

Wesley Chapel Methodist Church

March 8th, 2026



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We welcome you to this worship service.

Order of Worship

Prelude

Be Still My Soul

GRP 360

Announcements

Greeting

Kids Kingdom Moment

***Call to Worship**

Arise, Shine

CH 241

***Lighting of the altar candles.**

***Scripture Reading**

Sherry Reynolds

***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

At the Cross

GRP 564

***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

Middle

Sharing of Joys and Concern
Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

He Giveth More

GRP 359

***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

Come, Jesus Come

**Cece Winans &
Cody Johnson**

Scripture

Sermon

Becoming Children of God

**John 1:6-13
Mark Ledbetter**

Hymn

We Will Glorify

CH 301

Postlude

Redeemed

GRP 532

***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, Sheila Pody, 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, Dianne Sellari, Bobbie Hogan, Steve Ward, Jackie Vigiani, Brett Kelley, Ashley Williamson, Teresa Austin, Leonard Huskey, Fisher Camp, Johnny Jones, Randy Foster, Anthony Grogan, Alton Williams, Carol Ward, Lynn Shaw, Mary Deason, the family of Sandra Gill White, Runt Robertson, Huey Cannon, Alan Shockey, Rev. Milton Smith, and the family of Jerry Jennings.

Prayer Focus: Prayer and Preaching

Acts 6:4 (NASB95)

⁴“But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

E.M. Bounds writes, “Praying men means more than men who say prayers; much more than men who pray by habit. It means men with whom prayer is a mighty force, an energy that moves heaven and pours untold treasures of good on earth” (*Purpose in Prayer*, 80). The Apostles understood this. They were not unconcerned about providing for the community’s needy, but they had a calling, and, as the narrative reveals, there were others fully capable and willing to serve and thereby releasing the Apostles to address “prayer and to the ministry of the word.” **PREACHING, TEACHING, AND MEETING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS IS A TEAM EFFORT.**

The Gospel is powerful, and the Holy Spirit is the enabler. Men and women who have been called to preach and teach the Word have a solemn responsibility to study in preparation for preaching and/or teaching, yet it is through prayer they gain the heart of the Father, the mind of Christ, and the “anointing” of the Spirit. It is Bounds again who writes, “little praying in the pulpit or the pew, spiritual bankruptcy is imminent and inevitable” (73).

Paul not only recognizes his need to pray but requests the church to pray for him. Specifically, he requests the church to pray on his behalf, “that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel” (Ephesians 6:19). He requests the Colossians to pray that God would open doors for him to preach the Gospel of Christ clearly in the manner he should speak (Colossians 4:3-4). As indicated in a previous segment, Charles Spurgeon attributed any pulpit success to the “powerhouse of the church” – intercessors meeting in a boiler room of the church.

In a previous prayer focus I drew attention to Charles Spurgeon, Baptist pastor in nineteenth century England, who drew multitudes to hear him preach, becoming a mega-pastor before it was cool, filled the Metropolitan Tabernacle on Sunday, and commanding crowds upward to a thousand on Monday evening prayer services. Spurgeon was a man of personal prayer, but he recognized the impact of his preaching lay not in his personal study and rhetorical skills, but the intercessory prayers of the congregation. When people toured the Tabernacle, it was Spurgeon who took them to the basement prayer room. There, people were always on their knees interceding for the church. “Then the pastor would declare, ‘Here is the powerhouse of this church.’”

When pulpit and pew agree, it is not the pastor who deserves the credit or accolades for an effective message, but all who have prayed participate in the fruit born by the preaching and teaching of God’s Word. The praying congregation does not simply listen to the message but join heart and spirit with the message and the messenger; and while participating in the message join with both pastor and the Spirit in celebrating the fruit produced in the lives of those who hear and receive the message.

Like the Apostle Paul I will incorporate prayer as a vital link with the Spirit and the Word and seek His “anointing” to deliver the message as the Apostle did : “not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God” (1 Corinthians 2:4–5). And like Paul, I earnestly request that you pray for me that I may present the Word in clear and powerful language for the edifying of the body of Christ.



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.

Women in Christian Service

Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

Our hostesses are Sherry Reynolds, Emily Reynolds,
and Allison Motes.

Men's Club

Tuesday, March 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Connecting Congregation and Community with Jesus Christ.

Remembrance Sunday, April 12th

Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Update

The date is set and plans are underway for our Seventy-fifth Anniversary. Our speaker will be Bishop Carolyn Moore (more about her in a future update). Traditionally, our date of observation has been on or near the anniversary date, May 21. This year, **WE WILL OBSERVE OUR ANNIVERSARY MAY 31, 2026**. Put the date on your calendar.

In preparation for the day, we will have a ***Sunday of Remembrance***, a day for us to gather in fellowship to recall our fondest reflections upon family members, friends, former pastors, and events shaping our history, and our future.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY WILL BE APRIL 12, 2026, after the morning service. Miriam Kramer and Mike Cleveland have planned a **Sandwich Luncheon**, and some will be asked to provide sandwiches, others chips, desserts and fruit. More details will be provided as we get closer to the day.

You can also create fond memories if you can bring pictures, write down the people and events you feel have made a positive contribution to the church community, and share stories with all who attend. You should not plan to be in a hurry on this day. We are just going to relax and remember. Plans are to print a book of remembrance.

