



MAIN STREET  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 30, 2025  
*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

10:55 am  
*Traditional Worship Service*

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**CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

Wayne Purdy

**VOICE OF DIAKONIA** (*Voice of Servanthood*)

Dave Black

**PRELUDE**

*Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*  
Jill Gardner, organist

Robert J. Powell

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

**INTROIT**

*Cornerstone*  
Alpha and Omega Youth Choir; Wes O'Brien, pianist; Jenny Lail, director

arr. Allen

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Joel 2:13)

Victoria Smathers

Rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God,

**For he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.**

**\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN** No. 384

*Love Divine All Love's Excelling*

BEECHER

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

Victoria Smathers

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. 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. Amen.**

*\*universal*

**\* SHARING THE PEACE**

Victoria Smathers

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Wayne Purdy

**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.**

**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.

<b>PSALTER READING</b>	UMH page 766	Psalm 32	Jennifer Graves
<b>ANTHEM</b>		<i>Song of Golgotha</i>	arr. Lloyd Larson
	Chancel Choir; Jill Gardner, pianist; Nancy Blakemore, director		
<b>SCRIPTURE</b>		Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32 Pew Bible, NT page 78	Lanny Lancaster
<b>SERMON</b>			Lanny Lancaster
	"This is the Way: Three Kinds of Lost and One Kind of Found"		
<b>* HYMN</b>	No. 348	<i>Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling</i>	THOMPSON
<b>OFFERING INVITATION</b>			Wayne Purdy
<b>OFFERTORY</b>		<i>Ah, Dearest Jesus</i>	Wilbur Held
<b>* OFFERTORY RESPONSE</b>		<i>Bless Thou the Gifts</i>	DEUS TUORUM MILITUM
	<b>Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought;          bless thou the work our hearts have planned.          Ours is the faith, the will, the thought; the rest, O God, is in thy hand.</b>		
<b>PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING</b>			Wayne Purdy
<b>* RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS</b>			Lanny Lancaster
	Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care? <b>With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful 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.</b> Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love. <b>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.</b>		
<b>* HYMN</b>	No. 140	<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>	FAITHFULNESS
<b>* BENEDICTION</b>			Lanny Lancaster
<b>* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY</b>			
<b>POSTLUDE</b>		<i>Galliarda</i>	Iouri Grichetchkine

\* 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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## Let's Worship Together!

### Sundays

8:30am less-formal Traditional service in the Sanctuary  
8:45am Jubilee Contemporary service in the Chapel  
10:55am Traditional Worship service in the Sanctuary

### Wednesdays (September-May)

5:00pm Oasis Mid-week Service in the Sanctuary

### Main Street UMC Staff

Lanny Lancaster, Senior Pastor  
Phil Kuntz, Associate Pastor  
Al Ward, Minister of Visitation  
Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth Ministries  
Victoria Smathers, Dir. of Children's Ministries  
Nancy Blakemore, Director of Music Ministries  
Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director  
Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Director  
Jill Gardner, Organist/Pianist

Tina Crew, Business Manager  
Betsy Tang, Administrative Assistant  
Kathryn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant  
Anthony Simmonds, Custodian  
Willie Craven, Custodian  
La'Niah Johnson-Flemming, Custodian  
Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director  
Cynthia Barron, Kitchen Hostess

### Main Street United Methodist Church

306 S. Main Street, Kernersville, NC 27284

336-993-3411

[www.mainstreetumc.org](http://www.mainstreetumc.org)

# Announcements

**THE WHITE ROSEBUD** on the altar in the Sanctuary is given to the Glory of God and in memory of Dan Lineberry.

**DURING THE SEASON OF LENT**, the church is more subdued than other times during the year. This is an expression of our penitence and re-focusing our lives on serving God. The decoration in the church is scaled back and some elements are removed, leading up to Maundy Thursday, when we strip the church of all decoration. During Lent, we remove all the brass that we can from our sanctuary and replace it with wooden candlesticks, wicker baskets for offering, and wooden crosses. For those items that cannot be removed, we cover them in a purple cloth. This scaling back and removal of decoration during Lent and the replacing of it on Easter helps us truly celebrate in a visual way the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**THE WEDNESDAY CONNECT DINNER** on **April 2** is Oven Fried Chicken (*gluten-free entrée is available upon request*). Dinner is served at **5:30pm**. Dining together is a great fellowship opportunity, but if you need to get your meal “to-go”, then we can do that, too! We have disposable takeout containers but we encourage you to bring your own re-usable containers for “to-go” meals. Reservations can be made by: signing a reservation card and placing it in the offering plate; calling the church office at 336-993-3411; emailing Kathryn ([kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org](mailto:kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org)); visiting our website or clicking the link in the Thursday Connections email each week. Reservations for dining in-person or “to-go” must be made by **Monday at noon**. The suggested donation is \$6/adult, \$3/child (10 & under). We accept cash, check, or cards. *Rise and Christian Fellowship SS classes serving.*

**OASIS WORSHIP SERVICE:** Come to the Sanctuary at 5:00pm 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.*

**SPRING CEMETERY CLEAN-UP:** In preparation for the Easter Sunrise Service, there will be a cemetery spring clean on Saturday, **April 5** starting at 9:00 a.m. (*Rain date will be the next Saturday, the 12th.*) Please join us with taking out all the old flower arrangements and cleaning the markers that need cleaning. The landscaping company will handle all the mowing and trimming, we just need to spruce up the other things. Families wishing to reuse Christmas and other decorations currently there should remove them prior to that Saturday. Also please do not place Easter or spring arrangements out until after the clean-up.

**CANTATA SUNDAY** is **April 6**, One Service, at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary. The combined choirs and orchestra directed by Nancy Blakemore with Jill Gardner, pianist and organist, present “The Passion Song” which includes the celebration of Holy Communion. From the triumphal entry to Easter morning, this cantata focuses primarily on the events of Holy Week. It features the feast of communion, recognizes Jesus as the Lamb of God, the Passover Lamb. And ultimately it affirms the risen Christ: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain (Rev 5:12)! Make plans now to attend at 10:30 am on Sunday, April 6, and invite your family, friends, and neighbors!

**EASTER JAM**—Come join us in the Chapel for an unforgettable Easter experience for the whole family! With games, music, laughter, and fun, this is one event you don't want to miss! We can't wait to see you as we dive into the Easter story together! See you there! Sunday, **April 6** at 3:00 pm in the Chapel!

**COLLECTION BOXES** are in the Main Entrance to the Commons for: **BOOKSAPALOOZA**—donate new or used books; **HOPE CENTER**—donate empty egg cartons, clothing, groceries; and **CRISIS CONTROL**—donate non-perishable food, each month has an item to focus on, March's items are pancake mix & syrup.

**PUBLICATION DEADLINES:** *Main Street Connections Email* requests are due to the church office by 4:00pm on Tuesdays; *Bulletin Announcements* are due to the church office by noon on Tuesdays; and *Newsletter Articles* are due by noon on the **FIRST** Friday of every month.

**THANK YOU** for helping to care for our Sanctuary by not bringing in food or beverages.

# Lyrics

## LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down; fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown! Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.
2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast! Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest. Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.
3. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return and never, never-more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be. Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

## SOFTLY AND TENDERLY JESUS IS CALLING

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me; see, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me. Come home, (Come home), come home; (come home); you who are weary, come home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!
2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? Come home, (Come home), come home; (come home); you who are weary, come home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!
3. Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing, passing from you and from me; shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming, coming for you and for me. Come home, (Come home), come home; (come home); you who are weary, come home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!
4. O for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. Come home, (Come home), come home; (come home); you who are weary, come home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!

## GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!