



**NORTHSIDE CHURCH**  
A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

*The Greatest of These  
Is Love*

May 17, 2026



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*The Seventh Sunday of Easter*

There is a place for you at Northside Church to know the love of God, to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and to go into the world to serve others.

† Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol, and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

THE PRELUDE | Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing | *arr. Joel Raney*

Sanctuary Bells

THE WELCOME

Rev. Angela House

THE CHORAL INTROIT | For the Beauty of the Earth | *arr. Mark Hayes*

Chancel Choir

This our hymn of praise!  
This our hymn of praise!  
Lord of all to Thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.  
This our hymn of praise!  
We sing our hymn of grateful praise!

*—Folliot S. Pierpoint*

† THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. House

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**  
Pastor: Faith may guide us and hope may sustain us,  
People: **but the greatest of these is love—**  
Pastor: love that is patient and kind, steady and true,  
People: **love that reflects the heart of Christ.**  
Pastor: Come, let us worship the God who is Love,  
People: **and let that love shape our living today. Praise be to God. Amen.**

† THE HYMN OF ADORATION | #92: all stanzas | For the Beauty of the Earth

† THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

Nathan Schreer

**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 | Hymn #70

**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.**

† THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. House

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Dr. Burch

8:30AM | *William Merrill*

11:15AM | *Sarah Nielsen*

THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Nathan Schreer

**With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that [name], surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.**

THE BAPTISM RESPONSE | Hymn #611: stanza 1 | Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

**Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign.  
With this water God has sealed you, unto love and grace divine.**

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT | 11:15AM

Nancy Jeanne Chadwick

*We invite all children to come to the chancel steps for a special message.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. House

**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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION | #328: refrain | Surely the Presence of the Lord

Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his might-y  
 pow - er and his grace. I can hear the brush of an - gels' wings, I see  
 glo - ry on each face; sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place.

THE SCRIPTURE | 1 Corinthians 13:1-8a, 13 | Pew Bible, pg. 1637

8:30AM | Dr. Burch

Pastor: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

11:15AM | Caroline Breau

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON | "The Greatest of These Is Love"

Dr. Burch

† THE HYMN OF RESPONSE | #408: all stanzas | The Gift of Love

THE GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

Rev. House

*Give online at [www.NorthsideUMC.org/donate](http://www.NorthsideUMC.org/donate) or text NorthsideATL to 73256.*

*The text for this anthem was written by Scottish minister, George Matheson in 1882. When he was blinded at the age of nineteen, his fiancé called off their engagement and his sister cared for him as he endured new challenges. Years later, on the eve of his sister's wedding, he wrote these words as a profound expression of trust in the steadfast love of God, a love that never fails, even in life's most difficult moments.*

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seeks me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain,  
That morn shall tearless be.

*—Text by George Matheson*

† THE DOXOLOGY | Hymn #95

**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. Amen.**

† THE BENEDICTION

8:30AM | Rev. House  
11:15AM | Dr. Burch

† THE CHORAL RESPONSE | #672: stanza 1 | God Be with You till We Meet Again

**God be with you till we meet again;  
by his counsels guide, uphold you,  
with his sheep securely fold you;  
God be with you till we meet again.**

THE POSTLUDE | For the Beauty of the Earth | *arr. McClure*

Joshua McClure

***The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God:***

In honor of Bill and Tracy Burch's 40th Wedding Anniversary and Tracy's retirement after 32 years as an educator.

**CLERGY**

Dr. Bill Burch, *Senior Pastor* • Rev. Catherine Boothe Olson, *Associate Pastor*  
Rev. Angela House, *Associate Pastor*

**AFFILIATED CLERGY**

Dr. G. Gil Watson, *Pastor Emeritus* • Dr. Ann Brightwell McCord, *Retired*  
Rev. Nancy Yarnell, *Retired* • Rev. Douglas Herlong • Rev. Jennifer Hansen

**TRADITIONAL MUSIC MINISTRY**

Joshua McClure, *Director of Worship & Organist* • Nathan Schreer, *Director of Music*