

**THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP**  
 May 17, 2026  
**Ascension Sunday**

**WELCOME AND GREETING**

Alleluia, Christ is Risen  
 Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**PRELUDE**

**INTROIT**

Choir

**\*\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Tom Payne

Easter people, remember the blessings of Resurrection, salvation, and new life in Christ.

**We come to praise God for the blessings of Easter!**

We recall the blessings of creation—

of clean air and water, of food and shelter, of beauty and awe.

**We come to praise God for the blessings of creation!**

We share in the blessings of community—

of family and friends, of church and home,

of help that is given and received.

**We come to praise God for the blessings of community!**

We gather today to remember Christ's Ascension, when Jesus was taken up into heaven while blessing his disciples, marking not the end but the next chapter of God's salvific work among us.

**We come to bless God with our praise**

**as God continues to bless us with all that we need**

**to live as God's Resurrection people. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*—Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2025.*

**\*\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Rejoice The Lord is King"

UMH 715

**\*\*OPENING PRAYER**

Tom Payne

Lord Jesus, as we celebrate you as our Ascended Lord, we see two truths: that you have authority over all things, and yet we live in a world where greed, power, and violence still seem to be in control. We know you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life, yet death and brokenness still are everywhere. You are the embodiment of God's dream coming true, yet hope so often seems lost. Come, Lord Jesus, set the world right, and send us in the power of your Spirit to be witnesses to your life-giving grace. In the name of the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—we pray. Amen.

*—Adapted from John van de Laar [www.sacredise.com](http://www.sacredise.com)*

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**PROCLAMATION**

**\*\*SCRIPTURE READING** Acts 1:1-11

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God

**\*\*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.**

**SERMON**

"Working With God"

Rev. Wil Posey

**RESPONSE**

**\*\*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.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Ann Smith

*Moments of silent prayer & personal confession.*

**\*\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

**RECEIVING OF GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

*Ways you can give*

*Leave a gift in the Offering Plate*

*Online: [www.murphyfirstumc.org/donate](http://www.murphyfirstumc.org/donate)*

*Mail: PO Box 86, Murphy, NC 28906*



Scan to give

**\*\*DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 praise Him, all creatures here below;  
 praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
 praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

**\*\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Ann Smith

**\*\*HYMN**

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

TFWS 2153

**SENDING FORTH**

**\*\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Wil Posey

**\*\*BENEDICTION**

"Here Am I, Send Me"

Here am I, send me, Here Am I Lord Send Me.  
 Unto thee willingly yielded I come. Show the path that I must walk  
 Compel me then to go, and if I stray bring back the light of day,  
 For here am I, send me I pray.

***Chiming of the Trinity***

**POSTLUDE**

**RESPONSE**

The light goes before us into the world.

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS: The Faith We Sing

**\*\* Rise in body or spirit**

**Our Service of Worship has ended  
 Our Worship through Service begins  
 All are welcomed to Worship.**

Please assist us by registering your attendance in the App or notebooks located in the pews. If you didn't receive the text or email when we cancelled church, please be sure we have your correct phone number and email address.

Please be aware that we are live streaming and recording this service and will be posting it to social media.

**PRAYERS and CONCERNS**

Ukraine and its people; Bill and Barbara Hughes; Carl Auvil; Teresa; Lori; Emma; Alice & Ron Lewis; Cindy; Carolyn; Carl & Christy Osborn; Joe Hartman; Michee Leone; Earl Riggs; Cissy Dyer; Marion Forsyth; Rex Odom; Rosemary Vicknair; Gary Hall; Susan Lee; Bob Parker; Eric Brant; Keisha Licata; Grant Corrigan; Members of the Armed Forces; Karen Forker; Karen Crowe; Matt Heltzel; Natalia Donley-Telmosse; Harold Blackmon, Jill Beck, Sarah Baldridge; Ginny Pearcy; Karlee Teague; The Family of Payton Mixon; The Family of Carl Eicher; Evangeline and Mother Sonia.

**PRAYER TEAM:** Email: prayfumc@gmail.com

*In an effort to have room for all prayer requests we will rotate off the names every 3 weeks unless indicated, either by a notation on the blue prayer request card or by calling the church office. 828-837-2718 or email:*

*[admin@murphyfirstumc.org](mailto:admin@murphyfirstumc.org), Prayer Requests can be submitted on our Facebook page, YouTube live stream or by calling the church office.*

May 18, 5:30pm special called Charge Conference to approve the sale of a designated parcel of land owned by FUMC Murphy and to authorize Trustees to serve as agents of the sale.

**JOIN US** today after worship in the fellowship hall for a pot luck lunch. United Women in Faith are our hosts.



Are You interested in having a great time and blessing Murphy's Children this Summer? We need you for Vacation Bible School! Reach out to Bridget Killian 828-541-1222 or Ann Smith annsmith828@gmail.com for more information.

**Parents of Young Children**

**During Worship (11am)\***

Nursery (2 rooms) - Birth-2, and 3-5 year olds

Worship readiness—K-5th Grade

No Worship Readiness on Communion Sundays. Kids stay in church.



\*Nursery is open from 9:45am-12pm, though children are welcome in worship and will then be released after Children's Time to return to their nursery or Worship Readiness or remain in the Sanctuary

Rejoice, the Lord Is King 715

1. Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore;  
 2. Je - sus the Sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and love;  
 3. His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
 4. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Je - sus the Judge shall come,

mor - tals, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.  
 when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.  
 the keys of earth and hell are to our Je - sus given.  
 and take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
 Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
 Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
 We soon shall hear th'arch - an - gel's voice;

re - joice; a - gain I say, re - joice.  
 re - joice; a - gain I say, re - joice.  
 re - joice; a - gain I say, re - joice.  
 the trump of God shall sound, re - joice!

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1746 (1 Cor. 15:51-52)  
 MUSIC: John Darwall, 1770; harm. from *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

DARWALL'S 148th  
 66.66.88

# Sermon Notes

2153 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)  
 3. I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)  
 4. I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

God can use me —

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

I'm gon-na live so (live so)  
 I'm gon-na work so (work so)  
 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)  
 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

God can use me —

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

WORDS: African American spiritual  
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. by Wendell Whalum

I'M GONNA LIVE  
 Irregular

Next Week: May 24, 2026  
Day of Pentecost

This Week's Ministry Opportunities

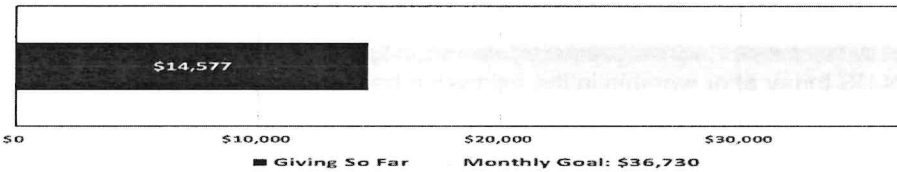
<b>Sunday, May 17</b>		<b>Thursday, May 21</b>	
Sunday School	9:45 am	Mom's Spiritual Formation	9:30 am
Worship Service	11:00 am	Quilters	10:00 am
<b>Potluck Lunch</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	Soul Table	11:30 am
Kickball at Konehete Park	3:00 pm	Finance Meeting	5:30 pm
<b>Monday, May 18</b>		<b>Friday, May 22</b>	
Preschool	8:00 am	Preschool	8:00 am
Yoga	10:30 am	Chair Exercise class	11:30 am
Chair Exercise class	11:30 am	Tri County College Concert	6:00 pm
Administrative Council	5:30 pm		
<b>Tuesday May 19</b>		<b>Saturday, May 23</b>	
TCED Awards	5:00 pm	Al Anon	10:00 am
<b>Wednesday, May 20</b>		<b>Sunday, May 24</b>	
Preschool	8:00 am	Sunday School	9:45 am
Worship Staff Meeting	10:00 am	Worship Service	11:00 am
Greeting Card Ministry	10:30 am		
UMF Willing Hands	11:30 am		
Chair Exercise class	11:30 am		
Wednesday Bible Study	1:00 pm		

*Our calendar can also be accessed from the App.*

**OUR FAITHFULNESS 2026**

Worship attendance May 10      161  
Received May 10      \$    2,718  
Detailed Financial information is available at the church office upon request.

Monthly Giving Report May 2026



**FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE**  
Get up! This is the day the Lord has made.  
Step into it with joy, walk in His peace,  
and trust that He has already gone before you.  
Today has purpose, and you are covered in His grace.

**Wednesday, May 20 at United Women in Faith—Willing Hands**

Sacred Reading: The Practice of Lectio Divina  
Ann Smith, Spiritual Growth Coordinator for UWF, will describe this ancient way of reading Scripture, and then we'll have an opportunity to practice it ourselves.

**KICKBALL AT KONEHETE PARK**

MAY 17      3-5 PM

JOIN US FOR THIS FUN AND INTERGENERATIONAL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY EVENT!

ICE CREAM AND LOTS OF LAUGHS PROVIDED FOR THOSE WHO WOULD RATHER WATCH THAN PLAY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KENDRA FOKAKIS 601-486-3089 OR PASTOR WIL KONEHETE PARK FIELD # 699 CONNAHETTA ST. MURPHY NC

Acts 1: 1-11

G	Q	J	N	M	I	S	S	I	O	N	P
D	S	P	I	R	I	T	H	O	L	Y	U
N	E	V	A	E	H	C	O	X	E	A	Y
N	W	H	J	E	S	U	S	G	S	C	C
S	X	C	R	E	W	O	P	C	I	O	L
D	H	M	N	R	U	T	E	R	M	M	O
N	E	S	O	H	C	N	R	L	O	I	U
F	O	R	T	Y	T	V	M	D	R	N	D
W	I	T	N	E	S	S	S	P	P	G	S
G	O	S	Y	E	R	U	T	U	F	Z	T
F	T	Z	Y	Y	K	I	N	G	D	O	M

WITNESS   PROMISE   KINGDOM   MISSION   SPIRIT   HEAVEN   ASCENT  
CLOUDS   FUTURE   COMING   RETURN   CHOSEN   JESUS   POWER   FORTY  
HOLY

**First United Methodist Church  
Murphy, NC**



**TRUSTEE ON CALL**

May —David Liber

**Staff**

**Rev. Wil Posey, Pastor**  
pastor@murphyfirstumc.org  
386-647-6181

**Suzanne West, Director of Music**  
music@murphyfirstumc.org

**Maggie Corrigan, Administrative Assistant**  
admin@murphyfirstumc.org

**Jack Frahmman, Treasurer**  
Treasurer@murphyfirstumc.org

**Nursery Workers**  
Patty Singer, Mary Lee, Marlene Gray, Nancy Shon

**Bridget Esterhuizen, Preschool Lead Teacher/ Director**

Preschool@murphyfirstumc.org

**JoAnn Moore, Preschool Teacher**

**Everyone, Ministers**

**Church Office Hours**

Tuesday - Thursday      9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Monday and Friday      Closed



**Our Mission is to:**  
Live as a community transformed by God's grace,  
sent to love and serve like Jesus.

**Our Vision is to:**  
Build communities of hope where all people  
experience belonging and abundant life.

73 Valley River Avenue, P. O. Box 86  
Murphy, NC 28906  
(828) 837-2718 - Office

Website: www.murphyfirstumc.org  
WiFi: MFUMC-Guest pw fumcguest1!  
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/fumcmurphy