

Summerville Area GMC Community
Lenten Worship Service of Unity
Knightsville Methodist Church
March 8, 2026
5:00 p.m.

Welcome		Doug Hammond
Call to Worship	King of Kings (Hillsong Worship)	Rev. Dan Griswold
Prayer of Transformation & Unity		Rev. Dan Griswold
Old Testament Scripture	Psalm 32 (NRSV)	Kent Brasher
Offertory Anthem	Holy Forever (Chris Tomlin)	Rev. Dan Griswold
Blessing of the Offering		Doug Hammond
New Testament Scripture	John 5:19-24 (NRSV)	Anna Speakman
Hymn of Preparation	“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” UMH#298	Congregation
Spiritual Vitamin	“The Mediator’s Glory: From Death to Life”	Rev. Dan Griswold
Responsive Prayer of Awakening		Doug Hammond
Going Forth	“Praise and Worship Music Medley	Rev. Dan Griswold

Old Testament Scripture: Psalm 32

A Psalm of David, Psalm 32 is a Psalm of confession and hope. The Psalm emphasizes that if we bring our sins to God, he will cover our sins, not punish us for them. While the Psalm opens with a description of the happy state of the one whose sins are forgiven, the psalmist quickly changes scenes to the physical suffering for those who remain silent about his transgressions.

The Psalm then moves to divine instruction, encouraging the reader to trust in God's mercy, rather than being stubborn and shouldering the guilt of their sin forever. Allow the wisdom of this Psalm to teach us that confession to God leads to peace.

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit, there is no deceit.

While I kept my silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

May God Bless Our Discernment of His Holy Word.

People: Praise Be to God!

New Testament Scripture: John 5:19-24

The Gospel of John is one of four canonical Gospels that tell the story of Jesus life and death. While all four Gospels have much in common; they each tell the story of Jesus in their own ways, providing four distinctive portraits of Jesus.

The 5th chapter of the Gospel of John opens with a story of Jesus performing a healing on the Sabbath and the controversy caused by the Sabbath healing. When the religious leaders questioned Jesus about, what they called, “breaking the Sabbath,” Jesus replied that he was acting under the authority of God, his Father. In today’s New Testament Scripture lesson, we receive the words of Jesus discussing his relationship with God.

Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished, indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgment to the Son, so that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life; and does not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.

The Word of God, For the People of God!

People: Thanks Be to God

Responsive Prayer of Awakening

Leader: Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

People: Blessed is the man unto who the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit, there is no guile.

Leader: I acknowledge my sin unto Thee and mine iniquity have I not hid.

People: For this shall every one that is godly pray unto Thee in a time when Thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters, they shall not come nigh unto him.

Leader: Thou art my hiding place; Thou shalt preserve me from trouble; Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance.

People: I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with Mine eye.

Leader: Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about.

ALL: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.