

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, June 14, 2026

Opening Words Genesis 18: 1-15

The Three Visitors

The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant."

"Very well," they answered, "do as you say."

So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread."

Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

"Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him.

"There, in the tent," he said.

Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son."

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?"

Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh."

But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

*Hymn "Standing on the Promises" Hymnal 374

WORDS & MUSIC: R. Kelso Carter

Standing on the promises
of Christ my King,
through eternal ages
let his praises ring;
glory in the highest,
I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God

Standing on the promises
that cannot fail.
When the howling storms
of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God
I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God

Standing on the promises
of Christ the Lord,
bound to him eternally
by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily
with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God

Standing on the promises
I cannot fall,
listening every moment
to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior
as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God

Welcome

Pastor Scott Clawson

Call to Worship

God meets us in surprising yet ordinary places—under a tree, in the smile of a stranger, in a refreshing breeze that comes at just the right time.

God, open our hearts to notice your presence all around us.

God speaks to us in surprising yet ordinary ways—in a well-placed word from a friend, in a prayer that comes at just the right time, in a song that resonates through our entire being.

God, open our minds to recognize your voice all around us.

God fulfills God's promises in surprising yet ordinary ways—in an unexpected act of kindness, in providing just what we need at just the right time, in sending someone to listen when we feel alone.

God, open our hands to receive your blessings all around us.

Beloved, in the surprising and ordinary ways that God shows up among us, may we meet God and our neighbors with open hearts, minds, and hands, ready to encounter God's miraculous work.

God, open our lives to receive your blessings, that we may share together in the joy, wonder, and laughter of God's miraculous works all around us.

Hymn "Something Beautiful" Hymnal 394

WORDS: Gloria Gaither, MUSIC: William J Gaither

Something beautiful,
something good;
all my confusion he understood;
all I had to offer him
was brokenness and strife,
but he made something beautiful of my life.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

God, as you met Abraham in an ordinary moment of hospitality, meet us today in the ordinary moments of our lives.

Open our minds to recognize your presence among us;
open our hearts to receive your promises;
open our arms to embrace your miraculous works
with joy, wonder, and laughter.

As we gather to worship, help us find

the courage to hope,
the wisdom to trust,
and the perseverance to cooperate with you
as you fulfill our promises as you work
for abundant life for all creation.

Confirmation (9:30)

(After the pastor addresses the candidates: *The pastor addresses the congregation:*

PASTOR: Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

CONGREGATION: We do.

PASTOR: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these confirmands now before you in your care?

CONGREGATION: With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround them with a community of love and forgiveness

that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

PASTOR: Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

CONFIRMANDS: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

PASTOR: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

CONFIRMANDS: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

PASTOR: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

CONFIRMANDS: 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.

The pastor addresses the confirmands:

PASTOR: As members of Christ's universal church, will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

CONFIRMANDS: I will.

PASTOR: Members of the family of God, I commend these candidates to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

CONGREGATION: We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

The pastor addresses confirmands:

PASTOR: The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit that you may live in grace and peace. Remember your baptism and be thankful. The Holy Spirit work within you that having being born through water and Spirit, you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.

Sunday School Parade

Hymn "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" Hymnal 277

Tell me the Stories
of Jesus I love to hear;
things I would ask him
to tell me if he were here:

scenes by the wayside,
tales of the sea,
stories of Jesus,
tell them to me.

First let me hear how the
children stood round his knee,
and I shall fancy his
blessing resting on me;

words full of kindness,
deeds full of grace,
all in the love light
of Jesus' face.

Into the city I'd follow
the children's band,
waving a branch of the
palm tree high in my hand;

one of his heralds,
yes I would sing
loudest hosannas,
Jesus is King!

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you reached into Abraham and Sarah's lives
and asked them to dream the impossible dream—
that you would transform what appears to have been
a barren and lifeless situation
into one overflowing with promise and hope—
and, through faith in you, they believed your promises.

**Forgive us, O God,
if we never get beyond thinking of your call on our lives
as an impossible dream or even as an unwelcome
interruption.**

Faithful God,
the apostle Paul emphasizes Abraham's complete trust and faith
in your promises
and how he grew ever stronger in faith,
fully convinced of your ability to fulfill what had been promised.

**Forgive us, O God,
when we find it hard even to hear your promises
above commercial assurances of transformation—
promises tempting us to trust the newest
and trendiest product to realize our dreams.**

Merciful God,
Jesus revealed the great depth of your love
in his determination to defeat evil
even when this meant giving up his own life.

**Forgive us, O God,
when we allow the power of evil to flourish
because we fear that taking up one's cross
would be just too costly an exercise.**

Silent reflection on these words

Gracious and loving God, forgive our lack of trust in you;
Have mercy on us and forgive us.
Help us when we hesitate,

and strengthen us when we are weak

Breathe your Spirit afresh into our hearts and minds—our lives—
so that we have the courage to follow Jesus wherever he takes us.

Amen.

ANTHEM

New Testament Reading Romans 5: 1-8

Peace and Hope

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. **But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon While We Were Yet... Pastor Scott Clawson

***Hymn "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Hymn 299**

WORDS: Isaac Watts, MUSIC: Annon; arr. by Edward Miller

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands,
his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Benediction

Go now in the blessing of God, who meets us where we are and surprises us with new life where none seemed possible. **May we be a people who embody God's miracle, called laughter, as we work for the flourishing of all creation as the family of God. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Response "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

9:30 AM WORSHIP LEADERS

Lay Reader: Berta Lafoon
Ushers/ Greeters: Shawn & Riley Kocher

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NMUMC by the Numbers: June 7, 2026

8:15 AM: 16 9:30 AM: 53 11:00 AM: 60 Online: 14
Children's Sunday School: 27

Total Offering: \$29,889.50 *Regular Offering:* \$9,071.50*

Hope 4 Kids: \$15.00 New Ministry Center: \$4,270.00
NMCtr. Matching Grant: \$3,816.00 Egg Sales: \$67.00
Parsonage Rent: \$3,150.00 Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$500.00

**Amount Needed to Meet Weekly Budget: \$5,862.53*

Giving Tree Total: \$1,208,300.00 | Commitment Pledges: \$998,300.00
Commitment Estate Pledges: \$210,000.00

Congratulations, NMUMC!

*On June 10th, 2026, we reached our goal of a \$25,000 match.
We want to thank everyone for their commitment and generosity.*

Church Meetings

Tuesday, June 16: Morning Bible Study – 10:00 AM – Sanctuary
Tuesday, June 16: Council Meeting – 7:00 PM – ED Building Kitchen
Wednesday, June 17: Bible 101 – 6:00 PM – ED Building Kitchen
Sunday, June 21: Father's Day

Fresh Start Service: This service will be held at 8:15 am at Fairview Chapel. (6802 Boyers Mill Rd, New Market 21774) The design for this service is for those who want to get an early start on their Sunday and those who are seeking an alternate worship experience. Acoustic guitar, prayer, a short inspirational message, and Communion will be highlighted. The service is designed to last a half hour. OR join us later for an evening service at 6:00 PM

Daily Devotions Starting June 15th

Monday (6/15)- Genesis 21: 8-21

Have you ever been in a situation where your circumstances are beyond your control? How did God reassure you at this time of God's love and protection for you?

Tuesday (6/16)- Psalm 86: 1-10, 16-17

What supplication would you like to petition the Lord for today?

Wednesday (6/17)- Jeremiah 20: 7-13

Have you ever had a time when you could not help but speak out about God? How was your message received by others?

Thursday (6/18)- Psalm 69: 7-18

Have you ever used the phrasing in your prayers like verse 13? How, by using this phrase, can your prayers honor God?

Friday (6/19)- Romans 6: 1b-11

Do you feel that through Christ's sacrifice's you are "dead" to all your sins? Why or why not?

Saturday (6/20)- Matthew 10: 24-39

How have you acknowledged God before others? Have you ever failed to acknowledge God when you should have? How did it feel to miss this opportunity?

Sunday (6/21)- Worship online or in person.

Pastor Scott's Contact Information: Pastorscott62@gmail.com

240-409-8119 | Summer Office Hours: Thursday | 11 AM-4 PM

**Snowball Mt. Challenge! Vacation Bible School | August 3-7 |
6 PM – 8 PM | Kids ages 3 – 5th grade**

NEW THIS YEAR Adult Class!! This class will run the same date and time as our children's VBS Join us for one day or the whole week. We will enjoy a lesson, craft, and snack, just like the kids! Follow the QR codes below to register

**KIDS AGE 3-5TH
GRADE**



ADULT CLASS



**YOUTH
6TH- 12TH GRADE**



join us to volunteer!