Wesley Chapel Methodist Church

September 27th, 2026



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We welcome you to this worship service.

Order of Worship

Prelude Close to Thee **GRP 335**

Announcements and Sharing of Joys

Greeting

***Call to Worship** Let There Be Glory and Honor and Praises **CH 20**
***Lighting of the altar candles.**

***Scripture Reading** John 6:26-27

***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 Blessed Be the Name **CH 52**

***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

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory	Seek Ye First	**GRP 341**

***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	O Lord, You're Beautiful	**CH 643**
Scripture		**John 6:26-27**
Sermon	Food for Eternal Life	**Mark Ledbetter**

Prayer Concerns
Altar Call and Prayer

Hymn	Fill My Cup, Lord	**CH 702**
Postlude	Higher Ground	**GRP 329**

***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, Matt Abrams, Bobbie Kinser, Louise Rhodes, Jane Reynolds, Van Abbott, JoAnne Cleveland, Honest Gaddis, Kathy and Roland Roberson, Jeanne & Glen Deason, 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, Alton Williams, Lynn Shaw, Huey Cannon, Lyndall Jones, Faye Thompson, Susan Vick, Mark Henderson, Shirley Mooney, Debbie McGhee, Irene Beasley, Ken Bradford, Kaitlyn Paceley, Wendy Monroy and her baby, Samantha, Jana Johnson, Barbara Bailey, Randy McDaniel, Brian Smith, Betty Culver, Christopher Keeton, Don and Frieda Gillum, Rhonda Beasley, Christy Fugatt, Cole Ward, TJ Little, Karen Amons, Liam Layton and family, Vicky Avant, John Murphy, Kamryn, Laurie Althoff, Randy Snyder, Jeff Tramble, Sherry Bentley's cousin, Jeff, Teresa Austin, Tony Isbell, Linda Carter, Bill Roberts, Brock and Nan Thrice, Perry Duffy, Ron Shank, Willy Chambliss, Danny Collins, Gary Bentley, the family and friends Jimmy Kimbrough, the family and friends of Tracey Rogers, Sarah Hopkins, and Brooke Carmack Smith and Easton.

Prayer Focus: Agonizing in Prayer

Some may think it was a mistake; at first, I did too. I was reflecting upon what it means to agonize in prayer. I thought of Epaphras, who was "always laboring earnestly" for the Colossians in his prayers (Col. 4:12). I thought of Paul's struggle on behalf of the churches (Col. 2:1), and then of Jesus' agony in Gethsemane only hours before His arrest and crucifixion. I confessed to the Lord, "I really do not know what it is like to agonize in prayer." Then my thoughts took an unexpected turn.

I began to recall the painful consequences I had created for myself through foolish decisions. I do not ordinarily use the word "stupid," but in this case it seems appropriate. I made plenty of such decisions during my teenage and young-adult years—and plenty more afterward. As I

lamented what had resulted from those choices, I began to weep. My pity-party became a teaching moment.

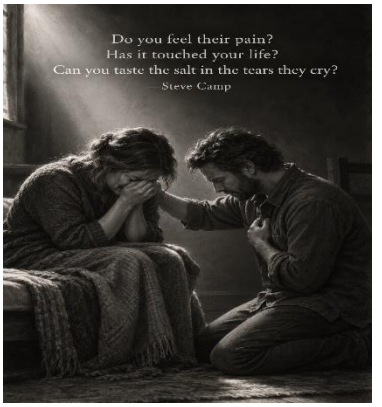
My weeping was interrupted by another thought: “Now you know something of what it means to agonize in prayer for others.”

I began thinking about those who suffer because of decisions they have made and those who suffer because of decisions made by others: people trapped in addiction or alcohol dependency, parents raising children alone, families bearing the consequences of broken relationships, and many others. I was not judging them; I was beginning to empathize with them. To agonize in prayer for others may require us to enter their pain rather than stand at a distance and judge how they arrived there. This is not compromise; it is compassion.

Can you remember how you felt and how you lived before Jesus found you—and you found Him? Can you remember struggling with life’s burdens before you learned to place them into the hands of your heavenly Father? Can you remember feeling alone, without comfort or direction, until you discovered the peace and joy of the Holy Spirit?

When I was a young adult, Steve Camp was a popular Christian singer. I remembered a song from his 1989 album, *Justice*, entitled “Do You Feel Their Pain?” The song challenges us to move beyond distant sympathy and enter compassionately into another person’s suffering. One passage asks:

> “Do you feel their pain? Has it touched your life?
> Can you taste the salt in the tears they cry?”



Jewish sages would express this as “Your pain in me.” Obviously, this approach to prayer could be difficult, if not personally “painful.” Yet, this could be an application to God causing “all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose” (Rom 8:28), especially knowing one purpose is “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…” (Eph 6:18). And lost family and friends!

“Prayers are measured neither by time nor number, but by intensity.” (Samuel Chadwick)



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.

Next Sunday is Communion Sunday. The offering will go toward Gideon's International. Then on October 11th, we will have special guest from Gideon's International as our speaker.

Next Sunday, October 4th is also **World Communion Sunday**. There will be a community service at 12:15 p.m. and First Presbyterian Church.

Administrative Board Meeting
Monday, October 5th at 5:30 p.m.

Our church's Charge Conference will be October 11th at 6:00 p.m.

The Men's Club is having a Boston butt and ribs sale.
Sign-up sheets are in the fellowship hall, and the orders will be ready to pick up on October 17th.

Resources for Women

Annual Fundraising Dinner

Thursday, October 22nd at 6”00 p.m.

Tickets are $35.00 per person or $200.00 for a table of 6.

It will be held at Mignon Baptist Church.

Contact info: 205-538-6883

Our communion offering total for Resources for Women was $415.00.



A donation was made to the Kitchen Fund
in memory of Jane Kramer by Chris Kramer, Jr.

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!