

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 17, 2023  
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church  
Buies Creek, North Carolina

The grass grows slowly up the hill  
With faith the torrent cannot kill,  
And rock are rough, but still the clover  
Stony fields will yet run over –  
And I know nothing that the true,  
The good, the godly cannot do.

So toils an undiscouraged God  
Who covers barren fields with sod;  
And so will hate and sin surrender  
Where faith is strong, and love is tender –  
And I know nothing that the true,  
The good, the godly cannot do.

~ *Anonymous, in Masterpieces of Religious Verse,  
James Dalton Morrison, editor, 1948 (ad.)*

## GATHERING

PRELUDE *Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above* Robert J. Powell  
Anne McClain, organ

WELCOME and † INVOCATION Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*  
*Ad. fr. The Book of Common Prayer  
(Collects for the Sundays closest to Sept. 7 and 14)*

Grant us, O Lord, to trust you with all our hearts;  
for, as you resist the proud who confide only in their own strength,  
so also you do not forsake those who make their boast in your mercy.  
May your Holy Spirit in all things direct and rule our hearts;  
and when holy discernment fails, and confusion, or even foolish pride,  
arises within us, may your grace tenderly draw us back to you.  
These things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

† PSALM OF PRAISE (*responsively*) Psalm 145: 1-7, 21 Randall Johnson, *Deacon*

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.  
**Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.**

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
**The greatness of the Lord is unsearchable.**

One generation shall praise your works to another,  
and declare your mighty acts.

**On the glorious splendor of your majesty,  
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.**

The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,  
and I will declare your greatness.

**People everywhere shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,  
and sing aloud of your righteousness.**

My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,  
**And all flesh will bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

† GATHERING HYMN 640 *Let All Things Now Living* ASH GROVE

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

## PROCLAIMING

OLD TESTAMENT I Judges 4: 1-24 Mr. Beddingfield  
In those days Deborah, a prophetess,  
wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel.

OLD TESTAMENT II Brittany Montgomery, *Ministry Intern*  
from Judges 5  
Most blessed of women is Jael.

\* *Following the Old Testament II, children from age 3 through 4th grade may meet  
Mrs. Meredith and Ms. Brittany at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Kids' Church.  
Parents may pick up their children in the church library after the service.*

† WORSHIP CHORUS *My Life Is in You* David Gardner  
Charlotte Riewestahl, *Song Leader*

My life is in you, Lord, my strength is in you, Lord  
My hope is in you, Lord, in you, it's in you.  
My life is in you, Lord, my strength is in you, Lord  
My hope is in you, Lord, in you, it's in you.

I will praise you with all of my life.  
I will praise you with all of my strength.  
With all of my life, with all of my strength,  
All of my hope is in you.

SERMON *Some Hostess!* Mr. Beddingfield

## RESPONDING

ANTHEM *God Leads Us Along* arr. Jimbo Stevens

In shady, green pastures, so rich and so sweet,  
God leads His dear children along;  
Where the water's cool flow bathes the weary one's feet,  
God leads His dear children along.

Sometimes on the mount where the sun shines so bright,  
God leads His dear children along;  
Sometimes in the valley, in the darkest of night,  
God leads His dear children along.

Some through the waters, some through the flood,  
Some through the fire, but all through the blood;  
Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song,  
In the night season and all the day long.

Though sorrows befall us and Satan oppose,  
God leads His dear children along;  
Through grace we can conquer, defeat all our foes,  
God leads His dear children along.

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

**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.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS *Soul's Voice* Bonita L. Luciotti

## SENDING

† INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP and HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 486 BECK  
*Lord, Here Am I*

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield

† BENEDICTION Mr. Beddingfield

POSTLUDE *Festive Postlude on ST. THEODULPH* Douglas E. Wagner

## PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

**Members:** Jean Powers, Jeff Pope, Pauline Calloway, Jac Whatley, Betty Wallace,  
Jimmy Jung, Linda Smith

**Family and Friends:** Family of Michael Pope (*friend of Ashley Nelson*); Peggy Barber  
(*niece of Jeanne Barker*); Ethan Barber and Clark Barber (*great-nephews of Jeanne  
Barker*); Craig Newton (*friend of Anne McClain*); Victor Das (*father of Joseph Das*);  
Brenda Gurganious (*friend of Susan Johnson*); Josephine Simpson (*neighbor of Pastor  
Ed*); Glenn Johnson; Aaron Bowers (*brother of Charissa English*); Jeroen and Liz  
Stone; Rusty Armstrong, Wanda Sims, Rhonda Rockholt (*friends of Ofe Hoyle*);  
Proctorville Baptist Church; Michael Warren (*brother of Donna Haynes*)

**Aldersgate senior living center (Charlotte, NC):** Louise Taylor

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

*In order to keep our prayer list current, we will place names on the list for one month. After one  
month we will remove names from the list. If there is a need for a name to be on the list for a longer  
period, please notify us and we will be happy to comply.*

**Deacons for September 2023:** Cherry DeVane and Randall Johnson  
**Deacons for October 2023:** Lisa Lanier and Jac Whatley

**Ushers Today:** Beverley Howard, Ron McLamb, Scotty Scarborough  
and Lee Turlington

**Ushers Sept. 24:** Cherry DeVane, Chad Godwin, Derek Hogan and  
Jeff Pope

**Kids' Church today:** Meredith Craddock and Brittany Montgomery

## TODAY, September 17<sup>th</sup>

**Friends Class - Sunday School:** 8:45 a.m.  
**Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Children - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Library)  
**Youth - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**Kids' Church:** during worship (Library)

## TUESDAY, September 19<sup>th</sup>

**Mission Committee Meeting:** 6:00 p.m. (Library)

## WEDNESDAY, September 20<sup>th</sup>

**Children's Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)  
**Simple Supper - Spaghetti and Salad:** 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Mission Kids:** 6:30 p.m. (Classroom)  
**Youth Activity:** 6:30 p.m. (Library)  
**Adult Bible Study - "Equally Called":** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

## SEPTEMBER 2023

- 24** **Friends Class - Sunday School:** 8:45 a.m.  
**Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Children - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Library)  
**Youth - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**Kids' Church:** during worship (Library)
- 27** **Children's Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)  
**MISSIONS COMMITTEE FUNDRAISER DINNER - Baked Potato 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)



**A LOOK  
at the  
BUDGET**

Budget season is upon us! The Finance Committee will soon be preparing their budget proposal for our 2024 fiscal year. If you have any budgetary requests for the coming year, please reach out to anyone on the committee. If you serve/chair on a committee and know of any budgetary concerns for your respective committees, please let us know!

Thanks!

Brandon Brown, MBC Budget Director

Finance Committee Members: Cindy Avrette, Brandon Brown, Julie Byrd, Jim Cannady, Al Hardison, John Phelps, Beth Savage, Dave Steegar and Jim Sills

## Financial Position for the Period 1/1/23 - 8/31/23

» Total support, 1/1/2023 - 8/31/2023	\$ 271,527
» Total expenditures	\$ (257,340)
» Support exceeded expenditures	\$ 14,187
» Total 2023 Budget Proposal	\$ 413,084
» Percent of year passed	67%
» Support needed to meet budget	\$ 275,012
» Undesignated support received as of 8/31/2023	\$ 253,037
» Budget support shortfall as of 8/31/2023	\$ (21,975)
» Principal due on line of credit for church renovation	\$ 72,518



**MAUI WILD FIRES RELIEF**  
Wild fires have become a life threat in Maui, Hawaii. As brother & sisters in Christ, we are called to solidarity & show our love through support. They ask for our prayers & financial support. Please give generously at: [www.cbf.net/hawaii](http://www.cbf.net/hawaii) & write "Hawaii fires" in the comment field.

## APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS BACKPACKS

For September, we are still collecting:

**FRESH, WRAPPED CANDY** (*no chocolate and no peanut products*);  
and

**POP-TOP CANNED FOOD ITEMS** (*ex: ravioli, tuna, beef stew, soup, fruit, etc.*).

Since we are getting close to packing time, we need a certain number of items to complete each category. Here's another item that we still need:

**COMBS/BRUSHES** (*need 15*)

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

## CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- **Clothes Closet:** Date TBD
- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods and egg cartons**  
Needed for September -- **Corn**  
*Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as 'Food Pantry.'*
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting "nab crackers"  
[cheese with cheese or cheese with peanut butter]  
*Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as 'Buddy Backpack.'*

## Memorial Baptist Church

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# MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

*Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 17, 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  
Brittany Montgomery, Ministry Intern  
Mariamarta Conrad, Worship Assistant  
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant  
Wayne Smith, Custodian