

THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
Fifth Sunday in Lent

A Worship Series for Lent  
*The Seven Last Words of Christ;*  
*“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”*

March 17, 2024  
Ten O’clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church  
Buies Creek, North Carolina

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Prelude in a GREGORIAN MODE* Henry Kijlken  
Anne McClain, *organ*

GREETING and † INVOCATION Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*

† HYMN OF PRAISE 594 *Lift High the Cross* CRUCIFER  
stanzas 1, 3 and 4

PSALTER READING *(responsively)* Psalm 22 Brittany Montgomery, *Ministry Intern*

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from helping me?  
O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
and by night but find no rest.

***Be not far from me O Lord***

Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
In you our ancestors trusted; and you delivered them.  
To you they cried and were saved;  
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

***Be not far from me O Lord***

But I am scorned by others and despised by the people.  
All who see me mock me; they sneer at me; they shake their heads;  
“Commit your cause to the Lord; let the Lord deliver—  
let the Lord rescue the one in whom he delights!”

***Be not far from me O Lord***

Yet it was you who took me from the womb and kept me safe.  
Do not be far from me, for trouble is near, and there is no one to help.

***Be not far from me O Lord***

CONFESSION OF SIN and ASSURANCE OF GRACE Ms. Montgomery

ANTHEM *If You Search With All Your Heart* Craig Courtney

When you seek me, you shall find me if you search with all your heart.  
For I know the plans I have for you: plans of welfare, not of evil.  
For I know the plans I have for you: plans of hope and a future.  
I will bring you out of bondage to the land I have prepared.  
I will bring you out of bondage, I will bring you home to me.

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

*\* Following the Anthem, children from age 3 through 3rd grade may meet Mrs. Erin Turlington at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Kids’ Church. Parents may pick up their children in the church library after the service.*

PROCLAIMING

GOSPEL Matthew 27: 45-56 Mr. Beddingfield

SERMON Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*  
*What’s the Endgame?*

PSALM OF RESPONSE *(responsively)* Mrs. Craddock  
Psalm 22, Deuteronomy 31: 6

You who fear the Lord, praise the Lord!  
For the Lord did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;  
the Lord did not hide his face from me but heard when I cried to him.

***The Lord my God goes with me; he will never leave me nor forsake me.***

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations shall worship before the Lord.  
For dominion belongs to the Lord, and the Lord rules over all.

***The Lord my God goes with me; he will never leave me nor forsake me.***

SONG OF TESTIMONY *Why?* Nichole Nordeman  
Charlotte Riewestahl, *vocalist*

RESPONDING

LEAVING IT AT THE CROSS

INVITATION TO FAITH Mrs. Craddock

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Mr. Beddingfield  
and The Lord’s Prayer *(unison)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven: Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;  
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY INVITATION Mr. Beddingfield

OFFERTORY *On Eagle’s Wings* arr. John Carter  
Mrs. McClain

SENDING

† HYMNS OF RESPONSE *Change My Heart, O God* Espinosa

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true;  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the potter, I am the clay;  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Hymn 305 *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* ASSAM  
stanzas 1, 3 and 4

LENTEN MISSION EMPHASIS Anne McClain, *Mission Committee*

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mrs. Craddock

† BENEDICTION Mrs. Craddock

POSTLUDE *Postlude on ST. PATRICK’S BREASTPLATE* Lani Smith  
Mrs. McClain

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

**Members:** Lorrie Pope, Burgess Marshbanks, Linda Smith, Joe Turlington, Ofe (Hoyle) Rockholt, Catherine King, Carolyn Walker, Betty Wallace, Jimmy Jung, Pauline Calloway

**Family and Friends:** Frances Roberson (*aunt of Melissa Meyers*); Michael Warren (*brother of Donna Haynes*); Gabe and Bailey (*foster children of Will and Christine Roberts*); Family of Suellen Leonard; Nate, Creed and Selwyn Leonard (*friends of Johnnie Jackson*); Steve Hammond (*godfather of Charlotte Riewestahl*); Angie Ward (*grand-mother of Liz Stone*); Carol Barefoot (*sister of Linda Lunney*); Rachel Ennis (*coworker of Charissa English*); Terry Barker (*daughter-in-law of Jeanne Barker*); Joyce Harrelson (*mother of Tammy Scarborough*); Mary McClain (*mother of Greg McClain*); Aaron Bowers (*brother of Charissa English*); Tonya Taylor (*sister-in-law of Carrie Royal*)

**Aldersgate senior living center (Charlotte, NC):** Louise Taylor

**Emerald Health and Rehab Center (Lillington, NC):** Pat Stiller

**Prayers of Comfort** are extended to the family of Melissa Meyers in the death of her aunt, Frances Roberson, on Friday, March 8th. Her graveside service was held yesterday.

**Prayers of Comfort** are also extended to the family of Adam English in the death of his father, W.D. English, on Saturday, March 9th.

*In order to keep our prayer list current, we will place names on the list for one month. After one month we will remove names from the list. If there is a need for a name to be on the list for a longer period, please notify us and we will be happy to comply.*

**Deacons for March 2024:** Cherry DeVane and Randall Johnson  
**Deacons for April 2024:** Lisa Lanier and Jac Whatley

**Ushers Today:** Beverley Howard, Ron McLamb, Scotty Scarborough and Lee Turlington  
**Ushers March 24:** Cherry DeVane, Chad Godwin, Derek Hogan and Jeff Pope

**Kids’ Church today:** Erin Turlington  
**Nursery today:** *(need volunteer)*

**NO Kids’ Church March 24**  
**Nursery March 24:** Charlotte Riewestahl

TODAY, March 17<sup>th</sup>

Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
Sarah’s Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library)  
Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
Kids’ Church: during worship (Library)

WEDNESDAY, March 20<sup>th</sup>

Children’s Choir: 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)  
Simple Supper - Spaghetti and Salad: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Classroom)  
Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)  
Lenten Bible Study - led by Michael Thompson: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, March 23<sup>rd</sup>

Graveside Service for Frances Lloyd: 2:00 p.m. (Buies Creek Cemetery)

MARCH 2024

24 PALM SUNDAY

Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
Sarah’s Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library)  
Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
\* No Kids’ Church  
ROAD TO THE RESURRECTION: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Children’s Easter Program and Egg Hunt  
Palm Sunday Concert ~ Durufle Requiem  
CU Choral Society: 4:00 p.m. (CU Butler Chapel)

27 Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)  
\* No Other Wednesday Night Activities

28 Maundy Thursday Service: 6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)  
Communion service and “Love Divine” a service of meditation for Holy Week by Joel Raney, led by the Chancel Choir

31 Easter Sunday  
Easter Sunrise Service: 7:00 a.m. (Buies Creek Cemetery)  
Easter Sunrise Breakfast—immediately following Sunrise Service (Fellowship Hall)  
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
\* No Sunday School Today  
\* No Kids’ Church Today




Blood Drive at Memorial Baptist Church

Thursday, April 11, 2024  
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sign up today at:  
[redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS

APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS BACKPACKS



For March, we are collecting full-sized containers of Shampoo and Body Wash as well as Soap.

Place items in the plastic tote in the hallway.

We also welcome monetary donations to go toward the purchase of backpacks and Bibles. Designate your donation as ‘Backpacks.’

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- **Clothes Closet:** Next date TBD
- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting non-perishable foods and egg cartons  
Needed for March -- **Boxed Mac & Cheese**  
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as ‘Food Pantry.’
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting “nab crackers”  
[cheese with cheese or cheese with peanut butter]  
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as ‘Buddy Backpack.’
- **Belts for HCMS:** Donations of used men's or boys belts that can be used for students.

Check the bulletin board for community announcements.

**Memorial Baptist Church**  
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[meredith@memorialbcnc.org](mailto:meredith@memorialbcnc.org)  
[ashley@memorialbcnc.org](mailto:ashley@memorialbcnc.org)

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm  
Other Staff: By Appointment



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Fifth Sunday in Lent  
March 17, 2024

Memorial Baptist Church is an inviting, inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith open to all persons who want to walk with us in following the way of Jesus. If you mourn and need comfort; if you’re weary and need rest; if you feel friendless and need friendship; if you need a Savior; if you need love; if you need help; whoever you are and whatever your circumstances, we open the door and in the name of Jesus bid you come.

The Rev. Edward Beddingfield, Pastor  
Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor  
Dr. Phillip and Susan Morrow, Ministers of Music  
Anne McClain, Organist  
Brittany Montgomery, Ministry Intern  
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant  
Wayne Smith, Custodian