

†BENEDICTION
†CHORAL RESPONSE

Share His love by telling what the Lord has done for you
Share His love by sharing of your faith
And show the world that Jesus Christ is real to you
Every moment, every day!

TRINITY CHIMES
(Please remain in place at the end of the service until the conclusion of the Trinity Chimes)

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR
THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR are dedicated to the glory of God and to the congregation of First Methodist Church, celebrating the beauty of faith, fellowship, and our shared life together in Christ.

GREETERS
8:30 Alice Faye Clayburn & Charlie Hoover
11:00 Ted Collins & Sandra Norris

Sunday School Jackie Eure Class
Are you a fan or a follower? It's time for the "D.T.R." (define the relationship) conversation with Jesus. Join the Jackie Eure Sunday school class in the library as we discuss the best selling book NOT A FAN by Kyle Idleman. For more information contact Vivian Forehand.

WaveRunners Trip to Raleigh NEW DATE - Sept 30
Waverunners are headed to Raleigh on Wednesday, September 30th for a day at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences! Enjoy a free, rarely offered guided tour of the museum from 1:00–2:30 PM.

Ekklesia Donations - Fall Cleaning Supplies
As you do your fall cleaning, consider donating cleaning items to Ekklesia Community. A donation box is located in the Atrium across from the ELC.

Operation Christmas Child
The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God’s love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan’s Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations.

Church Office Servants
We’re looking for a few servants to help at the church office front desk. It’s a simple but important way to welcome people who visit or call the church. Serve just one 3-hour shift, either 9-12pm or 12pm–3pm. Contact Vicki Daniels at bdaniels1950@gmail.com to learn more.

Middle/High School Sunday School - Starting October 4
We are excited to launch Youth Sunday School for our middle and high school students, led by Heath and Kathryn Carroll and Kevin and Mary Elaine Knight. Youth will worship together during the 9:45am Rise service. After the children’s message, students will head out for their own time of bible study.

Seafood Festival Parking Mission Opportunity - Oct 2-3
Serve Your Church & Community! The Seafood Festival is coming, and we have an opportunity to serve while supporting missions at First Methodist. We’re looking for volunteers to help with festival parking from Friday at 8:00am through Saturday at 11:00pm. All parking proceeds will go directly toward supporting the missions of our church.

Ladies Bible Engagers - Oct 7
The Ladies Bible Engagers will begin a new Scripture study of the Gospel of John on Wednesdays at 1:00pm in the Stanley Harrell classroom starting October 7th. Celia Haines, Sherry Correll, and Janet Roberts will lead the study as we explore and grow in understanding. All are welcome to join!

A Look Back at General Conference - Oct 8
Join us Thursday, Oct 8, at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall for a light lunch as Pastor Earl and Pastor Sarah share about their experience at the Global Methodist Church General Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa. They will share updates from the conference and what is happening in the Global Methodist Church. Please RSVP by October 4.

Surviving the Holidays - Oct 11 or Nov 1
The holidays can be especially difficult after the loss of a loved one. GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays is a two-hour seminar designed to help you prepare for the emotions and challenges of the season. Hear practical advice from others, receive a Holiday Survival Guide, and connect with others who understand what you’re going through. Choose one session: Sunday, Oct 11, or Sunday, Nov 1, from 3:00–5:00pm. Register online or to learn more, contact Pastor Patrick Whaley at 901-337-4178.

WaveRunners Trip to Ocracoke, NC - Oct 15
WaveRunners are heading to Ocracoke Island! We’ll meet at 8:30 AM and take the bus to the ferry for the ride to Ocracoke. Once we arrive, we’ll have lunch at 1:00 PM at SmacNally’s Grill, then rent golf carts for sightseeing and shopping around the island. We’ll catch the 4:30 PM ferry to return home. The cost of the trip is \$15.00.

Extended Table Serving at Community Night Out - Oct 16
The Extended Table has been invited by the Morehead City Police Department to grill and serve hamburgers and hot dogs at Community Night Out at Rotary Park on Friday, October 16th. We need servants to grill, wrap, serve, and transport the grill. Register online!

Fall Fish Fry - Sunday, Oct 18
Fall is a great time for a Fish Fry on the coast! Join us for our Fellowship Fish Fry at The Silos of Newport, with a meal prepared by Fat Fellas. Gather with friends and family, enjoy a good coastal tradition, and support our missions through your donations.

Trunk or Treat - Sunday, Oct 25
Get ready for a treat! We’re hosting Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 25, from 5:00 to 6:00 PM in the Arendell Street parking lot. This is a fun community event for all ages! Free Hotdogs for everyone! Dress up in your favorite costumes and bring a container to collect treats. Don't miss a chance to decorate your trunk and share the fun!

First Methodist Church

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Reverend Earl Bradshaw
Lead Pastor

Reverend Sarah Williams
Associate Pastor

Reverend Patrick Whaley
Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care

Kim McCoury, Director of Communications Sabrina Juarez, Facilities Manager
Shanna du Mont, Director of Children’s Ministry Stefany Boyd, Office Manager
Phil Routszong, Director of Music Sunnie Gail Ballou, Organist
Miranda Routszong, Assistant Rise Music Fran Welch, Livestream



“WORSHIPPING PASSIONATELY, LOVING EXTRAVAGANTLY, AND WITNESSING BOLDLY”

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
September 27, 2026 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS
PASSING THE PEACE
PRELUDE “Shall We Gather at the River” Handbell Choir
By Gingrich

†CHIMING OF THE HOUR & INTROIT
†CALL TO WORSHIP
God calls us to carry hope into the shadows of the world.
We are the light of the world!
God calls us to enhance the lives of those around us with joy.
We are the salt of the earth!
Come, let us worship and follow the Lord.
Let us worship together in joy and truth.

†HYMN “God of Grace and God of Glory” SING No. 475
God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy pow'r;
crown thine ancient church's story, bring her bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

†OPENING PRAYER Unison
God of grace and glory, You have called us to be the salt of the earth and the
light of the world. We confess that sometimes our faith loses its flavor, and we
hide our light under a bushel. As we worship you today, pour out your Holy
Spirit to rekindle our flame and renew our purpose. May our time together
help us to shine brightly in dark places and bring the healing flavor of your
love to a broken world. In Jesus' name, Amen.

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles’ Creed Unison
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.

†GLORIA PATRI Unison
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.

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER
THE LORD’S PRAYER 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.

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 2:1-5
¹ This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: ² In
the last days the mountain of the LORD’s temple will be established as the
highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will
stream to it. ³ Many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the
mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his
ways, so that we may walk in his paths.” The law will go out from Zion, the
word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ He will judge between the nations and
will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into
plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword
against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. ⁵ Come, descendants of
Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

WORSHIP WITH TITHES, GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “Amazing Love” Chancel Choir
By Wesley/MacDonald

†DOXOLOGY No. 95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†HYMN “Send the Light” OGRP No. 459
There’s a call comes ringing o’er the restless wave:
“Send the light! Send the light!”
There are souls to rescue, there are souls to save.
Send the light! Send the light!

Refrain:
Send the light, the blessed gospel light.
Let it shine from shore to shore.
Send the light, the blessed Gospel light.
Let it shine forevermore.

We have heard the Macedonian call today:
“Send the light! Send the light!”
And a golden off’ring at the cross we lay,
Send the light! Send the light! [Refrain]

Let us pray that grace may ev'rywhere abound;
Send the light! Send the light!
And a Christ-like spirit ev'rywhere be found.
Send the light! Send the light! [Refrain]

Let us not grow weary in the work of love.
Send the light! Send the light!
Let us gather jewels for a crown above.
Send the light! Send the light! [Refrain]

SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:13-20
¹³ “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be
made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out
and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A town built on a
hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a
bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the
house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see
your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ “Do not think that I
have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish
them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth
disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any
means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore
anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others
accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever
practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of
heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the
Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom
of heaven.

SERMON Life Giving Pastor Earl

†HYMN “Here I Am, Lord” OGRP No. 589
I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My Word to them. Whom shall I send? [Refrain]

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? [Refrain]