

THE SANCTUARY

Third Sunday in Lent • March 8, 2026 • 8:45 AM & 11 AM
Please note: the 8:45 AM service will be livestreamed.

GATHERING Sellers

CENTERING “How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place”

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord, my God!

How lovely is Your dwelling place, is Your dwelling place, O God!

Words adapted from Psalm 84, music by Liam Lawton, arr. by Paul A. Tate
©2020 GIA Publications, used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-731037. All rights reserved.

* **CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

* **GREETING** Malambri

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

People: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Leader: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

People: let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down;

People: for he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture.

All: O that today we would listen to his voice!

* **HYMN** “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” No. 139

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (11 AM) Hale
“The Apostles’ Creed” No. 881

* **GLORIA PATRI** (11 AM)
“Glory Be to the Father” No. 71

* **WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

HOLY BAPTISM (8:45 AM) Pg. 33

Kyle Patrick Warren-Laffin
Rhodes Robert Warren Laffin
(Son of Megan Gross and Kyle Warren-Laffin)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (8:45 AM)

Kyle Patrick Warren-Laffin & Megan Gross

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess to you, all-knowing God, what we are. We are not the people we like others to think we are. We are afraid to admit, even to ourselves, what lies in the depths of our souls. But we cannot hide our true selves from you. You know us as we are, and yet you love us. Help us not to shrink from self-knowledge. Teach us to respect ourselves for your sake. Give us the courage to put our trust in your guiding power. Raise us out of the paralysis of guilt into the freedom and energy of forgiven people. And for those who through long habit find forgiveness hard to accept, we ask you to break their bondage and set them free; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

PARDON

LITANY OF DIMINISHING LIGHT

Fill my cup, Lord, with “a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” Fill my heart, the only vessel capable of receiving the living water, and make me whole. Lord Jesus, pour your love into our hearts and give us the grace of your Spirit, that we may worship you and experience the joy of your salvation. Amen.

SONG OF THE CROSS “Beyond the Cross”

“His life was filled with purpose to do His Father’s will. The essence of His mission drove Jesus up that hill. And at His crucifixion no human eye could see that love’s finest hour was just beyond the tree. Beyond the cross, beyond the tomb filled with despair lies the hope I have inside, for all that Christ did there. Though death must come, His light will shine again beyond the cross, beyond the cross. And now each day of living begins with sacrifice. For now it is my bidding to offer up my life. And each new day the crucifixion humbles me again, as I die to my ambitions and remember once a gain. Beyond the cross, beyond a tomb filled with despair lies the hope I have inside, for all that Christ did there. Though death must come, His light will shine again beyond the cross, beyond the cross. Through the pain of life, I find a hidden strength to rise and see what waits for me. Beyond the cross, beyond the tomb filled with despair lies the hope I have inside, for all that Christ did there. Though death must come, His light will shine again beyond the cross, beyond the cross, beyond the cross.”

Words by Mike Harland, music by Jeff Lippencott, arr. by Jeff Lippencott
©2000 Lippencott Music/ASCAP, used with permission. All rights reserved.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

* **HYMN** “Fill My Cup, Lord” No. 641

GOSPEL LESSON John 4:1-42

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Could He Be?” Malambri

OFFERTORY “Resignation” Schumann

* **DOXOLOGY** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” No. 95

* **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

O Lord our God, thank you for being more ready to bestow your good gifts on us than we are to seek them, and willing to give us more than we desire or deserve. Help us so to seek that we may truly find, so to ask that we may joyfully receive, so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened to us; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

* **HYMN** “Take Up Thy Cross” No. 415

* **BENEDICTION**

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE AND RECESSIONAL**

PLEASE remain in place and join in singing.

“Lift High the Cross”

Lift high the cross,

the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

Words by George William Kitchin and Michael Robert Newbolt, music by Sydney Hugo Nicholson, tune CRUCIFER
©1974 Hope Publishing Co., CCLI# 5169, CCLI License 940578

* **POSTLUDE** “As Water to the Thirsty” OASIS

* *Rise in body or spirit.*

THE HARBOR

Third Sunday in Lent • March 8, 2026 • 8:45 AM & 11 AM
Please note: the 8:45 AM service is livestreamed.

WELCOME Nettles

OPENING PRAYER

* **SONG** “Your Grace is Enough”

* **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

* **SONG** “Blessed Be Your Name”

LITURGY OF DIMINISHING LIGHT

Fill my cup, Lord, with “a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

Fill my heart, the only vessel capable of receiving the living water, and make me whole. Lord Jesus, pour your love into our hearts and give us the grace of your Spirit, that we may worship you and experience the joy of your salvation. Amen.

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** “The Apostles’ Creed”

CELEBRATION OF GIFTS

SONG “Counting My Blessings”

EPISTLE LESSON Romans 5:1-11

MESSAGE “When I Feel Discouraged” Nettles

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

* **SONG** “Blessed”

* **BENEDICTION**

- Sermon Notes -

BELIN MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Stephen Ministry Church

Clergy: Will Malambri, Sandra Stevens Poiré
Ministers: Belin Congregation Minister Emeritus: Harold Lewis
Pastoral Cabinet: Mark Ale, Mike Alexander, Bill Barber, Becky Forrest, Sam Hale,
George Howle, Jonathan Nettles, Connie Stinson

Announcements

■ **Belin Memorial Ministry Fair** is this afternoon from 2 PM until 3:30 PM in the Family Life Center (FLC). Discover the many ways to get involved in the life of the church. Areas of service will be represented highlighting opportunities for potential, new, and current members to learn more about what is happening at Belin Memorial to connect and settle in. Contact Mary Mallick for more information (marym@belinumc.org; 843.357.5185).

■ **Belin Children's Ministry Summer Camps** – Registration is now open for all summer camps: Vacation Bible School, Cooking with Ms. Kim, Basketball, Kids Theater, and Art will be available. Reserve your spot, as space is limited for each camp. For more information please contact Kim Oakley (kimo@belinumc.org; 843.357.5197).

■ Belin Memorial's **"Year of Kindness for March"** is a Fruit and Vegetable Drive beginning next Sunday, March 15 and continuing through Thursday, March 19. Contributions will serve 40 homebound veterans in the community with fresh fruit and vegetables. Please contact Mary Mallick (marym@belinumc.org; 843.357.5185) for more information.

■ **Blessing of the Inlet** happens Saturday, May 2 from 9 AM to 2 PM. A volunteer form will be available on Sunday, March 15.

Due to limited space, the Contribution Tracking will be included in next week's bulletin.

~~~ Belin Wednesday Lenten Service Schedule ~~~

March 11:

Lenten Wednesday Services

Reverend Emily Kirby - "Jesus Encourages our Hearts"

Matthew 9:2, 22:14-27

(12 NOON in the sanctuary with lunch available after the service)

March 18 Rev. Gene Aiken - Trinity UMC, North Myrtle Beach

March 25 Rev. Jonathan Nettles - Belin Memorial UMC Pastoral Cabinet

Dates to Remember

- March 8 10 AM: Starting Point (FLC, Rm. 11)
- March 8 2 PM: Belin Ministry Fair (FLC)
- March 10 6 PM: Lenten Bible Study (Zoom)
- March 11 7:45 AM: Man 2 Man (FLC)
- March 11 12 Noon: Lenten Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- March 12 10 AM: Morning Lenten Bible Study (FLC)
- March 12 12 Noon - 4 PM: Open Play Pickleball (FLC)

In Worship Together

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our Vision: To be a place for you to discover love, find purpose, and make a difference.

Our Journey: To connect, grow, and serve.

You're invited to GIVE
your weekly offerings
by scanning this QR Code.



Worship Attendance 3.1.26

The Sanctuary: 756

The Harbor: 436

Giving Week of 3.1.26

Envelopes/Checks	\$ 45,026
Cash	\$ 1,397
Online Giving	\$ 11,135
Total	\$ 57,558

The Observance of the Lenten Candles "Diminishing Light" of Lent

Candles serve as one of the most prominent and powerful symbols to represent the presence of God and the working of the Holy Spirit. During Lent, the Christian Church prepares to observe the Lord's passion and resurrection.

Each week as a candle is extinguished and the smoke rises, the light gradually diminishes, drawing us closer to the events that led to Christ's crucifixion when "darkness came over the whole land." (Matthew 27:45, NRSV) While the darkness seems all-consuming at the extinguishing of the last candle, that is not the end of the story. The Observance of the Lenten Candles serves as a sensory reminder of the truth, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5) Every Sunday is The Lord's Day – "a little Easter," and we are always moving toward "The Light."

Welcome to the Lenten Season as we journey together to Easter Day when we celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death.



BELIN MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

POB 528 | 4182 Hwy. 17 Business | Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

843.651.5099 | www.belinumc.org

FOLLOW AND SHARE



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 8, 2026



BELIN MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Murrells Inlet, SC