

Wesley Chapel Methodist Church

August 16th, 2026



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We welcome you to this worship service.

Order of Worship

Prelude

Here Is Love

GRP 91

Announcements

Greeting

***Call to Worship**

Let's Just Praise the Lord

CH 18

***Lighting of the altar candles.**

***Scripture Reading**

John 5:28-29

Staci Sherer

***The 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 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.

Hymn

Come Thou Almighty King

CH 8

***Affirmation of Faith:**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and 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, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from which, he shall come to judge the living and the dead. 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. Amen.

**universal

Sharing of Joys and Concern
Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory	I Trust in God	GRP 376
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***Doxology:** 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.

Hymn	Standing on the Promises	CH 410
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Scripture	John 5:28-29
Sermon	“Two Resurrections?” Mark Ledbetter

Hymn	Living for Jesus	CH 605
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Postlude	My Hope Is Built	GRP 102
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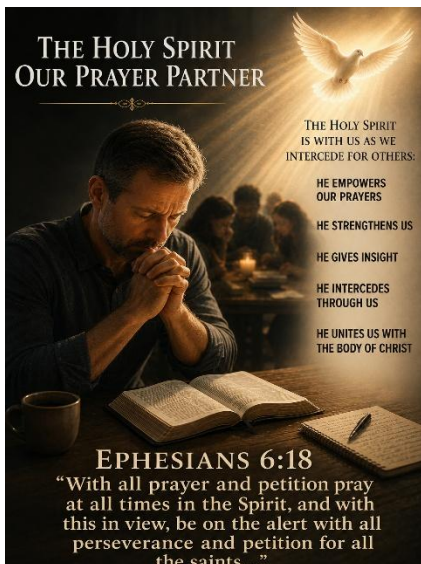
***Please stand if you are able.**

CH – Celebration Hymnal

GRP – Great Redeemer’s Praise Hymnal

Prayer List

Brenda and Pat Jones, James and Janice Adams, Vicky Rollins, Chris Kramer, Jr., Ruth Cox, Bill Crenshaw, Beth Major, Tanner Bowen, Matt Abrams, Bobbie Kinser, Louise Rhodes, Jane Reynolds, Van Abbott, JoAnne Cleveland, Honest Gaddis, Kathy and Roland Roberson, Jeanne & Glen Deason, Jeff Thomas and family, Ray Stone, Elliette Fillingame and family, Jerry Jordan, Charles and Janet Akin, Connor Edmondson, Frances Coleman, Jill Bailey, Sarah Hethcox, Janice Snyder, Dustin Bentley, Rachel Hobson, Kent Clifton, Jackie Vigiani, Ashley Williamson, Johnny Jones, Alton Williams, Lynn Shaw, Huey Cannon, Lyndall Jones, Faye Thompson, Susan Vick, Zindel Wilkins, Mark Henderson, Shirley Mooney, Debbie McGhee, Irene Beasley, Dillon Pody, Ken Bradford, Kaitlyn Paceley, Wendy Monroy and her baby, Samantha, Donald Caine, Jana Johnson, Barbara Bailey, Randy McDaniel, Brian Smith, Betty Culver, Christopher Keeton, Don and Frieda Gillum, Rhonda Beasley, Linda Hatchett, Christy Fugatt, Cole Ward, TJ Little, Karen Amons, Sally Dodwell, baby Liam and family, Brenda Thompson, Vicky Avant, John Murphy, and Kamryn.



Becoming Prayer Partners with the Spirit

Ephesians 6:18

In Ephesians 6:18, Paul calls believers to become intercessory prayer partners with the Spirit: “With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints...” To “pray in the Spirit” is to pray with the Spirit’s unction and energy, allowing Him to guide our prayers as we enter the hurts, burdens, and needs of others. When we seek the Spirit’s guidance and implore the Father for His divine favor and intervention, we participate

in the Spirit's work just as He intercedes on our behalf. Samuel Chadwick captures this intensity well: "Prayers are measured neither by time nor number, but by intensity," and "A cry is mightier than a polished prayer" (*The Path of Prayer*, 13, 15).

The Spirit as Helper, Teacher, and Intercessor

When Jesus introduced the Spirit to the disciples as "another Helper," He described One who would be called alongside them. In that context, Jesus promised that the Spirit would come alongside them as Teacher and Guide (John 14:16-17, 26; 16:13).

Romans 8:26–27 reveals another dimension of this help: the Spirit comes alongside us as our Intercessor, offering passionate pleas to the Father on our behalf when words fail to express the adversity we face. Because He knows our circumstances and needs—and because He knows the mind of God—the Spirit guides us into the truth of God's Word and reminds us that we have access to the Father's promises in Jesus' name.

Intercession as Spiritual Warfare

Intercessory prayer places us on a battlefield against the powers of darkness that oppose and seek to undermine the purposes of God. Like watchmen on the walls of the community of believers, we remain alert to the needs within the body while also keeping watch for advancing opposition. It is no accident that Paul presents intercessory prayer as the capstone of what many have come to know as *spiritual warfare*. Clothed in the full armor of God, believers are enabled to stand against spiritual forces that seek to inflict pain, confusion, and doubt in the hearts and minds of their brothers and sisters.

Prayer That Advances the Gospel

Paul's strategy for intercessory prayer is not defensive only; it is also strongly offensive. While under house arrest, Paul asks the church to pray that he would boldly proclaim the "mystery of the gospel." Through preaching and teaching, he is able to expose the enemy's schemes, counter his lies, and advance the truth of Christ.

Standing Firm in the Strength of the Lord

For this reason, we cannot enter prayer lightly. Paul exhorts believers to “be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might” and to put on the full armor of God so they may be “able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil,” “resist in the evil day,” and, having done everything, “stand firm.”

The imagery is one of steadfast resistance: believers stand firm against the foe, refusing defeat. When one assault is answered, they remain ready to face the next with confidence in the Lord’s strength.

Therefore, when we enter the arena of intercessory prayer, we may be encouraged by the enabling presence of the Holy Spirit. He comes alongside us as our prayer partner, and together with Him we seek and witness the Father’s intervention. Intercessory prayer is not only our greatest challenge but also our greatest calling and opportunity.

Under “The Holy Spirit is with us as we intercede for others, remove the graphics and only list the bold emphasis; remove the Bible verse and reference under The Holy Spirit Our Prayer Partner; and remove the verse and reference at the bottom and with larger print include Ephesians 6:18, “With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints...”

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Weekly Calendar

Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.

Prayer Meeting tonight at 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night Bible Study at 5:30 p.m.

Reminder for the administrative board:

We will meet briefly after worship.

Please talk with Sherry Reynolds if you cannot be there.



Morgan Hodges baby shower is Saturday, August 29th at Sylacauga Country Club at 2:00 p.m. If you cannot make it, you are welcome to leave your gift in Staci Sherer's office, and she will take it to the shower for you.

Vision Statement

Connecting Congregation and Community
with Jesus Christ
through the Presence and Power
of the Holy Spirit!

For your convenience, a QR code has been provided for our giving page
if you prefer to tithe and/or donate by card.
Be sure to choose which funds you are giving to. Thanks!

