

Entrance

Gathering

*Call to Worship

Let all creation shout!

Let us wave the palm branches high. Jesus is coming!

He comes in humility to claim God's own.

May he claim us this day and heal our hearts!

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Hosanna to the blessed Son of God!

*Opening Prayer

Hosanna! Blessed is Jesus who comes in God's Name! We stand at the gates of our Jerusalem and wave our branches high. We get caught up in the excitement of the parade. Jesus sits astride a donkey, a beast of burden bearing a most precious gift. Let the joy fill your hearts this day as we shout our Hosannas. Praise God for the wondrous ways in which our lives have been touched. Prepare our hearts to worship and celebrate this day! Amen.

***Hymn** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna – Hymn 278*

Proclamation and Response

Prayer of Illumination

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

Scripture Reading – Acts 10:9-16

Tinsley Allen

Sermon *Our God Loves the New*

Mark Gustafson

***Affirmation of Faith**

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***Gloria Patri**

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***Passing the Peace**

Offering / *Just a Closer Walk With Thee*

UMCers

***Doxology**

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Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn** *Have Thine Own Way, Lord – Hymn 382*

Sending Forth

***Benediction / Going Forth**

Happy Birthday to Pat Stokes (3/25), Paulette McDuffie (3/25), and Jennifer Dunham (3/28)!

The cover art is given to the glory of God by Tori Allen.

We pray today for Vickie Colbert, James Day, and Lindsey Durden at Elizabethtown Primary School.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of our Quinn's birthday by the Lancaster's.

Rev. Mark Gustafson, Pastor
919-931-9783

Randy Page, Accompanist
910-876-1075

Announcements

I am excited to celebrate my recommendation by the Board of Ordained Ministry to become fully ordained and connected into the North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church with you. I thank God for placing you in my life and ministry for such a time as this. You are invited to join me (in-person or online) for my ordination service, which will be in the morning of Saturday, June 15 at Greenville NC Convention Center.

1st Food Sundays: We will bless BCC grab and go lunch foods on Sunday, April 7. Suggestions include: microwavable lunch items like mac & cheese, ravioli, Chef Boyardee meatballs, etc., fruit, granola, protein bars, Lance crackers, canned fruit and veggies. Thank you for your giving heart!

Our last Lent study, on *Simon-Peter* by Adam Hamilton, will be tomorrow night, 7 p.m. at Bethlehem and on zoom to discuss. Feel free to join, even if you have not read the book!

Holy Week Schedule:

March 28: Maundy Thursday service at Live Oak, 6:30 p.m.
Bring a dish to share. We will be gathering around the table!

March 29: Good Friday service at St. Christopher's, 7 p.m.

March 31: Easter Sunrise service at the Farmer's Market, 7 a.m.

Easter morning services per usual Sunday schedule.

April 3: Senior Saints, 12 p.m. at Bethlehem.

April 5: Outdoor movie night at Bethlehem.

April 7: Mark will guest preach at St. Thomas AME-Z for their Usher's Day celebration. Service will be at 4 p.m. in the afternoon.

Long term planning:

Joint worship service at Jones Lake to celebrate Grace UMC's 1 year anniversary: June 2.

VBS at Bethlehem: June 9-12.

The BLOG (Bethlehem /Live Oak/ Grace) Prayer List:

Mentioned 2/25/2024: People of Ukraine; Kathy Lee; Warren Hill; the family and friends of Jim Knotts.

Mentioned 3/3/2024: Cindy Coble's coworkers; Durham Pate; all those affected by the UNC-P shootings; the family and friends of Ray Beasley, Jane Lomax, Jimmy Edwards; and Larry Feight.

Mentioned 3/10/2024: Linda Schaeffer; Darlene Bright; J.D. Swinney (Sharon Moore's father); Faye Richardson; Sylvia Wilson and family; Ashley Valenzuela (travel mercies); the family and friends of Harry and Dusty Tatum.

Mentioned 3/17/2024: those affected by the storms near Lakeview, OH; Tori Allen; Renee Horton; Cindy Coble (travel mercies); Lanna Montgomery (friend of Cindy's); Parker Hales; the security of our communities; Jeremy McLean; the family and friends of Lib Sessoms.

Prayers this week: Joy Grady and family; Liam Ferrell; Jacob Chavis; Matthew Krause; Harold Sasser; Steve and Debbie Dunham; Beth Nance; Billy & Stella Cain.

Grace United Methodist Church

March 24, 2024

**6th Sunday in Lent
Worship Service 8:30 am**

Our Mission

*To become faithful disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

Our Vision

*We welcome everyone into the experience
of a different story!*

