

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

In the culture of the Ancient Near East, god, king and temple were closely associated. A king hoped that building a temple would obligate a deity to endorse the royal dynasty. Thus David's desire to build a "house" (*ie, a temple*) for God may imply his desire to control God by forcing God's sanction of his reign. But God refuses to be obligated in this way, and replaces David's manipulative request with a divine promise: "I will build your house" (*ie, dynasty*). What David wants – security for his reign – will not be found in a temple, but only in his faith in God's promise.

At the conclusion of Israel's history as told in the books of Samuel and Kings, however, "forever" has come to an end: The temple is destroyed and the dynasty is no more, inviting reflection on the mysterious complexity of promise and faith.

~ Tony Cartledge, *1 & 2 Samuel*, SMYTH & HELWYS BIBLE COMMENTARY, Macon, Georgia, 2001, p. 448 (ad.)

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive* Tom Birchwood
Anne McClain, *Organist*

WELCOME and † INVOCATION Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*

† HYMN OF PRAISE 621 *Lead On, O King Eternal* LANCASHIRE

SEEKING THE LORD

LENTEN CALL TO PRAYER (*responsively*) Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*
Psalm 27: 1-10, 13-14
A Psalm of David.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assault me, to devour my flesh,
my adversaries and foes, they shall stumble and fall.

**Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.**

One thing I have asked of the Lord, and this I will seek after:
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in God's temple.

**For the Lord will hide me and shelter me in the day of trouble;
the Lord will conceal me as one is covered underneath a tent;
the Lord will set me high upon a rock.**

Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me;

**And I will offer in God's tent sacrifices with shouts of joy,
singing and making melody to the Lord!**

So hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud;

Be gracious to me, and answer me!

"Come," my heart says, "and seek God's face."

Your face, O Lord, do I seek; do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.

Do not cast me off, and do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

Even if my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up;

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage!

Wait for the Lord!

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF GRACE Mr. Beddingfield

I Timothy 1: 15a and 2: 5-6a

This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance:
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
For there is one God, and one mediator between God and humanity,
the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all.

PROCLAIMING

OLD TESTAMENT II Samuel 7: 1-17 Steve DeVane, *Deacon*

God's covenant with David:

*Your house and your reign will be made sure before me;
your throne shall be established forever.*

GOSPEL Luke 22: 39-42 Mrs. Craddock

Jesus prays in the Garden:

Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.

† WITNESS IN SONG *Blessed Be Your Name* Matt and Beth Redman

Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful
Where your streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name
Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be your name.

*Chorus: Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise
And when the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name.*

Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be, blessed be your name
And blessed be your name on the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name. *Chorus*

You give and take away, you give and take away
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord . . .

** Following the Witness in Song, children from age 3 through 3rd grade may
meet Mrs. Meredith Craddock at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Kids' Church.
Parents may pick up their children in the church library after the service.*

EPISTLE II Corinthians 5: 1-2a, 4b-5 Mr. Beddingfield

*We have a building from God, a house
not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*

SERMON *Reframing the House* Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

ANTHEM *When You Prayed Beneath the Trees* Lloyd Larson

When you prayed beneath the trees, it was for me, O Lord;
when you cried upon your knees, how could it be, O Lord?
When in blood and sweat and tears, you dismissed your final fears,
when you faced the soldiers' spears, you stood for me, O Lord.

When their triumph looked complete, it was for me, O Lord;
when it seemed like your defeat, they could not see, O Lord!
When you faced the mob alone, you were silent as a stone,
and a tree became your throne; you came for me, O Lord.

When you stumbled up the road, you walked for me, O Lord;
when you took your deadly load, that heavy tree, O Lord;
when they lifted you on high, and they nailed you up to die,
and when darkness filled the sky, it was for me, O Lord.

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 Mrs. McClain Mr. Beddingfield
Goodness of God
Fielding, Cash, Ingram,
Johnson and Johnson

SENDING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH (*insert*) LONESOME VALLEY
Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield

† BENEDICTION Mr. Beddingfield

POSTLUDE *Postlude in D* arr. Michael Ryan
Mrs. McClain

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: Shea Cunningham, Doris Eller, Linda Smith, Betty Wallace

Family and Friends: Family of Carolyn Walker; Nathanne Sarita (*student at CEMS*);
Teresa Roberts; Rob Gilchrist; Lee Lanier (*father of Meredith Craddock*); Debbie
Johnson (*friend of Cindy Avrette*); Paul Stiller (*father of Susan Morrow*); Kelly McLamb
(*daughter of Jerry & Betty Wallace*); International teachers & families

Aldersgate Senior Living Center (Charlotte, NC): Louise Taylor

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

Deacons for April 2025: Steve DeVane and Tammy Scarborough
Deacons for May 2025: Randall Johnson and Carrie Royal

Ushers Today: Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson, Linda Lunney and Siu-Ki Wong
Ushers April 13: Brandon Brown, Bob Cisneros, Adam English and Miles West

Kids' Church Today: Meredith Craddock
No Kids' Church April 13

Nursery today: Carrie Royal
No Nursery April 13

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Donna Haynes to the glory of God and in deep appreciation for His wonderful blessing of my daughter, Donna Elizabeth, whose birthday is today.

TODAY, April 6th

- 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. (Family Life Center)
- Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
- Kids' Church:** will be available due to no communion (Library)

TUESDAY, April 8th

Memorial Service for Carolyn Walker: 2:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, April 9th

- Children's Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)
- Simple Supper - Breakfast:** 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
- Mission Kids:** 6:30 p.m. (Mission Kids Classroom)
Led by Dr. Adam English's Christian Theology class
- Bible Study:** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Led by Dr. Adam English's Christian Theology class
- Youth Activity:** 6:30 p.m. (Library)
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

APRIL 2025

13 PALM SUNDAY 

- 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**
- BUILDING UP TO EASTER:** 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Children's Easter program and egg hunt
For ages 3 - 5th grade (see insert for more details)

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

16 Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)
*** No Other Wednesday Night Activities**

17 Maundy Thursday Service: 6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)
Communion service and "Celebrate Life" a service for Holy Week led by the Chancel Choir

20 Easter Sunday 

Ways to Donate to MBC:

- **Offering plates** during the Offertory portion of our service.
- Mailing a **check** payable to: *Memorial Baptist Church*
P.O. Box 485
Buies Creek, NC 27506
- *Our website at www.memorialbcnc.org by clicking the **Donate** tab.
- *Scanning the **QR Code** shown here on your mobile device.
**(If you want 100% of your donation to benefit MBC, please increase your gift by 3% to help cover the transaction expenses.)*



Wednesday April 9



Campbell University students from Dr. Adam English's *Introduction to Theology* class will once again lead the adult group (*Beatitudes & Sermon on the Mount*) & the children's group (*Beatitudes & Fruits of the Spirit*). Please welcome and get to know these students as we encourage one another in the faith.



For April, we are collecting:
Toothpaste and Toothbrush

Place items in the plastic tote in the hallway.

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

CHURCH LIBRARY NEWS

Thanks to all who contributed money or purchased books for the church library! You are invited to check out books any time. Please use the designated roster by the library door. If you need assistance, see Beverley, Lisa, Donna or Lalia.

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- **Clothes Closet:** Date TBA
- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods**
(Egg cartons are not needed at this time.)
Needed for April - - **Sliced Peaches**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome; designate as 'Food Pantry.'
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting **sandwich crackers "nabs"**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome; designate as 'Buddy Backpack.'
- **Belts for HCMS:** *Donations of used men's or boys' belts that can be used for students at the school.*

Memorial Baptist Church

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meredith@memorialbcnc.org

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Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm

Other Staff: By Appointment



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

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
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Wayne Smith, Custodian