



Centenary United Methodist Church

2300 W. Friendly Avenue.

Greensboro, NC 27403

August 11, 2024

Communion Sunday

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor Anita Trumpler-Rich, Music Director

Welcome friends, family, and visitors. May your hearts be touched by the Holy Spirit as we join in worship with devotion, songs, and prayer.

Our Mission: To experience God's life-changing love and take God's love into the world.

Our Vision: To be a church where everyone is involved in ministry.

Gathering Music

Announcements for Mission and Ministry

Choral Call to Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We are hungering and thirsting for hope and peace.

P: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

L: Our hearts long for the nourishing presence of God.

P: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

L: Give to us the living bread of your peace that we may hunger no more.

P: Open our hearts to joyfully receive your life-sustaining love. AMEN.

Leader: Let us pray together:

Lord, we come to you this day with so many things going on in our lives. Some of these things are wonderful and cause us to rejoice. However, there are far too many things that cause us fear and anxiety. Humbly we wait for your presence with us. We need your healing touch. Feed us with the bread of life, that we may hunger no more. Strengthen us to do your will, for it is in Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

†Hymn

Scripture: John 6:35, 41-51

Sermon: Jesus the Living Bread Rev. Kelley Groce

†Affirmation of Faith Apostle's Creed UMH 881

†Gloria Patri

Anthem

CONCERNS AND JOYS OF CONGREGATION

Pastoral Prayer

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we want the easy way out! When things go wrong, we want to find who to blame for our misfortune. When we don't get what we want, we want to punish whoever prevents us from our goals and desires. We don't want to look at the ways in which we have perverted your

love for us. We treat you as though you are a puppet who will dance to our demands. We act like spoiled children who want everything immediately, and who will become sullen and spiteful if we don't get what we ask for. We stopped listening to you. Systems of greed and injustice replaced your command to "love one another". And now we come to you, asking for forgiveness and healing. Our hearts and lives are empty without your love. Our spirits wither and die in this greedy wasteland. Give to us your life-sustaining bread. Heal our souls. Help us to truly worship you and to willingly work for healing and hope in this world. We ask these things in Jesus' Name, **AMEN.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: God has heard your cries and knows your anguish. In Jesus Christ, you are loved and forgiven.

P: Praise be to God who forgives us all in the name of God's beloved Son! AMEN.

Let us worship with God's Tithes and our Offerings.

Offertory

†Doxology

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. .

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day
when justice shall roll down like waters

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,
when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

At his ascension you exalted him
to sit and reign with you at your right hand.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."
And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father now and forever. **Amen.**

Giving the Bread and Cup

Prayer following Communion

"Sustain us, Lord, with the food of life as we go upon our way. May the Bread of Heaven be our strength. May the broken Body of Christ bring us healing; May the spirit of the Risen Christ renew our youthful generosity; may the Sacred Heart of Jesus give us compassion; may the crucified Christ of Calvary help us bear our daily burden"

†HYMN

God Be With You till we Meet Again

UMH 673 (v.1)

†DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

†Choral Benediction –

†Postlude

†Please stand as you are able in body or in spirit and silence you cell phones†

As you engage your ‘Prayer Life’ this week, please remember these prayer concerns: If you have a prayer concern or praise, please contact the church office at

336-299-9643, or call Kelley at the parsonage 336-285-5081. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation.

Ann Hennings-fell. Kristy Stout-health issues. Win and Lin Johnson will be moving to Friends Home-Guilford. This will be the first time in 60 years of marriage that they will be living apart. (Jeanne Batten's brother and sister-in-law). wife). Doris Pruitt. Andy McFarland-health issues (Milton McFarland's brother). Andrew Gibbons-heart issues (Harold Billings nephew). Michael Santowaso-cancer (Becky's husband, David Sillmon's son-in-law). Dave Hull. Pray for our church that we may be guarded in our conversations during this time of transition. Joann Martin. Carol & Bobby Burklin. Margaret & Patrick Miller. Martha Nell Rives. Gretchen Crabtree. Dave & Barbara Blackman. Susan Carrick. Sheridian Wacker. Lee & Jane Norman. Scott Stanley. Al & Lori Eaton. Peggy Harris. Diane & Jim Stanley. Aly Saunders. Hazel Perritt, Pat Glover. Joy Ellison (Suzy Swindell's Friend).



Birthdays: August 5th Becky Ensign, Trey Stowe, 8th Bonnie Travis. 11th Nancy May. 16th Abbie Samuel. 17th Meredith Groce. 18th Anita Trumpler-Rich. 19th Jackie Thompson. 24th August Marvin. 26th Blanche Morgan. 27th Bob Jones.

Announcements for Mission and Ministry

**August 14th Combined Bible Study at Newlyn St. All are welcome
5pm Cookout - 6pm Bible Study**

August 21st- Newlyn St. Bible Study- popcorn will be served.

August 28th- Newlyn St. Bible Study- Ice Cream Bar.

August 16th – 8am to 10am Community Breakfast and Clothes Closet.

August 20th- 6pm-Ad Council Meeting in the Conference Room.

August 25th- 12pm to 3pm- Transitioning Team.

August 28th - 11am to 3pm – Red Cross Blood Drivers-Donators and Volunteers needed. There will be a sign-up sheet will be in the narthex.

August 31st – 2pm- Ann Hennings Celebration of Life.