JULY 5, 2026
CLASSIC WORSHIP | 8:45 & 10:00AM

GOD AND HIS PEOPLE

MATTHEW 7:13-14
REV. KEN LOUDENBACK

On this Independence Day weekend, we celebrate the gift of freedom — not only as Americans, but as God's people. Jesus' words in Matthew 7:13–14 remind us that life offers more than one path, and that the road leading to true life is often the narrow one we must choose with intention. Today's message explores what it means to use our God-given freedom wisely, to choose the way that leads to life, and to live as people shaped by God's character and purpose. Drawing on themes Pastor Ken has been reflecting on in his recent first book, *God and His People... The Only Choice that Matters*, we will consider how our daily choices form us, guide us, and invite us into God's work of healing and hope in the world.

WELCOME!
We are so glad you're here!

WORSHIP TIMES

CLASSIC WORSHIP Sundays at 8:45 & 10:00am in the Sanctuary.
NEWDAY PRAISE WORSHIP Sundays at 10:00am in the Worship Annex.
YOUTH WORSHIP Wednesdays at 7:00pm in room 200.
LIVE STREAM *at pumc.tv*

KIDS AND YOUTH

INFANT AND TODDLERS Care is provided in room 127 from 8:30am–11:00am.
K-GRADE 5 Room 203 at 10am.
GRADES 6-12 Small groups meet in room 200 at 10am.

ADULT SMALL GROUPS

Find adult small groups and classes at ***pumc.org/groups***

KIDS@PUMC WEEKDAY PROGRAMS

PRESCHOOL AGES 1-5 Email Charity Aton at ***caton@pumc.org***
KIDS CONNECTION GRADES K-5 Email McKenzie Smalley at ***msmalley@pumc.org***

NO YOUTH BIBLE STUDY OR WORSHIP, JULY 5 – JULY 10
The youth band and Brandon will be at Camp Adventure, so the youth will not have Sunday Bible Study on July 5 and will not have Wednesday Worship on July 8.

PIE MAKING CLASS In this hands-on class on Saturday, July 11 each participant will assemble two pies: one will be donated to the Fish Fry, the second is all yours. Learn more and register at ***pumc.org/registrations***

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS WORKSHOP On Sunday, July 12 there will be an interactive training experience designed to help navigate difficult or contentious topics facing the church today. Find more info and register at ***pumc.org/registrations***

HELP PROVIDE MEALS FOR FAMILIES July 12–18 we will provide dinner for families at Almost Home with Family Promise. Find more info at ***pumc.org/registrations***

GOLF OUTING The PUMC Men's group is hosting a golf outing on Saturday, July 18 at Eagle Pines Golf Club in Mooresville. Men, ladies, and older youth are all welcome. Find more information and register at ***pumc.org/registrations***

ANNUAL FISH FRY Join us Friday, July 31 and Saturday, August 1. It takes over 150 people to make this two-day event possible and we need your help whether you can give one shift or the whole day. Sign up in the Main Lobby or online at ***pumc.org/fish-fry***

Fish Fry T-Shirt Pre-Orders at ***pumc.org/registrations***

FACEBOOK PAGE MERGE In the coming weeks, the NewDay Praise Facebook page will be merging with the Plainfield United Methodist Church page to bring everything together in one place. By combining our pages, you'll have one convenient location for updates, announcements, events, photos, and more!

A TIME TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE
America the Beautiful — arr. Calvin Hampton
My Country, 'Tis of Thee — arr. Murray Bradshaw
Nick Fennig, organ

* **GREETING**

* **HYMN UMH 696**
America, the Beautiful

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**
Liturgist: Come and worship the Lord who made the heavens and the earth.
People: We praise the One whose Spirit of love and grace moves throughout creation and across every face and every name.
Liturgist: On this holiday weekend we give thanks to God for the blessings of this land and for all who have sought liberty, justice, and peace.
People: We remember that every good gift comes from God.
Liturgist: Yet even today, we affirm that only God's way is everlasting.
People: Our deepest hope and highest allegiance belong to Jesus Christ alone.
Liturgist: Come, let us worship the God of every nation and every generation.
People: With grateful hearts and faithful spirits, we worship the Lord!

HYMN UMH 437
This Is My Song

WELCOME

PRAYER FOR THE NATION

HYMN UMH 463
Lord, Speak to Me — vv. 1–3

SCRIPTURE — Matthew 7:13–14

MESSAGE
God and His People — Rev. Ken Loudenback

ANTHEM
You Say — arr. by Diane M. McGahee
Nancy Cook, soprano
Nick Fennig, piano

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

* **HYMN UMH 431**
Let There Be Peace on Earth

* **DISMISSAL & BLESSING**

* **POSTLUDE**
Fanfare on "America the Beautiful" — by Matthew Corl
Nick Fennig, organ

(*) asterisk indicates time for persons, who are able, to stand.

WHAT'S NEXT

MATTHEW 18:1–4
1 CORINTHIANS 13:8–13
Sunday, July 12

When I Grow Up:
To be a Kid or a Grown Up?

Jesus tells us to become like children but Paul tells us to grow up? Which one is it?

CALENDAR: JULY 5–11

SUNDAY

Classic Worship	8:45 a • S
Classic Worship	10:00 a • S
NewDay Praise Worship	10:00 a • A

MONDAY

Homeless Ministry Food Prep	9:00 a • Ki
Homeless Ministry Food Delivery	5:00 p • O
Summer Handbell Rehearsal	6:30 p • S

TUESDAY

Tuesday Morning Prayer Group	10:00 a • W
The Chosen (Study Group)	1:30 p • K
GriefShare	6:00 p • L

WEDNESDAY

Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a • L
Outreach Committee	6:00 p • W
Church Council Meeting	7:00 p • K

No Youth Worship this week

THURSDAY

NewDay Praise Team Rehearsal	7:30 p • A

SATURDAY

Second Saturday Lunch - carryout only	11:00 a • Ki
Pie Class	1:00 p • Ki

Calendar Legend: A=Worship Annex, B=Bell Room, K=Koinonia Room, Ki=Kitchen, L=Library, M=Music Room, ML=Main Lobby, MR=Multiple Rooms, S=Sanctuary, V=Various Rooms, W=Wesley Room, Y=Youth Room

VITALS

BASIC BUDGET

06/28/2026	$4,501
Year-to-date	$553,219
Previous year-to-date	$635,252

PRAISE & PRAYER

Please pray for our Community Partners
Business: Big Sandy Superstore
Leader: Montie Manning, Director of the Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library
We share our love & sympathy with the family and friends of Yolanda Goltz on her passing.

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WATCH SERMONS LIVE at pumc.tv