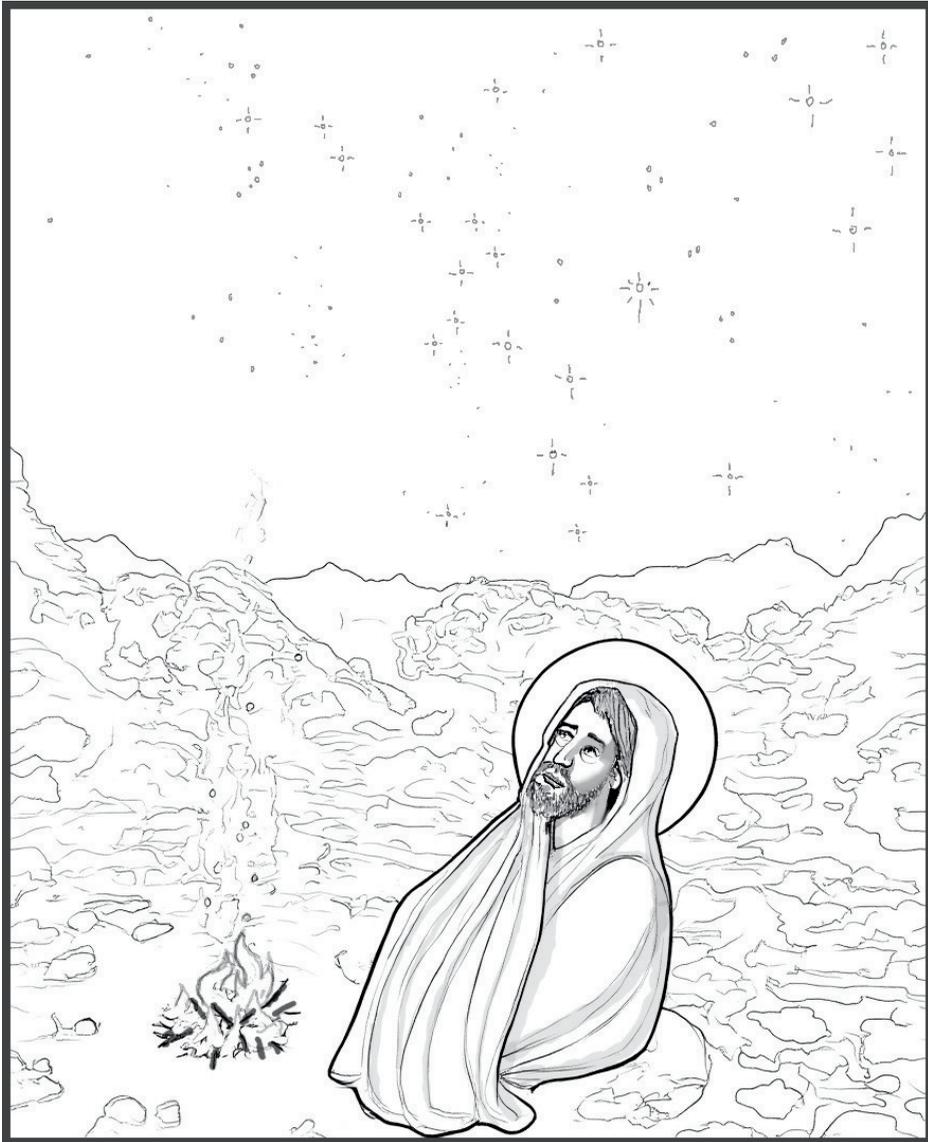


UNITED CHURCH *of* CHAPEL HILL
FESTIVAL WORSHIP



MARCH 1, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

*Please stand, as able, when indicated by asterisk. **Bold text indicates congregational response.**

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Diferencias (Variations)

Antonio de Cabezón

CHORAL INTROIT “Kyrie” from *Messa a quattro voci (Mass for Four Voices)* Claudio Monteverdi

Program note: We begin service with an imitative setting of the ancient *Kyrie eleison* text, “Lord, have mercy” and “Christ, have mercy.” The interwoven vocal lines express a communal prayer for God’s sustaining presence, drawing us into awareness of our dependence on God.

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come into God’s presence,
you who imagine and you who seek,
you who disrupt and you who repair.

By the Spirit, we gather in hope.

Come into God’s fellowship,
you who are broken and blessed,
you who show mercy,
as God has first been merciful to you.

In Christ, we gather in blessing.

Come into God’s presence,
singing for joy and for justice;
bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance.

To God be the glory! We gather to praise!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

As we walk through the wild wilderness of Lent, we imagine a world where all creation is at peace. We imagine a world without war, where creation flourishes and children are safe. Let these dreams of peace begin here as we share the peace of Christ with one another.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 423

Great is Your Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

*BREATH PRAYER

I am vulnerable, I am blessed.

*COLLECT IN ESPAÑOL

Dios misericordioso, que nos llamas a amar a nuestro prójimo como a nosotros mismos, nos has bendecido con muchas lenguas para alabar tu santo nombre. Oramos por la unidad de la Iglesia, por todos los que celebran su culto en inglés o en español, y por los inmigrantes que viven de la fe en un país desconocido. Por Cristo Jesús, que hace un hogar para todos tus hijos. Amén.

Merciful God, who calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves, you have blessed us with many tongues to praise your holy name. We pray for the unity of the church, for all who worship in English or Spanish, and for immigrants who live by faith in an unfamiliar country. Through Christ Jesus, who makes a home for all your children. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 6:17-36

Pew Bible page 838

Psalm 121

Pew Bible page 498

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE

Praise God All Ye Little Children



Praise God! Praise God, all you lit-tle chil-dren. God is love, God is love.



Praise God! Praise God, all you lit-tle chil-dren. God is love, God is love.

SERMON

Daylight

Jackson Ringley

SUNG AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Through the Night

lyrics by Jackson Ringley,
music by Reyna Alston



Sun - set, day - light is fleet - ing; Li - mits make up my
Caught in a sea of ques - tions; Lead me in - to the
Christ calls the spi - rit 'round me; New birth comes from a -
My eyes lift to the moun - tains, I've seen God's heav'n - ly
New days on the hor - i - zon; Gov - erned by truth and

4



days, Will I find li - ber - a - tion from this
light, Lost in a to - tal dark - ness, Je - sus
bove. Com - fort; Je - sus as - sures me, I am
light. God's love sent to cre - a - tion in the
grace. Though we saw through a dark glass, Now we

(Continued on next page)

7

world's des - pair - ing ways? I be - lieve, I be -
 finds me in the night.
 known and ful - ly loved.
 flesh of Je - sus Christ.
 see God face to face.

10

lieve! Walk with me through the night. Lord I be -

13

lieve, I be - lieve! Help my un - be - lief.

CALL TO SHARING

ANTHEM

I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes

Ian Higginson

Program note: Higginson's contemporary setting of Psalm 121 reminds us of God's constant provision and care as we walk through seasons of darkness.

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
 Christ, all peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spi - rit
 ev - er - more; praise Tri - une God whom we a - dore.

*INVITATION TO AN OPEN TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You may be seated. Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Please come forward to receive the bread and cup. We offer a gluten-free option in the basket with purple linens and serve only non-alcoholic grape juice. Raise your hand if you would like a pastor to bring the elements to you. Communion cups may be left in the openings on the back of the pews.

COMMUNION HYMN 337

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

UNION SEMINARY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN OF BLESSING 475

God's Eye Is on the Sparrow

SPARROW

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Variations on Old Hundredth

GRATITUDE CORNER

I am so grateful for the joyous leadership of Jan Thornton-Irvine as she leads the Community Forum. Her joy of sharing Christ's message shines through as she leads intergenerational gatherings in joint activities to share in God's love and creation. What a joy it was to walk into the fellowship hall on a recent Sunday and see everyone painting the tiles of the soon to be built food pantry. How meaningful she made it by integrating messages from different voices about food scarcity and how we can help. Thank you, Jan for your joy and for sharing it with all of us! —Kaselehla Sielken

Submissions needed! If you can name something about our church community that makes you want to give thanks and sing in less than 200 words, we'd love to print it here. Send your submission to mmeem@unitedchurch.org.



Pillars of Promise *Capital Campaign* *Giving Update*

Pledges (as of 2/27/26): \$1,726,938

Gifts received (as of 2/27/26): \$1,005,567 (58% of pledged amount)

Thank you!

The earlier gifts are received for the capital campaign, the less UCCH has to rely on external sources of funding like loans. If you are able, please complete your pledge as soon as possible. If you have not yet made a pledge or gift to the capital campaign and would like to, please contact Church Administrator Kati Ruark (kruark@unitedchurch.org).

UNITED CHURCH OF CHAPEL HILL LENT & EASTER 2026

Morning Prayer Series

7:30am on Wednesdays: March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1

15-25 minute bilingual Lenten prayer gatherings with optional oil anointing. (In the Family Parlor - Sanctuary entrance will open at 7:15)

A Contemplative Path Through Lent

A weekly Sunday email will offer a spiritual practice, with scripture, reflection, and a blessing to guide your week.

Lenten Organ Meditation - Thursday, March 5

12:30pm A time of silent meditation or prayer with traditional Lenten organ music played by Julie Mitchell. A freewill offering will support our music ministry. (Sanctuary | 35-40 minutes)

Third Sunday in Lent - March 8

10:30am Festival & La Mesa Worship

Fourth Sunday in Lent - March 15

8:45am Gospel Worship with UVoP (Sanctuary) | **10:30am** Festival & La Mesa Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent - March 22

10:30am Festival & La Mesa Worship | **1:30pm** CROP Hunger Walk

Palm Sunday - March 29

10:30am Joint, bilingual Service of Palms (Sanctuary). *Gather on the lawn at 10:15 for the palm procession.*

Maundy Thursday - April 2

7pm Bilingual service of prayer, music, & Communion in memory of the Last Supper of Jesus (Narthex)

Good Friday - April 3

5pm Bilingual Stations of the Cross featuring music, art, & storytelling (Start in the Sanctuary)

7pm *Tenebrae* service in the tradition of Taizé (Sanctuary)

Holy Saturday - April 4

7pm Spanish language service to keep vigil with the tomb of Jesus (On the lawn)

Easter Sunday - April 5

7am Sunrise Service (Sanctuary portico) | **10:30am** Festival & La Mesa Worship

WELCOME!

If you are new to United Church, we are so glad you are here. Please complete a Welcome Card that can be found in the back of the pew, introduce yourself to a pastor after the service, and take a gift bag with more information about our congregation (available on the table outside the sanctuary). We invite you to join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee and refreshments following worship today.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Committed pledges: \$1,726,938

Received pledges: \$1,005,567 (58%)

The sooner pledges are received, the less UCCH has to rely on external sources of funding like loans. If you are able, please send in your pledges as soon as you can. Thank you.

WILMINGTON'S LIE BOOK DISCUSSIONS & AUTHOR VISIT: MEETING TODAY

The Racial Justice Ministries Committee is hosting discussions about David Zucchino's Pulitzer Prize winning book, *Wilmington's Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy*. Discussions will be **March 1 and 8**, culminating in a presentation and in-person conversation with the author on **March 15**. All sessions are **in the Fellowship Hall, right after worship**. Check the UCCH Enews for more details.

JOIN THE UCCH CROP HUNGER WALK TEAM!

Walk with us on Sunday, March 22 to benefit IFC and Church World Service hunger relief efforts! Stop by our table in Fellowship Hall today for information, donations, and t-shirts. The need has never been greater for those facing insecurity in our community and around the world. Register/donate on our team page:



LENT & EASTER WITH UNITED CHURCH

View our Lent calendar to learn about our offerings from now until Easter Sunday (April 5). Some upcoming programs include:

- ★ 7:30am Lenten Prayer Series starts *March 4* (starting date changed from Feb. 25)
- ★ Lenten Organ Meditation at 12:30pm on March 5.
- ★ Gospel Worship with UVoP on March 15 at 8:45am

NEXT SUNDAY'S COMMUNITY FORUM

Sunday, March 8 | 9:15 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

Join us as the Palestinian Justice Partners welcome Rev. Mark Davidson who will present a synopsis of the new document, *Kairos Palestine II: A Moment of Truth: Faith in a Time of Genocide: "At a time when peace and hope seem impossible, Christians from the Holy Land bring us these words of comfort-perhaps the most honest, authentic, and hopeful message of its time-and a call to all people to work for justice."*

UCCH YOGA: MARCH CLASSES

Join Melanie Joiner for an all-levels yoga class focused on building resilience and community on **Fridays, March 6, 13, and 27 at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Hall**. Questions? Please contact Melanie at melanie.spence@gmail.com.

SEEKING PEACEMAKING SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Peacemaking Scholarship Committee is seeking new members to join them in supporting young people in our community who are working for peace. Awarding scholarship money to deserving high school students on their way to college is what we do. Be uplifted by reading and judging the submissions of our peacemaking youth. Our most active time is during the spring, but in the fall we also sponsor a fundraising concert and a booth at the Alternative Gift Market. Contact Sherry Siddall (sherrysiddall@gmail.com) for more information; please contact her **by March 13** to participate in the 2026 review of scholarship applications.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN ENEWS

Our email newsletter is sent weekly on Tuesdays (English) and Fridays (Spanish). Sign up at unitedchurch.org. Additional announcements include:

- ★ *Growing Starts at UCP* Fundraiser - Order plants by 3/16
- ★ *Pray Without Preaching: Prayer as a Practice for the Whole Church* - Registration open now
- ★ UCCH Stream Team - Sign up now for the 3/20 creek monitoring expedition!
- ★ Radio Drama Classes - Thursdays @3pm in March
- ★ Saturday Field Trip to the Pauli Murray Center - 5/2
- ★ Livestream & Soundboard volunteers needed!

FROM THE UCCH LIBRARY

- ★ Mays, J.L. Psalm 121: Help from the maker of heaven and earth. In "Psalms," p389-392. 223.7 May P
 - ★ Evans, R.H. God has made a home with us [and] Loving our enemies. In "Wholehearted Faith," p136-166. 248.4 Eva W
 - ★ Reyes-Chow, B. Grounded. In "Everything Good about God Is True," p29-34. 230 Rey E
 - ★ Oord, T.J. Models of God's providence. In "The Uncontrolling Love of God," p81-105. 231 Oor U
 - ★ Bauckham, R. The revelation of the divine presence. In "Who Is God? Key Moments of Biblical Revelation," p5-34. 231 Bau W
 - ★ Ringe, S.H. The sermon on the plain. In "Luke," p90-95. 226.7 Rin L
 - ★ Grindal, G.M. Beatitudes. In "Jesus, the Harmony: Gospel Sonnets," p92-100. 811 Gri J
- These items are on the small wooden rack in the center of the library. Instructions are provided: for using the catalog (near the computer), and for borrowing an item (near the door). Questions? Contact Barbara Wildemuth.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Nursery Sign-in: If your child will be going to the nursery after the Children's Moment, please scan the attached QR code to share care information with our nursery staff.



SERVICE NOTES

MUSIC: Julie Mitchell, organ; Chancel Choir

DEACON: Kaselehlia Sielken

READER: Ursula Wuerth

LIVESTREAM: Brian Moore

SOUNDBOARD: Sonic AL

COFFEE HOST: Erica Tillman

COVER ART: *Christ in the Wilderness Coloring Page* by Kelly Latimore Icons.

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UNITED CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR: Rev. Cameron Barr

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Rev. Caleb Wolf

MINISTER TO CHILDREN: Anitra Grove

MINISTER TO YOUTH AND FAMILIES: Jackson Ringley

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Reyna Alston

PROGRAM ORGANIST: Julie Mitchell

ADJUNCT MUSIC STAFF: Charles Bradshaw (United Voices of Praise Director), Jennifer Anderson (Junior Choir Director)

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Kati Ruark

BUSINESS MANAGER: Duane Gilbert

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER: Marisa Mee

SEXTON: Bruce Thomas

KITCHEN STEWARDS: Hser Nay Htoo & Zoila Fonseca

NURSERY ASSISTANTS: Harper Gray, Kallista Mela, Mimi Reeves, Anna Grove, Jack Tanner, & Josh Hart

Bienvenido. Welcome. Visitors are invited to take a contact card from the Narthex or Sanctuary pew pockets to fill out and place in the offering plate. / *Se invita a los visitantes a coger una tarjeta de contacto de los bolsillos de los bancos del Nártex o del Santuario para rellenarla y depositarla en el plato de las ofrendas.*

Or complete the form online:
O rellene el formulario en línea:



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A PLACE of BELONGING FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN