

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

Service of Worship • Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2025 • 10:55 AM

TOWER BELLS

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Mick Raynor

WELCOME STATEMENT

Sarah Rodrigues, Anti-Oppression Team Representative

As our Lord Jesus Christ calls us to love and accept every person, Duke Memorial United Methodist Church welcomes into our life together those of every age, race, ethnic background, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, family or socioeconomic status, educational background, and physical or mental ability. In our commitment to the reconciliation of all persons as beloved children of God, we celebrate our diversity and recognize the sacred worth and dignity of all. We invite you to join us in our faith journey toward discipleship in Christ with mutual respect, understanding, and love.

PRELUDE

In Dir Ist Freude (In Thee Is Joy)

Harry Jansen, Organist

Johann Sebastian Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Julie Allen, Council Secretary

Community of faith, let us gather our courage

In God's company, we can do hard things

Brave things, Beautiful things, **Risky and transformative things**

God is with those who journey toward freedom

For the sake of collective life

For the sake of disrupting evil, **For the sake of the human soul**

God calls us and God accompanies us

Let us worship and be encouraged

—Enfleshed Liturgies

*OPENING HYMN

UMH (red) 605 | Wash, O God Our Sons and Daughters

BEACH SPRING

** Please rise as you are comfortable*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jayne Stewart,
Lay Leader, Finance

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways that lead to glory. Amen.

silence for personal confession

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Glory to God. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

Greet one another with signs of reconciliation and love.

The peace of Christ be with you, **and also with you.**

PROCLAMATION

CHILDREN'S TIME

Katie Diaz, Minister of Spiritual Formation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Caitlin Paisley, Lay Leader, Nominations

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

*GOSPEL LESSON | LUKE 3:15-17,21-22 NRSVue

This is the gospel of our Lord. **Glory to God. Amen.**

SERMON

Rev. Mick Raynor

RESPONSE

COMMISSIONING OF 2025 CHURCH COUNCIL

Rev. Heather Rodrigues and

Rev. Mick Raynor

Almighty God,

pour out your love upon these leaders so as to encourage them to carry out their duties with wisdom, boldness, justice and confidence. Guide them to fix their eyes on You. Refresh them when they feel overwhelmed. Give them strength to move through difficulties as they trust in You to provide what they need. Guide their work with the knowledge that, through them, your purposes are accomplished; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Rev. Mick Raynor and Rev. Heather Rodrigues

You are invited to make your way to one of the Church Council Leaders or go directly to the baptismal font to be reminded that you are beloved and that you are never alone in living out your baptismal promises.

...And so I ask, will you turn away from the powers of sin and death?

We renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, Reject the evil powers of this world, And repent of our sin!

Will you let the Spirit use you as prophets to the powers that be?

We accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves!

Will you proclaim the good news and live as disciples of Jesus Christ?

We confess Jesus Christ as our Savior, put our whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as our Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races!

Will you be living witnesses to the gospel, individually and together, wherever you are, and in all that you do?

We will remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

RESPONSE SONG

Sanctuary Choir

UMH (red) 606 | Come, Let Use Use the Grace Divine

KINGSFOLD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Caleb Parker, Finance Chair and
Melissa Fretwell, Co-Chair, Council

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Heather Rodrigues

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 OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

Give online at dukememorial.org/give or in the designated offering boxes.

SENDING FORTH

*CLOSING HYMN

UMG (red) 571 | Go, Make of All Disciples

LANCASHIRE

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Mick Raynor

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Carillon

Harry Jansen, Organist

Louis Vierne

Recognizing the leaders in our midst

The new year brings transitions in our lay leadership (look for copies of the 2025 Lay Leadership lists at the altar rail) and an opportunity to recognize those in our midst who are serving in connectional roles to the UMC! Below we recognize 4 people in our community and their connectional roles!

Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe

The Reverend Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe serves on the Judicial Council of The UMC, President (2024-2032). She is the retired General Secretary of the General Board of Church and Society (Oversaw the Revision of the 2024 Social Principles of the UMC) 2014-2022. Rev. Dr. Henry-Crowe is also Dean Emerita, Emory University, Dean of the Chapel and Religious Life (1991-2014). She is a member of the SC Annual Conference. She served as a pastor for 9 years, Campus Ministries, Council on Ministries, Trustee of Claflin College and membership on several agencies.



Rev. Hope Ledbetter-bock

Rev. Ledbetter-Bock serves as the Associate Director for New Faith Communities & Clergy Life for the North Carolina Conference of The UMC. In this newly created role, she recruits and supports clergy who are discerning a call to ordained ministry or a call to co-create new spaces for new people. Her work focuses on supporting diverse clergy building a future alongside new voices and new communities.



Caleb Parker

Caleb Parker was elected to serve as a delegate to the 2020/2024 General Conference (GC) and Southeast Jurisdiction Conference (SEJ) from the North Carolina Conference. Delegates attend GC to vote on legislation and SEJ primarily to elect bishops. He is a board member of the General Board of Global Ministries for the 2024 quadrennium, which is the worldwide mission, relief and development agency of the church, including UMCOR. He also serves on the executive committee of the Queer Delegate Caucus, which advocates for queer folks in the UMC. In the North Carolina Conference, he serves on the Connectional Table for the 2024 quadrennium as well, which helps set the vision and direction of the conference. Caleb is also working on saying “thank you but not right now” to additional projects.



Sarah Rodrigues

Sarah Rodrigues, a youth in our congregation, is one of five U.S representatives serving on the Global United Methodist Young People’s Connectional Network (YPCN). The YPCN is newly formed, and its purpose will be to advocate for the full participation of young people in all levels of the UMC, build global partnerships, and empower young people to make world-changing disciples of Christ.



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English



Scannez le code QR avec votre téléphone portable pour accéder aux sous titres français.



Escanea el código QR para acceder a los subtítulos en español.