Opening Worship Service and Memorial Service

The North Carolina Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

Thursday, June 17, 2021 - 10:00 AM
Opening Worship and Memorial Service

The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places...and you shall be like a watered garden. (Isa 58:11)

WE GATHER

Words of Welcome Bishop Hope Morgan Ward

Prelude Music Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing Jay Locklear

Opening Hymn And Are We Yet Alive Clay Whittington

Call to Worship Rev. Laura Wittman, Miles Baker Hunt, David Johnson

**Reader 1:** Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all you lands. Tell of God’s glory among the nations; among all peoples, the wondrous deeds of the Lord.

*Give the Lord glory and honor.*

**Reader 2:** For great is the Lord and highly to be praised; awesome is our God, beyond all gods. For all the gods of the nations are things of nought, but the Lord made the heavens.

*Give the Lord glory and honor.*

**Reader 3:** Give to the Lord, you families of nations, give to the Lord glory and praise; give to the Lord the glory due God’s mighty name! Bring gifts, and enter into the courts of our great God.

*Give the Lord glory and honor.*

**Reader 4:** Worship the Lord, in holy attire; tremble before the Lord, all the earth; say among the nations: The Lord is king, and governs the peoples with equity.

*Give the Lord glory and honor.*
Opening Prayer

O Living God of past and future,
we praise you for this present moment.
Fill us with your joy and empower us with your Holy Spirit,
that our strength may be renewed
to sing a new song. A song of your glory
in a world that longs for your justice and peace.

Though we walk in places of deep need, deprived of your presence,
Fulfill your promise to enrich our lands with the mighty waters of your providence.
May the fertile ground of the well-watered garden bring forth fruit and sustenance
For those desiring a deeper experience of your grace.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus,
in whom we become
your new creation.

Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us,
May the Spirit of God rest upon us.
Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking,
In our believing, and in our living. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 58:11

Sermon

“A Well-Watered Garden”

The Rev. Edie Gleaves

Act of Remembrance (Naming of the Honored Dead)

The Rev. Trey Harris

Let us pray

We bless your name, O God,
for all your servants who,
Having finished their course,
Now rest from their labors.
Give us grace to follow the example
Of their steadfastness and faithfulness,
To your honor and glory;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
The name of each of the honored dead is read aloud. After each name is read, you are asked to keep silence, or to respond: Thank you, Lord, for this your servant.

CLERGY WHO HAVE DIED SINCE LAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 2019-2020

Carson Olin Wiggins................................................................. 6/15/2019
Richard Farmer Lewis............................................................. 7/22/2019
Milford Oxendine Jr............................................................... 8/02/2019
Claude T. Nethercutt............................................................... 8/03/2019
Diane June Yentes................................................................. 8/11/2019
Elwood Larry Myrick.............................................................. 8/22/2019
Kenneth Bryan Sexton Sr...................................................... 9/30/2019
Charles Scott Parsons............................................................ 10/20/2019
Charles Vernon Bryant.......................................................... 11/07/2019
George Bruce Skipper........................................................... 11/6/2019
William L. Wolfe................................................................. 11/15/2019
William Gray Sharpe IV......................................................... 1/11/2020
Jerry Addison Jackson.......................................................... 2/07/2020
Hector Manuel Millan............................................................ 3/16/2020
Madison Newton Hankal....................................................... 5/13/2020
James Michael Durner......................................................... 5/05/2020
John Wayne Young.............................................................. 5/20/2020
John Sidney Paschal.............................................................. 6/05/2020
John Earl Richardson Sr...................................................... 5/9/2020
Roger Addison Armistead..................................................... 4/30/2020
Hubert Howard Hodgin....................................................... 5/24/2020
Gilbert W. Beeson Jr............................................................ 7/9/2020
Daniel Thomas Earnhardt.................................................... 7/30/2020
Wallace Hines Kirby............................................................ 9/12/2020

SPOUSES OF CLERGY WHO HAVE DIED SINCE LAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 2019-2020

Barbara Barnes Davis............................................................ 7/12/2019
Wynell Hoogerland.............................................................. 8/17/2019
Janet Wellons Smith............................................................ 10/20/2019
Claudia S. Wilson............................................................... 11/2/2019
Neila Jean Mangum............................................................. 10/28/2019
Joseph Henry Smith............................................................ 12/1/2019
Ramon E. Atkins................................................................. 10/28/2019
Elizabeth Jane S Williams.................................................... 12/05/2019
Kimberly A. Mann-Guthrie.................................................. 1/20/2020
Elgie U Garner................................................................. 1/18/2020
Dennis Hickey................................................................. 2/01/2020
Colleen Dennis Newman.................................................... 3/01/2020
Grace Stafford................................................................. 3/12/2020
Leatrice Smith Creech....................................................... 3/11/2020
CLERGY WHO HAVE DIED SINCE LAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 2020-2021

Robert Tappan Osborn.........................................................................................9/17/2020
Frank Irwin Lloyd, Jr..........................................................................................11/2/2020
Judith Smith Stephens.........................................................................................11/1/2020
Wilbur Ivan Jackson............................................................................................11/29/2020
Ernest Ray Porter.................................................................................................12/8/2020
Robert Lee Baldridge ..........................................................................................12/13/2020
Lewis Hardie Dodson..........................................................................................12/29/2020
Roy Keith Nanney...............................................................................................1/1/2021
Colin Patrick Inman............................................................................................1/15/2021
Jesse Virgil Bone, Sr...........................................................................................2/5/2021
Deborah S. Wilkins..............................................................................................2/9/2021
Herbert Charles Davis.........................................................................................2/21/2021
Joseph W. Forbes.................................................................................................3/10/2021
Charles Howard Hutchinson................................................................................3/29/2021
John L. Stokes III.................................................................................................4/21/2021

SPOUSES OF CLERGY WHO HAVE DIED SINCE LAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 2020-2021

Nancy Jo Simonton McLain..................................................................................8/6/2020
Emma Deana Bass...............................................................................................10/17/2020
Jean Kelly Price.................................................................................................11/8/2020
Robbie Williams Barrett......................................................................................12/19/2020
Joyce A. McDonald.............................................................................................11/09/2020
Maxine Tingle......................................................................................................10/19/2020
Eunice Bray Parker..............................................................................................12/8/2020
Linda Sue Smith.................................................................................................1/28/2021
Frances Bellamy McMillan..................................................................................2/2/2021
Rebecca Edge Bideaux.......................................................................................1/28/2021
Anthem

“God of the Movements and Martyrs”  
David LaMotte

Prayer for the Saints and Faithful Departed

The Rev. Dr. Ken Locklear

O God of both the living and the dead,

we praise your holy name and all your servants

who have faithfully lived and died.

We thank you for the sacred ties that bind us

to those unseen who encompass us as a cloud of witnesses.

We pray that,

encouraged by their example and strengthened by their fellowship,

we may be diligent followers

and that nothing will be able to separate us from your love

in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

WE ARE SENT FORTH FOR MINISTRY IN THE WORLD

Closing Hymn

“Come Thou Fount”  
Kindred Church Praise Team
SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

LITURGISTS
Bishop Hope Morgan Ward…………………………………………Resident Bishop, Raleigh Area
The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Locklear……………………………………District Superintendent, Gateway District
The Rev. Edie Gleaves……………………………………………………..Ocean View UMC
The Rev. Laura Wittman………………………………………………The Mills Church
The Rev. Jenifer Swindell………………………………………………Asbury UMC
The Rev. ShannonMarie Berry………………………………………Fremont UMC
The Rev. Trey Harris…………………………………………………..St. Paul’s UMC - Burlington
John Hall……………………………………………………………..Conference Lay Leader
Miles Baker Hunt………………………………………………………Saint Andrews UMC
David Johnson………………………………………………………..Heritage District Co-Lay Leader

MUSICIANS
Clay Whittington…………………………………………………………First UMC - Fuquay-Varina
Ti Harmon………………………………………………………………Kindred Church
Donovan Cheatham…………………………………………………..Kindred Church
Devin Frazier…………………………………………………………….Kindred Church
Andrew Berinson……………………………………………………….Kindred Church
Sinclair Palmer………………………………………………………… Kindred Church
Jay Locklear……………………………………………………………..Lea’s Chapel UMC