

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 26, 2026
Ten O'clock in the Morning

There is a close companionship of pain. A brother- and a sister-hood of woe, That children of success may never know, That darlings of the world may never gain.	Sometimes the doorstep is at midnight crossed, And then a muffled movement on the stair: Jesus, the Son of Heaven, enters there, And takes the lowliest seat among the low.
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And they, children of Failure, sit around,
And in Life's antechamber sleep and wait,
As day melts into night. It grows too late:
No bed or board on earth for them is found.

~ Edith Lovejoy Pierce (ad.), *British-American poet, 1904-1983*

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Anne McClain, organist

WELCOME and † INVOCATION Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*

Gracious God, as we gather in your presence,
we thank you for choosing us when others have turned us away,
for calling us even when we lack confidence in ourselves,
and for granting us a second chance in the midst of our shortcomings and failures.
Give us, we pray, courage and strength to embrace the promise you have set before us.
Grant us faith in ourselves, and in each other, to match the faith you have in us.
Let fear and doubt not have the upper hand as we face challenges and uncertainties,
and may we trust with confidence your unwavering love, forgiveness and wisdom.
In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

† GATHERING HYMN 73 *God Moves in a Mysterious Way* ST. ANNE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF GRACE
Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate *Pastor*

PROCLAIMING

PSALTER READING	Psalm 105: 1-10 Abraham, Isaac and Jacob	Carrie Royal, <i>Deacon</i> and Amos Royal
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GOSPEL (*responsively*) Mr. Beddingfield, Mrs. Craddock, and Congregation

Voice 1: You did not choose me, but I chose you,
and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit,
and that your fruit should abide. ~ John 15:16a

Voice 2: So the last shall be first and the first shall be last,
for many are called, but few are chosen. ~ Matthew 20: 16

ALL: and those whom God chose, God called;
 and those whom God called, God justified;
 and those whom God justified, God glorified. ~ Romans 8: 30

† WITNESS IN SONG	<i>Open My Eyes</i> Mariamarta Conrad, <i>leader</i>	Jesse Manibusan
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Open my eyes, Lord, help me to see your face
Open my eyes, Lord, help me to see.

Open my ears, Lord, help me to hear your voice
Open my ears, Lord, help me to hear.

Bridge:
And the first shall be last, and our eyes are opened
And we'll hear like never before
And we'll speak in new ways, and we'll see God's face
In places we've never known.

Open my heart, Lord, help me to love like you
Open my heart, Lord, help me to love.

Bridge

I live within you, deep in your heart, O Love
I live within you, rest now in me.

SERMON *Second Choice* Mr. Beddingfield
(Seventh in a Lectionary series based on the
Genesis stories of the Patriarchs of Israel.)

RESPONDING

SONG OF RESPONSE *You Say* Lauren Daigle
Ms. Conrad, *solo*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and The Lord's Prayer (*unison*) Mr. Beddingfield

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO GIVE and OFFERTORY	<i>How Great Is Our God</i> Mrs. McClain	Mr. Beddingfield arr. Carol Troutman Wiggins
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SENDING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 287

Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord

LANGLEY

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY
and Reception of New Members

† BENEDICTION	Mr. Beddingfield
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POSTLUDE *You Shall Go Out With Joy!* Douglas E. Wagner
Mrs. McClain

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: Stephanie Shaffer, Earl Savage, Joyce Sills, Jim Roberts, Jerry Wallace, Melanie Joyner, Kay Hedgepeth, Marshall & Jeanie Kornegay, Charlie & Jeanne Lewis, Trula Gray, Betty Wallace, Doris Eller

Family and Friends: Family of Kathryn King; Matt Cannady; Jake Eller (*neighbor of Beverley Howard*); Ann Warren (*sister-in-law of Donna Haynes*); Lee Robinson (*uncle of Trinity Kelly*); Mary Johnson (*mother of David & Kerry Johnson*); Shirley Pope (*mother of Jeff Pope*); Jeff Smith (*cousin of Al Hardison*); Murray Downs (*father of William Downs*); Carol Hoeg (*sister of Susan Cannady, in NJ*); Marcia Dickens (*sister of Lisa Spainhour*); Harriet Whiteman; International teachers & families

Emerald Health and Rehab Center (Lillington, NC): Pat Stiller

The Springs of Ballentine (Fuquay-Varina, NC): Linda Smith

In order to keep our prayer list current, we will place names on the list for one month. After one month we will remove names from the list. If there is a need for a name to be on the list for a longer period, please notify us and we will be happy to comply.

Deacons for July 2026: Carrie Royal and Joe Turlington
Deacons for August 2026: Lisa Lanier and Dave Steegar

Ushers Today: Cherry DeVane, Chad Godwin, Derek Hogan and Jeff Pope
Ushers August 2: Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson, Linda Lunney and
 Siu-Ki Wong

No Kids' Church in July
No Kids' Church August 2

Nursery Today: Chloe Clayton
Nursery August 2: (need volunteer)

† *Worshippers are invited to stand.*

TODAY, July 26th
Sunday School
Friends Class: 9:00 a.m.
Sarah’s Open Door Class: 9:00 a.m.
Children: 9:00 a.m. (Library)
Youth: 9:00 a.m. (Family Life Center)
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
No Kids’ Church in July

TUESDAY, July 28th
Nominating Committee Meeting: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

WEDNESDAY, July 29th
Summer Choir Rehearsal IV: 6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

FRIDAY, July 31st
VBS 2026  4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, August 1st
VBS 2026  10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

AUGUST 2026
2 Sunday School
Friends Class: 9:00 a.m.
Sarah’s Open Door Class: 9:00 a.m.
Youth: 9:00 a.m. (Family Life Center)
No Children’s Class
VBS 2026 and Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
lunch to follow in the Fellowship Hall



Memorial Baptist invites you to join us at
BUIES CREEK BEACH

The waves are high, the sun is bright,
Come learn about God's power and might!
From sandy shores to deep blue seas,
We'll ride the waves with Psalm 93!

Friday, July 31 — 4-7:30pm
Saturday, August 1 — 10am - 1:30pm
Sunday, August 2 — 10am-Lunch

VBS 2026 July 31–Aug 2

*The sound of the water is loud; the ocean waves are powerful,
but the Lord above is much greater. ~ Psalm 93:4*

REGISTER TODAY!!
Go to this link to register: <https://forms.gle/FP91qQXq6mhME5cUA>

Contact Meredith Craddock for more info.

Financial Position as of 6/30/2026	
» Total support	\$ 211,619
» Total expenditures	\$ (214,383)
» Total expenditures exceed support	\$ (2,764)
» Total 2026 Budget Proposal	\$ 418,220
» Percent of year passed	50%
» Undesignated support needed to meet budget	\$ 207,391
» Undesignated support received as of 6/30/2026	\$ 181,737
» Operating expenses offset received from Stokes Child Care	\$ 5,100
» Air conditioner replacement offset from MBC Growth Endow.	\$ 3,200
» Shortfall undesignated giving compared to budget	\$ (17,354)

Ways to Donate to MBC:

- **Offering plates** during the Offertory portion of our service.
- Mailing a **check** payable to: *Memorial Baptist Church*
P.O. Box 485
Buies Creek, NC 27506
- Our website at www.memorialbcnc.org by clicking the *Donate* tab.
- Scanning the **QR Code** shown here on your mobile device.





For July, we are collecting:
Socks

Place items in the plastic tote in the hallway.

We also welcome monetary donations to go toward the purchase of backpacks and Bibles. Designate your donation as *‘Backpacks.’*

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods**
Needed for July - - **Canned Fruit**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome; designate as ‘Food Pantry.’
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting **sandwich crackers “nabs”**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome; designate as ‘Buddy Backpack.’



Memorial Baptist Church
271 Leslie Campbell Avenue/P.O. Box 485
Buies Creek, NC 27506
Telephone: 910-893-4162 Fax: 910-893-2167
Website: www.memorialbcnc.org
edb@memorialbcnc.org
Emails: meredith@memorialbcnc.org
ashley@memorialbcnc.org
Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm
Other Staff: By Appointment



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26, 2026

Memorial Baptist Church is an inviting, inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith open to all persons who want to walk with us in following the way of Jesus. If you mourn and need comfort; if you’re weary and need rest; if you feel friendless and need friendship; if you need a Savior; if you need love; if you need help; whoever you are and whatever your circumstances, we open the door and in the name of Jesus bid you come.

The Rev. Edward Beddingfield, Pastor
Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor
Dr. Phillip and Susan Morrow, Ministers of Music
Anne McClain, Organist
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Xiomara Felix, Custodian