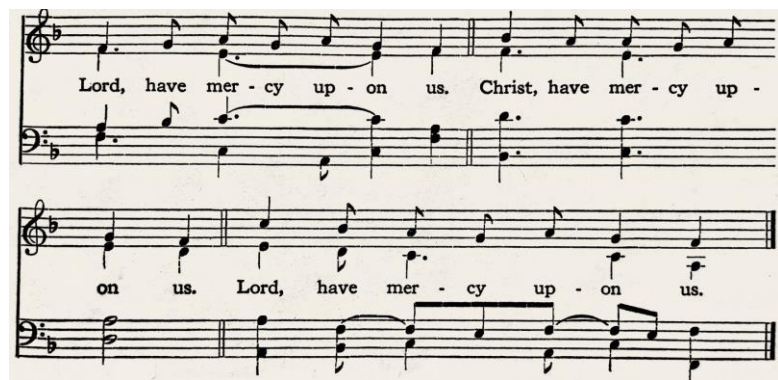


SUNG RESPONSE

Kyrie eleison

John Merbecke  
(1510-1585)



MINISTRY MOMENT

Children's Programs

Mrs. Beverly Gobble

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (in unison)

God of signs and wonders, we come to your word again and again, seeking understanding and the new life it offers. By the power of your Holy Spirit, illumine our hearts and minds so that we may believe this testimony and have eternal life. In the name of Jesus Christ, our teacher and Savior, we pray. Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON— Psalm 121

Pew Bible Page 571

†HYMN 420

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

†THE GOSPEL LESSON— John 3:1-17

Pew Bible Pages 93-4

The 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Following each petition, the congregation responds: **Hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in 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.

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Thanks Be to Thee

George Frideric Handel  
(1685 - 1759)

†DOXOLOGY

Glory Be to the Father

UMH 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

†PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

†HYMN 369

Blessed Assurance

ASSURANCE

†DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

VOLUNTARY

The Glory of These Forty Days

Mark Sedio  
(b. 1954)

†The congregation stands.

All are invited to the fellowship hall for refreshments and time together.

THOSE LEADING TODAY'S SERVICE

The Reverend Dr. Mark Conforti  
The Reverend Stacey Lundy  
Mr. Phillip Conrad  
Mr. Steven Aycock  
Mr. Erik-Thomas Hinson

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Lector  
Interim Organist and Music Director  
Interim Organist and Music Director

Chancel Choir

THOSE SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTE  
ALTAR GUILD  
OUTSIDE GREETERS  
DOORSTEP VISITORS  
USHERS

Austin Massaquoi  
Nancy Sherriff  
Laura & Dave Collins  
Gloria Matthews  
Donald Hylton, Jerry Dymond,  
Susan Fraley and Steve Schoch  
Phillip Floyd & Neil Pierce  
Beverly Gobble & Tish Hatley

THOSE SERVING MARCH 15, 2020

ACOLYTE  
ALTAR GUILD  
OUTSIDE GREETERS  
DOORSTEP VISITORS  
USHERS

Jackson Price  
Nancy Sherriff  
Laura & Dave Collins  
Taffy & Fred Jordan  
Donald Hylton, Jerry Dymond,  
Susan Fraley and Steve Schoch  
Gary Price & Bill Shaffer  
Carrie Carter & Debbie Vaughn

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN BY GLENER & JIM GILLAND TO THE GLORY OF GOD WITH THANKSGIVING AS THEY CELEBRATE 67 YEARS OF MARRIAGE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Lunch Bunch**, an informal gathering following worship, dines today at Capriano's, 231 Faith Rd. 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: *beef stroganoff, noodles, peas & carrots, roll, fruit salad, coconut pie.*

**All High School Seniors** – Remember that **April 15, 2020** is the deadline for scholarship applications.

SAVE THE DATE

**Covered Dish Luncheon with the Methodist Connection:** Phoenix Readers is the program on **March 10** at 12:00. There will be a baked potato, salad and dessert bar. The cost of the meal is \$8.00. For reservations, please call or text Carol Bachl at 704-798-2333.

Our rescheduled **Women's Beach Retreat** is **March 13-15!** Lodging is \$135 for this weekend of fellowship and centering. Find more details and register at [fumcsalisbury.org](http://fumcsalisbury.org) or see Pastor Stacey.

**The Second Visioning Day** will happen on **Sunday, March 22**, 1:30 – 5:30 pm. All church members are encouraged to participate, especially committees and ministry team members. John Dyer will lead us in thinking about church process and systems to help us gain clarity about vision.

We will welcome Dr. Scott Bullard, President of Pfeiffer University, as our guest speaker for the **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Seminary Series** on **March 29** at 9:45am in the Chapel. Sunday School classes are invited to join to hear Dr. Bullard.

The **UMW Spaghetti Luncheon** is **Sunday, March 29** from 11:00am – 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. There will also be a bake sale. Money raised will support local missions and our youth mission projects. Please sign up on the sheets in the pew registers.

A meeting about **The United Methodist Church's General Conference** will be on **Monday, March 30**, at 7:00 pm. Pastor Mark Conforti will be joined by two retired United Methodist clergy, Reverend Jim Gilland and Reverend Fred Jordan, to offer insight on the upcoming General Conference (May 3-15) and its possible implications. A time for questions and answers will conclude the evening. All are welcome.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

This year you are invited to contribute towards the beautiful flowers which will be placed in the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday. The forms are available in the bulletin, as well as, in the Narthex for those who wish to help purchase these flowers. Donations can be given in honor or in memory of a loved one.

The deadline is **March 22, 2020**. Our Mission Fundraiser, the **Boston Butt Sale** ordering deadline is **Wednesday, March 25** with the pick-up on April 3. Don't miss out on the delicious opportunity.

The **Easter Egg Hunt Donations** deadline is **Sunday, March 27**. Please drop off individually wrapped, peanut free candy or sticker items in the box located near the volunteer office or to the church office.

**Peanut Butter, Jelly Drive!** Salisbury Youth are collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly to be delivered to Rowan Helping Ministries Food Pantry as part of their 'Love Week' project. PB&J are some of the most requested items at RHM. 'Love Week' is a challenge amongst the youth to see how many loving things we can do for others in the span of a week. **March**

8-14 we are challenging ourselves to love our community. Donations of PB&J can be dropped off in the Missions Room by March 15.

The **Church Office** needs volunteers to help at the volunteer desk. If you can help on Monday and/or Friday afternoons from 1:00pm to 5:00pm, please call Becca at 704-636-3121, ext. 102. The substitute list for the front office also needs to be replenished so if you can help out, let Becca know.

**Attention Golfers:** If you are interested in participating in one of the two FUMC golf leagues, please contact Giles Goodman at ggodman@bellsouth.net or 704-576-5083. The Crescent League begin in early April and the McCanless League begins in May.

**“The Prayers of Jesus”** with Dr. James “Mickey” Efrid, a master Bible teacher is Sunday, **April 26** from 2:00pm-5:00pm. He will look closely at Jesus’ prayers in the New Testament.

Our LENTEN Banner depicts the cross of Christ in white. It stands out against the darkness of the purple, ash gray, and other somber colors, representing pain, suffering, mourning, and penance. The two black crosses of the thieves crucified with Christ are in the background. In contrast, the lighter colors around the cross of Christ represent the hope that comes from the blood of Christ, shed for the healing of the world.

FINANCE AT A GLANCE

<i>As of 03/01/20</i>	<b>2020</b>
<b>YTD Income</b>	<b>\$ 134,111.86</b>
<b>Less YTD Expenses</b>	<b>\$ (111,277.95)</b>
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$ 22,833.91</b>
<b>Cash on hand 12/31/2019</b>	<b>\$ 23,750.70</b>
<b>Cash on hand 03/01/20</b>	<b>\$ 46,584.61</b>

FIRST TIME GUESTS are invited to stop at the Welcome Table in the Narthex as you leave to sign our guest register. Thank you for worshipping with us today and please join us again soon.

**CHILDREN’S WORSHIP BAGS AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN 3 YEARS-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE.** A children’s bulletin that parallels the sermon and Pockets Devotional magazine for children are in the bag. This is a wonderful way to share in worship with your child!

**CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE** for all children through age four for our services of worship. Pagers are available for the family worshipping.

**COPIES OF THE ECCLESIA,** our church newsletter, are available in both entrances to the Sanctuary. If you are a guest today, please take a copy and learn about the many opportunities at First United Methodist Church.

**HEARING AID DEVICES AND LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available from the ushers.

CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, March 8**  
 8:30am Service of Worship—Nave  
 9:45 Sunday School  
 11:00 Service of Worship—Nave  
 2:00pm Usher Captain Meeting—B110  
 Women’s Bible Study—B102  
 5:30 Club 45 & Salisbury Youth—Fellowship Hall

**Monday, March 9**  
 10:00am “With these hands” —Fellowship Hall  
 6:00pm Cub Scouts—Fellowship Hall  
 Girl Scouts  
 7:00 Boy Scouts—Scout Room

**Tuesday, March 10**  
 10:00am Staff Meeting—Harter Office Suite  
 12:00pm Methodist Connection—Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, March 11**  
 2:00pm Deadline for Bulletin announcements  
 5:30 Midweek@FIRST—Fellowship Hall  
 6:15 Lenten Prayer Service—Chapel  
 Kids Connection—B101  
 The Casting Queens—B110  
 6:30 Way of Forgiveness—B102  
 7:00 Chancel Choir—Music Suite

**Thursday, March 12**  
 7:00am Men’s Prayer Breakfast—offsite  
 10:00 Rowan Missional Network—B107  
 11:00 Endowment Meeting—B110  
 6:30pm RHM Supper—offsite

**Friday, March 13**  
 Women’s Beach Retreat—Holden Beach (13-15)  
 6:00am RHM Breakfast—offsite

**Saturday, March 14**  
 7:00am Scouts-bus (14 &15)

**Sunday, March 15**  
 8:30am Service of Worship—Nave  
 9:45 Sunday School  
 11:00 Service of Worship—Nave  
 2:00 pm Women’s Bible Study—B102  
 4:00 Boy Scout District Meeting—Fellowship Hall  
 5:30 Club 45 & Salisbury Youth—offsite

Attendance for March 1, 2020

8:30am 59  
 11:00am 174



*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  
*Second Sunday in Lent*  
 March 8, 2020 – 8:30 in the morning

GREETING

VOLUNTARY Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless *David Cherwien*  
 (b. 1957)

†CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

**F**rom where will our help come?  
**O**ur help comes from the Lord,  
 who made heaven and earth.  
 Who is our keeper?  
**The Lord is our keeper,**  
**by day and by night.**  
 How long will God protect us?  
**God will keep our going out and our coming in**  
**from this time on and forevermore.**

†HYMN 419

I Am Thine, O Lord I AM THINE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

**G**racious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (*responsively*)

**T**he Lord is gracious and merciful,  
 slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
**God grants us new life! Amen.**

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