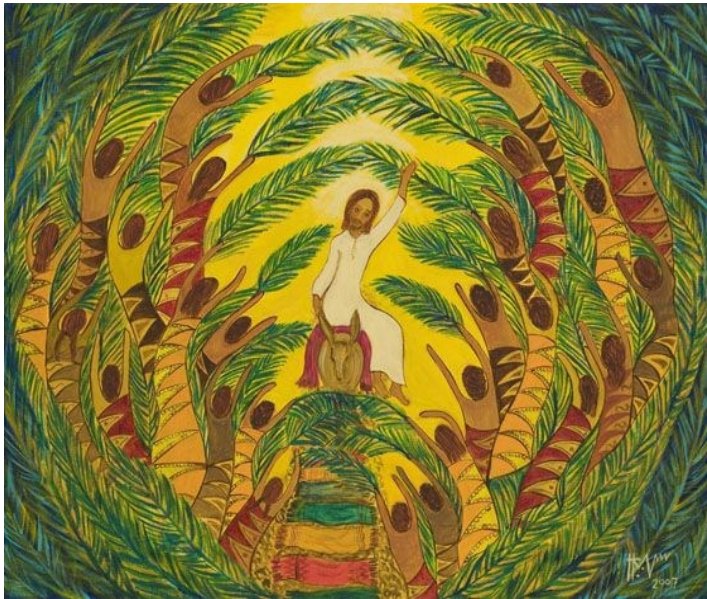


**BENSON MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020



“The Day is Coming: We Are One”

4706 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27612
Church office: (919) 787-0789 | Pastor-on-Call: (919) 342-8849

11:00 AM Facebook Live Worship Service

office@bensonmemorial.org | www.bensonmemorial.org
www.facebook.com/bensonmemorialumc/
www.instagram.com/bensonmemorialumc/

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join with us in an at-home palm procession! Tear off a branch of a tree or shrub in your yard or make your own palm branch out of construction paper so that you can sing and wave your palm as we sing “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus”. We encourage you to take pictures of yourself or family members waving their palm branches as we sing and post in the comments of the Facebook Live video!

OPENING PRAYER

Holy, Living, and Justice-Making God,
we join your parade this day.

May peace flow. Let justice roll!

Give us courage for the path and a heart for each other.

May peace flow. Let justice roll!

We yearn for your reign as we proclaim:

The day is coming when we all are one.

May peace flow. Let justice roll!

PALM PROCESSIONAL HYMN

UMH 277

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;
things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

First let me hear how the children stood round his knee,
and I shall fancy his blessing resting on me;
words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,
all in the lovelight of Jesus’ face.

Into the city I’d follow the children’s band,
waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;
one of his heralds, yes, I would sing
loudest hosannas, “Jesus is King!”

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 35

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

Throughout the season of Lent, we have been contributing to the waters of justice art installation each week by writing words on strips of cloth and adding them to our ever-flowing stream. During this time, you are invited to leave a comment here, text us, or send us an email saying, “We are all one in Christ Jesus.” As you write this message, think of a person or a group that you want to cultivate relationships with during the rest of this year. We will write your name and the message “We are all one in Christ Jesus” on strips of cloth and add them to our waterfall.

CLOSING HYMN

TFWS 2223

We Are One in the Spirit

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

REFRAIN:

And they’ll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love;
yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land:

REPEAT REFRAIN

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,
and we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride:

REPEAT REFRAIN

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

REPEAT REFRAIN

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Visit our [website](#), [YouTube channel](#), or [Facebook page](#) at the conclusion of the service for a sermon from Pastor Jeff.

PRAYER CONCERNS

We encourage our church family to pray for the people on this prayer list. Names will appear for three consecutive weeks unless otherwise specified.

Gwen Baskett, Erma and Jim Bond, Doris Brady, Jackie Caviness, Bill and June Davies, Leonard and Sarah Dean, Donnie and Richard Ducharme, Marie Edwards, Jimmy Ennis, Stacy Fell, Bruce Goodwin, John and Pat Held, Daryl Humphrey, Judy Mock, Elaine Motley, Will Pharr, Bob Spencer, Jean Stewart, all service men/women

REQUEST ASSISTANCE OR VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST

Please call the church office at (919) 787-0789 if you need someone to run errands for you, pick up groceries or prescriptions, or simply need someone to pray for you. We are also asking anyone who would like to volunteer to assist people to call the office, as well. We will match a volunteer to those requesting help or prayer.

WEEKDAY MEDITATIONS

We invite you to visit our website for a new series of weekday meditation videos composed by Pastor Jeff Babajtis. In these days of uncertainty and anxiety, remember that God is still in charge.

“Be still and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46:10)
www.bensonmemorial.org/worship/weekday-meditations/

STAFF

Kelly Lyn Logue, Senior Pastor
Jeff Babajtis, Teaching Pastor
Cortney Babajtis, Minister of Families and Outreach
Martha Johnston, Dir. of Communications/Office Admin.
Elizabeth Moy, Business Manager
Mary Elizabeth Hearn, Director of Music and Organist
Anne Jenkins, Chancel Choir Director
Jennifer Riggert, Dir. of Chimes Choirs/Instrumental Ensemble

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Benson Memorial UMC Family, for your understanding, creative willingness, and imagination to worship and be together in new ways! We have been directed at the urging of our Bishop Hope Morgan Ward to cease all gatherings and worship services for the foreseeable future. We will continue to inform you of changes and updates through church-wide emails, our [website](#), and [Facebook](#). Check out the changes to the home page on our website, where you'll find the links to worship services, how to give online, and everything you need to stay engaged.

Please remember that the needs and expenses of the church continue even when we aren't together. If you have been reluctant to give online in previous times, we urge you to consider giving online for this season. You can give online at bensonmemorial.org/give/, set up an automated draft or bill pay service, or mail your giving to 4706 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27612.

As an act of love and care for our community, the church office will be closed as of Monday, March 30, in observance of the Wake County Stay-At-Home order. Staff members will be monitoring incoming mail, emails, and voicemail regularly. If you have a pastoral need or emergency after those hours, please call the pastor-on-call number, (919) 342-8849. Please know that we are committed to being available to you, our church family, even though we can't be together in person.

We hope you will continue to join us each Sunday at 11:00 a.m at facebook.com/bensonmemorialumc/, as we worship together online.

Please continue to pray for those whose lives are at stake in the midst of this health crisis: our health care providers, first responders, all who are sick, and all who are anxious. Know that your pastors and church staff are praying for you and are here for you. We're in this together!

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13)

North Raleigh Ministries Food Pantry in Crisis

North Raleigh Ministries (NRM) Crisis Center is still in dire need of food. Food can be taken directly to North Raleigh Ministries to the Thrift Store drop off, located at 9650 Strickland Road, Suite 175. If you have any questions, feel free to call Sandy Robinson at (919) 781-5251 or NRM Program Director Lesley Franciscy at (919) 844-6676, ext. 159. Visit northraleighministries.com for more information.

Preschool Fundraiser

Due to the closing of the school and many area business, the annual Preschool Silent Auction will not take place in 2020. For this reason, the parents of the Preschool-Parent Association (PPA) have decided to sell t-shirts to raise funds for the program. All monies raised will be used to purchase new age-appropriate equipment and furnishings for the preschool classrooms and playgrounds. Shirts are available in both adult and youth sizes and in short sleeve, long sleeve, and sweatshirt options. There are five available colors to choose from. Shirt orders can be placed until April 13. Once the order closes, they will be made and shipped directly to your home. They are expected to arrive at your door by May 1. Please help us in supporting our beloved preschool program from afar! **Here is the link to order:**
www.bonfire.com/benson-memorial-umcp-fundraiser/

Social Justice Book Study Group Continues to Meet

Join us virtually at 6:45 p.m. on Wednesdays for our continuing discussion on *Sapiens*. Contact [Susan Brooks](#) if you want to participate. Susan will send you all the login details for Zoom.

Family Promise Meal Provisions

Instead of hosting families on campus during Family Promise week, April 12 through 19, our church family has committed to providing meals for them. We will take meals to the Family Promise Day Center on Sunday through Wednesday for distribution to the families who will be staying in transitional housing next to the center. Members of St. Francis of Assisi church will provide meals the last three days of the week. Family Promise is located at 903 Method Road in Raleigh. Contact [John Rees](#) for more information.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES AND EVENTS

Holy Wednesday, April 8

Lenten Music Concert

Holy Week organ recital featuring arrangements of favorite Lenten hymns, offered by Mary Elizabeth Hearn, Director of Music and Organist. Available online at bensonmemorial.org and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/).

Holy Thursday through Holy Saturday, April 9 through 11 A Service of Tenebrae

Available online at bensonmemorial.org and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/).

Easter Sunday, April 12

Christ is Risen!

11:00 a.m. Facebook Live worship at [facebook.com/bensonmemorialumc/](https://www.facebook.com/bensonmemorialumc/)

Flower Cross Flower Donations

Though we will be gathering remotely on Easter, we would still like to have a fresh Flower Cross as part of the service. Though this cross can be constructed with greenery and flowers found on campus, we would like to allow the Benson Memorial family to contribute flowers for the cross, if they desire. If you feel comfortable leaving your home, please leave your flowers at the church between Saturday afternoon, April 11, and 9:30 a.m. Easter morning. Please place any flowers (in water) under the cover of the breezeway, by the entrance to the sanctuary. Let's have a beautiful Easter Flower Cross to stand as witness to our church family, our online visitors, and our community!

Youth Easter Celebration

It's a well-known fact among the youth that one of life's greatest joys is Pat Lee's holiday bingo games!!! You won't want to miss our Youth Easter Celebration that will include Easter Bingo with Pat Lee on Sunday, April 12, at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. RSVP Cortney Babajtis to get your Easter bingo board and the link to the meeting.

Gather With Us Virtually All Week Long

Many of our gatherings are now happening online. Sunday morning worship services are now streaming [live on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/bensonmemorial.org/) at 11:00 a.m. and are available at bensonmemorial.org/worship/ throughout the week. Cortney is continuing to meet several times a week with the youth, and Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Wednesday evening studies with Pastor Jeff and the Social Justice Book Group, plus several committee meetings are now taking place via Zoom conferencing. We encourage you to keep finding ways to stay connected with each other, even if it can't be in person or on campus. If your small group, class, or committee is now meeting virtually and you would like to make an announcement in the bulletin and e-newsletter or change to the church calendar, please contact [Martha Johnston](mailto:Martha.Johnston@bensonmemorial.org).

Attention Committee Chairs and Ministry Area Leaders:

Benson Memorial now has a Pro Zoom account that will allow groups of up to 100 participants to meet through video conferencing. Zoom also allows participants to connect via telephone if video conferencing is not available on their personal computers or devices. To schedule a Zoom meeting through the church, please email Pastor Kelly Lyn at klogue@bensonmemorial.org with the date and time of your meeting. She will email you the links to join the meeting that you can then send out to your committee/ministry area. To learn more about how to connect via Zoom, [visit this webpage](#) for step-by-step instructions on how to join a meeting.

Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through

Children and parents, you are invited to VBS, Monday, June 22, through Friday, June 26, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Registration is now open, and it's free! We fill up fast, so register early! Spots are limited! For more information, contact VBS Director Susan Myrick or Minister of Families and Outreach Cortney Babajtis. **SPECIAL NOTE: While we are hoping to go forward with VBS as planned, the uncertainty associated with the COVID-19 pandemic makes it impossible for us to know at this time whether that will be the case. Our first priority will always be the health and well-being of the children and volunteers. Please be aware that even though we are accepting registrations, it is possible that this event will be canceled. If this happens, those registered will be notified promptly via email.*

[Child Registration Form](#) | [Volunteer Registration Form](#)



Join Pastor Kelly Lyn at

SUMMER READING GROUP 2020

TUESDAYS JUNE 16 | JULY 28 | AUGUST 18
10 AM & 7 PM | YOUTH CENTER

All are welcome!

A limited number of books are available for purchase through the church (call 919-787-0789; we will get them to you). All titles are also available in e-book format and through public libraries.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover (NONFICTION)
\$15 | [Read about it on Amazon.com.](#)

TUESDAY, JULY 28

This is How it Always is by Laurie Frankel (FICTION)
\$10 | [Read about it on Amazon.com.](#)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

The Book of Joy by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, with Douglas Abrams (SPIRITUALITY)
\$13 | [Read about it on Amazon.com.](#)