

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

**A**lmighty God, by your Holy Spirit open our minds and bodies to the re-creating power of your Word, that we may see the world through the mind of Christ and live in the world as a foretaste of your new creation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Psalm 32

Pew Bible Pages 506-7

AT THE GRADUAL, SOLO  
Micah White, tenor

Dan Locklair  
(b. 1949)

**L**et not your heart be troubled: Ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also.

—St. John 14:1-4

†THE GOSPEL LESSON—Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Pew Bible Pages 78-9

**T**he Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

THE SERMON

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)

The Apostles' Creed

**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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

*You are invited to be in a posture of prayer in your seat, or at the kneelers at the front of the nave or chancel.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

**O**ur 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.

OFFERING

*The congregation is invited to register attendance by signing the registries found on each pew.*

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM

Benjamin Hutto  
(1947-2015)

**J**ust as I am, without one plea,  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am: Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am Thy love unknown  
Has broken every barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am of that great love  
The breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,  
Here for a season, then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

—Charlotte Elliott

†AT THE PRESENTATION, DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

†RECESSIONAL HYMN 378

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

NEW BRITAIN

†DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

VOLUNTARY

Phoenix Processional

Dan Locklair  
(b. 1949)

†The congregation stands.

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING HONOR OF THE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES OF OUR CHILDREN, CARRIE & STATON CARTER AND COLIN & ADAM SPENCER. GIVEN BY BECKY & RIKKI SPENCER.

THOSE LEADING TODAY'S SERVICE

The Reverend Dr. Mark Conforti  
The Reverend Stacey Lundy  
Mr. Matthew Michael Brown  
Mr. Joel Smeltzer

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Director of Music & Organist  
Lector

Chancel Choir

THOSE SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES Corbin Barber, Nicholas Peltz, Riley Peltz  
ALTAR GUILD Beverly Hartsell  
OUTSIDE GREETERS Caroline & Bob Johnsen  
DOORSTEP VISITORS Amy & Chris Foote  
USHERS Janice & Gary Applewhite, Shakira & Corey Basinger, Giles Goodman—Captain, Ken Hollar, Cindy Martin, Ben Mastro, Todd Steinman, Andy Storey  
SECURITY Frances & Doug Miller  
NURSERY Caroline Johnsen and Kay McCartney

THOSE SERVING APRIL 7, 2019

ACOLYTES Laura Johnson, Maris Wainright, Ian Walworth  
ALTAR GUILD Beverly Poole  
OUTSIDE GREETERS Bobbie Melton  
USHERS Ed Rusher-Captain, George Hines—Co-Captain, Mike Faggart, Frances & Doug Miller, Bob Poole, Rob Roakes, Margaret Rusher, Sandy & Tony Yon  
SECURITY Phillip Floyd and Neil Pierce  
NURSERY Jennifer & Brent Seifert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is **UMCOR Sunday**. When we join with other United Methodists to support UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), our gifts allow for an immediate response when floods, storms, earthquakes, fires and other disasters overwhelm communities in the United States and around the world. Your extra-mile gift today makes a worldwide impact by supporting the operational costs of UMCOR, and ongoing ministries of food, shelter, health, and peace. Simply write 'UMCOR' in the memo line of your check. Will you support one of our global church's treasures today?

The **Lunch Bunch**, an informal gathering following worship, dines today at Mambo Grill, 122 E. Fisher St. All are welcome!

**Midweek at First Meal** is at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. **Reservations are required by Monday at 5:00 pm.** Children eat free. This week's menu: *Chicken Tetrazzini, green beans, tossed salad, roll, chocolate pie.*

Please join us each Wednesday through **April 10** at 6:15pm for **Lenten Services** in the Chapel.

**A Lenten Bible Study** will take place on the following Mondays; April 1, 8 and 15 10:00am-11:00am in B104. "Near the Cross" will offer a biblical look at who was there when they crucified our Lord.

SAVE THE DATE

All are invited to the **Stations of the Cross** presented by Salisbury Youth. Stations are designed to be interactive, giving participants a chance to engage with the story of Lent in a tactile way. We estimate the experience to take a person 20-25 minutes to walk through, beginning in the Fellowship Hall. Join us **Wednesday, April 10**, between 6-7pm

Spring is here and we welcome Mark Wineka as our guest speaker for **Methodist Connection**, Tuesday, **April 9** at 12 noon. Mark is a columnist, reporter, and feature writer for the Salisbury Post. He also is the editor of the Salisbury magazine. Additionally, he has co-authored 5 books with the Lions Share being extra special for our own county. Come and enjoy this special presentation. We will have a catered meal. Cost is \$8.00. Please call Carol Bachl at (704) 798-2333 by Sunday April 7 to make a reservation.

**Palm Sunday Fellowship Hour Breakfast:** Please note the change of menu for Fellowship Hour Breakfast on Palm Sunday at 9:15am: scrambled eggs, grits, sausage, bacon, biscuits, and cooked apples. Milk, juice, and coffee for beverages. Contributions will be accepted to cover costs. Any surplus will be provided to Summer Missions.

**FirstARTS** presents Bob Chilcott's *St. John Passion* on Palm Sunday, **April 14**, at 7:30pm. This mighty setting of words from St. John's Gospel is a dramatic yet optimistic re-telling of the Passiontide story. The music is scored for choir, soloists, brass quintet, organ, strings, and timpani.

The **Roy and Lula Goodman Scholarship** assists college students of First United Methodist Church by providing financial help with college expenses. Applications are due **April 15**. Additional forms are available in the church office or on the church's website.

**Attention Golfers:** FUMC participates in two church golf leagues in Rowan County. One league is at the Crescent GC and the other league is at McCanless GC. League play begins in early April and runs through September. Both leagues are weekly on Tuesday evenings at 5:00 PM. If you have interest and are not on the roster from last year, please contact Giles Goodman at [ggoodman@bahnsen.com](mailto:ggoodman@bahnsen.com) or (704) 576-5083.

#### OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

**"A child's life is like a piece of paper on which every person leaves a mark."**

—Chinese Proverb

Our children in the **Child Development Center** still need your help with instructional materials. Could you please purchase a game, toy, book, manipulative or any item on the Wish List at Amazon.com? Your contribution would greatly help a young child with their learning. Just go to **Amazon.com** and search **Wish List** on the website. Next, **Find A List** and enter **FUMC Child Development Center** and you will see a picture of the item and cost. Items range from \$10.00 - \$75.00. You can select the item and Amazon will send it directly to the Child Development Center. If you would like to give a Financial Donation, just drop by the center anytime from 8:00am to 4:00pm and see our Director, Carey Swanner. She will be happy to talk with you and show you our wonderful Five Star Child Development Center.

Do you like arranging flowers or delivering them to our homebound members? Then the **Flower Ministry** is looking for you just one Monday a month. Please consider this opportunity to serve the Lord and bring happiness to FUMC's members. Please contact Nancy Sherriff at (704)647-0946 or [ssherriff@carolina.rr.com](mailto:ssherriff@carolina.rr.com).

Non-peanut-based candy donations are needed for the annual **Easter Egg Hunt**. Please drop off candy by **April 14** in the box located near the volunteer office or in the church office. Please consider individually wrapped candy, stickers or other small non-candy items to fill our eggs. Many thanks in advance from the Children's Ministry Team!

#### Attendance for March 24, 2019

8:30am	63
11:00am	235

#### CHURCH CALENDAR

##### Sunday, March 31

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

UMCOR Sunday

8:30 am	Service of Worship—Nave
9:45	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday with Dr. Sharon Grant— Fellowship Hall
11:00	Service of Worship—Nave
5:30 pm	Salisbury Youth—Fellowship Hall

##### Monday, April 1

10:00 am	Lenten Bible Study—B104 Naomi Circle—B107 & Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	Girl Scouts Hannah Circle—B104
6:30	Susanne Circle—offsite
7:00	Boy Scouts—Boy Scout Room

##### Tuesday, April 2

9:00 am	Program Staff—B110
10:00	Staff Meeting—Harter Office Suite
11:30	UMW Board Meeting—B110
12:30pm	Duplicate Bridge—B107

##### Wednesday, April 3

2:00 pm	Deadline for Bulletin
5:30	Midweek@First—Fellowship Hall
6:00	Kids Connection—B101
6:15	Lenten Service—Chapel Disciple Fast Track—B104 The Casting Queens—B110
6:30	Covenant Bible Study—B105
7:00	Chancel Choir—Rehearsal Hall

##### Thursday, April 4

7:00 pm	AA—Room B112 Alanon—Room B110
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##### Friday, April 5

12:00 pm	Deadline for the Ecclesia Articles
7:00	AA—Room B112

##### Saturday, April 6

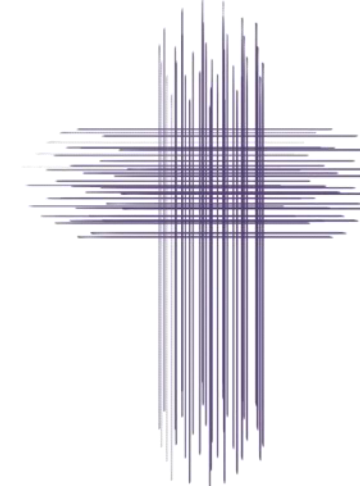
9:00 am	Dementia Workshop
7:00 pm	AA —Room B112

##### Sunday, April 7

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

8:30 am	Service of Worship—Nave
9:45	Sunday School
11:00	Service of Worship—Nave
2:00 pm	Worship Committee
5:30	Salisbury Youth—Fellowship Hall

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
217 South Church Street Salisbury, North Carolina 28144  
Office: (704) 636-3121 Website: [www.fumcsalisbury.org](http://www.fumcsalisbury.org)



# First United Methodist Church

SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
ESTABLISHED 1783

THE MISSION OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IS TO MAKE AND NURTURE  
CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES THROUGH THE PRESENCE AND POWER OF GOD.

#### THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE

*The Fourth Sunday in Lent*

March 31, 2019 – 11 o'clock in the morning

GREETING

VOLUNTARY      *Chorale Prelude, 'If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee'*      Craig Phillips  
(b. 1961)

†CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

**O** give thanks to the Lord, who is good; whose steadfast love endures forever.  
**Let us give thanks for the steadfast love of the Lord,  
for God's wonderful works to humankind.**  
Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story,  
those whom God redeemed from trouble.  
**Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,  
Shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN 142

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee      WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

**H**oly One,  
The space between us is too great—  
**this agonizing expanse between you and us:**  
The rift we have created by demanding our share.  
**The distance we have put between us as we flee to a far country.**  
The resentment we hold when things don't seem fair.  
**Our refusal to join your gracious party.**  
Forgive each selfish request  
**each step away**  
each bitter thought  
**each joyless rejection.**  
Forgive us  
**and run toward us**  
**with open arms we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (*responsively*)

**T**he Father says, "Let us eat and celebrate, for you were dead and are alive again,  
were lost and now found."  
**God, we return your forgiving and freeing embrace!**

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN