

Last Sunday in Ordinary Time
Reign of Christ Sunday

O Lord of life, your kingdom is at hand:
Blest reign of love and liberty and light,
Time long foretold by seers of every land,
The cherished dream of watchers through
the night.

Now gleams at last upon our waiting eyes
The glory of the kingdom that shall be,
When truth and love in grandeur shall arise,
And God shall rule the world with equity.

~ Marion Franklin Ham (ad.), hymnwriter and Unitarian pastor in
Chattanooga, First Church Dallas, and Massachusetts (1867-1956)

PRELUDE	<i>Crown Him Lord of All</i> Anne McClain, <i>organ</i>	Mary McDonald
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Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor, Israel, / **forever and ever.**
Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty,
/ **for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours.**
Yours is the kingdom, / **and you are exalted as head above all.**
Riches and honor come from you, / **and you rule over all.**
In your hand are power and might, / **to make great and to give strength to all.**
And now, O God, we give thanks to you, / **and praise your glorious name.**

Almighty, eternal and ever-present God, who reigns from highest heaven
and whose desire it is to restore all things in your Beloved Son,
King of kings and Lord of lords:
Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, including ourselves,
divided and enslaved by sin and self, may be set free
and brought together under the gracious and benevolent rule of Christ,
in that day when your will is done on earth as it is in heaven. **Amen.**

CONFESSON and ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Meredith Lanier Craddock,
Associate Pastor

GOSPEL I Matthew 28: 16-20 Earl Savage, *Deacon*

And Jesus said to them, "All power is given unto me,
in heaven and on earth . . . and lo, I am with you always,
even unto the end of the age."

EPISTLE

Brittany Montgomery, *Ministry Intern*

Ephesians 1: 15-23

God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him
from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the
heavenly places, far above all rule and authority
and power and dominion, not only in this age,
but in the age to come.

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King.

** Following the Testimony in Song, children from age 3 through 4th grade may meet Mrs. Erin Turlington at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Kids' Church. Parents may pick up their children in the church library after the service.*

SERMON *King of the World* Mr. Beddingfield

O God of love, true source of peace, make wars throughout the world to cease.
The wrath of sinful hearts restrain: give peace, O God, give peace again.

Remember, Lord, Your works of old, the wonders that our fathers told.
Remember not our sin's deep stain; give peace, O God, give peace again.

Whom shall we trust but You, O God? Where rest but on Your faithful Word?
None ever called on You in vain. Give peace, O God, give peace again.

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.

OFFERTORY *Jesu, Joy* Johann Sebastian Bach

POSTLUDE *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* James Mansfield

Members: David Avrette, Catherine King, Frances Lloyd, Burgess Marshbanks, Kathy Creed, Al Upshaw, Carolyn Walker, Jeff Pope, Betty Wallace, Jimmy Jung, Pauline Calloway, Linda Smith

Family and Friends: Family of Peggy Rouse (*mother of John Rouse*); Tonya Taylor (*sister-in-law of Carrie Royal*); Emily Long (*cousin of Ashley Nelson*); Caroline Upshaw; Michael Warren (*brother of Donna Haynes*); Aaron Bowers (*brother of Charissa English*); Jan Bloom (*aunt of Becca Scarboro*); Mary McClain (*mother of Greg McClain*); Craig Ennis (*husband of Evy Ennis - Buies Creek post office*); Peggy Giunta (*grandmother of Heather Giunta*)

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 November 2023: Earl Savage and Dayna Scarborough
Deacons for December 2023: Ron McLamb and Joe Turlington

Ushers Today: Cherry DeVane, Chad Godwin, Derek Hogan and Jeff Pope

Ushers Dec. 3: Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson, Linda Lunney and
Siu-Ki Wong

Kids' Church today: Erin Turlington
No Kids' Church Dec. 3

Nursery today: Charlotte Riewestahl
Nursery Dec. 3: (need volunteer)

Teachers are still needed for Kids' Church and Nursery.
The sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board.
Your help is **much** needed and appreciated!



“Advent is a season to linger in longing. This poses a challenge in our tired, time-tabled culture. We are used to having what gratifies...”

This is the beginning phrase from our Advent devotional booklet, which begins on Dec. 3. Please take a devotion book & spend a few moments everyday praying, reading & reflecting. During this time of longing, as we wait for our Savior’s birth, let’s spend some time waiting with God.



The Floral Committee invites you to join them **TODAY** (*immediately following the worship service*) as they decorate the church for the joyous Advent season.

TODAY, November 26th

Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 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)

Decorating for Advent: immediately following worship service
All are welcome to stay and help!

WEDNESDAY, November 29th

Children’s Choir: 5:00 p.m. (Choir Room)

FUNDRAISER DINNER FOR BUDDY BACKPACK - Soup and Sandwich:
5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

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

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

Adult Bible Study—Thanks-Living: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

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

DECEMBER 2023

3 First Sunday of Advent

Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 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)

*** No Kids’ Church**

Buies Creek Christmas Parade: 4 p.m.

6 Children’s Choir: 5:00 p.m. (Choir Room)

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

Chrismon Tree Decorating Night: 6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)
Everyone is invited to attend!

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

Check the bulletin board for community announcements.

Financial Position for the Period 1/1/23 - 10/31/23

» Total support, 1/1/2023 - 10/31/2023	\$ 351,769
» Total expenditures	\$ (326,451)
» Support exceeds Expenditures	\$ 25,318
» Total 2023 Budget Proposal	\$ 413,084
» Percent of year passed	83%
» Support needed to meet budget	\$ 344,048
» Undesignated support received as of 10/31/2023	\$ 308,239
» Budget support shortfall as of 10/31/2023	\$ (35,809)
» Principal due on line of credit for church renovation	\$ 69,487



CAPITAL DEBT CAMPAIGN

A generous donor has agreed to match any donations made to our capital debt between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31 up to \$20,000.

Thanks to the donor and to all of you for your faithful giving to MBC.

Goal	\$20,000.00
Gifts Received as of 11-19-23	\$14,742.45
74%	

Missions Mailbox

MBC Mission Kids are hosting their annual **Missions Mailbox** beginning TODAY, November 26th through Sunday December 24th.

Missions Mailbox is offered for you to be able to “mail” a Christmas card to someone in our congregation. The mailbox will be set up in the narthex. The cost to “mail” a card is still only **25¢** each.

All the money raised will go to support a mission project.

CHURCH LIBRARY CLEANOUT

Please take time to look at the discarded books on the cart in the Narthex. They are free to take. Books by authors such as Billy Graham, Corrie ten Boom, Catherine Marshal & Charles Allen to name a few.

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods and egg cartons**
Needed for November & December - - **Peanut Butter**
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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Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm

Other Staff: By Appointment



**MEMORIAL
BAPTIST CHURCH**

*Last Sunday in Ordinary Time
Reign of Christ Sunday*

November 26, 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