

Union United Methodist Church

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Rev. Randy Perdue, Pastor

Norma Jean Harbin, Organist

Rev. Dr. Mark D. Conforti, Yadkin Valley District Superintendent

Bulletin – August 17, 2025

For the Sake of Joy

Dear Children of God: Dear Beloved Children

10th Sunday After Pentecost, Year C

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship



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

P: Children of God, for the sake of the joy, we gather...

C: We gather to worship, to encounter grace, to grow in faith.

P: For the sake of the joy, we proclaim...

C: We proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, the love of God that surrounds us and forms us into a community marked by love for God, self, neighbor, and all creation.

P: For the sake of the joy, we respond...

C: We respond with our lives, ready to embody our faith as agents of God's already-and-not-yet kingdom.

P: For the sake of the joy, God sends us...

C: God sends us into the world to meet our neighbors with the defiant joy and persevering love of the gospel today and every day.

P: Come, let us worship the Triune God who dwells with us as we gather, proclaim, respond, and go forth from this place.

All: Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God. 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 – How Firm A Foundation p. 529 UMH

Sharing Our Praises & Prayers

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's 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 Reading – Psalm 82 (NRSVue)

L: ¹ God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:

C: ² **“How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? *Selah***

L: ³ Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.

C: ⁴ **Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”**

L: ⁵ They have neither knowledge nor understanding; they walk around in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

C: ⁶ **I say, “You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you;**

L: ⁷ nevertheless, you shall die like mortals and fall like any prince.”

All: ⁸ **Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations belong to you!**

Hymn – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee p. 89 UMH

New Testament Reading – Hebrews 11:29-12:2 (NRSVue)

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. ³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. ^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Sermon – For the Sake of Joy

Closing Hymn: Soon and Very Soon p. 706 UMH

Benediction & Commission

Children of God, go now in the presence of the great cloud of witnesses and in the blessing of God who forms us for community. May you find in God and one another the joy to persevere as we follow after Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, as we seek God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Lectionary Readings beginning August 18, 2025

Jeremiah 1:4-10 | Psalm 71:6 | Hebrews 12:18-29 | Luke 13:10-17

Announcements

- A memorial gift has been given by Norma Jean Harbin in memory of Leroy Burton.
- A memorial gift has been given by Frank Dalton in memory of his brother-in-law, Leroy Burton.
- A gift has been given by Faye Seats in memory of Leroy Burton.

Prayer List

Steve and Lena Gough

All who are serving our country at home and abroad

Church Family

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

Mack Edwards

Mary File

Garry Harbin

Kathy Harbin

Lynda Harper

Ronald Howell

David Joyner

Kevin McBride

Kevin McDaniel

Mark Megela

Jay D. Prevette

Vivian Royal

Mary Ellen Smith

Kim Triplette

Mark Wall

Ann Wallace

Robert and Susan Warren

Savannah Wooten

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Ed Doub	1	Samantha Rose Perryman	23
Angela Brown	3	Norma Jean Harbin	24
Carl Pellington	3	Buddy Hutchins	25
John Collins	4	Colin Burton	26
Liz Pellington	4	Randy Perdue	29
Jackie Seats	6	Abby Seats	30
Jeff Perryman.	11	Bowen Blackburn	31
Molly Kellam.	20		



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!

SERMON NOTES

- Where did you hear God speaking to you in today's message?
- What main thought(s) can you use this coming week?
- Did you hear anything new and/or different from the scripture or the message today?
- What reaffirmed or challenged you?
- Additional thoughts and/or ideas?