8:30 am Worship with Praise Music

Assisted Listening Devices are available at the A/V booth.

Chiming of the Trinity Andrea Turner

Welcome Rev. Laura Fine Ledford

*** Opening Praise Song** Praise the Lord Praise Team

*** Opening Prayer** Don Warsing

*** Passing of the Peace**
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
As a forgiven and reconciled people, we exchange peace with others in the congregation.

First Scripture Reading Ephesians 1:15-23 Jo Foard

Children's Moment Blair Roberts
Nursery (ages 5 & under) is available (116). A calming room (111), movement room (115), and nursing room (114) are available. Activity items are available in the Narthex. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

*** Second Scripture Reading** Matthew 25:31-46
This is the Word of God for us, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "The King You See" Rev. Laura Fine Ledford

Prayer

Response Praise Song King Of Kings Praise Team

Reception of New Members
Gretchen& Chris Lopez, with children Zachary, Owen, & Scarlett,
Barbara Jean (BJ) & Roger Snyder,
Michelle Snyder with children Jacob & Ella

Prayers of the People Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye

The Lord's Prayer

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings
Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it down the row and back again.

Offertory

*** Offering Praise Song**

*** Prayer**

*** Closing Praise Song** It Really Is Amazing Grace Praise Team

*** Dismissal with Blessing**

11:00 am Traditional Worship

Assisted Listening Devices are available at the A/V booth.

Gathering

Chiming of the Trinity Andrea Turner

Welcome Rev. Laura Fine Ledford

*** Prelude** Resound and Rejoice Kids Rock Bell Choir

*** Call to Worship**
The one who reigns over all creation is found among the least of these.
We look for Christ in the hungry and the thirsty.
The one who sits on the throne of glory waits for us in the stranger at the door.
We look for Christ in the one who needs a welcome.
The one who holds the nations together keeps company with the sick and the imprisoned.
We look for Christ in every face we meet.
This is the reign of God, where the last are first, and the overlooked are seen.
Let us worship the Holy One who is with us and among us.

*** Opening Hymn** Rejoice, the Lord is King *(vs 1-3)* UMH, 715

*** Opening Prayer**
Christ our King, whose throne is mercy and whose crown is love, your reign stretches wider than any border and outlasts every empire. You surprise us with where you make your home: in a cup of water, a shared meal, a hospital room, a prison cell. Open our eyes to see you and love you in every neighbor you place before us. All this we pray in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever Amen.

*** Confession and Words of Assurance**
The leader ends with " ... In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven."
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

*** Passing of the Peace**
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
As a forgiven and reconciled people, we exchange peace with others in the congregation.

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination Julia Myers
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

First Scripture Reading Ephesians 1:15-23

Special Music Now Thank We All Our God Kids' Rock Chime Choir
Jesus Loves Me Kids' Rock Melody Bell Choir

Children's Moment Blair Roberts
Nursery (ages 5 & under) is available (116). A calming room (111), movement room (115), and nursing room (114) are available. Activity items are available in the Narthex. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Proclamation Song Joy of the Lord Chancel Choir

*** Second Scripture Reading** Matthew 25:31-46
This is the Word of God for us, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "The King You See" Rev. Laura Fine Ledford

Response and Thanksgiving

*** Affirmation of Faith** UMH, 881

*** Gloria Patri** UMH, 71

Prayers of the People Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye

The Lord's Prayer

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings
Please sign the Fellowship Pad, pass it down the row, and back again.

Offertory

*** Doxology** UMH, 94

*** Prayer**

Sending Forth

*** Closing Hymn** Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service UMH, 581

*** Dismissal with Blessing**

*** Postlude**

** Please stand as you are able.*

The altar flowers are given by Hallie Dodson-Swenson in loving memory of my parents, Bonnie & Tommy Dodson.

Prayer Circle for the week

Dick Levitt;
Charlotte Ann Cobb ("Lottie"), parents of Joseph and Paige, grandchild of Suzanne and Jimmy Cobb, born on Nov. 16th

Visiting for the first time? We're glad you're here!
Please text "Welcome" to 919-689-4300, scan the QR code, or write your name and phone number in the attendance pad. We'd love to greet you by text and email. Stop by the Welcome Center to receive a gift and learn more about us!

Upcoming News & Events

Sign up for events and learn more by visiting our website.

Advent Devotional: "A Thrill of Hope"
Make space for hope this season with our Advent devotional, *"A Thrill of Hope",* offering reflections for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Want a printed copy? Email kcable@soapstoneumc.org or sign up in the Narthex. Copies are $1 and available the following Sunday.

Poinsettias for the Sanctuary, Order by November 29
Help fill our Sanctuary with Christmas beauty! Order poinsettias online at soapstoneumc.org/poinsettias/ or in the church office. Dedications will be included in a special Advent bulletin.

Sunday School for Adults, 9:45 am, Room 200
Beginning Sunday, November 29, join our pastors on Sundays during Advent for a class inspired by *"A Thrill of Hope"* sermon series. Together, we'll explore the season and prepare our hearts for Christmas.

Help Make Christmas Special at Insight!
Join Soapstone on December 4 to bring Christmas cheer to youth at Insight Juvenile Crisis and Assessment Center. Donate, give a gift, or volunteer! Scan the QR code or visit our Narthex table to learn more.



Food Collection Next Sunday!
Help fill the shelves at North Raleigh Ministries. Bring food items to the Narthex and/or the Norwood foyer. Pasta & sauce, canned pasta, canned meat, jelly, cereal, soup, canned vegetables, etc. See a full list online.



Live Nativity Roles
Be a part of our Drive-Through Live Nativity on December 14, 6:30– 7:30 pm. Sign up to volunteer in a scene at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

Looking Ahead at Future Dates

12/5: Ole Time Gospel Sing-a-long, 4 pm, Chapel
12/6: The Music of Christmas Concert, 3 pm
12/13: Christmas Cantata, both services
12/14: Drive-Thru Live Nativity, 6:30 pm
12/19: Women's Christmas-themed Event, 1 pm
12/20: Christmas Caroling
12/21: Longest Night Worship Service, 6:30 pm, Sanctuary
More details & dates coming soon!

Give Online *— Every gift helps us serve and grow together.*

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry

Zoom & Microsoft Teams links can be found at soapstoneumc.org/calendar

Sunday, November 22
8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
12:15 pm SPRC, 101/103
12:15 pm Confirmation Meeting, 200
12:15 pm Preschool Advisory Meeting, 108/110
2:30 pm Youth Handbells, 117
4:00 pm Set In Stone, Sanctuary
5:00 pm Kids' Rock
5:00 pm Youth Group meets at Wal-Mart in Brier Creek
6:30 pm Orchestra Rehearsal, 119
Monday, November 23
9:00 am Preschool Friendsgiving, 200
10:00 am Preschool 3's Thanksgiving, Narthex & Norwood Foyer
5:45 pm Girl Scout Troop #1387, 101/103
6:30 pm Troop 399, Chapel
6:30 pm Adult Handbells, 117
Tuesday, November 24
9:30 am MOMCo Meeting, 108/110
10:00 am Preschool 3's Thanksgiving, Narthex & Norwood Foyer
1:15 pm Pilates, 200
Wednesday, November 25, *Church Office & Preschool Closed*
6:00 pm Eagle Boards of Review, 111 & 114
Thursday, November 26, *Church Office & Preschool Closed*
Friday, November 27, *Church Office & Preschool Closed*
Saturday, November 28
10:00 am ADVENTure, 200
10:00 am Intrepid Hikers, Forest Ridge Park

Love Lived Out: Stewardship Campaign
Thank you to all who have pledged to financially support the life of Soapstone UMC in 2027. It is not too late to pledge. Pledge cards are in the attendance pads, or pledge online at soapstoneumc.org/pledge.

Pastors and Directors serving today:
Lead Pastor: Rev. Laura Fine Ledford, lfineledford@soapstoneumc.org
Associate Pastor: Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye, dquaye@soapstoneumc.org
Director of Music Ministries: Andrea Turner, aturner@soapstoneumc.org
Director of Children & Family Ministries: Blair Roberts, broberts@soapstoneumc.org
Office hours: Monday — Thursday, 9 am — 3:30 pm, 919-846-2212

Soapstone
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Cover Image: *Homeless Jesus*, designed by Timothy Schmalz

November 22, 2026
Christ the King Sunday

At Soapstone,
God's love welcomes us as we are.
We belong to Jesus and to one another.
We live God's love in the world.
soapstoneumc.org