

# BENSON MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 29, 2020 | Fifth Sunday in Lent



## ROLL DOWN, JUSTICE!

GOD HAS WORK FOR US TO DO: FAITHFUL DISCIPLES

4706 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27612

Church office: (919) 787-0789 | Pastor-on-Call: (919) 342-8849

Office hours: Mon.–Thurs.: 8:30–4:00 | Fri.: 8:30–1:00

Sunday worship: 8:45 & 11:00 a.m. | Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

[office@benssonmemorial.org](mailto:office@benssonmemorial.org) | [www.benssonmemorial.org](http://www.benssonmemorial.org)

[www.facebook.com/benssonmemorialumc/](https://www.facebook.com/benssonmemorialumc/)

[www.instagram.com/benssonmemorialumc/](https://www.instagram.com/benssonmemorialumc/)

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GREETING

There is a voice, strong and clear, ringing out far and near,

**Let justice roll down!**

Like the rush of a stream, comes a powerful dream,

**Let justice roll down!**

### OPENING HYMN *Lord of the Dance* UMH 261

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

#### REFRAIN:

Dance, then, wherever you may be;

I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,

and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
but they would not dance and they would not follow me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
they came to me and the dance went on.

#### REPEAT REFRAIN

I danced on the sabbath when I cured the lame,  
the holy people said it was a shame;  
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;  
and they left me there on a cross to die.

#### REPEAT REFRAIN

I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black;  
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;  
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
but I am the dance and I still go on.

#### REPEAT REFRAIN

They cut me down and I leapt up high,  
I am the life that'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

#### REPEAT REFRAIN

### OPENING PRAYER

Holy and living God, the list is long.

**May peace flow. Let justice roll.**

Let us not feel overwhelmed, but convicted in our call.

**May peace flow. Let justice roll.**

Remind us as we worship, You are not distant.

You are as near to us now as each breath we take.

You call us to extend your nearness to others.

**May peace flow. Let justice roll.**

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 58:6–12

### SERMON

The Reverend Kelly Lyn Logue

*God Has Work for Us to Do: Faithful Disciples*

### PRAYER POEM

God of righteousness,

May I fully embrace the truth

that your Holy Word names as evil

all forms of injustice and oppression.

May I have the courage to confront  
the injustices I witness.

May I be willing to open my mind  
and broaden my understanding  
of discriminatory practices and positions  
of which I was once ignorant.

May I not stand idly by  
when another culture, language, or race is used  
as the punch line of ill-fated joke.

May I speak out against systemic policies and practices  
that continue the oppressive privilege  
of the powerful over or against  
the less powerful.

May I live my faith by believing  
that the common good is served  
when all have enough, and, that in your economy,  
there is always enough for everyone.

But, righteous God, before I endeavor  
to do any of these things,  
may I find the courage to confront the evil  
and injustice that resides within me. Amen.

*[Prayer/Poem © Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling.  
Used with permission for "Roll Down Justice" Lent series  
by the Worship Design Studio]*

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### THE PEACE

#### OFFERING

Throughout the season of Lent, we are contributing  
to the waters of justice each week by adding to our  
ever-flowing stream waterfall art installation. Today,  
you are invited to share how you want to serve others,  
or a creative way you've already found to serve others  
during this time of social distancing. How are you being  
called to be a sign of God's work in the world that  
contributes to the waters of love and justice? You can  
type in the comments of this live video or send the  
pastors an email or text and we'll add your commitment  
to a strip of cloth and tie it to our waterfall.

#### CLOSING HYMN

UMH 581

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

Lord, whose love through humble service  
bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken,  
offered mercy's perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship  
not of voice alone, but heart,  
consecrating to your purpose  
every gift that you impart.

Still your children wander homeless:  
still the hungry cry for bread;  
still the captives long for freedom;  
still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, your deep compassion  
healed the sick and freed the soul,  
use the love your Spirit kindles  
still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision,  
till your love's revealing light  
in its height and depth and greatness  
dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens  
your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to tireless striving  
your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service,  
forth in your dear name we go  
to the child, the youth, the aged,  
love in living deeds to show;  
hope and health, good will and comfort,  
counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
that your servants, Lord, in freedom  
may your mercy know, and live.

#### DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

The more we give away, the more we receive.  
Remember, you are the hands and feet of Jesus,  
and there is work for us to do!  
Let the call to mend brokenness and restore ruins  
mend and restore your life. Thanks be to God!

*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)*

[https://www.bensonmemorial.org/  
worship/weekday-meditations/](https://www.bensonmemorial.org/worship/weekday-meditations/)

## 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.

## STAFF

Kelly Lyn Logue, Senior Pastor  
Jeff Babajtis, Teaching Pastor  
Cortney Babajtis, Minister of Families and Outreach  
Martha Johnston,  
Director of Communications/Office Administration  
Elizabeth Moy, Business Manager  
Mary Elizabeth Hearn, Director of Music and Organist  
Anne Jenkins, Chancel Choir Director  
Jennifer Riggert,  
Director 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/](https://www.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. for our Lenten worship series, *Roll Down, Justice!* at [facebook.com/bensonmemorialumc/](https://www.facebook.com/bensonmemorialumc/), as we consider what it means to be a "community of love and forgiveness."

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

As the corona virus spreads and causes more closings, North Raleigh Ministries (NRM) Crisis Center is in dire need of food. Food can be taken directly to North Raleigh Ministries to the Thrift Store drop off which is located at 9650 Strickland Road, Suite 175 (located behind the Thrift Store). 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](https://www.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/](https://www.bonfire.com/benson-memorial-umcp-fundraiser/)

## Social Justice Book Study Group Continues to Meet

Although we are no longer meeting in person for our study of the book, *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*, by Yuval Noah, our group will continue our discussions through Zoom video conferencing. Join us virtually on Wednesday, April 1, at 6:45 p.m. when we will discuss chapters 6 through 14. Discussion questions may be found at [bookcompanion.com/discussion-questions-sapiens.html](https://www.bookcompanion.com/discussion-questions-sapiens.html). Contact [Susan Brooks](#) if you want to participate. Susan will send you all the login details for Zoom.