



MAIN STREET  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 17, 2026

10:55am

Ascension Sunday/Graduate Sunday

Traditional Worship Service

**CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

Victoria Smathers

**WE APPROACH GOD**

**PRELUDE**

*Air from the Water Music Suite* Handel/arr. Wallace-Mitchell & Head  
Rich Blakemore, trumpet; Jill Gardner, organ

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Daniel Hall

Give thanks to God, for God is good. **God's goodness and mercy are sure.**

Sing to the Spirit, for the Spirit is here. **The Spirit knows the ache for connection deep within us.**

Praise Christ Jesus, who loves us **with a love that is boundless and true.**

Give thanks to God, and sing God's praise, **as we worship together this day.**

**\* OPENING HYMN** TFWS No. 2223

ST. BRENDAN'S

*They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*

**\* PROCESSION OF THE GRADUATES**

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** No. 881 The Apostles' Creed

Sarah McIntosh

**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 OF CHRIST**

Sarah McIntosh

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** No. 895

Lanny Lancaster

**WE HEAR FROM GOD**

**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.**

**LINVILLE SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION**

Chadwick Stamper

**GRADUATE MOMENTS--SERVICE OF ANOINTING**

Lanny Lancaster, Sarah McIntosh,  
and Wayne Purdy

**ANTHEM**

*You Say*

L. Daigle/arr. H. Sorenson

Young Adult Ensemble; Alpha & Omega Youth Choir; Alicia Lail and Athena Malit, soloists;  
Kincaid Vinay, liturgical dancer; Jill Gardner, Director of Music Ministries

**SCRIPTURE**

Romans 8: 37-39 and Ephesians 2: 8-10

Allee Davis

**MESSAGE**

“Made for More”

Grayson Phillips, Alexis Hunter,  
and Wayne Purdy

**WE RESPOND TO GOD**

**ANTHEM**

*Made for More*

arr. Gambill

Alpha & Omega Youth Choir; Justin Shelton, guitar; Wes O'Brien, accompanist; Jenny Lail, director

**OFFERING INVITATION**

Sarah McIntosh

**OFFERTORY**

*Ave Maria*

F. Schubert/arr. Wallace-Mitchell & Head

Rich Blakemore, trumpet; Jill Gardner, organ

**\* DOXOLOGY** No. 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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**

Sarah McIntosh

**\* HYMN** No. 593

*Here I Am, Lord*

HERE I AM, LORD

**\* BENEDICTION**

Wayne Purdy

**\* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

**POSTLUDE**

*Rondeau*

Jean Joseph Mouret

Rich Blakemore, trumpet; Jill Gardner, organ

*The Postlude is the final Alleluia of our worship; you are invited to remain seated for a time of joyful prayer.*

\* 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.

**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 336-994-3411 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> grade who can't quite remain in worship the entire time. Kids of all ages are invited to the front for Kids' Time 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

Sarah McIntosh, Associate Pastor

Al Ward, Minister of Visitation

Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth Ministries

Victoria Smathers, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Jill Gardner, Director of Music Ministries

Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director

Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Director

Tina Crew, Business Manager

Betsy Tang, Administrative Assistant

Kathryn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant

Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director

Anthony Simmonds, Custodian

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)

## GRADUATE SUNDAY

Today, at the 10:55 service, we will celebrate our High School Graduates. Please join us for a reception in the Commons area immediately following the service.

## WEAR RED NEXT SUNDAY

Pentecost Sunday is **May 24**—wear red! Wearing red on Pentecost is a great tradition: it's an outward sign of the inward transformation by the Holy Spirit in each of our hearts. As "tongues of fire" came to rest on the disciples on that first Pentecost long ago, we gather in worship and then leave still blazing with the fire of hope God offers all through God's Spirit. The red is a sign that the good news of Jesus came to all who were there in a language they could understand from people with whom they would not otherwise have communicated.

## ACOLYTES AND CRUCIFERS NEEDED

Serving as an Acolyte or Crucifer at the 10:55 Sunday worship service is a GREAT way to serve and be involved in worship! This is a fun opportunity for kids in 2nd grade and beyond. Yes, even high schoolers can help out! Please contact Victoria in the church office to join the schedule.

## 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 continue* through the end of May, even though the Wednesday Dinners are finished for the semester.

## WEDNESDAY DINNERS FINISHED FOR THE SEMESTER

Our Wednesday Night Connect Dinners have ended for this semester. We will resume in September after Labor Day.

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Main Street UMC is blessed to offer two scholarships for *current college students*. Application information and more details may be found at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) under Ministries and Youth on the red stripe. The deadline for J.C. Grose scholarship applications is **May 23** at 5:00pm. The deadline for Frank & Mary Palmer scholarship applications is **June 25**.

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Members of our Church Council (*and any interested church members*) should plan to attend the meeting at 7:00pm on **May 28** in the Fellowship Hall.

## COLLEGE GRADUATES

Church members who are 2026 college graduates (*Associates, Bachelors, and post-graduate degrees*) are invited to submit their name, college, major, and degree earned to Kathryn in the church office ([kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org](mailto:kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org)) by **May 31** to be included in the June newsletter.

## HERITAGE CLUB

Meet up with the Heritage Club for Breakfast at Cagney's in Kernersville at 9:00am on **June 8**. Pay for your meal at the restaurant, no reservations needed for this event.

## YOU'RE INVITED TO QUARTERLY DINNERS

It's time to start making plans to attend the Methodist Men's dinner on **June 16** at 6:30pm. We plan to have Ashley Cooper speak to us that evening. Ashley is the coordinator of "Rest Stop", a program at Sedge Garden UMC. For those of you have haven't heard of "Rest Stop", it provides a helping hand to caregivers in the Kernersville area. The caregiver can take their loved one to Sedge Garden and leave them with trained caretakers, and have a few hours to themselves or take care of other things. If you or someone you know is taking care of a loved one, plan on attending the dinner on June 16 to learn more. Please remember to *make reservations at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) by **Friday, June 12*** so we can prepare enough food. Everyone is invited, so if you're interested, you are welcome to attend!

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We are making plans for our *Rainforest Falls* Vacation Bible School and we can't wait to see you there! We will hold VBS in the morning from 9:15 until 12:15 on **July 20-23**. Let Victoria Smathers know if you are available to help and be sure to register your child at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org)

## BETHANY CAFÉ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Bethany Café provides a free meal to anyone in our community and is hosted each Saturday at local churches. Main Street UMC hosts Bethany Cafe on the 3rd Saturday of every month and lots of help is needed! Job descriptions and a sign-up form are available at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) (*look for "sign-ups" on the red stripe*).

## 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.

## THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side, we will work with each other, we will work side by side, and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

## HERE I AM, LORD

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.