

Entrance

Gathering

*Call to Worship

Great is the Lord!

God's greatness is beyond our understanding.

Yet God has revealed God's self in Jesus Christ.

Through Jesus we have come to know the absolute love of God.

Lift up your hearts and praise the Lord!

May God continue to bless God's people with peace.

*Opening Prayer

God of majesty and power, how awesome you are to us! The mountains tremble, the seas roar at the sound of your name! Yet you have chosen to come to us in love and tenderness. You have called us to be people who will act in ways of peace and justice in your world. Open our hearts and our spirits, Lord, to hear your word, and having heard, to act in ministries of hope and peace for all your earth. These things we pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.

*Hymn *Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters – Hymn 605*

Proclamation and Response

Prayer of Illumination

Like the sun that is far away and yet close at hand to warm us, so God's Spirit is ever present and around us. Come Creator into our lives. We live and move and have our very being in you. Open now the windows of our souls. Amen.

Scripture Reading – *John 3:1-17*

Lee Hauser

Sermon

Born Again

Mark Gustafson

Prayer of Confession

(Prayed by Pastor Mark)

*Gloria Patri

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*Passing the Peace

Offering / *He Touched Me*

UMCers

*Doxology

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Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Reception of New Members

Pages 34, 38-39

*Hymn

Because He Lives – Hymn 364

Sending Forth

*Benediction / Going Forth

Happy Birthday to Tori Allan (5/27), Barry Wohlford (5/28), Ann Dunn (5/29), Mike O'Donnell (5/30), Faith Faircloth (5/31), Grace Faircloth (5/31), and Karen Valenzuela (6/1)!

Happy Anniversary to Dave & Karen Valenzuela (5/28), Dave & Mary Herring (5/31), and Daryl & Joyce Strickland (6/1)!

We pray today for Melissa Holliday, Michelle Hunt, and Tammy Jackson at Elizabethtown Primary School.

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

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Barry and Alan's birthdays by Beth Sasser and Melanie Wohlford.

Rev. Mark Gustafson, Pastor
919-931-9783

Randy Page, Accompanist
910-876-1075

Announcements

We welcome Wally and Rosemary Bengston, Barbara Baerwald, Janelle Rose, and Hannah Martin to Grace UMC this morning!

Admin Council Meeting: May 30, 6 p.m. at the library.

Joint worship service at Jones Lake to celebrate Grace UMC's 1 year anniversary: June 2. We will worship at 10 a.m. and enjoy a meal, fun and fellowship at the lake! The UMM will provide chicken and drinks. Please bring sides and desserts to share!

Senior Saints: June 5, 12 p.m. at Bethlehem.

First Food Sunday: We will collect food and clothing for Live Oak's food pantry on June 9: Cleaning supplies, shampoo, soap, deodorant, feminine products, hearty soups, flour, sugar, oil and juices. Also, summer clothing.

Note: First Food Sunday will "take a vacation" during July and August.

We have closed on the property across from the Baptist Church! We will have a dedication service on site directly after a shortened worship service here at St. Christopher's on June 9.

VBS at Bethlehem: June 9-12: Sunday, 5-7:30 p.m., Monday-Wednesday, 5:45-8:30 p.m. Consider volunteering and/or spreading the word to children who would benefit!

Bladen Blessed Lunch and Learn: June 13, 11:30 a.m. at the Ag Center.

You are ALL invited by the Gustafson's:

- 1) Daniel's graduation party! Friday, June 7, beginning at 6 p.m. Food and fun provided. Come whenever, stay as long as you can.
- 2) Saturday, June 15, 11 a.m. Greenville, NC Convention Center. Mark's ordination.

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

Mentioned 4/28/2024: All those affected by the tornadoes in the Midwest; all unhappy people; Leon Martin; Ronnie Dowless; Pete Kinlaw; Linda Dunaway; Betty Joyce Blackman; Linda Evers; Shirley Chason; Janice Robbins; the family and friends of Michael Shaw, Logan Langston.

Mentioned 5/5/2024: Kynslie Kinlaw; Linda Halstead; Steve Vincent; Valerie and sister Sandra (a friend of Pat Routh); Luke Gustafson; Carolyn Lancaster; Cindy Coble; Carolyn (Annette's sister); law enforcement officers and families in Charlotte; Linda and Rosa Suggs; Diane Bush; Dave and Mary Herring; Viktoria (one of Laura Lopez's students); the family and friends of Anne Lancaster, Wayne Dove, Ginny Barnhill's mother; Anna Fraley, and the Graham family.

Mentioned 5/12/2024: David Back, Christopher Banks; Renee Horton; our military families; the family and friends of Christopher Baggett (incl. Sherry, his wife), Gary Hall (incl. wife Rhonda).

Mentioned 5/19/2024: Jacob Chavis; those affected by storms; Jamie Kinlaw; Jeff Butler; Tim Clifton; Cybil Ausip; Johnny Prevette; Beth Nance; Karen Smith.

Prayers this week: Joy Grady and family; Steve and Debbie Dunham; Katrina Perry (friend of Pat Routh); Annette Meares; Adele Clark; Alb Inman; Patty Scotten; Linda Schaeffer; Harold Sasser; Billy & Stella Cain.

Grace United Methodist Church

May 26, 2024

Trinity Sunday
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!*

