

# Union United Methodist Church

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Guided by  
the Promise

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Rev. Randy Perdue, Pastor

Norma Jean Harbin, Organist

Rev. Dr. Mark D. Conforti, Yadkin Valley District Superintendent

**Bulletin – March 1, 2026**

***Guided by the Promise***

**Renewed in Mercy Worship Series, Week 2**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Prayer**

**Call to Worship**



**\*\* P – Pastor    Bold – C: Congregation responds \*\***

P: Children of God, in Lent we remember that our salvation is an unearned gift, that new life is a matter of faith, not of works.

**C: We gather to lay down the burden of trying to earn our salvation.**

P: Like Nicodemus, who met Jesus in the dark of night, we struggle to accept that new life is not just possible but given as a free gift of grace.

**C: We gather to bring our struggles into the light and embrace God's grace with open arms.**

P: Like Paul writing to the Romans, we remember God's promise of new life has always rested on grace.

**C: We gather to receive the promise of salvation by grace through faith.**

P: Like the many who have followed, questioned, and grown in the faith, we submit ourselves to be formed by grace as we work out our salvation day by day.

**C: We gather as people guided by the promise of new life, a promise fulfilled by Christ, whose path we follow.**

## **Our Statement of Faith – The Apostles Creed**

p. 881 UMH

**\*\* All to recite in unison \*\***

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.

## **The Gloria Patri**

p. 70 UMH

*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!*

## **Opening Hymn – O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

p. 117 UMH

## **Sharing Our Praises & Prayers**

### **Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer**

### **Offering – Ushers come forward**

### **Doxology** p. 95 UMH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heav'nly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!*

## Psalm Lesson – Psalm 121 (NIV)

**\*\*L – Leader    Bold – C: Congregation responds   \*\***

L: <sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from?

**C: <sup>2</sup> My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.**

L: <sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber;

**C: <sup>4</sup> indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

L: <sup>5</sup> The Lord watches over you—the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

**C: <sup>6</sup> the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.**

L: <sup>7</sup> The Lord will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life;

**C: <sup>8</sup> the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.**

**Hymn – Beneath the Cross of Jesus**

p. 297 UMH

## Gospel Lesson – John 3:1-17 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” <sup>4</sup> “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the

kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup> You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup> “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. <sup>10</sup> “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. <sup>12</sup> I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

**Sermon** – Guided by the Promise

**Closing Hymn:** Freely, Freely

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**Benediction & Commission**

Go now in the mercy of God, whose promises never fail, to live as people who have generously received and thus generously share God’s gracious gift of new life with all we encounter. Amen.

**Readings for the week beginning March 2, 2026**

Exodus 17:1-7 | Psalm 95 | Romans 5:1-11 | John 4:5-42

# Announcements

- None

## Prayer List

### Church Family

Wayne Bumgardner  
Frank Dalton  
Sherry Doub  
Wanda Needham

Barbara Perryman  
Frances Sisk  
Peggy Willard

### Church Friend / Extended Family

Tommy Bost  
Tammy Seats Boyd  
Jimmy & Deborah Branch  
Jane Bullin  
Leisha Carpenter  
Mack Edwards  
Mary File  
Garry Harbin  
Kathy Harbin  
Lynda Harper  
Ronald Howell  
David Joyner  
Charles Kurfees  
Kevin McBride  
Kevin McDaniel

Mark Megela  
Ronnie Mudd  
Jay D. Prevetie  
Vivian Royal  
Hal Seats  
Phillip Seats  
Mary Ellen Smith  
Kim Triplette  
Mark Wall  
Ann Wallace  
Robert and Susan Warren  
Tracy Webb  
Jeremy Wilson  
Savannah Wooten

## February Birthdays

Hunter Potts	1	Bob Faircloth	17
Johnlee Disher	9	Heather Perryman	18
Josh Doub	10	Tom Beroth	21
Lilly Cousins	12	Jessica Hunter Harmon	22

**Wesley Covenant Prayer** (Adapted from Rev. Jeremy Smith on [HackingChristianity.net](http://HackingChristianity.net).)

*I am not my own self-made, self-reliant human being. In truth, O God, I am Yours. Make me into what You will. Make me a neighbor with those whom You will. Guide me on the easy path for You. Guide me on the rocky road for You. Whether I am to step up for You or step aside for You; Whether I am to be lifted high for You or brought low for You; Whether I become full or empty, with all things or with nothing; I give all that I have and all that I am for You. So be it. And may I always remember that you, O God, and I belong to each other. Amen.*

