

Our Christian Worship of God
March 22, 2026
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

5th Sunday in Lent

Liturgical Color: Purple

The Prelude "Lamb of God" -Larson
The Chiming of the Hour
The Call to Worship "Fairest Lord Jesus" Handbells

The Welcome and Announcements
Children's Time

*The Hymn UMH 375 "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

*The Invocation

Leader: When hope feels buried, and grief weighs heavily upon our hearts,
People: Christ calls us to come and see the glory of God.
Leader: When we stand before the stones that block our path—stones of fear,
doubt, and despair,
People: Christ invites us to trust and roll the stone away.
Leader: When tears fall, and the world seems overwhelmed by loss.
People: Christ stands beside us, weeping with us and calling forth new life.
Leader: Come, people of God. Step out of the shadows of the tomb.
People: For the One who is the resurrection and the life is among us.
ALL: Let us worship the God who brings life where death once seemed to reign. Amen.

The Anthem "There's No Rock" Chancel Choir
Soloists: Cathy Norman, Jim Gover, Tom Robinson, Jim Hayes and Bob Dowd

*The Affirmation of Christian Faith The Apostles' Creed
**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.** *universal

*The Gloria Patri "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 Offering
Offertory "Kyrie" -Frescobaldi
*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
**"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"** UMH # 95
*Offertory Prayer
*The Hymn UMH 700 "Abide with Me"

The Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer
**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 Scripture Lesson John 11: 17-45 see insert
Minister: The Word of God for the people of God
People: Thanks be to God. Amen

The Sermon "Roll The Stone" Rev. Scott Gilmer
Prayer of Christian Discipleship

*The Hymn UMH 298 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
*The Benediction

*The Choral Response and Recessional
**May the road rise to meet you; May the wind blow at your back.
May the sun shine warmly on your face;
May the rain fall softly on your field,
And until we meet again, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen**

*The Chiming of the Trinity
*The Postlude "Grand Dialogue" -Clerambault

*-indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able.

**The flowers are placed at the altar today to the Glory of God
and in memory of Billy Gallien's 29th birthday,
given by Tim and Renee Gallien.**

OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS March 19, 2026

Note: please contact Shirley Davis in the church office to add to the joys and prayer concerns. 222-3496 or sdavis@cloverfumc.com.

Recent Concerns: Susie Blanton (friend of Carolyn Caldwell), Pat Bono, Melva Jones, Denise Bono, Judy Bailes, Kathy Collins, Sandy King, Judy Hench & family, Valerie Larsen, Renee Gallien, Jane Turpin, Marie Millen, Our Homebound Angels.

Note of Sympathy: Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Albert Wyatt.

Military: Captain Virginia Stanton, USMC; Petty Officer 3rd Class William Shearer; Petty Officer Andrew Beaty; Lt. Col. Leeann Hidle Chavers, Air Force; Lieutenant Colonel Thad Wilson; Lt. Col. Nicholas S. Hare; Lt. Col. Blair Preston.

The AEDs, with an alarm system, are located downstairs near the nursery and outside the sanctuary. A list of those who are CPR trained is also included in the boxes.

Reverend Scott Gilmer, Senior Pastor – ssgilmer@bellsouth.net

Reverend J. Richard Gibson, Pastor Emeritus

Cheri King, Director of Music Ministries – cking@cloverfumc.com

Jay Oden, Organist – jay.oden@gmail.com

Christine Payseur, Church Business / Technical Coordinator – cpayseur@cloverfumc.com

Shirley M. Davis, Admin. Asst. / Financial Sec. – sdavis@cloverfumc.com

Tracie Kite, Sexton – kite_tracie@hotmail.com

Hope Long, Nursery

Anna Livingston – Lay Leader

Renee Gallien, Jason King, Judy Falls

Lay Members to Annual Conference

Reverend Scott Gilmer's telephone number is 864-554-8676. Feel free to call if you have need of him.

Invitation to New Worshipers: Those desiring to unite with our congregation through Baptism, Profession of Faith or Transfer of Membership are encouraged to signify this on the attendance pad, on a visitor card and/or contact our Pastor. We are thankful to have new worshippers. Welcome to the First UMC family.

Weekly Scripture Readings: Isaiah 50: 4-9; Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29; Philippians 2: 5-11; Matthew 21: 1-11.

Words of Wisdom: “There are moments in life when the stones before us feel too heavy to move—stones of grief, disappointment, fear, or uncertainty. In John’s Gospel, Jesus stands before the tomb of Lazarus and invites those around Him to do something unexpected: *“Take away the stone.”* Before the miracle comes, the stone must be moved. This moment reminds us that faith often begins with small acts of trust—choosing hope when circumstances feel final, choosing courage when the way forward seems unclear. As we continue our Lenten journey, may we listen for Christ’s voice calling us to roll away the stones in our own lives, trusting that God’s life-giving power is already at work beyond them.”

Billy Gallien Memorial Scholarship: The Billy Gallien Memorial Scholarship is available for students graduating high school in the Class of 2026. To qualify students must be a member of FUMC Clover. Applications are available in the church office. The deadline to return the applications to the church office is April 17, 2026. Scholarship amounts will be based on the funding available. For questions, please contact Renee Gallien at 704-898-7602 / rqbhist@bellsouth.net.

Notes on Missons: Thank you to everyone who faithfully donates to this impactful ministry! This week’s suggestions – canned fruit, canned vegetable, and canned soup. And juice is always needed. (These are suggestions. ALL donations are appreciated!)

Nothing But Nurture

- **Nurture Bags** – The Nurture Bags are on the table now. Please drop in cards and little gifts to show our Homebound Angels how much they mean to us!
- **Card Ministry-** We will resume the Card Ministry on April 6th at 11:00am. Please let Denise Bono know if there is someone we can add to our list.
- **Nurture Meeting** – The next Nurture Team Meeting will be on April 9th at both 11:00am and 7:00pm. New ideas and new people are always welcome!

Godly Play will not meet today.

Our Easter Egg Hunt is just around the corner. If you would like to help with this event, the Children's Council is collecting candy now through Wednesday, March 25th. A basket will be located near the sign-up table by the Children's Ministry board. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Vacation Bible School: This year VBS will be held on June 14-17, theme: Rome...Paul and the Underground Church. The Children's Council members are requesting daily prayers, asking God to prepare the hearts of church members, workers, and children who will attend. Thank you.



This Week

Budget Receipts	\$ 5,785.00	Week	12
Other	\$ 901.00	% of Budget received.....	24
Total Budget for 2026.....	\$ 484,517	Church School Attendance	27
Amount needed weekly.....	\$ 9,318	Morning Worship Attendance	99
		Youth.....	4

1/1/26 Bank Balance	\$ 57,059.69
Total giving to date	\$ 127,843.92
Total spending to date	<u>\$ 115,787.34</u>
Current Bank Balance	\$ 69,116.27

3/19/26 Local Operating Balance \$ 27,305.00

If you want your offering to go to the new Local Operating Fund, please be sure to mark your check clearly.

Stewardship ~ Ways to Give

Regular Tithes and Offerings through the **Sunday Morning Offering.**

Giving On-Line: Giving to FUMC is available online through our website:

www.firstumcclover.org **Thanks for your support of the mission and ministry of FUMC.**

If you decide to give electronically, please feel free to drop an "Electronic Giver" card in the offering plate on Sundays as an act of worship.

Wonderful Wednesday Meal, March 25

hosted by Children of FUMC

Menu: Chicken Nuggets, Mac & Cheese, Salad

NAME _____ # _____

Schedule for Yard Sale – March 20 –28, 2026

Any amount of time you can help is great! There are lots of different jobs, so you can pick one that works for you. Everyone is welcome.

Church family & friends can shop anytime.

Sunday – March 22 through Thursday, March 26 – Please bring your donations. There is storage if you need to bring things earlier. People are needed to help unload people's items, to sort and put items.

WORKERS NEEDED

9:00am - 3:00pm Monday – Thursday

7:30am on Friday and Saturday

12:00 Noon - Lunch on Monday – Thursday

10:30am until gone – Friday Hot Dog Lunch

Wednesday *Selling at Wednesday morning Men's Prayer Breakfast and Wednesday Night dinner.* **HELPERS NEEDED ESPICALLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT BEFORE AND AFTER DINNER.**

FRIDAY 7:30am -- 6:00pm If possible, wear a green shirt.

SATURDAY 7:30am - we start packing up about 11:30am

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026

HOT DOG LUNCH – 10:30AM –UNTIL SOLD OUT

All Beef Hot do combo (hot dog, chips & drink) \$ 5.00

Individually – Hot Dogs \$ 3.00, Drinks \$ 1.00 & Chips \$ 1.00

COUNTRY STORE – BAKED GOODS & MORE

AT CHURCH YARD SALE

Clover Optimist Club

Pork Bar-b-que

Saturday, April 4, 2026

Next to Killian's Service Center on Highway 55, Clover

TIME: 10:00am until 2:00pm

Pork Plate \$ 12.00

(consist of bar-b-que, slaw, chips, cookie and buns)

Sandwich with chips \$ 5.00

5 lb. bucket \$ 45.00

Walk in welcome

For tickets call Ashby Skinnell at 803-322-0177

Note: \$1.00 from each plate will be given to Childhood Cancer Research

John 11: 17-45

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

¹⁷ So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about ^[a]two miles away. ¹⁹ And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.

²⁰ Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. ²¹ Now Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You.”

²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

²⁴ Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. ²⁶ And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

²⁷ She said to Him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

Jesus and Death, the Last Enemy

²⁸ And when she had said these things, she went her way and secretly called Mary her sister, saying, “The Teacher has come and is calling for you.” ²⁹ As soon as she heard *that*, she arose quickly and came to Him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the town, but ^[b]was in the place where Martha met Him. ³¹ Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, ^[c]saying, “She is going to the tomb to weep there.”

³² Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.”

³³ Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. ³⁴ And He said, “Where have you laid him?”

They said to Him, “Lord, come and see.”

³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ Then the Jews said, “See how He loved him!”

³⁷ And some of them said, “Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?”

Lazarus Raised from the Dead

³⁸ Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been *dead* four days.”

⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ Then they took away the stone ^[d]from *the place* where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up *His* eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. ⁴² And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said *this*, that they may believe that You sent Me.” ⁴³ Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth!” ⁴⁴ And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Loose him, and let him go.”

The Plot to Kill Jesus

⁴⁵ Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him.