

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

VIDEO ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SIS. NATALIE HOLMES

LITURGICAL DANCE

“DON’T CRY”

TEENS AND ADULT DANCE MINISTRY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

REV. JOHN ALLEN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Lord of grace, I give with joy and gladness today. Thank You for blessing me so abundantly. As I present my offering, may my heart overflow with gratitude and happiness. Let this gift be a reflection of my love and devotion to You. May it bring blessings to others and glorify Your name. I rejoice in giving because You first gave everything for me. In Christ Jesus, Amen.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

“SOULED OUT”

ANDERSON SANCTUARY CHOIR

SCRIPTURE

JOHN 20: 1-18

MUSIC MINISTRY

“GLORY TO THE LAMB”

ANDERSON SANCTUARY CHOIR

MESSAGE

“RISEN”

REV. DR. STEPHEN T. COOK

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

DR. STEPHEN T. COOK

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

DR. STEPHEN T. COOK

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT IN

Dear God, please touch with Your healing hands. Make me strong again. Take away sickness from my body. Remove every pain and weakness. Help me believe that You can make me better. I trust You to heal me completely. Thank You for loving me and caring for me. Restore my health so I can serve You again. In Jesus’ name, Amen. Pastor Cook’s father: Fernando Cook, Rev. Linda Williams’ mother: Birdia Williams, Robert Stewart, Cynthia Robinson, Diane Carter, Robert Harrion, II, Eugene Williams, Edna Nelson, Dianne Morris, Clotea Fisher, Traci Brent, Keyun Swinney, Joyce Beal, Michael Folkes, Lester Thurman, Angela Rosell, KatieDeloris Harrion, Anthony Rawls, Norris Bishop, Clyde Adams, Queen Jones, Sandra Bell Dorothy Cage, Joseph Cage, Flora Montgomery, Lucious Cage, Sasha Seaberry, Sianna Armstrong and Flossie Jackson.

ANDERSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

The Church office will be closed on Monday, April 6th in observance of Easter Monday.

PRAYER! PRAISE! AND PROCLAMATION!

will not be held on Wednesday, April 1st or April 8th, but will resume on April 15th.

“Theme: Faithfulness to the Lord and Watchfulness”

April 15th - I Thessalonians 1 -“Faithfulness to the Lord, Part 1”- Rev. Allen

April 22th - I Thessalonians 2 -“Faithfulness to the Lord, Part 2”- Rev. Dr. Stephen T. Cook

April 29th - I Thessalonians 3 -“Faithfulness to the Lord, Part 3”- Rev. Dr. Stephen T. Cook

AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY / IRON SHARPENS IRON “PREACH BELIEVERS PREACH”

Attention Administrative Board Members, Family and Friends! Please join us for AALA / ISI at Anderson United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 18th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$18 (includes materials and lunch) Register at: www.mississippi-umc.org. Deadline for Registration: April 10, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.

MASKS OF MANY SHADES

The Adult Ministry is sponsoring a mask painting event on Saturday, April 18th from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The cost for supplies and food is \$30.00.

Tickets are available today, and all adults are welcome.

THE GOLDEN AGERS WILL HOST A HARLEM NIGHTS EVENT

to benefit the children of Bethlehem Center on Saturday, April 25th at Central Family Life Center on 517 N Farish St., Jackson, MS, 38202. Tickets are \$35.00.

Please come, join the fun, wear your roaring 20s attire, and help keep Bethlehem Center’s doors open.

Rev. Dr. Stephen T. Cook, Senior Pastor

Rev. John Allen, Associate Pastor Rev. Linda Williams, Associate Pastor

April 5, 2026

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Processional

Gathering Music

“HE REIGNS”

ANDERSON SANCTUARY CHOIR

Call to Worship

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **Christ is risen indeed! ALLELUIA!**

Leader: The stone has been rolled away!

People: **The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.**

Leader: The tomb where they laid him is empty.

People: **This is the work of God, wonderful in our eyes!**

Leader: To the one whom everyone scorned, we give our praise!

People: **The Gentle One is victorious, the innocent one over the powers of this world.**

Leader: Christ, on your cross, our life and death have struggled.

People: **But Love has overpowered death itself.**

Leader: Christ, in your grave, our sin lay dead and defeated.

People: **The Sun of our life has risen, and brought us into glory.**

Leader: Christ, in your rising, we are brought to life.

People: **Victorious Savior, have mercy on us all! Alleluia!**

CONGREGATIONAL SONG “HE LIVES / BECAUSE HE LIVES”

OPENING PRAYER

SIS. NATALIE HOLMES

Heavenly Father, in a world filled with uncertainty, we cling to the unshakable hope of the resurrection. Your power over death reminds us that no darkness is too great for Your light, and no sorrow too deep for Your comfort. May the truth of Easter lift our spirits, steady our faith, and anchor us in Your promises. Strengthen us to face each day with courage, knowing that Christ’s victory is also ours. May we live in the confidence of this living hope and proclaim it boldly. Thank You for the hope that does not fade and the promise of life everlasting.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SIS. NATALIE HOLMES

We are here because Jesus has called us – strangers and friends, locals and visitors, believers and doubters, the certain and the curious. It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers and invites to his table where, in bread and wine, he meets us and through him we, who are different, are joined to each other. So come, not because you understand, but because you are understood. Come, not because of how you feel, but because God has food for you. Come, not because you deserve a place, but because Jesus invites you, just as you are.

AFFIRMATION OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

SIS. NATALIE HOLMES

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 church universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR EASTER **REV. DR. STEPHEN T. COOK, SENIOR PASTOR** **REV. LINDA WILLIAMS, ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts. *The pastor may lift hands and keep them raised.*

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.