



MAIN STREET  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 1, 2023

World Communion Sunday

10:55 am

Traditional Worship Service

Church Family News

Voice of Diakonia (*Voice of Servanthood*)

Diana Williams

Prelude

*Italian Hymn*  
Keith Maxey, organist

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Chiming of the Trinity

\* Call to Worship

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**  
The risen Christ is with us. **Praise the Lord!**

\* Processional Hymn No. 568

*Christ for the World We Sing*

ITALIAN HYMN

\* Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.** *All pray in silence.*

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.**

\* Sharing the Peace

Joys & Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

Kids' Time

*Jesus Loves the Little Children*

Victoria Smathers

**Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world; every color, shape, and size,  
They are precious in his eyes. Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

Children ages 3 years to 1st grade are dismissed to *Kids Connect-Worship*.  
Parents may pick up their children in the Children's Education Building after the worship service.

Scripture

Exodus 16: 1-12  
Pew Bible, OT page 62

Bonnie Macumber

Anthem

*O Lord, Bread of Life*  
Chancel Choir with Laura Blankenship, violin; Keith Maxey, pianist; Nancy Blakemore, director

Fauré/arr. Liebergen

Homily

"Looking/Living in the Rearview Mirror"

Mike Gehring

\* Hymn TFWS No. 2238

*In the Midst of New Dimensions*

NEW DIMENSIONS

\* Offering Invitation

Offertory

*Berceuse from Dolly Suite*  
Laura Blankenship, violinist; Keith Maxey, pianist

Fauré

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

### The Great Thanksgiving for World Communion Sunday

Mike Gehring and Al Ward

*(name)* The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You have made from one every nation and people to live on all the face of the earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all nations, and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table.

*(name)* On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith. **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world, and strengthen it in every nation and among every people to witness faithfully in your name. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

### Sharing the Meal

Music for Meditation, Keith Maxey

*In the United Methodist Church, the Lord's Table is open to everyone who seeks the grace of God in Christ. Because of our conviction that God's grace is extended to people of all ages, children are welcome at the communion table. You will stand to receive the elements and then kneel to pray at the communion rail if you choose. As a sign of your openness to receive the sacrament, stretch out your hands to receive the bread. The pastors will place a piece of bread in your hand and you will be offered the cup. By faith, this will be for you a sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ. The ushers will guide your coming to and going from the Lord's Table. If you are unable to come to the front to receive communion, just let one of the ushers know and the pastors will serve you in your seat. You are welcome to leave an offering to the poor on the communion rail. Pre-packaged Communion elements are available upon request from the basket at the communion rail.*

### Prayer after Communion

\* Hymn No. 670

*Go Forth for God*

GENEVA 124

\* Benediction

Mike Gehring

\* Chiming of the Trinity and Postlude

*Go Forth in Praise*

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\* please stand as you are able

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## ***Welcome to worship at Main Street United Methodist Church!***

*When Christians worship, we step into an alternative world. Liturgy and ritual, hymns and prayers invite us into another landscape. Jesus' words and the experience of his presence peel back the rhetoric that pummels our eardrums so that we are able to hear him say to us, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:27, NRSV)*

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### **Thank you for worshipping with us today at Main Street UMC!**

If you are a visitor, please sign the attendance pad in the pew so that we can contact you at a later date in order to discuss the ministries of Main Street UMC.

**Restrooms** are located in the back left corner of the Narthex.

**Should you need to step out during worship**, you can go to the Parlor and still view and hear the worship service. Please see an usher if you need assistance.

**Main Street UMC's Sanctuary** is an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur. Camera angles may capture your image as you worship. Our weekly services are routinely shared with others via livestream and DVD. If you would like a DVD of today's 10:55 service, please contact Kathryn at 993-3411 in the church office.

**Confidential prayer requests** can be made by calling the church office at 336-993-3411 or by clicking the "contact" tab on [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org).

**Children's Ministry:** We are so happy to share God's love with our children! Main Street is a Safe Sanctuary Congregation.

- *Nursery* (8:30-noon) is available for infants-3 year olds in the Education Building. The nursery is staffed with experienced caregivers and lay volunteers.
- *Kids Connect* is our Sunday School (9:45-10:45am) program for children ages 3 years old to 5th grade in the Education building. Kids Connect offers a large group Bible lesson, worship, and small group activities.
- *Kids Connect-Worship* is offered during the 10:55am service for wiggly kids ages 3 years to 1st grade who can't quite remain in worship the entire time. Kids of all ages are invited to the front for *Moments with Children* before the younger children are dismissed to the Education Building for *Kids Connect-Worship* activities.

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### **Main Street UMC Staff**

Mike Gehring, Senior Pastor

Phil Kuntz, Associate Pastor

Al Ward, Minister of Visitation

Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth Ministries

Victoria Smathers, Director of Children's Ministries

Nancy Blakemore, Director of Music Ministries

Keith Maxey, Organist

Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director

Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Director

Tina Crew, Business Manager

Betsy Tang, Administrative Assistant

Kathryn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant

Anthony Simmonds, Custodian

Willie Craven, Custodian

Theo Dunlap, Custodian

Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director

Cynthia Barron, Kitchen Hostess

Katherine Goad, Nursery Supervisor

**Main Street United Methodist Church**  
**306 S. Main Street, Kernersville, NC 27284**  
**336-993-3411      [www.mainstreetumc.org](http://www.mainstreetumc.org)**

**THE PUMPKINS ARE HERE!** This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, and benefits our youth and children's ministries as well as our preschool. We need lots of help! Sign up to volunteer for a shift in the patch at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) under "signups" on the red stripe. This year, our Preschool Director, Kellie Vinay, and Children's Ministry Director, Victoria Smathers, will be your "go-to" contacts for all things PUMPKINS! We can't wait to see you in the patch!

**OUR TAKE A HIKE GROUP** will meet in the church parking lot at 8:30am to walk 2-3 miles on the paved trail at Salem Creek Greenway on **October 3**. All are welcome to join us! Contact Wade Hampton if you have questions.

**OASIS WORSHIP SERVICE:** Come to the Sanctuary at 5:30pm on Wednesdays for an intimate 30-minute service with Holy Communion and prayer led by one of our pastors, with music by Chuck Foster, and a short devotion by a member of our congregation. Our Oasis service is meant to be a time of refreshment and encouragement in the middle of a busy week. *Oasis will meet only on weeks that we have the Wednesday Night Connect Dinner.*

**THE WEDNESDAY CONNECT DINNER** on **Oct. 4** is Meatloaf (*gluten-free entrée is available upon request*). Dinner is served at **5:30pm**. Reservations can be made by: signing a reservation card and placing it in the offering plate; emailing Kathryn ([kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org](mailto:kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org)); calling the church office at 336-993-3411; visiting our website or clicking the link in the Thursday Connections email each week. Reservations must be made by **Monday at noon**. The suggested donation is \$6/adult, \$3/child (10 & under). *Great Expectations SS class serving.*

**STEPHEN VISITOR TRAINING:** A New Opportunity and An Invitation From Stephen Ministry! Main Street has been blessed through the years to have an amazing team of Stephen Ministers to walk with and care for people who are working their way through difficult, challenging times. After prayerful thought and discussion about how to best serve the needs of our Main Street family, the Pastors and Stephen Leaders invite you to serve as a **Stephen Visitor**. A Stephen Visitor is a caring, compassionate person who will be assigned to visit a member of our congregation twice a month. We will hold an orientation that will take place in two sessions in the J.C. Groce classroom, each session lasting two hours. Here is the orientation schedule: Sunday, **October 8**, 4-6PM and Sunday, **October 15**, 4-6PM. This orientation will provide information and training exercises. If you have questions, or would like to register for orientation, please contact Pastor Phil: [philip.kuntz@mainstreetumc.org](mailto:philip.kuntz@mainstreetumc.org), Emily Dreshfield: [Emily.dreshfield@gmail.com](mailto:Emily.dreshfield@gmail.com), or Melissa Dreshfield: [melissa.dreshfield@gmail.com](mailto:melissa.dreshfield@gmail.com). You can also register at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) and click "signups" on the red stripe.

**GLOW PARTY** for kids: join us in the evening of **October 8** from 5 to 7pm for *Main Street Kids' First Ever Glow Party & Pumpkin Decorating!* We will enjoy snacks, face painting, treats, games, music, and GLOW STICKS! Bring your family and friends for this new and fun event. Pick out a pumpkin from the Patch or from the Fellowship Hall for you to decorate! This is going to be a totally "fall-some" time! Donations are welcome and go directly to support our Children's Ministry.

**GALATIANS BIBLE STUDY:** Pastor Phil will be leading a Bible Study on the book of Galatians. The class will meet on Wednesday nights at 6:30 and will begin on **October 11** and finish on November 15. All that is required is a Bible, but a good study Bible will be helpful. Phil will be using the Interpretation Bible Commentary on Galatians (written by Charles Cousar) to help shape lessons, but it is optional for participants. Register for the class at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) and click on "signups" on the red stripe.

**A SPAGHETTI LUNCH FUNDRAISER AND CASSEROLE SALE** will be held in the Fellowship Hall on **October 15** from 11am until 1pm. No reservations are necessary. Proceeds from the luncheon and casserole sales will go towards the mission projects of United Women in Faith.

**THE MAIN STREET BOOK CLUB** will meet at noon in Room 310 on **October 19**. Everyone is invited to read C.S. Lewis' book, The Screwtape Letters, in advance and join us for the discussion.

**OUR NEXT HERITAGE CLUB OUTING** will be Lunch at Daniel Boone Inn and shopping at local shops on Tuesday, **October 24**. The bus will leave at 9:45 AM and the cost to ride will be \$5.00. Everyone will pay for their meal at the restaurant. Lunch is \$23.95 cash or check, no debit or credit cards. Reservations are required. Contact Debbie Smith.

**SIGNING AS WORSHIP CLASS:** In this class we will learn the sign language for songs we sing in worship. The signs we use will be a combination of ASL, English and interpretative signs. We will also spend some time on learning what the Bible says about movement in worship. This new class will meet the 2nd & 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM starting on **October 26** in the JC Grose Classroom. There is no cost for the class but please sign up so that sufficient handouts can be prepared. Anyone High School age and above is welcome to join us. Any questions or to sign up please email Lee Ann Messer at [messerla@comcast.net](mailto:messerla@comcast.net)

**CRISIS CONTROL** Collection boxes are in the new main entrance for donations to Crisis Control's Item of the Month. October's item is beef stew; other non-perishable food items can be donated as well. Items may be dropped off at any time during office hours (8:30-4:00 Monday-Thursday and 8:30-noon on Friday).

## Lyrics

### CHRIST FOR THE WORLD WE SING

1. Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with loving zeal; the poor, and them that mourn, the faint and overborne, sinsick and sorrow-worn, whom Christ doth heal.
2. Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with fervent prayer; the wayward and the lost, by restless passions tossed, redeemed at countless cost, from dark despair.
3. Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with one accord; with us the work to share, with us reproach to dare, with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
4. Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with joyful song; the new-born souls, whose days, reclaimed from error's ways, inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.

### IN THE MIDST OF NEW DIMENSIONS

1. In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways, who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?  
*Refrain:* God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar, we your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.
2. Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair, who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care? *Refrain*
3. As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes, grant that we, your global village, might envision wider dreams. *Refrain*
4. We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young, each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung. *Refrain*
5. Should the threat of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain, may your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again. *Refrain*

### GO FORTH FOR GOD

1. Go forth for God, go to the world in peace; be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace, in God's good Spirit daily to increase, till in the kingdom we see face to face. Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.
2. Go forth for God, go to the world in love; strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak; help the afflicted; richly from above God's love supplies the grace and power we seek. Go forth for God, go to the world in love.
3. Go forth for God, go to the world in strength; hold fast the good, be urgent for the right; render to no one evil; Christ at length shall overcome all darkness with his light. Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.
4. Go forth for God, go to the world in joy, to serve God's people every day and hour, and serving Christ, our every gift employ, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power. Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.