

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday | July 12 | 2026
9:30 a.m. | 11:00 a.m.



Parable of the Sower, 2016, Thomas Bertram Poole

Preacher

Christopher Edmonston

Liturgists

Jim Ferry | Grier Booker Richards

Musicians

Katrina Liao | Eric Nanz | Music Ministry

WHITE MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1704 Oberlin Road | Raleigh NC 27608 | whitememorial.org

Gathering

* Asterisks invite us to rise in body or spirit.

Words in bold are for everyone to say or sing.

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

All who walk in shadow, come into the light!

God's Word lights the way for us.

God has promised to abide with us.

So let us commit to walk in God's ways.

All who are afflicted, ensnared by the world, come give praise to God.

**God is the joy of our heart, our sure and certain comfort,
come what may!**

*HYMN 32

*As we prepare to hear
the parable of the sower,
we praise the God
who makes seed grow:
"There's not a plant or
flower below but makes
thy glories known..."*

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

*CONFESSION AND
ASSURANCE OF
GOD'S GRACE

O God, we are quick to say,

"We didn't know. We didn't mean to. We didn't expect

that to happen." But the truth is we have not tended to the soil

of our lives. We let it stay shallow and rocky by not learning from

the experience of others. We let it be riddled with thorns by

succumbing to our own prejudices. Life-giving God, help us

to tend our soil. Open us to being challenged and enable us to learn,

so that your word will take root and bear good fruit in our lives.

(Time for silent prayer)

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*RESPONSE

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where there is ha-tred,
let me bring your love. Where there is in-ju-ry, your par-don,
Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff contains the first line of lyrics, the second staff contains the second line, and the third staff contains the third line. The music is simple and melodic, with a final double bar line at the end of the third staff.

We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYER FOR
ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT
READING

Psalm 119:105-112

NEW TESTAMENT
READING

Matthew 13:1-9

SERMON

Speaking in Parables

We Share the Lord's Supper

*AFFIRMATION
OF FAITH

from *The Confession of 1967*

New life takes shape in a community of people who know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. New life finds its direction in the person of Jesus: his deeds and words, his struggles against temptation, his compassion, his anger, and his willingness to suffer death. Life in Christ is life eternal. The resurrection of Jesus is God's sign that God will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.

OFFERINGS

My Roots Go Deep

Anonymous



Scan to Give

INVITATION TO
THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

BREAKING, POURING,
AND SERVING

Hymn 531 Seed, Scattered and Sown

SEED SCATTERED

*This hymn ties in Jesus'
parables on the sower
and seed with imagery
of the living bread of
God.*

PRAYER AFTER
COMMUNION

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

We Go In God's Name

*HYMN 700

*As we sing this African
American spiritual, we
recognize that God
gives us worth and
calls us to dedicate
ourselves to God's
service.*

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'M GONNA LIVE

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE



Scan to make a Prayer Request

THANK YOU, LEE!

On July 26, Rev. Lee Hunter Baissana will conclude her ministry as Pastoral Resident at White Memorial. Lee has been a cherished part of our community, sharing her gifts, wisdom, and infectious joy with all of us for the last 3 years. We will miss her deeply, but we celebrate this new chapter in her journey and give thanks for the many ways she has blessed our congregation. We know that wherever God calls her, she will continue to touch lives and serve with the same grace, enthusiasm, and faithfulness that have meant so much to us.

To give a gift of appreciation: scan the QR code below or leave a note in the basket in the Ross Building lobby.



*During worship, children are welcome to explore and play with items from the crates and bookcases in KidsPoint.
Those who prefer to stay in their seats are welcome to bring items back with them.*

[Click here or scan below to view updates to the Four Pillars of Promise renovations.](#)



The bridge and Carol Copeland courtyard are temporarily closed due to construction.
You can enter via Pickard or Geneva Hall.

Music in today's service presented with permission under
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Joys & CONCERNS

PRAYERS AND CHRISTIAN CONCERNS TO

Duval Fisher and family on the death of her mother,
Nancy Duval Holderness Reams, July 2

NEW PRESBYTERIANS

Jay Preston Osmond II, July 4, child of Molly and
Sam Osmond, grandchild of Lynn and Glenn Osmond

If you have experienced a birth, marriage or death you want to share with the church,
email Lindsay Dew at ldew@whitememorial.org or Lisa Crumpler at lcrumpler@whitememorial.org.

If you have a relative or church friend who is hospitalized, email Caroline Parker at cparker@whitememorial.org
or call 919-834-3424 during regular business hours so our pastoral staff can reach out. If you have an urgent pastoral care need
that is outside of normal business hours, call our after-hours pastor on call at 919-605-4593.

WORSHIP | EMBRACE | SERVE

in the manner of Christ



Sunday, July 12

Monday, July 13

- Bridge with Friends
- Pickleball

Tuesday, July 14

- Men's Breakfast/Bible Study
- Women's Breakfast/Circle
- Gentle Yoga

Wednesday, July 15

- Pop Up Chair Yoga
- Lectio Divina
- Pickleball

Thursday, July 16

- Pet Loss Support Group

Friday, July 17

- Pickleball

Saturday, July 18

- Oberlin Road Drive-Thru Food Pantry

Looking at the week and beyond

You can find details on these and other events on our website and church calendar.
whitememorial.org/events | Register for events: whitememorial.org/register

SUMMER MEALS TO GO

Wednesdays & Thursdays July 9

- July 30

[Reservations must be made by 11:00 p.m. the Sunday prior.](#)

Payment via online only, no cash. Pick-up between 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE! WASHINGTON, DC AFRICAN AMERICAN PILGRIMAGE

Join the WMPC M.O.R.E.

Team (Ministry on Racial Equity) September 18-19 for our fourth African American History Pilgrimage, this time to Washington, DC! **Registration closes July 31.**

JOIN THE WMPC HANDBELL CHOIR

The Handbell Choir is seeking new ringers for the upcoming school year. Previous handbell experience is not required, but participants should be able to read music. All adults and students in senior high school are welcome. Rehearsals will be held on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:00 p.m., beginning Monday, September 14. To learn more or sign up, contact Katrina Liao at kliao@whitememorial.org.

WDS IS LOOKING FOR FLOATING ASSISTANT TEACHERS!

The Weekday School is looking for caring, dependable floating Assistant Teachers to support our infant, toddler, and two-year-old classrooms. If you love working with young children, and are ready for an active, hands-on day we want to hear from you. Want to know more? Contact Cynthia Baggett at cbaggett@whitememorial.org or Blair Miller at bmiller@whitememorial.org.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MUSIC MINISTRIES

Registration is now open for our children's and youth music ministries this fall. We invite rising kindergarteners through high school seniors to participate in Children's Choir, Youth Choir, or the Youth Worship Band. These groups provide opportunities to grow musically, build friendships, deepen faith, and lead worship throughout the year. Rehearsals begin in September, and registration is open on our website. Contact Kelly Gold at kgold@whitememorial.org for more information.

OBERLIN ROAD DRIVE-THRU FOOD PANTRY

We still need your help. Donations of non-perishable food keep this ministry going. Drop items in the red bins outside the Outreach Room or [shop our Amazon wish list](#).

Mark your calendar. The next Oberlin Road Churches Drive-Thru Food Pantry **will be on Saturday, July 18**. If you'd like to help volunteer, please contact Ruth Landers or Michelle Jeutter for more information.

Welcome!

We are glad you are worshipping with us today.

Deacons can be found around Main Hall to offer a friendly greeting, answer questions and provide directions. New members are received after attending the *Believing & Belonging @WMPC* class. Visit whitememorial.org/join or contact Lindsay Dew at ldew@whitememorial.org.

Things to Know

Restrooms

are located outside of Main Hall

Nursery

Childcare is available for children up to four years old in the Calvin Building

Sunday School (resumes 9/13)

Refreshments

Coffee and water stations are located outside the Main Hall

Hearing Assistance

Loop system and FM system available in the Main Hall

AED/NARCAN

Available in Main Hall, Lobby in Ross, Lobby in Calvin and 3rd floor Luther

Live Streaming

Services available at whitememorial.org, Facebook and YouTube

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

After Hours Pastor On Call: 919-605-4593



Pastoral & Program Staff

Christopher Edmonston, Pastor

Cynthia Baggett, Director of Weekday School

Genevieve Brooks, Director of Family Ministry

Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

Claire Cox-Woodlief, Executive Director

Brock Downward, Director of Music Emeritus

Jim Ferry, Parish Associate

Anne Galliher, Associate Pastor for Congregational Engagement

Kelly Gold, Director of Children's and Youth Music

Tom Harris, Parish Associate

Martha Grove Hipskind, Health Ministry Coordinator

Paige Hokunson, Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

Kathy Howell, Communications Director

Lee Hunter, Pastoral Resident

Katrina Liao, Associate Director of Music

Bailey Morton, Director of Youth Ministry

Eric Nanz, Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts

Grier Booker Richards, Associate Pastor for
Faith Formation and Worship Ministries

Art Ross, Pastor Emeritus

Judy Yates Siker, Parish Associate

Lynn Springfield, Director of Elementary Ministry

Colisha C. Stanford, StepUp Executive Director

Martha Stevenson, Educator Emerita

Austin Vernon, Associate Pastor for Outreach and
Community Engagement

Eric Wall, Director of Music

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32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
 3 There's not a plant or flower be-low but makes thy glo-ries known.

that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad and built the loft-y
 God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them
 And clouds a-rise, and tem-pests blow, by or-der from thy

skies. I sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day,
 good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,
 throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev-er in thy care,

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o-bey.
 if I sur-vey the ground I tread, or gaze up-on the sky!
 and ev-ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

Seed, Scattered and Sown 531

Refrain *All*

C G Am F G C C7

Seed, scat-tered and sown; wheat, gath-ered and grown;

F G C Am Dm7 G G7

bread, bro-ken and shared as one, the liv - ing bread of God.

C G Am F G C C7 F G

Vine, fruit of the land; wine, work of our hands; one cup that is

C Am Dm7 C Dm7 G C *Fine*

shared by all, the liv - ing cup, the liv - ing bread of God.

Leader or All

Am G F C Dm G C

1 Is not the bread we break a shar - ing in our Lord?

2 The seed which falls on rock will with - er and will die.

3 As wheat up - on the hills was gath-ered and was grown,

to Refrain

E Am F G G7

Is not the cup we bless the blood of Christ out - poured?

The seed with - in good ground will flow - er and have life.

so may the church of God be gath-ered in - to one.

This hymn draws on very old Christian materials, the earliest being Jesus' parables about sowers and seed (Matthew 13/Mark 4/Luke 8). Stanza one paraphrases 1 Corinthians 10:16, and stanza three uses imagery from the *Didache*, a major Christian document from the early 2nd century.

700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!) I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na

live so (live so)
 work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 pray so (pray so)
 sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (my Lord,) (an - y - time!)

This African American spiritual has more depth than may at first appear: for people who are bound in slavery to sing about dedicating themselves to God's use shows a profound awareness of God-given self-worth despite circumstances that would deny their human or spiritual value.