



ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 23, 2025 | Third Sunday in Lent

8:45 and 11:00 AM Sanctuary Worship Service | 11:00 AM Facebook Live Worship Service

TRINITY CHIMES

† WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

“A Lenten Chorale”

Neumark, arr. Saxton

INTROIT

“Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast”

Annie Roncolato (8:45), Benson Memorial Chancel Choir (11:00)

* GREETING

Terry Simpson (8:45), Steve Brady (11:00)

God, our God! We search for you!

Our whole soul thirsts for you. We praise you with our mouths and meditate on you. We shout for joy in the protection of your wings!

Be near to us, O God, through your Son, Christ Jesus!

Our whole being clings to you, and your strong hand upholds us!

* OPENING HYMN

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

UMH 127

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;

feed me till I want no more.

GUEST WIFI PASSWORD: welcome2bmumc!

* Please stand as you are able. † Please register your attendance in the friendship pads.

Children are welcome in the service. Children’s worship bags are in the narthex.

Nursery care is available in room 113 in the Fellowship Building.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

* OPENING PRAYER

O God, your glory is always to have mercy. Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ, your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (*The Book of Common Prayer, UM Book of Worship, 334*)

FIRST READING

[Isaiah 55:1-9](#)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

HYMN (8:45)

“A Charge to Keep I Have”

UMH 413

A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify,
a never-dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky.

To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill;
O may it all my powers engage to do my Master's will!

Arm me with jealous care, as in thy sight to live,
and oh, thy servant, Lord, prepare a strict account to give!

Help me to watch and pray, and on thyself rely,
assured, if I my trust betray, I shall forever die.

ANTHEM (11:00)

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

arr. Connie Boss

Elaine Turner, Judith Hillman, and Annie Roncolato

SECOND READING

[1 Corinthians 10:1-13](#)

SERMON

“Chasing Idols”

The Reverend Alan Felton

Benson Memorial United Methodist Church, 4706 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27612
Open office hours: M–Th 9AM–1PM | Available by appointment: M–Th 9AM–4PM / F 9AM–1PM
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* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“The Apostles’ Creed”

UMH 881

**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

UMH 70

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.

* THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

Offertory

“A Spiritual Reflection”
Annie Roncolato

Gilbert M. Martin

* Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 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.

* CLOSING HYMN

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

UMH 121

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there’s a kindness in God’s justice,
which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner,
and more graces for the good!
There is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple,
we should rest upon God's word;
and our lives would be illumined
by the presence of our Lord.

* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

* TRINITY CHIMES

* POSTLUDE

“Prelude in G Minor”

J.S. Bach, ed. Hopson

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week: Wendy Myers, Dee Springsteen, B. Adams, Beverley Cash, Ethel Boone, Donna Till, Monique Martel.

REQUEST FOR PRAYER

To add a person's name to our prayer concerns in the bulletin, please contact Martha Johnston at office@bensonmemorialumc.org.
If you would like to submit an urgent and private request for prayer, please contact Terry Simpson at cterryz@bellsouth.net.

REQUEST FOR VISITATION

If you know someone undergoing surgery or who would like to be added to the lay pastor visitation list, please contact Leta Grady at (919) 270-2228 or Kay Stockett at (919) 788-0300. All calls are confidential.

STAFF

[Alan Felton](#), Pastor | [Cortney Babajtis](#), Minister of Families and Outreach

[Martha Johnston](#), Director of Communications/Administration | [Lisa Beckham](#), Business Manager

[Annie Roncolato](#), Director of Music Ministries/Organist | [Jennifer Riggert](#), Director of Chimes Choir/Instrumental Ensemble

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