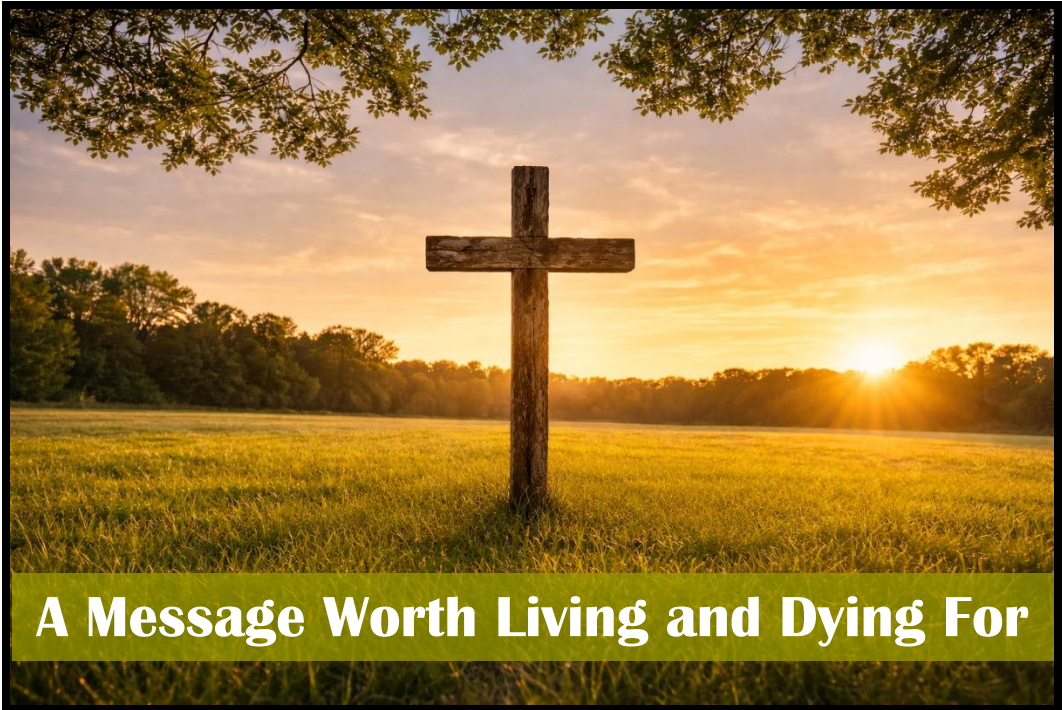


# Wesley Chapel Methodist Church

April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026



**A Message Worth Living and Dying For**

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**We welcome you to this worship service.**

## Order of Worship

**Prelude**

I Live

**CH 366**

**Announcements**

**Greeting**

**Kids Kingdom Moment**

**\*Call to Worship**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

**GRP 251**

**\*Lighting of the altar candles.**

**\*Scripture Reading**

**John Reeves**

**\*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**

Low in the Grave He Lay

**GRP 252**

**\*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**

Behold the Lamb

**CH 304**

**\*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**

I Want to Know You More

**Mark Ledbetter**

**Scripture**

**Galatians 2:20**

**Sermon**

A Message Worth Living and Dying For

**Mark Ledbetter**

**Holy Communion**

**Postlude**

Christ Arose

**CH 357**

**\*Please stand if you are able.**

## Prayer List

Brenda and Pat Jones, James and Janice Adams, Vicky Rollins, Chris Kramer, Jr., Ruth Cox, Bill Crenshaw, Beth Major, Glenda Rumsey, Tanner Bowen, Matt Abrams, Bobbie Kinser, Mike Cleveland, Louise Rhodes, Jane Reynolds, Donald Caine, Danny and Alice Collins, Van Abbott, Chris Bishop, JoAnne Cleveland, Honest Gaddis, Kathy and Roland Roberson, Jeanne & Glen Deason, Jeff Thomas and family, Cindy Natali, Perry Duffey, Mallory Caine, Lisa Barnett, Ray Stone, Elliette Fillingame and family, Jerry Jordan, Charles and Janet Akin, Connor Edmondson, Frances Coleman, Jill Bailey, Leslie Hassal, Sarah Hethcox, Colin Pody, Janice Snyder, Dustin Bentley, Rachel Hobson, Kent Clifton, Jackie Vigiani, Brett Kelley, Ashley Williamson, Fisher Camp, Johnny Jones, Anthony Grogan, Alton Williams, Carol Cram, Lynn Shaw, Mary Deason, Runt Robertson, Huey Cannon, Lyndall Jones, Faye Thompson, Susan Vick, Millie Adair, Judy Demeers, Zindel Wilkins, Brad Ingram and family, Joe Morton, the family of Joe Plexico, Sonay Hale and her family.



## Prayer, Fasting & The Holy Spirit

A Formula for Achievement

*Acts 13:1–3 (NASB95)*

While the Prophets were “serving” the Lord with the teaching of the Word, praying, and singing, and fasting, the Holy Spirit intervened with a commission for Barnaba and Saul (Paul). They responded with more prayer and fasting and commissioned them by laying hands on them in solemn recognition and approval of the mission for which the Spirit selected them. We find the same method of ordination later practiced by Barnabas and Saul (Acts 14:23).

The Prophets of the early church continued the legacy of the Prophets modeled by the “band of the prophets” presided over by the Prophet Samuel who gathered periodically

in prayer, singing, and prophesying – proclaiming the mighty deeds of God (1 Samuel 10:5; 19:20). In the days of Elijah and Elisha, the “sons (disciples) of the prophets” also gathered in specific locations under the Prophets’ leadership taught, trained, prayed, and prophesied under the direction of Elijah and Elisha (2 Kings 2:3f and 4:38). Acts 13 records the prophets, who also served as teachers, were gathered for worship and prayer. Prophets seem to like hanging out together.

That was then, but what about now? E.M. Bounds (c. 1835-1913) captures the essence of the church’s need of the hour writing, “What the Church needs to-day is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use – men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men – men of prayer.” (*Power Through Prayer*, 1972, p. 7)

Fast is another key factor shared in the Acts account of the Prophets’ gathering. Fasting is a spiritual discipline difficult to develop because it is contrary to the human body to deny sustenance. Anyone who has fasted understands the effects. Yet, it is a spiritual discipline found throughout the Scripture, and Jesus teaches fasting is an expression of “righteousness” (Mattheew 6:16-18). Coupling prayer and fasting produces a sharper edge on the prayers, especially when engaged in intercession, or seeking an encounter with God with petitions of His favor (grace) on behalf of others or situation.

Then there is the visitation of the Holy Spirit who responded to the prayers, worship, and fasting of those gathered. We are not told how the Spirit communicated but that “the Holy Spirit said.” Obviously, anyone denying the prophets and direct communication of the Spirit are available to the church today would not expect the same to take place in their prayer meeting. [NOTE: There is no Scriptural expiration date for the work of the Spirit, spiritual gifts, or Prophets – but that is another story for a different time.]

A.W. Tozer writes in *The Price of Neglect* (1991, p. 2), “A spirit has been introduced which is surely not the Spirit of Christ, methods employed which are wholly carnal, objectives adopted which have not one line of Scripture to support them, a level of conduct accepted which is practically identical with that of the world – and yet scarcely one voice has been raised in opposition.”

*Just as it was in the early church, the days of E.M. Bounds, and A.W. Tozer, today there is a need for Spirit-infused prayer meetings attune to the Spirit’s leading as He orchestrates the affairs of the church and the men and women who serve.*



### **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 5:30 p.m.

## **Remembrance Sunday**

Next Sunday!

Sandwich Luncheon after Worship

Ladies, make sure Miriam knows what desserts you are bringing!

### **Administrative Board Meeting**

Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

### **Women in Christian Service**

Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Our hostesses are Joan Miller and Miriam Kramer.

The  
Beauty of  
**HOLINESS**  
A SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE. A HOLY CALLING.

# Mission Experience

Serve. Pray. Give.

Our communion offering for April and May will go toward the GMC's General Conference in Johannesburg, Africa this year. The GMC is using this opportunity to serve, witness, and partner with God's work in the host community. They have set a goal to raise \$90,000.00. These funds will help with the following:

- Over 3,000 meals
- Health kits
- A VBS-style experience for children
- Spirit and Truth training
- Local church/community work projects

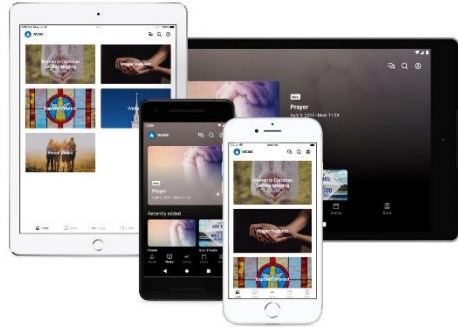


**Connecting Congregation and Community with Jesus Christ!**



Wesley Chapel Methodist Church

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