

**September 19, 2021**



**Connecting people to God's transforming love  
through worship, discipleship, fellowship, and service.**

*“Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”*

*~Matthew 13:8 NIV*



**Sermon Notes and Growing as Disciples: September 19, 2021**  
**Jesus The Teacher, part I: Parable of The Sower / Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

**Key Verse:** “Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”  
Matthew 13:8 NIV

**I. Soil matters**

**II. Parable of the “Soils”**

- It is all about the soil.
- “Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

**III. What kind of soil are you?**

- Path
  - ◊ A life of indifference
- Rocky places
  - ◊ A life with no root
  - ◊ “Fair weather discipleship”
- Thorns
  - ◊ A life without focus - A distracted life
  - ◊ Refusing the absolute claim of discipleship
- Good soil
  - ◊ A life prepared for Kingdom living

**IV. Soil that produces “a crop”**

- A desire for ‘the seed’ to grow
- Healthy spiritual habits – keeping your ‘soil’ healthy for growth
- A beautiful crop that honors The Lord

**Growing as disciples:** “O God our Father, you have led us apart from the busy world into the quiet of your house; grant us grace to worship you in spirit and in truth, to the comfort of our souls and the upbuilding of every good purpose and holy desire. Enable us to do more perfectly the work to which you have called us, that we may not fear the coming of night, when we shall resign into your hands the tasks which you have committed to us. So may we worship you not with our lips only at this hour, but in word and deed all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.” Book of Worship (BOW) 1965, p. 94 #1, modified.

**Sunday:** I Samuel 11  
**Monday:** I Timothy 1  
**Tuesday:** I Timothy 2

**Wednesday:** I Timothy 3  
**Thursday:** I Timothy 4

**Friday:** I Timothy 5  
**Saturday:** I Samuel 12



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## Welcome to Morrison

*Thank you for spending part of your weekend with us. If you are new to Morrison and would like to learn more about our programs and community, please visit our website at [www.morrisonumc.org](http://www.morrisonumc.org).*

### Contemporary Worship 9:00 AM

The worship band will kick off the service with a few songs. Feel free to sing and to clap and move to the music as you feel comfortable. After the music, you will hear a great message. We will close with communion where all believers are welcome to participate. With that being said, feel free to grab a cup of coffee and a donut from the back, then find your seats, if you haven't already. The service will begin shortly. All-in-all, we'll be here for a little under an hour.

### Traditional Worship 11:00 AM

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

"Classic Prelude"

Chancel Ringers  
Downey

*The first note of the prelude is our call to silent meditation.*

#### INVOCATION

**"O God our Father, you have led us apart from the busy world into the quiet of your house; grant us grace to worship you in spirit and in truth, to the comfort of our souls and the upbuilding of every good purpose and holy desire. Enable us to do more perfectly the work to which you have called us, that we may not fear the coming of night, when we shall resign into your hands the tasks which you have committed to us. So may we worship you not with our lips only at this hour, but in word and deed all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."** [Book of Worship 1965, p. 94 #1, modified].

#### HYMN 139

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

LOBE DEN HERREN

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 880 "The Apostles' Creed"

#### GLORIA PATRI 71

**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.**

## **OFFERING**

We have several giving options available during this challenging time. You can mail your check to the church, or drop it in the mail slot in the front door of the office. Several options for electronic giving can be found by clicking on the giving button under the worship tab on our website at [www.morrisonumc.org](http://www.morrisonumc.org). Thank you for your support.

## **OFFERTORY**

“Holy God We Praise thy Name”

Chancel Choir  
arr. W. Peltz

## **DOXOLOGY 95**

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.

## **PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

“Come Lift Your Cheerful Voice”

Chancel Choir and Chancel Ringers  
D. Wagner

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

### **SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 13:1-9

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### **SERMON**

*Jesus the Teacher, Part I:  
Parable of the Sower*

Pastor David

## **HYMN 172**

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

GORDON

## **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

“Trumpet Voluntary”

Stanley

Our 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM worship services are streamed live via our Facebook page, YouTube, and our website, [www.watchmorrison.com](http://www.watchmorrison.com).



**Today's Reader:**  
Cindy McLaughlin



**Today's sanctuary flowers**  
are given in loving memory  
of my husband,  
Richard Davidson, Sr.,  
by Roslyn Davidson.



**We still have available slots for 2021 sanctuary flowers.** Please call Terri Hester in the office (787-3786) if you would like to sign up for one of the available Sundays.

## **TODAY**

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship  
10:00 AM Connect Sunday School Classes  
11:00 AM Traditional Worship  
3:00 PM Connected Women's Bible Study  
on Zoom

## **MONDAY**

### **TUESDAY**

10:00 AM In-person Bible Study

### **WEDNESDAY**

10:00 AM Staff Meeting  
6:00 PM Bible Study on Zoom  
6:30 PM Chancel Ringers  
8:00 PM AA, Al-Anon

### **THURSDAY**

6:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice  
7:00 PM Worship Band Practice

### **FRIDAY**

### **SATURDAY**

**The Op Shop is looking for volunteers** who are able to work 2-4 hours, sometime during the hours of 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Monday through Friday. If you are interested in helping with this important ministry, please contact Brenda Jones at 352-323-3409.

**Church office hours** are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and by appointment at other times. Face-coverings are requested when visiting the office.

**Special Note:** Because of the high number of COVID cases, all scheduled church activities are subject to a last minute change.

### **Worship Opportunities:**

- **On Sundays**, we are offering contemporary worship at 9:00 AM and traditional worship at 11:00 AM, in person and online. In response to the high number of COVID-19 cases, face masks are requested for everyone. We ask that you please respect one another's comfort levels concerning social distancing.
- **Holy Communion:** We celebrate Holy Communion weekly at our 9:00 AM service, and on the first and third Sundays of each month in the traditional service (11:00 AM). If you are worshipping at home, please plan to have grape juice and some form of bread available. Pre-filled communion cups will be available for those attending in-person. If you would like pre-filled communion cups for home use, you may come by the office and we will be glad to provide them for you.

### **Discipleship Opportunities:**

- **Adult Connect Sunday School classes:** For more information, call the church office at 352-787-3786.
  - ◊ The Inquirers' SS class - building 4, room 103
  - ◊ The Early Risers' class - building 4, room 206
  - ◊ The Connect Around the Table class - building 4, room 208
  - ◊ The Connections class - building 4, room 106
- **Bible Study:** Join us in-person on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Inquirers' classroom, or on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 PM via Zoom. If you would like to participate on Zoom, email Pastor David at [dstauffer@morrisoumc.org](mailto:dstauffer@morrisoumc.org) for the link. Here is the current study:
  - ◊ **Scripture and the Skeptic** by Eric Huffman is our current study. This is a four-week study. The book is available at Amazon.com in both paperback and Kindle versions, and at Cokesbury.com. If you will be joining us for the first time, please contact Pastor David at (352) 787-3786 so he'll know to expect you (this is especially true if you are joining us via Zoom on Wednesday evening).
- **Connected Women's Ministry:** A one lesson Scripture study from Acts will be offered at 3:00 PM today on Zoom. If interested, contact Terri at 352-978-1463 or [connectedwomen352@gmail.com](mailto:connectedwomen352@gmail.com) if interested.

## **MEMBER DEATH NOTICE**

Brenda "Susie" Barlow, August 10  
Alex Marzek, August 26  
Louise Ingraham, September 6  
Joe Douthett, September 10

## Fellowship Opportunity:

- We have a fellowship time in the Family Life Center (building 3) between the two worship services. You are invited to join us for coffee and donuts and conversations with friends.

## Service Opportunities:

- **Invitation to join our prayer ministry:** Do you pray? Do you pray for others? Would you be willing to have prayer concerns emailed to you several times a week? And if so, would you pause to pray for those concerns? If your answer is yes, please join our email prayer chain. Send an email to dstauffer@morrisonumc.org or call the church office at (352) 787-3786 and request to be added to our prayer ministry email chain.

Please sign up on our website to be on our email list. Go to morrisonumc.org and click on the link to subscribe to the list. Or contact Terri Hester at 787-3786 or thester@morrisonumc.org.

**Morrison UMC has an app!** You can find it on the App Store and Google Play. If you have any questions, contact Terri Hester in the church office at 352-787-3786.

**Ruth Circle:** Meetings are scheduled to resume in October. We will meet in the same place—Plantation Oaks Restaurant, but on a different day and time—on the second Wednesday at noon. The first meeting will be on October 13. Please bring your book, Jesus' Parables of Grace by James Moore. We will discuss what book to do next and other suggestions for future meetings. Contact Pat Ramer at 352-323-6150 or Sally Zupsic at 724-561-9486 with your RSVP. Feel free to invite any ladies who might be interested. We hope you will join us as we circle around the table in Christian love; sharing our faith through community service and fellowship.

You can submit your prayer requests online by going to [www.morrisonumc.org](http://www.morrisonumc.org) and clicking on the link to submit prayer requests or through the link on our new app. If you prefer, you can call the church office with your prayer concerns.

**Prayer for Christian Worship:** “We exalt you, our God and King; we will praise your name forever.” We pray that our worship services and our very lives will give you glory and will “extol your name forever and ever.” We honor you and your great works. We celebrate your “abundant goodness” and “gracious compassion.” Thank you for being near to “all who call on” you. All glory and honor are yours. Amen. [Loosely based on Psalm 145]



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