



Stokesdale United Methodist Church

*Where we are reflecting God's love
in the heart of the community*

May 2, 2021

5th Sunday of Easter

WELCOME

GREETING

COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING – UMH 400

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for song of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

BAPTISM OF CHRISTINA JAMES AND SLOANE JAMES-FRIEDHOFF

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through confirmation, and through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy Church.

I present *Christina & Sloane* for baptism.

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

Will you nurture *Christina and Sloane* in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

I will.

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

I will.

Will you who sponsor *Christina and Sloane* support and encourage them in their Christian life?

I will.

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe 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, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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.]

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Eternal Father: When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare Christ's works to the nations, his glory among all the people.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and those who receive it, to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives, that, dying and being raised with Christ, they may share in his final victory.

All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

Christina, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sloane, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sisters and brothers in Christ.

Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.

RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

As members of Christ's universal Church, will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

I will.

RECEPTION INTO THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness?

I will.

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you that you may live in grace and peace.

JESUS LOVES ME - *Choir*

JOYS AND CONCERS & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers for our Shut-Ins

Betty Shelton	Carole Pegram	Diane Preddy	Judy York	Leola Vaughn
Lucille Friddle	Mike Hall	Phyllis Green	Ruth Thomas	Phyllis Warren

Prayers for our Servicemen

Brandon Estrada – Army	Chris Seagraves – Air Force
Christopher Quesenberry – Air Force	Craig Rush II – Army
Jay Christopher – Navy	Mike Tumlin – Army
Robert Massingale – Army	Roger Rich – Army

Prayers for others

Ann Grose	Billy Hanks	Boone family
Brian Landreth	Carmen Wilmer	Chris Griffin
Dee Mullins	Evon & Mitchael Lawson	Elise Jones
Gene Tiesler	Gosnell family	Jillian Jalovec
Lucia Lane	Matt Wray	Norma & Dock Coleman
Rylie Cole	Sandra H. Leach	Sharon Ozment
Shay Black	Silas Mitchell	Steve Joyce
The Tucker family	Vartkes Ajemian	Yorkie York
Steve Joyce	Stella Hennis	Sue Hall
Shirley Friddle	Lucy Greene	Cathy Batten
Joe Voliva	Chelena Merriman	Family of Frank Schulte, Jr.
Randy Mills family	Jackson & Ben	Randi Smith
Bill McCandless	Lori McKenzie	Pat Champa
Libbi & Mark Walker	Grace Reed	Parker Stanley
Lori Tuttle	Peggy Beamon	Mahalia McGee
Crystal & Chris Myers	Bonnie & David Stratton	Vivian & Carl Essa & family
Fred Meyers family	Regina & Steve Frederick	Robbie Dailey
Amanda Edmondson		

Family members of those who have died from COVID
Those residing in hospitals and nursing homes
All healthcare workers and First responders

Local & Small Businesses
Essential employees

PASTORAL PRAYER

WAYS TO GIVE

We offer FOUR ways you can give to the church:

1. Give on-line by clicking the on-line giving tab on our web-site, www.stokesdaleumc.org and click on the "GIVE" tab. If you would like to learn more contact the church office.
2. Bring your check to the church office on Monday or Thursday from 9am to 2pm.
3. Mail your check to Stokesdale United Methodist Church, P O Box 38, Stokesdale, NC 27357.
4. Set up bill pay through your bank, making check payable to Stokesdale United Methodist Church.

ANTHEM

"Holy Spirit, Live In Me"

GOSPEL LESSON: John 15:1-11 (NRSV)

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. ³ You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in Me, and I in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself but must remain in the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches; the one who remains in Me, and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not remain in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and dries up; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ If you remain in Me, and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. ⁹ Just as the Father has loved Me, I also have loved you; remain in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and remain in His love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.



SERMON – Rev. Dr. Ed McKinney
"Abide In Me"

EAT THIS BREAD – UMH 628

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

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, Father Almighty, 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, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life.

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. 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. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

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."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. 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.

ABIDE WITH ME – UMH 700

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; earth's joys grow dim;

its glories pass away; change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour. What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes; shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Rev. Dr. Ed McKinney, Pastor
Beth Kasai, Music Assistant
Sarah McKinney, Youth Director

Jeff Fink, Music Director
Robin Howerton, Handbell Director
Linda Curtis, Office Manager

CCLI License # 2440521

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF May 2, 2021

WAYS TO GIVE

We offer FOUR ways you can give to the church:

1. Give on-line by clicking the on-line giving tab on our web-site, www.stokesdaleumc.org and click on the "GIVE" tab. If you would like to learn more contact the church office.
2. Bring your check to the church office on Monday or Thursday from 9am to 2pm.
3. Mail your check to Stokesdale United Methodist Church, P O Box 38, Stokesdale, NC 27357.
4. Set up bill pay through your bank, making check payable to Stokesdale United Methodist Church.

We reflect God's love through our giving... Thank you for your extravagant generosity.

General Budget as of April 26, 2021

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$80,037
ACTUAL EXPENSES	\$62,903
Amount Needed Year-to-Date	\$88,243

Land as of April 26, 2021

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$6541
ACTUAL EXPENSES	\$5862



OPERATION XCEL

MONDAY – FRIDAY

Stokesdale United Methodist Church is hosting Operation Xcel. Children and tutors will meet in the Fellowship Hall from 3 - 6PM. Tutors and helpers are still needed. Contact Elaine Christopher if you are interested in helping.



Girl Scouts Meeting 6:30 PM



Missions Team Meeting 7 PM



TUESDAY from 4 – 7PM

The Fruit of the Spirit Farmer's Market. Social distancing procedures will be in place. Parking will be in the field this year – access from Stokesdale Street. Contact Charles Southard for information 336-509-7314



WEDNESDAY @ 5:45 PM

HANDBELL PRACTICE in the fellowship hall



WEDNESDAY @ 7:00 PM

CHOIR PRACTICE in the fellowship hall and via ZOOM



THURSDAY @ 6:15PM

WORD AND TABLE



THURSDAY @ 6:15 PM

Brownies & Girl Scouts Meeting



Mother's Day, May 9th is Women's Day at SUMC! Our service will be led by the women of the church. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Donna Friddle.



**NEXT MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12th @ 11AM**



Join us Thursday May 20th at 7:00pm to discuss "The Book Women of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson. Happy Reading! All are welcome!



GRADUATION SUNDAY – MAY 23rd



We continue to receive monetary donations for food for the Food Pantry. Distribution is on Saturday, May 29th (SUMC hosting)



It's a Baby Shower!

SUMC is supporting our local "Good Samaritan" and "Room at the Inn" ministries by hosting a Baby Shower. Please bring new, unwrapped baby items to church through the end of May to be distributed to those in need.



Devotional Books for May-June are in the Narthex – pick yours up today!



**OPERATION
XCEL**

If you are interested in donating supplies for the children participating in the Operation Xcel program you may choose from the following:

*elementary calculators
pens/pencils
1 electric pencil sharpener*

*crayons
markers*

 IN MEMORY OF

Randy Mills donations were received from the following:

Gene Tiesler

Sud & Kevan Combs and family

Lisa Joyce

Robin & Steve Howerton