

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Third Sunday of Easter

Graduation Sunday

May 4, 2025
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Anne McClain, *Organist*

† GRADUATE PROCESSIONAL *Pomp and Circumstance* Edward Elgar

† CALL TO WORSHIP From Psalm 100 Izzy Morrow, *Graduate*
and Congregation

Today, we gather to worship God and celebrate those among us who are graduating. Together, may we worship the Lord with gladness and come before God with joyful songs. Come, let us enter into this sacred space with praise.

You, O God, are the Holy One always and forever; the Giver of wisdom and the source of every good gift. Come, let us enter into this sacred space with joy and delight.

O God, we are your children, created by and with your love. Come, let us enter into this sacred space and worship You with thankful hearts, celebrating Your faithfulness in every season of life! Amen.

WELCOME Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*

INVOCATION Lee Williams, *Graduate*

† HYMN OF PRAISE 39 *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* MARION

RECONGNITION OF GRADUATES

Presentation to the Graduates Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*
Prayer of Dedication Mr. Beddingfield

PROCLAIMING

RESPONSIVE READING (*responsively*) *Who are we?* Michael Snyder, *Graduate*

We are loved by God and created to love God and one another.

Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love. (1 Cor. 13:13)

God gives us the strength to endure all things.

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (Psalm 73:26)

Faith in God enables us to live with confidence, whatever comes.

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. (Romans 8:18)

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

Following Jesus keeps us on the right path.

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. (Hebrews 12:1-3)

Giving our worries to God makes our future secure.

So don't be anxious about tomorrow. God will take care of your tomorrow too. Live one day at a time. (Matthew 6:34)

OLD TESTAMENT

Campbell Rouse, *Graduate*
Ecclesiastes 11: 8 - 12: 1

ANTHEM *Put Peace into Each Other's Hands* Joel Raney

Put peace into each other's hands and like a treasure hold it; protect it like a candle flame; with tenderness, enfold it. Put peace into each other's hands with loving expectations; be gentle in your words and ways, in touch with God's creation.

Put Christ into each other's hands, he is love's deepest measure; in love, make peace a chance, and share it like a treasure.

Put peace into each other's hands, like bread we break for sharing; look people warmly in the eye: our life was meant for caring. Share hope and joy and gladly serve this world that we are part of, and though we may not do great things, we can do small things with great love.

SERMON *Celebrating With the Graduates* Glenn Jonas

RESPONDING

† SONG OF DISCIPLESHIP *Step by Step* David Strasser
Gracie Jonas, *Graduate*
Steve DeVane, *piano*

O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning
And I will learn to walk in your ways
And step by step you'll lead me
And I will follow you all of my days .

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Madison Godwin, *Graduate*

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.

INVITATION TO GIVE and Mr. Beddingfield
OFFERTORY *Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated* arr. John Purifoy
Mrs. McClain

SENDING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 454 CLAY
God, Our Father, You Have Led Us

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield
Deacon Nomination Ballot Trinity Kelly, *Chair of the Diaconate*

† BENEDICTION Dylan Coleman, *Graduate*

POSTLUDE *Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing* Todd Kendall
Mrs. McClain

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: David Steegar, Pastor Ed Beddingfield, Tricia Carr, Doris Eller, Linda Smith, Betty Wallace

Family and Friends: Brayden Naquin (*student at Dunn Middle*); Lee & Margaret Lanier (*parents of Meredith Craddock*); Charles Davis (*brother of Debbie Appel*); Nathanne Sarita (*student at Coats Erwin Middle*); Teresa Roberts; Rob Gilchrist; Debbie Johnson (*friend of Cindy Avrette*); 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

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 May 2025: Randall Johnson and Carrie Royal
Deacons for June 2025: Lisa Lanier and Charlotte Riewestahl

Ushers Today: Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson, Linda Lunney and Siu-Ki Wong
Ushers May 11: Brandon Brown, Bob Cisneros, Adam English and Miles West

No Kids' Church Today
No Kids' Church May 11

Nursery today: Charlotte Riewestahl
Nursery May 11: Michele Phelps

TODAY, May 4th

GRADUATION 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. (Family Life Center)
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
*** No Kids' Church**
Mission Trip Meeting: 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, May 7th

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. (Mission Kids Classroom)
Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)
Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

MAY 2025

11 **Happy Mother's Day**

DEACON NOMINATION DAY

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: during worship (Library)

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

14 **Children's Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)
Simple Supper - Manager's Choice: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Mission Kids Classroom)
Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)
Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

18 **DEACON ELECTION DAY**

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: during worship (Library)

21 Last Regular Wednesday Night Activities (until Fall 2025)

Children's Choir: 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)
Simple Supper - Manager's Choice: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Mission Kids Classroom)
Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)
***CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING:** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Financial Position as of 3/31/25

» Total support	\$ 141,497
» Total expenditures	\$ (130,762)
» Support exceeds expenditures	\$ 10,735
» Total 2025 Budget Proposal	\$ 418,220
» Percent of year passed	25%
» Support needed to meet budget	\$ 103,123
» Undesignated support received as of 3/31/25	\$ 104,465
» Operating expenses offset received from Stokes Day Care	\$ 2,550
» Support exceeds budgeted needs as of 3/31/25	\$ 3,892

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.)*



For May, we are collecting:
Brushes and Deodorant
(for both men & women)

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 MISSION PROJECTS

- **Clothes Closet:** Date TBA
- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods**
(Egg cartons are not needed at this time.)
Needed for May -- **Fruit Cocktail**
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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Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm

Other Staff: By Appointment



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

*Third Sunday of Easter
Graduation Sunday*

May 4, 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