First United Methodist Church
Graham, NC

www.fumcgraham-nc.org
303 North Main Street, Graham, NC 27253
336/226-4343

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026



Our Mission

To make disciples for Jesus Christ through love and service

Our Vision

A loving and diverse community meeting the real needs of our neighbors through spirit-filled worship, intergenerational discipleship, and caring service

Come, Let Us Worship the Lord

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026

Gathering

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Autumn* Chaminade

†CALL TO WORSHIP

The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it.
Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.
God has entrusted each of us with different gifts.
We have come to give thanks for all that God has given.
Let us not bury in fear what has been freely given.
Let us offer our lives, our labor, and our love to the glory of God.
Joy is God's gift to all who trust him.
Joy that fills the heavens and the earth.
Come, then, with gladness. Come, all who have been given much, and all who have been given little.
We come with open hearts to adore the God who gives and gives again.

†OPENING HYMN *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* (*UMH* #89)*

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!

2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,

call us to rejoice in thee.

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
love divine is reigning o'er us,
binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward,
in the triumph song of life.

†SHARING THE PEACE

Please greet your neighbor and pass the Connect pads to register your attendance.

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy and gracious God, you have made us children of the light and of the day. Keep us awake and sober as your Word is read and proclaimed. Open our eyes to see, our ears to hear, and our hearts to receive. Clothe us with the hope of salvation that we may be built up in love and encouraged by your word to us today. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Ray Dorsett

5 We don't need to write to you about the timing and dates, brothers and sisters. [2] You know very well that the day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. [3] When they are saying, "There is peace and security," at that time sudden destruction will attack them, like labor pains start with a pregnant woman, and they definitely won't escape. [4] But you aren't in darkness, brothers and sisters, so the day won't catch you by surprise like a thief. [5] All of you are children of light and children of the day. We don't belong to night or darkness. [6] So then, let's not sleep like the others, but let's stay awake and stay sober. [7] People who sleep sleep at night, and people who get drunk get drunk at night. [8] Since we belong to the day, let's stay sober, wearing faithfulness and love as a piece of armor that protects our body[a] and the hope of salvation as a helmet. [9] God didn't intend for us to suffer his wrath but rather to possess salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. [10] Jesus died for us so that,

whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with him. [11] So continue encouraging each other and building each other up, just like you are doing already.

SHARING FAITH WITH ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN Chris Fulkerson

Childcare is available for children up to age 5 in Room 121. Red drawstring "Worship Kids Kits" with children's bulletins are available in the entrance area each week for children to use throughout worship.

ANTHEM *A Living Sacrifice* with *I Surrender All* Rush and Pethel

Lord, I offer You my life a living sacrifice.
Lord, I offer You my hands and all they do.
And I offer You my heart. Lord, I set myself apart.
As Your servant I will serve and worship You.

I surrender all. I surrender all.
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

Lord, I seek Your grace, Your peace,
Your love with all to share.
And I seek Your strength
that I may be renewed.
Let me hear that still, small voice,
for my soul will then rejoice.
In the truth that I will find, I worship You.

I surrender all. I surrender all.
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all. I surrender all.

†GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 25:14-30

[14] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; [15] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. [16] The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. [17] In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. [18] But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [19] After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20] Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' [21] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [22] And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' [23] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [24] Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; [25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26] But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter?

[27] Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

SERMON "The Talent Show" Pastor Duane

Response

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*UMH* #895)*

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.

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*UMH* #881)*

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. Amen.

†GLORIA PATRI (*UMH* #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.

Sending Forth

RESPOND TO THE WORD

The altar is always open if you would like to pray. Feel free to stay as long as you desire. If people remain in prayer after the dismissal, those who must leave are asked to move quietly and reverently toward the back of the sanctuary.

†CLOSING HYMN *Lord, Be Glorified* (*TFWS* #2150)*

1. In our lives, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified.
In our lives, Lord,
be glorified today.

2. In our homes, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified.
In our homes, Lord,
be glorified today.

3. In your church, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified.
In your church, Lord,
be glorified today.

4. In your world, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified.
In your world, Lord,
be glorified today.

†THE BLESSING

†CHORAL RESPONSE (Choir and Congregation) (*UMH* #898)*

Amen, amen, amen.

†CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

†POSTLUDE JJ Kelley, piano

†*Please stand if you are able.*
**Songbooks are located in pew rack.*