Union United Methodist Church 8935 Shallowford Road Lewisville, North Carolina 27023



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Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship



** P – Pastor Bold – C: Congregation responds **

- P: We come to worship, remembering God's goodness that has carried us and sustained us to this present moment.
- C: We remember the days when God covered us in love and filled us with joy.
- P: We come to worship, weary from stress, heavy with grief, and wondering when relief will come.

C: We long for the days God covered us in love and filled us with joy.

- P: We come to worship to remember and remind one another that God's love has never left us, and God's joy cannot be extinguished.
- C: God, restore us that we know your love and your joy once again.
- P: We come to worship to remember and become the Body of Christ, a community called to restore the world around us.
- C: God, empower us to be your restoration people who fill the world with love, laughter, and abundant life. Amen!

Our Statement of Faith – The Apostles Creed p. 881 UMH

** All to recite in unison **

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!

The Gloria Patri p. 70 UMH

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Opening Hymn – Fairest Lord Jesus p. 189 UMH vv. 1, 3, & 4

Sharing Our Praises & Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

Offering – Ushers come forward

Doxology p. 95 UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heav'nly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson – Psalm 126 (NRSVue)

** L – Leader Bold – C: Congregation responds **

L: ¹ When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those

who dream.

- C: ² Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."
- L: ³ The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.
- C: ⁴ Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.
- L: ⁵ May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.
- C: ⁶ Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Hymn – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross p. 298 UMH vv. 1, 3, & 4

New Testament Reading – John 12:1-8 (NRSVue)

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus's feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Sermon – Fill Me With Laughter

Holy Communion - Service of Word & Table II (Please follow on your handout or screen)

Closing Hymn – Beneath the Cross of Jesus p. 297 UMH

Benediction & Commission

May you go out from this place in the blessing of God, who turns your weeping into laughter and your laughter into joy that plants seeds of restoration, justice, and abundance for all of God's creation. Amen!

Lectionary Readings for the week beginning April 7th, 2025

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Psalm 31:9-16 Luke 19:28-40

Announcements

- The Union UMC Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 13, 2025 at 2:00 PM at the church. The Easter Bunny is expected to stop by. Invite your friends and neighbors. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase our church to the community.
- An Administrative Board meeting will be held on April 15, 2025 at 4:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Prayer List

Steve and Lena Gough All who are serving our country at home and abroad

<u>Church Family</u> Wayne Bumgardner Frank Dalton Sherry Doub Frances V. Gough

Wanda Needham Barbara Perryman Frances Sisk Church Friend / Extended Family Tommy Bost Tammy Seats Boyd Jimmy & Deborah Branch Jane Bullin Leisha Carpenter Joe Dean Ruby Driver Mack Edwards Joanne Everhart Mary File Garry Harbin Kathy Harbin Lynda Harper Ronald Howell

Amber Lambert Family of Jeannette Lanier Kevin McBride Kevin McDaniel Mark Megela Dawn Proctor Jay D. Prevette Vivian Royal Mary Ellen Smith Kim Triplette Mark Wall Ann Wallace Robert and Susan Warren Savannah Wooten

April Birthdays

Garry Harbin	2
John Seats	4
Susie Seats-Edwards	9
Jeremy Gearheart	10
Caroline Burton	11
Bradley Thompson	21
Ronnie Southern	23

Brad Collins	26
Sadie Disher	27
Annabel Parker Mark	28
Autumn Rayne Atkinsor	า 28
Hugh McBride	30
Faye Seats	30

Wesley Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee, or brought low for thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen!