

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

God is watching us, God is watching us,
God is watching us from a distance.
~ Julie Gold, "God Is Watching Us," sung by
Bette Midler, Some People's Lives, 1990.

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives: He lives within my heart.
~ Alfred H. Ackley, "He Lives," 1933.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Holy, Holy, Holy* Robert J. Hughes
Anne McClain, *Organist*

WELCOME Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*

† INVOCATION Based on Psalm 8 Mr. Beddingfield

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth:
You whose glory above the heavens is chanted by the mouths
of babes and infants, silencing the enemy and the avenger.
When we look at your heavens, the work of your hands,
the moon and stars that you have established,
who are we, that you even notice us?
And our children, that you also care for them?
Yet you have made us only a little lower than the angels,
and have crowned us with glory and honor,
and have put all things under our feet . . .
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

† HYMN OF PRAISE 2 *Holy, Holy, Holy* NICAEA

PRAYER FOR MEMORIAL DAY Mr. Beddingfield

PROCLAIMING

NEW TESTAMENT I Revelation 21: 1-2a and 21: 22--22: 5 Mr. Beddingfield
And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God.

VOCAL WITNESS *From A Distance* Julie Gold
Mariamarta Conrad, *Soloist*

NEW TESTAMENT II Acts 16: 9-15 Meredith Lanier Craddock,
On the sabbath day we went outside the gate *Associate Pastor*
by the river, where we thought there might be a place of prayer.

† TESTIMONY IN SONG *Down by the Riverside* Spiritual
Mariamarta Conrad, *Leader*

Gonna lay down my burdens, Lord, down by the riverside
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside
Gonna lay down my burdens, Lord, down by the riverside
Down by the riverside.

Chorus
I ain't-a gonna study war no more, ain't-a gonna study war no more
Ain't-a gonna study war no more
I ain't-a gonna study war no more, ain't-a gonna study war no more
Ain't-a gonna study war no more.

Gonna put on that long white robe . . .

Gonna walk with the Prince of Peace . . .

OLD TESTAMENT (*responsively*) Deuteronomy 30: 11-14 Mrs. Craddock

Truly, this commandment that I command you this day is not too hard for you,
nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say,
**Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us,
so that we may hear it and observe it?**
Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say,
**Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us,
so that we may hear it and observe it?**
No, the word is very near to you;
It is in our mouths and in our hearts, for us to observe.

** Following the Old Testament reading, children from age 3 through 3rd grade may
meet Mrs. Meredith 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 *Up Close and Personal, from a Distance* Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

ANTHEM *Lord Most Holy* arr. Mark Hayes

Lord, most holy, fount of grace, joy of heaven, fill this place;
Grant this blessing from above, come, sweet Spirit, Thou art loved, Lord, most holy,
Lord, most holy, ever near, pilgrim seeker, find us here.
Make Thy dwelling in our hearts; grant a glimpse of who Thou art, Lord, most holy.
There is none above Thee, there is none beside Thee,
make Thy presence known to Thy servants below, Lord, most holy.
Lord God Almighty, Lord most holy, stir our faith; quench this thirst to seek Thy face.
Hear us as we humbly call; pour Thy lifestream on us all, Lord, most holy.
Holy is the Lord! Holy is our God!
He who always liveth evermore the same,
heav'n and earth He ruleth; come and praise His name.
Joy of heaven, grant this blessing from above,
come sweet Spirit, Thou art loved, Lord, most holy.

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 *The Solid Rock* Mr. Beddingfield
Mrs. McClain, *organ* Craig Curry

SENDING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 295 *Near to the Heart of God* McAFEE

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield

† BENEDICTION Mr. Beddingfield

POSTLUDE *Holy God, We Praise Your Name* David Cherwien
Mrs. McClain, *organ*

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Jimmy Jung by his children
on the occasion of his birthday.*

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: Jeanne Barker, Burgess Marshbanks, Pastor Ed Beddingfield, Tricia Carr, Doris Eller, Linda Smith, Betty Wallace

Family and Friends: Rickey Taylor (*father of Carrie Royal*); Al Moore (*son of Mila Johnson Moore; grandson of John T & Glynn Johnson*); Amanda Alexander (*cousin of Gracie Jonas*); John Barker (*son of Jeanne Barker*); Brayden Naquin (*student at DMS*); Charles Davis (*brother of Debbie Appel*); 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

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

Ushers Today: Cherry DeVane, Chad Godwin, Derek Hogan and Jeff Pope
Ushers June 1: Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson, Linda Lunney and Siu-Ki Wong

Kids' Church Today: Meredith Craddock
Kids' Church June 1: (*need volunteer*)

Nursery today: Charlotte Riewestahl
Nursery June 1: (*need volunteer*)

Please be in prayer for our newly elected deacons:

Sonya Godwin
Olivia Scarborough
Scotty Scarborough
David Steegar



TODAY, May 25th

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)

MONDAY, May 26th

Church Office Closed for Memorial Day Holiday

WEDNESDAY, May 28th

** No Wednesday Night Activities*

JUNE 2025

1 **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*

4 ** No Wednesday Night Activities*

8 **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)

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

11 **Summer Choir Rehearsal I:** 7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)
** No Other Wednesday Night Activities*

14-21 ***Puerto Rico Mission Trip***

15 ***Father's Day***

Financial Position as of 4/30/25

» Total support	\$ 183,554
» Total expenditures	\$ (167,552)
» Support exceeds expenditures	\$ 16,002
» Total 2025 Budget Proposal	\$ 418,220
» Percent of year passed	33%
» Support needed to meet budget	\$ 137,497
» Undesignated support received as of 4/30/25	\$ 136,716
» Operating expenses offset received from Stokes Day Care	\$ 2,550
» Support exceeds budgeted needs as of 4/30/25	\$ 1,769

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.'

Memorial Baptist Church

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Buies Creek, NC 27506
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Emails: edb@memorialbcnc.org
meredith@memorialbcnc.org
ashley@memorialbcnc.org
Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm
Other Staff: By Appointment



**MEMORIAL
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 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