



South Mecklenburg

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship

Easter Sunday

**Bulletins for both services are below – PLEASE
SCROLL DOWN**

9:00 a.m. Service

We Gather

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Prelude

Hymn to Joy

Michael Keller

Chancel Ringers, Festival Brass

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Dr. Sandy Hull

One: Christ is risen!

All: The Lord is risen indeed!

One: Christ is risen!

All: The Lord is risen indeed!

One: Christ is risen!

All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Call to Worship**

Gracie Carreira

One: The joy of the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ is with us.

All: We rejoice in the blessing God has poured into our lives.

One: Even though we hear words of doubt, we are called to believe.

**All: Even though the world would draw us back again into darkness,
we focus on the light.**

One: Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope. Thanks be to Christ who gives us the victory. Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed! Let us worship our Risen Savior! Alleluia!
Amen!**

***Hymn 248**

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Rebecca Guzman

Christ, we come to the empty tomb, we see our own emptiness, our failures in love and justice, our shared guilt and brokenness. We remember how we have treated others, our families, our friends, our neighbors, and the ways we have turned away from compassion. We come with the pain of the world, the cries of the hungry, the wounds of war, and the loneliness within. At the tomb, we lay it all before you, seeking hope, seeking healing.

Assurance of God's Grace (Romans 4:25)

Rebecca Guzman

One: "Jesus was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God." Friends, hear and believe God's good news!

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***Response of Praise**

No. 582, stanza 1

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

We Hear and Respond to the Word

Church Family Moment

Rebecca Guzman

1. **'Twas the Morning of Easter:** One of the best ways to enter the Easter story is through the beautiful book *'Twas the Morning of Easter* by Glenys Nellist. It tells the story from Mary Magdalene's perspective—full of wonder, surprise, and joy. Click [here](#) to listen to her read the story aloud. What do you think it was like to be Mary on Easter morning?
2. **Count the Alleluias:** See if you can count the number of times we say, "Alleluia!" in worship today. Alleluia means "praise God!". Every Sunday is kind of like a little Easter, because we set aside time to praise God together, but on Easter Sunday, we remember especially that love always wins, and that makes us want to have a huge celebration!
3. **Easter Joy Hunt:** Create a little Easter basket or decorate a bag, then walk through your house or yard and collect five things that remind you of new life, hope, or joy. It could be a flower, a bright color, something soft, or a picture of someone you love. Afterward, talk with your family about why you chose each item.
4. **Journal, considering the following:**
 - a. What would you have done if you were with Mary at the empty tomb?
 - b. What do you think the disciples felt when they heard the news?
 - c. How do you see signs of new life around you today?
 - d. What does Easter joy look like in your life right now?



Children's Liturgy

Rebecca Guzman

*As the children four years old through third grade gather for
Children's Worship, the congregation is invited to sing (hymn no. 19):*

***God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.***

Congregation: God be with you there.

Children: God be with you here.

The children will return to join their families following the sermon.

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Melissa White

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

Rev. White

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Second Reading

John 20:1-18

Rev. White

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' " Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Better Than Expected"

Dr. Hull

*Hymn 251

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

MFURAHINI, HALELUYA

(Stanzas 1, 4-5)



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia. Re - joice and
2 For three long days the grave did its worst un - til its
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear. You look for
4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has a -
5 Christ has a - ris - en to set us free. Al - le - lu -



praise him, al - le - lu - ia. For our re - deem - er
strength by God was dis - persed. He who gives life did
Je - sus who is not here. See for your - selves the
ris - en this world to save. Je - sus' re - deem - ing
ia, to him prais - es be. Je - sus is liv - ing!



burst from the tomb, e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
death un - der - go, and in its con - quest his might did show.
tomb is all bare. On - ly the grave clothes are ly - ing there."
la - bors are done. E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."
Let us all sing; he reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.



Let us sing praise to him with end-less joy. Death's fear-ful
 sting he has come to de-destroy. Our sin for-giv-ing,
 al-le-lu-ia! Je-sus is liv-ing, al-le-lu-ia!

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer Rev. Lindsey Odom
 . . . (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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offertory *Joy to the Heart* K. Lee Scott
 Chancel Choir, Chancel Ringers, Festival Brass

*Look there! the Christ, our Brother, comes
 resplendent from the gallows tree
 and what he brings in his hurt hands
 is life on life for you and me.
 Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning.
 Good Jesus Christ inside his pain
 looked down Golgotha's stony slope
 and let the blood flow from his flesh
 to fill the springs of living hope.
 Good Jesus Christ, our Brother, died
 in darkest hurt upon the tree
 to offer us the worlds of light
 that live inside the Trinity.*

As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support the ministry of SMPC by giving online at www.smpchome.org/give or texting SMPC to 73256.

***Doxology** No. 606
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.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Odom

Mighty God of resurrection and redemption, we offer our gifts alongside our alleluias! Please accept these gifts and offerings given today from all of us who have answered the call to be new life, who have seen the miracle of Christ risen, and have felt the renewing energy of your Holy Spirit. Use them to create new life in our community and world. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn 232**

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

*Any are invited to proceed to the choir loft during the last stanza
to join the choir in singing the Hallelujah Chorus.*



1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured,
4 Sing we to our God a - bove,



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
praise e - ter - nal as God's love.



who did once up - on the cross,
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky he's King,
Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host,



suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

***Charge and Benediction** Dr. Hull

***Choral Response** *Hallelujah Chorus* G. F. Handel
 Chancel Choir and Friends

Postlude *Symphony No. 5: "Toccata"* C. M. Widor

Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Sandy Hull, Transitional Pastor
 Rev. Lindsey Odom, Associate Pastor of Youth and Missions/Outreach
 Rev. Melissa White, Parish Associate for Congregational Care & Connection
 Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist
 Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation
 Chancel Choir
 Chancel Ringers
 Festival Brass: Kyle Gavagan, trumpet I; Patrick Butler, trumpet II; Rosy Faires, horn; Justin Austenfeld, trombone I; Austin Vogelsang, trombone II; Charles Smith, timpani
 Gracie Carreira, liturgist

A/V Team: Mary Katheryne Zagora, Michael Zagora

Ushers: Bob Cushman, Dean Elledge, Mary Elledge, Bjorn Hansen, Brett Thompson, Linda Thompson

Welcome Team: Lorri Hattenhauer

11:00 a.m. Service

We Gather

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Prelude *Hymn to Joy* Michael Keller
 Chancel Ringers, Festival Brass

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Dr. Sandy Hull

One: Christ is risen!

All: The Lord is risen indeed!

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One: Christ is risen!

All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Introit

Alleluia! Christ the Lord Is Risen!

Bailey/Mayo

Alleluia and Hosanna Choirs

Easter flowers blooming bright, Easter skies pour radiant light.

Christ the Lord is risen today, glory, alleluia!

All creation joins in praise, hearts are fixed in jubilant gaze.

Christ the Lord is risen today, glory, alleluia!

Sparrows soar in glorious flight, mountains clap their hands in delight.

Christ the Lord is risen today, glory, alleluia!

All the earth is glad today, Jesus Christ has conquered the grave!

Christ the Lord is risen today, glory, alleluia!

***Call to Worship**

Clara Guzman

One: The joy of the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ is with us.

All: We rejoice in the blessing God has poured into our lives.

One: Even though we hear words of doubt, we are called to believe.

All: Even though the world would draw us back again into darkness, we focus on the light. One: Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope. Thanks be to Christ who gives us the victory. Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Let us worship our Risen Savior! Alleluia! Amen!

***Hymn 232**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN



1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,



our tri - um-phant ho - ly day,
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 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.



who did once up - on the cross,
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 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise our God, ye heaven-ly host,



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Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Rebecca Guzman

Christ, we come to the empty tomb, we see our own emptiness, our failures in love and justice, our shared guilt and brokenness. We remember how we have treated others, our families, our friends, our neighbors, and the ways we have turned away from compassion. We come with the pain of the world, the cries of the hungry, the wounds of war, and the loneliness within. At the tomb, we lay it all before you, seeking hope, seeking healing.

Assurance of God's Grace (Romans 4:25)

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***Response of Praise**

No. 582, stanza 1

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and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
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We Hear and Respond to the Word

Church Family Moment

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God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

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Rev. Melissa White

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Anthem

Joy to the Heart

K. Lee Scott

Chancel Choir, Chancel Ringers, Festival Brass

*Look there! The Christ, our Brother, comes
resplendent from the gallows tree
and what he brings in his hurt hands
is life on life for you and me.*

Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning.

*Good Jesus Christ inside his pain
looked down Golgotha's stony slope
and let the blood flow from his flesh
to fill the springs of living hope.*

*Good Jesus Christ, our Brother, died
in darkest hurt upon the tree
to offer us the worlds of light
that live inside the Trinity.*

Second Reading

John 20:1-18

Rev. White

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tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' " Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Better Than Expected"

Dr. Hull

***Hymn 251**

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

MFURAHINI, HALELUYA

(Stanzas 1, 4-5)



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia. Re - jice and
2 For three long days the grave did its worst un - til its
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear. You look for
4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has a -
5 Christ has a - ris - en to set us free. Al - le - lu -



praise him, al - le - lu - ia. For our re - deem - er
strength by God was dis - persed. He who gives life did
Je - sus who is not here. See for your - selves the
ris - en this world to save. Je - sus' re - deem - ing
ia, to him prais - es be. Je - sus is liv - ing!



burst from the tomb, e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
death un - der - go, and in its con - quest his might did show.
tomb is all bare. On - ly the grave clothes are ly - ing there."
la - bors are done. E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."
Let us all sing; he reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.



Let us sing praise to him with end-less joy. Death's fear-ful
 sting he has come to de-destroy. Our sin for-giv-ing,
 al-le-lu-ia! Je-sus is liv-ing, al-le-lu-ia!

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer Rev. Lindsey Odom
 . . . *(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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offertory *Alleluia! Christ the Lord Is Risen!* Taylor Davis
 Chancel and Jubilate Choirs; Blythe Kinsey, piano
*Christ is risen, sing your praises, Christ has broken every chain.
 Hark, the angels shout hosannas, singing evermore on high:
 Alleluia! Christ is risen, let us sing!
 He who slumbered in the grave is exalted now to save;
 Now all Christians let us sing that the Lamb is King of kings.
 Alleluia! Christ is risen, let us sing!
 He who bore all pain and loss, comfortless upon the cross,
 Lives in glory now on high, pleads for us and hears our cry:
 Alleluia! Christ is risen, let us sing! Alleluia!*

As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support the ministry of SMPC by giving online at www.smpchome.org/give or texting SMPC to 73256.

***Doxology** No. 606
***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.***

***Prayer of Dedication** Lydia Rose, Jones Woodard

Mighty God of resurrection and redemption, we offer our gifts alongside our alleluias! Please accept these gifts and offerings given today from all of us who have answered the call to be new life, who have seen the miracle of Christ risen, and have felt the renewing energy of your Holy Spirit. Use them to create new life in our community and world. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

*Hymn 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

Any are invited to proceed to the choir loft during the last stanza to join the choir in singing the Hallelujah Chorus.

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

*Charge and Benediction

Dr. Hull

*Choral Response	<i>Hallelujah Chorus</i>	G. F. Handel
	Chancel Choir and Friends	
Postlude	<i>Symphony No. 5: "Toccata"</i>	C. M. Widor

Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning

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 Rev. Lindsey Odom, Associate Pastor of Youth and Missions/Outreach
 Rev. Melissa White, Parish Associate for Congregational Care & Connection
 Laura Black, Ministry Associate for Children and Music
 Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist
 Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation
 Chancel Choir
 Chancel Ringers
 Jubilate Choir; Blythe Kinsey, piano
 Alleluia and Hosanna Choirs
 Festival Brass: Kyle Gavagan, trumpet I; Patrick Butler, trumpet II; Rosy Faires, horn; Justin Austenfeld, trombone I; Austin Vogelsang, trombone II; Charles Smith, timpani
 Lydia Rose, Jones Woodard, Clara Guzman, liturgists

A/V Team: Kari Case, Xander Case

Ushers: Andrew Gaul, Curtis Guy, Curt Ireland, Jonathan Mangels, Evan Mangels, Donna Podgorny, Carol Watkins, Bob Williamson, Michael Zagora

Welcome Team: Ethan Gaul, Kaitlin Gaul, Madelyn Gaul, Kari Wooley, Ryan Wooley

A brief Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 12, after the 10:10 a.m. worship service for the purpose of electing two at-large members of the Nominating Committee; Michael Choren and Susan Hicks are the nominees for these positions.

The Mission Study Task Force has been appointed by the Session to design and implement a process of gathering information from the congregation and prayerfully reflecting in order to address three questions: (1) Who are we as a congregation? (2) Who is our neighbor? (3) What is God calling us to be and do as we move into the future. The work of the task force will become the foundation for the search for SMPC's next called and installed pastor. Task force members are Walton Price (co-chair), Greg Hobby (co-chair), Mary Elledge, Whitney Gann, David Huss, Gayle Ireland, Camdyn Sheeler, Brett Thompson, and Shelby Ullman.

Welcome to South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church! If you are joining us in person or online, are a first-time visitor, a long-term member, or

anything in between, we are glad that you are worshiping with us and we want to stay connected with you. To receive our emails, sent on Thursday mornings, contact Adrienne Jaquith, Office and Database Manager, adrienne@smpchome.org. Also, find us on Instagram: @southmeckpres and Facebook: @southmecklenburgpresbyterian.

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? Our Session will gather to welcome new members on Sunday, April 27 at 11:30 a.m. To learn more, contact Melissa White, Director of Hospitality and Connection, melissa@smpchome.org or 704-887-7488

Congregational Notes (as of April 1, 2026)

Remember in Prayer

- Joan Warf as she undergoes treatment.
- Judy Casey as she undergoes treatment.
- Scott and Kelly Nowokunski and their family as Scott's father, Ed Nowokunski entered the Church Triumphant on March 20.
- All those affected by conflict, displacement, and unrest around the world and at home.
- Our mission partners in Bayonnais, Haiti, that God's abundant love, grace, and mercy would bring peace and protection, provide daily bread, and grant safety, justice, and hope amidst ongoing crisis in their country
- That God would guide us to serve others with compassion, justice, and mercy within our church, our community, and our world.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request:

prayer@SMPChome.org.

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South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

8601 Bryant Farms Road, Charlotte, NC 28277, 704-544-0404

PO Box 79321, Charlotte, NC 28271

smpchome.org

Happy Easter!

APRIL 5, 2026

Welcome to South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church! We hope you will consider joining one of our many classes, events, ministries or groups this spring. For the most up-to-date list of events, please subscribe to our weekly email or go to our website, smpchome.org. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, a donation to One Great Hour of Sharing provides people with safety, sustenance and hope. Scan the QR code or use the envelope provided in the bulletin to donate.



STUDY

Pastor's Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Wednesday, April 8, 9:30 a.m.

McQueen Room or Zoom - Join us every week as we discuss the scripture for the coming week's sermon. Contact for the Zoom ID#: Adrienne Jaquith, adrienne@smpchome.org.

Adult Study: 'Slow Theology,' Sundays beginning April 12, 9:00-10:00 a.m.,

McQueen Room or Zoom - An 8-week class where we'll practice slowing down, asking deeper questions, and listening more carefully to Scripture, tradition and one another. This is not about having the right answers, but about growing in curiosity, trust, and faith. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

The Third Thirty: A Candid Spiritual Exploration of Realities and Challenges We Face in the Years 60-90, Sunday, April 12, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., The Commons

- A 12-session study that meets one Sunday a month over a light lunch after worship. Come to one session or all. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.

Men's Evening Study, Tuesday, April 14, 7:30 p.m., Chapel 206 - Meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays every month and welcomes newcomers. Contact: Jon Myers, jonmyers2@gmail.com.

Making Space Mom's Group, Thursday, April 16, 7:30 p.m., Chapel 206 - All moms are invited to join us for study, service and fellowship. Meets on the first and third Thursdays each month. Contact: Allison Reeves, allison.tarwater@gmail.com.

Friday Morning Men's Group, Friday, April 17, 7:30-8:30 a.m., Chapel 204

- Meets on the first and third Fridays of the month. All are welcome. Contact: Curt Ireland, irelandcurtis00@gmail.com.

Believing and Belonging - For those who are visiting or considering membership, we will explore the beliefs of the Presbyterian church and how God uses our gifts to create community. Lunch is served and childcare available. New dates announced soon. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.

SERVE

For more opportunities to and to sign up, go to smpchome.org/serve

Shelter Ministry, Thursday, April 9, 9:30 a.m., Mecklenburg Hall - This ministry meets on the second Thursday of every month to fill empty medicine bottles with body wash for Roof Above. Contact: Carol Morgan, morgancc43@aol.com.

Breakfast for Center of Hope, Saturday, April 18, meet at the church at 5:15 a.m. - On the third Saturday every month we prepare and serve breakfast for residents. Servers, food and monetary donations are needed. Contact: Lee Martin, leewilsonmartin@gmail.com.

Bag Lunches for Roof Above, Saturday, April 25, 9:30 a.m., in front of Mecklenburg Hall - Once a month, SMPC collects 100 bag lunches for our neighbors at Roof Above. Contact: Julie Durham, julierdurham@gmail.com.

American Red Cross Blood Drive, Saturday, May 2, 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., The Commons - Contact: Bill Ramsey, jonbillramsey@gmail.com.

Ongoing Sunday Service Opportunities: Greeters, Sanctuary Straighteners, Muffin Ministry and more! There are so many ways to serve our church that require minimal time commitments. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.



[@southmecklenburgpresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian)



[@southmeckpres](https://www.instagram.com/southmeckpres)

REALM

SMPC uses Realm as a church directory and for event registrations. If you are new to Realm, please contact Adrienne Jaquith, adrienne@smpchome.org, and she will be happy to set you up!



EVENTS

International Dining Group, Thursday, April 16, 6:00 p.m. Wan Fu Chinese Cuisine, 10719 Kettering Drive - All are welcome to join this group as it samples different cuisines around town! Register on Realm. Contact: Brenda Villa, bvilla20@carolina.rr.com.

Hops and Vine Around Town, Saturday, April 18, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Open Tap, 5010 Carmel Center Drive - Fun and fellowship! Contact: Frank Graham, Frank.Graham@forvis.com.

Lunch on the Grounds, Sunday, May 17, 11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Mecklenburg Hall - Join us for fellowship and delicious food from Brown Bag! \$12 per adult, \$6 for ages 4-10, free for ages 3 and under. Register on Realm. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.

SMALL GROUPS

Handiworkers Group, Tuesday, April 7, 10:00 a.m., Palmer 104 - All knitters, needlepointers, quilters, cross-stitchers and crocheters are invited. Meets weekly. All levels. Contact: Judy Jameson, jgjameson@gmail.com.

Men's Breakfast Group, Thursday, April 9, 9:30 a.m., Big View Diner, 6637 Lancaster Hwy. - Meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. All are welcome. Contact: Bob Tyler, Btyler@unitedskates.com.

A Caregiver's Journey, Tuesday, April 14, 1:00-2:30 p.m., McQueen Room - For those caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia. Meets monthly on the second Tuesday. Contact: Kathy Garner, kathygarner15@gmail.com.

Food for Thought Book Group, Thursday, April 16, 12:30 p.m., McQueen Room - This group will discuss *Becoming Madam Secretary* by Stephanie Dray. All are welcome. Contact: Kathy Paquette, khesspaquette@aol.com.

CHILDREN

Bible and Music (BAM!), Sunday, April 19, 5:00-6:30 p.m., Sanctuary - BAM! is our Sunday evening program for children in kindergarten through 5th grade. Register on Realm.

Vacation Bible School/Mission Possible, Monday, July 20 - Thursday, July 23, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., VBS: Ages 3 - 4th grade, Mission Possible: Rising 5th & 6th grades - Register on Realm or smpchome.org/vacation-bible-school.

Contact for Children's Ministry: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

YOUTH (MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL)

April Big Youth Group (BYG), Sunday, April 19, 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m., Mecklenburg Hall - We'll welcome Transitional Pastor Sandy Hull to BYG! Lots of fun, good company and pizza. Register on Realm.

TCBY Night, Sunday, April 26, 5:00-6:15 p.m., TCBY Blakeney - Please join us for frozen yogurt and fellowship. Please bring money for frozen yogurt.

More youth events: smpchome.org/youth. Contact for Youth Ministry: Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org.

MUSIC

Chancel Choir, Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. - Do you enjoy leading worship through song? New choir season beginning in August! Contact: Zach Bowyer, zach@smpchome.org.

SMPC PRESCHOOL

Our SMPC Preschool has a few spaces left in the 4-day Threes and 2-day Twos for the 2026-2027 school year. The preschool day is 9:00 a.m.-12:45 p.m. If that fits your schedule, we'd love to hear from you! Contact: Tammy Winchip, tammy@smpchome.org.