



Centenary United Methodist Church

2300 W. Friendly Avenue, Greensboro, NC

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor

Anita Trumpler-Rich, Director of Music

Announcements for Missions and Ministry

Choral Call to Worship *O Christ, When You Ascended* 3087 WS verse 1

O Christ, when you ascended you took your rightful throne;

Your time on earth had ended, yet we were not alone.

You reign o'er earth and heaven; Your spirit guides our way.

Your prayers uphold your people; you lead your church each day.

Call to Worship

We gather on a somber holiday. We remember with sadness those we have loved and lost. Let us not glorify the conflicts and violence that tear our loved ones from us. Let us, rather, give glory to God, who calls us to use our freedom peaceably. Our God is a God of all nations and peoples. May our worship of God unite rather than divide.

Opening prayer: [A Prayer of Remembrance](#) by Doug Pastour

Our holy and gracious God, help us to remember. Help us to remember the sacrifices bravely made in which one has given life for another and for all. Help us to remember those that stand in the breach where there is trouble and in which conflict threatens to undo your good creation. Help us to remember that we look for the day when every sword will be replaced by a plow, that all may be fed and live in your peace. Forgive us every sin that makes for division and for war, and bring us all into your kingdom on earth as in heaven. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn *O God of Every Nation* 435 UMH verses 1 & 4

O God of every nation, of every race and land,

Redeem your whole creation with your almighty hand;

Where hate and fear divide us, and bitter threats are hurled,

In love and mercy guide us, and heal our strife-torn world.

*Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease,
When hatred and division give way to love and peace,
Till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign,
And Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.*

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

We Worship with God's Tithe and Our Offering

Offertory *Across the Lands* 3032 WS verse 3

*(With a) shout you rose victorious, wresting victory from the grave
And ascended into heaven, leading captives in your way.
Now you stand before the Father, interceding for your own;
From each tribe and tongue and nation you are leading sinners home.
You're the author of creation, you're the Lord of everyone,
And your cry of love rings out across the lands.*

Scripture Luke 24:44-53

Sermon "We Will Rise Up" Rev. Kelley Groce

Affirmation of Faith: Ascension Day Affirmation

You are not only risen and alive, you are Lord. This your ascension, your ascendancy over the whole universe. You stand over and above all that is best in life as its source. You stand above all that is worst as the ultimate victor. You stand above all powers and authorities as judge. You stand above all failure and weakness and sin as forgiveness and love. You alone are worthy of total allegiance, total commitment. You are Lord, 'My Lord and my God.'

— written by Rex Chapman, in [A Treasury of Prayer](#) (compiled by Tony Castle)

Hymn *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* 302 UMH, verses 1 & 2

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumph high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!*

Benediction

Choral Benediction *Blessed be the Tie that Binds* 557 UMH, verse 1

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

Prayer Concerns: Sally Goin, George Cranford, Becky Ensign's father-in-law, Chuck Sartore, and Becky's husband, Steve Sartore (shoulder surgery). David Lucas' mother, Sue Lucas, Frank Hinshaw's brother and sister-in-law – Gary and Patsy – who were involved in a car accident, and Brenda Wilson's mother, Louise, who had surgery for a broken hip.

If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643 or call Kelley at the parsonage. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation or only with the pastoral staff.

Meals Delivered – Thanks to the hard work of Alex & Juli Hurin, and several others, meals of Chicken Pot Pie, Shepherd's Pie, Cheesy Beefy Noodle Bake, Quarts of Brunswick Stew, Peach Dump Cake, Apple Crisp, and delicious Brownies have been delivered to our congregants at Friends Homes West, Friends Homes Guilford, Well Spring, UMAR residencies, and at individuals homes. If you would like a meal delivered, contact Alex

Hurin at 336-457-0130. Entrees are \$6 each, \$4 for Peach Dump Cake or Apple Crisp, and \$1.50 for Brownies.

Join us May 28 for 'ALL IN For UMAR' - Grab lunch and join us at noon on Thursday, May 28 for ALL IN for UMAR. This 30-minute virtual event will highlight UMAR's mission and ministry for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities across western North Carolina. Be ALL IN for UMAR as we help people LIVE, WORK and THRIVE through housing, vocational services, art programs and community services.

Visit www.umarinfo.com on May 28 and follow the link to witness first-hand the inspirational impact of UMAR in our community; event will feature updates, moving reflections, music and dancing from residents. All are welcome and encouraged to join.

Bible Study –Tuesdays at 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM using Zoom to meet together virtually, until such time that we may meet together at the church. Send an email to kgroce@wnccumc.net to receive an email invitation to Zoom. You may also listen in by phone. Contact the church if you would like to participate 336-299-9643. You may purchase the book [Interpretation Bible Studies: Psalms](http://ChristianBooks.com) through ChristianBooks.com or follow along in your Bible. We hope that many of you will join us to gain courage, strength, and inspiration from the Psalms.

Tithes & Offerings to the Church – Many thanks to all who have remained faithful in giving their tithes and offerings to the church during this difficult time. You may mail your check to the church office: Centenary UMC, 2300 W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27403. You may also give through your bank's online bill pay option. Consult your bank for directions. Or, you may give online through our SubSplash platform using a credit or debit card. Follow the directions on the Centenary UMC website under [Tithes & Offerings](#)

