

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

When in the dim beginnings of the years
God mixed in us the raptures and the tears
And scattered through our brains the starry stuff,
God said, "Behold! yet this is not enough,
For I must test their spirit to make sure
That they can dare the vision and endure.

I will leave them to make the fateful guess,
Will leave them torn between the No and Yes,
Leave them unresting till they rest in Me,
Drawn upward by the choice that makes them free;
Leave them in tragic loneliness to choose,
With all in life to win, or all to lose."

"I will withdraw my Face,
Vail me in shadow for a certain space,
Leaving behind me only a broken clue –
A crevice where the glory glimmers through,
Some whisper from the sky,
Some footprint in the road to track me by.

~ "The Testing" (ad.),
by Edwin Markham (1852-1940),
American poet and educator.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* arr. Wallace/Head
Anne McClain, *organist*
David Johnson, *trumpet*

PROCLAMATION OF THE RESURRECTION Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*, and
Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*
I Peter 1: 3, 8

Voice One: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by whose great mercy we have been born again into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Voice Two: *Without having seen him, we love him;
and though we do not see him now, we believe in him,
and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy.*

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN 159 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* EASTER HYMN

† EASTER ACCLAMATION (*responsively*) Mr. Beddingfield and Congregation
Leader: Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed!
All: ALLELUIA!

† INVOCATION Mr. Beddingfield

AFFIRMATION OF THE EASTER FAITH (*responsively*) Mrs. Craddock
I Corinthians 15: 1-8, 12-22, 57

Sisters and brothers, I want to remind you of the good news
that I preached to you, which you in turn received, in which you also stand,
and through which you are also being saved, provided you hold it fast –
unless you have come to believe it in vain. For I passed on to you
as the most important thing what I had first received:

**That Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures;
that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance
with the scriptures; and that he appeared to Peter, then to the Twelve.**

Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time,
most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James,
then to all the Apostles.

Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead,
how can some say that there is no resurrection of the dead?
If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised,
and therefore our preaching is in vain, and so is your faith.
We could even be accused of misrepresenting God, because we testified that
God raised Christ, which God did not do if it is true that the dead are not raised.

For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised.

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
Then also those who have died in Christ have truly perished.

**If for this life only we have hoped in Christ,
we are of all people most to be pitied.**

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those
who also have died. For since death came through one human being,
the resurrection of the dead has also come through another human being.
For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

**Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ!**

ANTHEM *A Triumphant Alleluia* Joseph Martin

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
he who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled.
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Come and lift your hearts on high.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Let your anthems fill the sky.
Alleluia, to the Father, alleluia, to the Son,
Alleluia to the Spirit, praise the blessed Three in One!

This is the day that God has made for song.
Rejoice in life and sing with spirits strong.
Bring worthy praise to whom all praise belongs.

Alleluia! Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
Any may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen! Loud praise to Christ our King,
Alleluia! Amen! Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again; Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
Oh heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore, Alleluia! Amen!

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING Mrs. Craddock

PROCLAIMING

GOSPEL Matthew 27: 62 - 28: 15 Mrs. Craddock
The guards at the tomb and the Resurrection.

SERMON *Believe It or Not* Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

† SONG OF RESPONSE *King of Kings* B. Ligertwood/S. Ligertwood/Ingram
Mariamarta Conrad, *Leader*

Praise the Father, praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit three in one.
God of Glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

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 *Glorious Risen Lord!* Mr. Beddingfield
Mrs. McClain arr. Jonathan Lee

SENDING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 173 *Christ Is Alive* TRURO

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield

† BENECTION Mr. Beddingfield

† RESURRECTION RESPONSE RESURRECTION
Because he lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

POSTLUDE *Fanfare* Handel, arr. Homer Whitford
Mrs. McClain, *organ*
Mr. Johnson and Isaac Reyes, *trumpets*

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: Melanie Yoder Joyner, Kay Hedgepeth, Linda Lunney, Joe Rockholt,
Will & Christine Roberts, Marshall & Jeanie Kornegay, Charlie & Jeanne Lewis,
David & Trula Gray, Betty Wallace, Doris Eller, Linda Smith

Family and Friends: Linda W. Smith (*cousin of Donna Haynes*); Paul Bass (*friend of
Susan Johnson*); Shirley Grimm (*mother of Duwayne Grimm*); Harriet Whiteman;
International teachers & families

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

† *Worshippers are invited to stand.*

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Donna W. Haynes to the glory of God, with a grateful heart for His gift of redemption through Christ our redeemer, and in thankfulness for the blessing of her daughter, Donna Elizabeth, whose birthday is tomorrow.

Deacons for April 2026: Sonya Godwin and Randall Johnson
Deacons for May 2026: Charlotte Riewestahl and Scotty Scarborough

Ushers Today: Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson, Linda Lunney and Siu-Ki Wong

Ushers April 12: Bob Cisneros, Adam English and Miles West

No Kids' Church Today

Kids' Church April 12: Meredith Craddock

Nursery Today: Michele Phelps

Nursery April 12: Charlotte Riewestahl

TODAY, April 5th Easter Sunday 

Easter Sunrise Service: 7:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Easter Sunrise Breakfast—immediately following Sunrise Service
 (Fellowship Hall)

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

* **No Sunday School Today**

* **No Kids' Church Today**

MONDAY, April 6th

Church Office Closed for Easter Holiday

WEDNESDAY, April 8th

* **No Wednesday Night Activities**

APRIL 2026

12 Sunday School

Friends Class: 9:00 a.m.

Sarah's Open Door Class: 9:00 a.m.

Children: 9:00 a.m. (Library)

Youth: 9:00 a.m. (Family Life Center)

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Kids' Church: during worship (Library)

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

14 Phi Delta Chi Pasta Dinner Fundraiser: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 (Fellowship Hall)

Financial Position as of 2/28/2026

» Total support	\$ 65,876
» Total expenditures	\$ (62,835)
» Total support exceeds expenditures	\$ 3,041
» Total 2026 Budget Proposal	\$ 418,220
» Percent of year passed	16%
» Undesignated support needed to meet budget	\$ 66,915
» Undesignated support received as of 2/28/2026	\$ 59,891
» Operating expenses offset received from Stokes Day Care	\$ 2,550
» Shortfall undesignated giving compared to budget	\$ (4,474)

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.



For April, we will collect:
Shampoo and Body Wash (or Bar Soap)

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

- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods**
 Needed for April -- **Canned Fruit**
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 new or used men's or boys' belts that can be used for students at the school.*

Memorial Baptist Church

271 Leslie Campbell Avenue/P.O. Box 485
 Buies Creek, NC 27506

Telephone: 910-893-4162 Fax: 910-893-2167

Website: www.memorialbcnc.org

edb@memorialbcnc.org

Emails: meredith@memorialbcnc.org

ashley@memorialbcnc.org

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

Other Staff: By Appointment



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

*Easter Sunday
 April 5, 2026*

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
 Xiomara Felix, Custodian