

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	<i>Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing</i>	Jay Locklear
Opening Hymn	<i>And Are We Yet Alive</i>	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

John Hall - Conference Lay Leader

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

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

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

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

<i>Carol W. Midgett</i>	12/21/2019
<i>Luella Eller Ellis</i>	3/22/2020
<i>Nancy Pitzer Thomas</i>	4/11/2020
<i>Martha P. Brown</i>	5/23/2020
<i>James A. Sawyer Jr</i>	6/4/2020
<i>Sylvia J. Teachey</i>	6/6/2020
<i>Ruth Ellen Aitken</i>	1/31/2020
<i>Carol Brown</i>	2/14/2020
<i>Willie Davis Johnson</i>	6/17/2020
<i>Sara L. Coile</i>	6/14/2020
<i>Sarah Meadows</i>	6/25/2020
<i>Lillie H. Horne</i>	6/9/2020
<i>Wanda Henry McLaurin</i>	1/23/2020
<i>Priscilla McDougald Thompson</i>	1/7/2020
<i>Jean Carol Tilley</i>	4/15/2020
<i>Erma B. Woodworth</i>	10/12/2019

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

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

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

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

<i>Edith Mae S. Crowder</i>	1/23/2021
<i>Caroline Boyd Stott</i>	1/20/2021
<i>Maryella Bruton Cameron</i>	4/23/2021
<i>Council Graham</i>	5/4/2021
<i>Myra McLawhorn Supplee</i>	5/8/2021

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