

✝ SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 15:1-18

SERMON

“Fixing what’s broken.”

Rev. Howard James

✝ HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

UMH 361

(You are invited to pray at the Communion railing.)

✝ CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

✝ BENEDICTION

✝ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, let us go into the world reminded of your love for all of us despite our differences. Help us to set aside our need to be right and agree to love and serve one another as Jesus taught, as we build Your Kingdom through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

✝POSTLUDE

“Triumph and Thanksgiving” F. Ritter

Nan Leggett, Organist

✝ Please stand if you are able.

*The lovely flowers on the altar
are given to the Glory of God.*

SERVING THIS MORNING

Greeters..... Rob Conway & Tom Leggett
Music Director.....L.A. Cothorn
Organist..... Nan Leggett
Pianist.....Geneva Ashley
Altar Committee.....Sandy Turner, Margie Rabon
and Elizabeth Gibson

WHITEVILLE UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

902 Pinckney Street, Whiteville, NC 28472
(910) 642-3376
wumc@whitevilleumc.org
Rev. Howard James

May 18, 2025
Fifth Sunday of Easter



Mission Statement of Whiteville United Methodist Church

As people of the body of Christ, we will gather for and be strengthened by Word and Sacraments, participate in loving fellowship, grow in discipleship, and serve our community and the world in Christ’s name.

Welcome to Whiteville United Methodist Church

Thank you for worshiping with us today! We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, program, and ministry life here.

We hope the worship will inspire and comfort you as we hear God’s message proclaimed. During this time, now more than ever, may the grace and love of Christ surround you.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please use a microphone.) Rob Conway

PRELUDE “Distant Chimes” C. Callahan Nan Leggett, Organist

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
(Symbolizing the presence of the Spirit of the Lord in our service.)

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

✝ RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are here because we have heard rumors of God’s grace,
People: Stories of Divine love poured out on people of all colors from all places people of all classes all abilities
Leader: We have heard stories of this Jesus, of Divine inclusion for former outcasts—
people who were confused and unclean and broken and unwanted and powerless and searching.
People: We want to hear more of these stories. We want to sing and shout and live these stories, so that we might help spread this scandalous rumor of Divine grace, *of boundary-less love.*

✝ HYMN OF PRAISE “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” UMH 154

✝ UNISON OPENING PRAYER

Lord of all, In Jesus you have made us all sisters and brothers in Christ. There is no distinction between Gentile and Jew. There is no separation that can remove any from fellowship in Christ’s community. Blind us to our differences so that in unity we may proclaim your truth to all, for the sake of Jesus Christ in whom there is harmony and peace. Amen.

✝ APOSTLES’ CREED
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 sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

✝ GLORIA PATRI
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

✝ WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND RESPONSE
Leader: God I confess that we too often separate one another, judging each other and saying you are not like me. Help me to listen to other’s experiences without dismissing or ignoring them. Give me the ears to hear and the words to acknowledge the personhood and belovedness of my neighbor, without discrimination or judgment, but with grace, validation and love. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

People: Hear the good news, we are all children of God, and nothing we can say or do can change that. Because of this, Jesus will forgive our sins whenever we need God’s grace. Friends proclaim the good news to one another: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

✝ THE PASSING OF CHRISTIAN PEACE Piano Selection

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND PRAYER

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD
“I’ll Fly Away” featuring Chalmer Waddell
Chancel Choir

✝ PRESENTING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD “Praise God” UMH 95

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

✝ HYMN OF PREPARATION “Living for Jesus” TFWS 2149

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Whiteville United Methodist Church.

Visitors, please complete a Visitor’s Card, which can be found in the pew rack, and place it in the offertory basket in the Narthex. We are happy to have you here with us today. Thank you.

Our church preschool graduation will be on Friday, May 23, beginning at 9:00 a.m. All church members are welcome to attend. We give God the glory for our preschools continued success and we ask that you continue to cover each child along with our preschool staff in prayer.

United Women in Fatih will be hosting a mission study program and lunch Saturday, May 31st in the church fellowship hall. The cost of lunch will be \$15.00. Registration forms are available in the church office and in the narthex. Please turn forms in or let Vickie Pait know if you plan to attend no later than Monday, May 26th. For more information or questions, please contact Vickie. Schedule of events listed below.

Schedule for the day:

Registration: 8:45-9:30

Class: 9:30-Noon

Lunch: Noon-12:45

Class: 12:45-3:00 (depending on class discussion.)

Prayer Concerns: Debbie Conway, Dick & Janice Simms, Thetus Sessions, Florence Marlowe, Mary Hutchins, Phil Stoll, Wendy Hood, Sabra Allen, Peggy & Ralph Huffman, Dan Biser, Jan Avant.

Prayers of Support for our ongoing ministries: WUMC Preschool & Staff, Scouts, Food Pantry.

Prayer Requests: Contact the Church Office at wumc@whitevilleumc.org to add or remove names. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks.

Ongoing ministries:

Adult Sunday School: Meet in parlor @ 9:00 a.m.

Children’s Sunday School (ages 3-12): Upstairs classroom @ 9:00 a.m.

Handbell Rehearsals: Hiatus until September 2025.

Choir Rehearsals: Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Boy Scouts [ages 11-18] Mondays @ 7:00 p.m.

Cub Scouts [ages 6-10] Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: @ 9:30 a.m. in the parlor

Preschool [ages 2-4] Monday – Friday 8:15-11:30 a.m.

Fifty-Plus Exercise Class: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the parlor

Food Bank: distributes food on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 9:30-11:00 a.m.

United Women of Faith: 1st Monday of the month @ 6:00 p.m. in the parlor

Caregivers Support Group: 2nd Thursday of the month @ 1:00 p.m. in the parlor

Reaching Out: 4th Tuesday of the month @ 11:30 (support group for widows and widowers)

<i>2025 Church Budget</i>	<i>\$302,140.00</i>
<i>As of 05/11, Needed</i>	<i>\$110,390.00</i>
<i>As of 05/11, Received</i>	<i>\$74,992.00</i>
<i>Needed Each Sunday</i>	<i>\$5,810.00</i>
<i>Received on 05/11</i>	<i>\$4,353.00</i>
<i>Attendance 05/11</i>	<i>57</i>
<i>Online Views</i>	<i>25</i>