life and The Way, the Truth and the Life: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

31 Phi Delta Chi Lasagna Dinner Fundraise: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

CHURCH LIBRARY NEWS

Memorial's church library has been a busy place recently. Old books have been discarded, new books added, and a new rug was purchased through donations.

The library is a place for activities for our children on Sundays and Wednesdays and most recently a place for the preschool classes of Stokes to gather weekly for story time led by Lalia, Beverley and Donna.

How can you help? Donations are needed. You may donate new or gently used children's books or contribute funds for the purchase of new books. Simply designate "Library" when giving.

Financial Position for the Period 1/1/23 - 3/9/23

» Total support, 1/1/23 - 3/9/23	\$ 72,868
» Total expenditures	\$ (62,424)
» Support exceeded expenditures	\$ 10,444
» Total 2023 Budget Proposal	\$ 413,084
» Percent of year passed	19%
» Support needed to meet budget	\$ 76,958
» Support received as of 3/9/23	\$ 65,521
» Budget support shortfall as of 3/9/23	\$ (11,437)
» Principal due on line of credit for church renovation	\$ 80,602

APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS BACKPACKS

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.



Memorial Baptist Church

271 Leslie Campbell Avenue/P.O. Box 485
Buies Creek, NC 27506

Telephone: 910-893-4162 Fax: 910-893-2167
Website: www.memorialbcnc.org

Emails: edb@memorialbcnc.org

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



"The Man Born Blind," by Catholic priest, author and artist Ronald Patrick Raab, C.S.C. (Congregation of the Holy Cross).

MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 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