

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday | September 6 | 2026
9:30 a.m. | 11:00 a.m.



Love for One's Neighbor, detail from a choir screen, National Museum of Scotland

Preacher

Christopher Edmonston

Liturgists

Jim Ferry | Austin Vernon

Musicians

Katrina Liao | Eric Nanz | Eric Wall | Music Ministry

Additional Leader

Alli Buikema Cooper

WHITE MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1704 Oberlin Road | Raleigh NC 27608 | whitememorial.org

Gathering

** Asterisks invite us to rise in body or spirit.*

Words in bold are for everyone to say or sing.

The sounds of bells summon us to gather for worship.

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. Mark Hayes

*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 119:33-40

Teach us your ways, O Lord

and we will follow you to the very end.

Give us your understanding,

and our hearts will be full of you.

Turn us away from selfish things

and turn us toward your righteous decrees.

You are always gracious to us, according to your Word,

and you put us on your path of righteousness.

*HYMN 14

This well-loved hymn offers thanks for creation, the human family, and the gifts of life. The refrain's high notes help to lift our praise.

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

*CONFESSION AND
ASSURANCE OF
GOD'S GRACE

Living God, you tell us Scripture can be summed up by your command to "love our neighbor as ourselves." We confess that this is easier said than done. Too often we allow our differences to keep us from knowing each other. We hold grudges rather than seek to understand. We allow conflict to divide us rather than invite us into deeper relationship. We get so caught up in our own life that we do not notice the concerns of others. Lord, forgive us for the ways we fail to be good neighbors. Help us be more like Jesus, attentive to the needs of others alongside our own.

(Time for silent prayer.)

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SUNG RESPONSE

*This gentle song
originates in
Guatemala; like Celtic
prayers, its text lifts up
peace in images of the
world around us.*

Guatemalan folk melody
arr. Christine Carson/Iona Community

The peace of the earth be with you, the peace of the hea-vens too; the
peace of the riv-ers be with you, the peace of the o-ceans
too. Deep God's peace fall-ing ov-er you.
grow-ing in you.

TIME WITH YOUNG
DISCIPLES (9:30)

SACRAMENT OF
BAPTISM (11:00)

Margaret Brawley Galliher, child of Aaron and Anne Galliher

We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYER FOR
ILLUMINATION

READING

Psalms 149:1-9

READING

Romans 13:8-12

SERMON

Fulfilling the Law

We Respond to God's Word

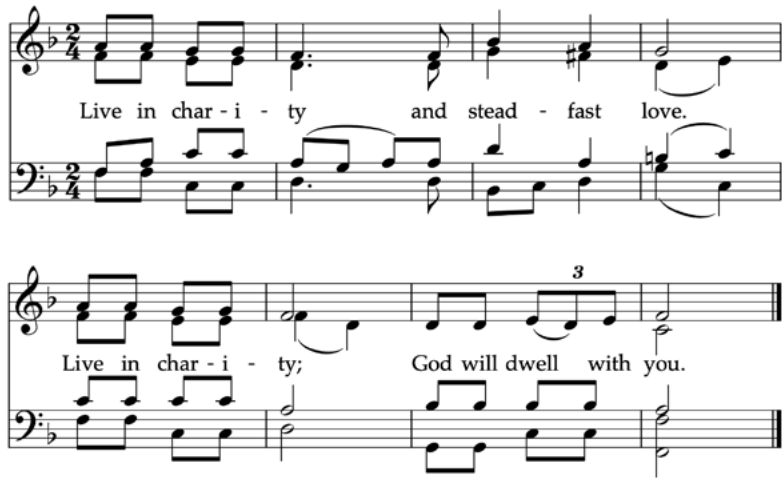
HYMN

I Choose Love

Mark Miller

all singing:

Taizé Community (Hymn 205)



PRAYERS OF THE
PEOPLE

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

OFFERINGS

*This anthem's text comes
from John's gospel and
Jesus' words to the disci-
ples at the Last Supper.
The commandment to
love comes with beauty,
poignancy, and even
dissonance.*

A New Commandment

Thomas Tallis, composer

A new commandment give I unto you, saith the Lord,
that ye love together as I have loved you;
that e'en so ye love one another.
By this shall everyone know that ye are my disciples,
if ye have love one to another.



Text WMPC to 73256 to Give.

Scan to Give

***AFFIRMATION
OF FAITH**

adapted from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

We Go In God's Name

***HYMN**

Send Us, Lord

song by Matt Redman

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**



Scan to make a Prayer Request

Courtyard & Building Access Update

A pedestrian path is now open through the Carol Copeland Courtyard to provide access to The Hub. Please note that the bridge connecting the Luther and Knox buildings remains closed for construction. In addition, the courtyard itself will be closed during construction activities. Please use alternate building entrances when accessing the campus.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we complete these improvements.

[Click here or scan below to view updates to the Four Pillars of Promise renovations.](#)



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Jays & CONCERNS

IN THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

George Edwards Stevenson – August 7, 2026

PRAYERS AND CHRISTIAN CONCERNS TO

Penn Holderness and family, on the death of his mother,
Mary Dameron Holderness, August 25, Raleigh, NC

Hunter Hobson and family, on the death of his grandmother,
Eutha Sharp Hobson, August 25, Charlotte, NC

NEW PRESBYTERIANS

Lilibet Buckman Long, August 4, child of
Etta Buckman and Robert Long

Reagan Louise McLawhon and Hawkins Lee McLawhon,
May 22, children of Rachel and Sean McLawhon, grandchildren
of Craig and Paige McLawhon

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Robbie and John Kidd, on the birth of their grandchild,
Elizabeth Anne Blumenthal, August 30, Charlotte, NC

If you have experienced a birth, marriage or death you want to share with the church,
email Lindsay Dew at ldew@whitememorial.org or Lisa Crumpler at lcrumpler@whitememorial.org.

If you have a relative or church friend who is hospitalized, email Caroline Parker at cparker@whitememorial.org
or call 919-834-3424 during regular business hours so our pastoral staff can reach out. If you have an urgent pastoral care need
that is outside of normal business hours, call our after-hours pastor on call at 919-605-4593.

WORSHIP | EMBRACE | SERVE

in the manner of Christ



Sunday, September 6

Monday, September 7

- Facilities closed

Tuesday, September 8

- Men's Breakfast/Bible Study
- Women's Breakfast/Circle
- Gentle Yoga

Wednesday, September 9

- Chair Yoga
- Yin Yoga
- Lectio Divina
- Pickleball
- Wednesday Together Dinner

Thursday, September 10

- Keenagers

Friday, September 11

- Pickleball

Saturday, September 12

Looking at the week and beyond

You can find details on these and other events on our website and church calendar.
whitememorial.org/events | Register for events: whitememorial.org/register

UPCOMING EVENTS: DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE

- 9.14 Women's Circles & Luncheon
- 9.15 Caregiver's Coffee
Cancer Companions
- 9.19 Servant Saturday + Pancake Breakfast
Oberlin Rd. Drive-Thru Pantry
- 9.20 Art, Music & Meditation
Children's Movie Night
Club 4/5 Movie Night
Parenting Workshop with
Laura Brimberry

KICK OFF SUNDAY CELEBRATION Sunday September 13

To celebrate the start of our program year, we'll have photo booths and pastries from our community partner [A Place at the Table](#) in the Oberlin Courtyard and under the portico outside of Pickard Hall. We will need volunteers throughout campus to welcome people, give directions, and serve treats. This is a great opportunity for people of all ages to serve without a long-term time commitment! [Sign up to volunteer for a shift here.](#)

SUPPER CLUBS

This is a short-term small group initiative meant to gather folks around the table to share a meal and fellowship. When you register, you will be placed in a group of 8-10 people. Your Supper Club will commit to meeting three times, 1x/month from September-November at times decided by the group. A short liturgy will be provided to frame your time together. Supper Clubs may meet in homes or at restaurants. Contact Anne Galliher with questions. [Register here.](#)

CIRCLE OF SECURITY GRANDPARENTING

If you're a grandparent, we have a wonderful opportunity coming up for you—and you don't have to be a grandparent of a child at White Memorial Weekday School to participate. All grandparents are welcome! Circle of Security Grandparenting is a nine-week class designed to help us better understand our grandchildren, strengthen those relationships, and learn practical ways to respond to their emotions and needs with confidence, empathy, and love. The class begins September 23 and meets Wednesday mornings from 9:45 to 11:15 at the White Memorial Weekday School. To register, email Cynthia Baggett at cbaggett@whitememorial.org.

BOY SCOUTS AND 4TH GRADE WEBELOS PROGRAM

White Memorial is the chartered organization for Pack 395 and Troop 395. The Pack consists of 4th and 5th grade Webelos, a preparatory program that enables boys to immediately excel when transitioning to Boy Scouts (the Troop). Our Scouting program is one of the largest and most active in the district. We have places for starting 4th graders in Webelos or 6th graders in Troop 395. Church members and siblings of current Scouts are given priority for the spaces we have available in Webelos. If you are interested please contact Emmett Perdue at bearschoice99@yahoo.com.

Welcome!

We are glad you are worshipping with us today.

Deacons can be found around Main Hall to offer a friendly greeting, answer questions and provide directions. New members are received after attending the *Believing & Belonging @WMPC* class. Visit whitememorial.org/join or contact Lindsay Dew at ldew@whitememorial.org.

Things to Know

Restrooms

are located outside of Main Hall

Nursery

Childcare is available for children up to four years old in the Calvin Building

Sunday School (resumes 9/13)

Refreshments

Coffee and water stations are located outside the Main Hall

Hearing Assistance

Loop system and FM system available in the Main Hall

AED/NARCAN

Available in Main Hall, Lobby in Ross, Lobby in Calvin and 3rd floor Luther

Live Streaming

Services available at whitememorial.org, Facebook and YouTube

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

After Hours Pastor On Call: 919-605-4593



Pastoral & Program Staff

Christopher Edmonston, Pastor

Cynthia Baggett, Director of Weekday School

Genevieve Brooks, Director of Family Ministry

Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

Alli Buikema Cooper, Pastoral Resident

Claire Cox-Woodlief, Executive Director

Tracey Daniel, Director of Young Children's Ministry

Brock Downward, Director of Music Emeritus

Jim Ferry, Parish Associate

Anne Galliher, Associate Pastor for Congregational Engagement

Kelly Gold, Director of Children's and Youth Music

Tom Harris, Parish Associate

Martha Grove Hipskind, Health Ministry Coordinator

Kathy Howell, Communications Director

Katrina Liao, Associate Director of Music

Bailey Morton, Director of Youth Ministry

Eric Nanz, Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts

Grier Booker Richards, Associate Pastor for
Faith Formation and Worship Ministries

Art Ross, Pastor Emeritus

Judy Yates Siker, Parish Associate

Lynn Springfield, Director of Elementary Ministry

Colisha C. Stanford, StepUp Executive Director

Martha Stevenson, Educator Emerita

Austin Vernon, Associate Pastor for Outreach and
Community Engagement

Eric Wall, Director of Music

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For the Beauty of the Earth

14



1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 5 For thy-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly given;




for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light;
 for the mys-tic har-mo-ni link-ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:



Refrain



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.



In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.