

# Spruce Pine United Methodist Church

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April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Easter Sunday

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Jeremy I. Troxler, Pastor

Kathey Hollifield, Music Director

Kathy Miller, Organist

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**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!** TODAY IS THE DAY THE WORLD CHANGED FOREVER, THE MOST IMPORTANT DAY OF THE YEAR FOR CHRISTIANS: TODAY IS EASTER DAY, RESURRECTION SUNDAY, WHEN WE REJOICE THAT JESUS CHRIST WHO WAS CRUCIFIED HAS BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD AND IS ALIVE AND CHANGING LIVES THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST REPRESENTS GOD'S DECISIVE VICTORY OVER EVIL, SIN, AND DEATH: IT IS THE TRIUMPH OF GOD'S LIFE AND LOVE, AND THE SOURCE OF OUR FAITH THAT, THROUGH THE SAME POWER THAT RAISED JESUS, WE, TOO, WILL SHARE IN GOD'S FINAL VICTORY. THE CHURCH EXISTS BECAUSE OF EASTER: WE ARE EASTER PEOPLE. SINCE THAT SUNDAY MORNING WHEN THE TOMB WAS FOUND EMPTY, CHRISTIANS HAVE MET ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK TO WORSHIP GOD, WITH EVERY SUNDAY A LITTLE EASTER, AND EASTER THE GREATEST SUNDAY OF ALL. WE ARE SO GLAD YOU COULD CELEBRATE WITH US!

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP AND OFFERING OUR PRAISE

### Chiming of the Hour

#### Prelude

**"Beneath the Cross of Jesus / Because He Lives"**

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE

### Lighting of the Christ Candles

PLEASE USE THIS TIME TO FOCUS YOUR WHOLE SELF - MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT -  
ON WORSHIPPING GOD, THE FATHER, AND THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

#### Easter Introit

**"Christ Is Risen, Alleluia!"**

CHANCEL CHOIR

### Easter Greeting (3 times)

Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!

**Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!**

### Words of Welcome

#### ^Opening Prayer

**Let us pray together:**

**Christ, our hearts are filled with overflowing you:  
for you are alive, risen from the dead.**

**We share your victory and are risen with you.**

**May our lives never deny this eternal life,  
this peace and hope and joy that you have given us.  
Praise and Glory to You, God of all life,**

who is stronger than all kinds of death. Alleluia!  
Amen.

^ Song of Praise “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” UMH 302

^ Statement of Faith “The Apostles’ Creed” UMH 881

^ Sharing of the Peace of Christ “The peace of Christ be with you” “And also with you.”  
*(Through the gift of Jesus Christ, we have been granted forgiveness and peace with God and with one another. As a sign and celebration of the peace we have been given, we invite you to turn to your neighbors, extend your hand, and greet/bless them with the words, “The Peace of Christ be with you.”)*

^ Hymn of Praise “He Lives” UMH 310

Offering our Praises and our Gifts to God

Offertory “Forever” CHELSEA THAYER

Doxology “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 95

Children’s Message GREG HOILMAN

Children’s Change Offering TARBORO MISSION TRIP

*(Following the children’s change offering, parents of small children may choose to escort their little ones to our church nursery: our nursery volunteers will meet you in the welcome center just outside the sanctuary.)*

## PROCLAIMING AND HEARING GOD’S WORD

^ Scripture Reading Luke 24:1-12 NT 85

Proclamation of the Word “Easter Fools” REV. JEREMY TROXLER

Choral Anthem “Let the Bells of Easter Ring” CHANCEL CHOIR

## SHARING HOLY COMMUNION AND SENDING FORTH

Invitation to the Lord’s Table / Prayers of Silent Confession

^ The Great Thanksgiving / The Lord’s Prayer UMH 15-16

Sharing Holy Communion

*UMH 617 - “I Come With Joy”*

Prayers of the People

^ Sending Hymn “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” UMH 89

^ Benediction

^ Choral Response “He Lives” CHANCEL CHOIR

^ Postlude

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^IF ABLE, PLEASE STAND

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

➤ **IF YOU’RE NEW HERE . . . WELCOME!** We’re glad you could join us, whether you’re new to the community, new to our church, or if you might be new to this whole “church” thing altogether. We hope you won’t be nervous: it doesn’t matter who you are, what you’ve done, what you’re wearing, what you believe, or what you don’t believe – you are welcome here. You are among friends, and we hope you feel at home in this place of grace.

➤ **A SPECIAL WELCOME TO CHILDREN!** Parents, we are so grateful that you and your children are here to worship with us! We believe that children have much to teach us about how to receive the Kingdom of God, so please don’t worry about your kids being a distraction in worship: the sounds that children make are music to our ears, and we are genuinely grateful that they are in our midst.

- **CHURCH NURSERY** - If it is helpful, you are welcome to leave your child with the caring and trained volunteers in our church nursery, which is located in our Sunday School hallway; or, if you prefer, you can make use of the “family room” which we set up each Sunday in the blue-carpeted foyer at the back of the sanctuary: that way your child can play and roam freely while you can relax and listen in to the service.

## APRIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **THERE WILL BE NO SUMMIT STUDENT MINISTRIES (for students in grades 6-12) OR HILLTOPPERS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (for children 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger) MEETING TODAY OR NEXT SUNDAY.** Summit and Hilltoppers will resume their usual schedule on Sunday April 15th.
- **PASTOR JEREMY AND HIS FAMILY WILL BE AWAY FOR A FEW DAYS EARLY THIS WEEK CELEBRATING EASTER WITH FAMILY.**
- **THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** - Easter Monday, April 2, 2018. The office will reopen on Tuesday.
- **INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP - THIS WEDNESDAY, AT 9:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY.** All are invited to welcome and join us as we pray for the needs of our congregation and world: we especially welcome those who are new to prayer.
- **MISSION TRIP**- Hurricane Matthew devastated several communities in eastern NC in October 2016. We are sending a team to Tarboro, NC from April 15 to April 20 to help rebuild homes in that community. As our previous trips have proven, building skills are not required. We are provided with a place to sleep and cook. United Methodist Committee on Relief provides case management and construction coordination. Please prayerfully consider joining this team for part or all of this week of service. For more information contact Aaron 467-5130 or Marvin 766-5379
- **SPUMC BOOK CLUB** - Tuesday, April 10 at 10:00 am in the parlor. The selection is *Force of Nature* by Jane Harper.

## ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **AL-ANON MEETING** - Every Thursday evening here at the church at 7:00 pm in the youth room. Contact numbers for more information are 467-1193 and 704-609-3360.
- **LEFT BEHIND IN THE HIGH COUNTRY - SUPPORT GROUP FOR SUICIDE LOSS SURVIVORS** - Meets at 6:30 pm 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays every month in the Oak Room, Sloop Medical Offices Building, Cannon Hospital, Linville, NC. Contact Bob at 321-243-1640 or Sandy at 828-467-5379.
- **SONS OF THE SON & BRIDGE OF HOPE HOMELESS MINISTRY** - Needs: coats, gloves, hats, socks, blankets, sleeping bags, tarps, food, toiletries and your prayers. Thank you & God Bless, Phil White
- **WE INVITE EACH FAMILY TO BRING AT LEAST ONE CAN OF FOOD EACH WEEK** for the Shepherd's Staff food assistance ministry. There is a box in the Welcome Center...let's fill it each week! Please check the “Best Used Before” date on the items you donate and make sure it is more than 30 days before expiration. Thank you.
- **BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION** are collected to help Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. Please continue to save the box tops. Thanks to each of you for your participation. This is an on-going project so keep placing your donations in our Red Bird Mission box on the table in the Welcome Center. - Marie Brown
- **PLEASE FILL OUT THE PEW REGISTRATION PADS** by the windows at the end of each pew. **Pass them to the inside** and the ushers will pick them up after they receive the offering.

### WORSHIP LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE:

(If you are unable to serve on the date scheduled, please exchange dates with someone and let the church office know.)

DATE	LECTOR	CHILDREN'S TIME	GREETERS	NURSERY
4/8	Chelsea Thayer	Melanie Murphy	Susan Basini / Clara Ahlquist	Tracy Deyton / Ginny Downs
4/15	Meredith Hoilman	Tracy Carroll	Marvin Walker / Frank Baskin	Grace Buchanan / Joey Stout
4/22	Sharon Drum	Glenna Tasedan	Lloyd & Nelle Glenn	Meredith Hoilman / Jen or Josh Newton
4/29	Bruce Ikard	Sharon Drum	Neil & Marie Brown	Rachelle Shock / Chris Nash
5/6	Marvin Walker	Mike Murphy	Ed & Jan Banta	Quincy Sparks / Brandy Miller
5/13	Jack Riley	Bruce Ikard	Bryan & Chelsea Thayer	Jessica Hoyle

# OUR COMMUNITY COVENANT

*When a person becomes a professing member of the body of Christ at Spruce Pine United Methodist Church, he or she covenants to participate faithfully in the ministries of the congregation and in life in the world by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness.*

- **GENERAL PRAYERS:** For all who do not know the love of God in Christ Jesus the Lord; for the well-being of our community; for local, state, national, and world leaders
- **SUSTAINING PRAYERS:** Our homebound members (Ruth Buchanan, *Shirley McManus, Barbara Henline*); Brian Center, Smoky Mountain, and Mitchell House Residents; Staff, and Families (*Mabel Whiton, Audrey Davenport, Bea White, June Wilson*; Grace Buchanan - Audrey's roommate); M-Y Parish Food Bank; Lamplighters Children, Families and Staff; *Bretta Walker; Charles Hale*; All expectant mothers and unborn children ( Jessica Hoyle, Carolyn Boles, Taylor Byrd - high risk pregnancy); *Beth Wyatt & Reg Bezzola; Laura Curtis Hodges*; Nichole Hoyle; Luke Deyton; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2018; Jo Thomas; Van McClintick; Gary Baskin; *Sandra & Louis Woodard*; Karen Wright; Wilma Garland; Lisa Cook
- **FOR THOSE WHO MOURN** the family of Sharon Deyton; Gene Lanier & family (death of mother); the family of Jeremy Swofford; Lanning family
- **FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY:** Howard Hoilman (lung transplant); Joe Stanton (heart surgery)
- **FOR THOSE WITH CANCER:** Nora Murray (*Neil Brown's* sister); *Jim Smith (radiation)*; Judy Rinard; Maggie Snyder (breast cancer); Diane Meatyard; Tom Wilson (tumor); Susan Wilson; Chip Smith (colon cancer); Barbara Miller; Joyce Woody; Carol Batton (breast cancer); Laurie Norman (esophageal); Susan Wilson; Holly (brain tumor); Randy Chambers (chemo); Jada Daniels (lung cancer); Larry Metcalf (liver); Debra Geer (Stage IV lung cancer); Ken Anderson (prostate); Oswaldo Fernandez
- **FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY:** David Hoepfner; Wayne Hoilman; Mike Snyder (Parkinson's); Kent Brock (Parkinson's, Pneumonia); Bruce McKinney (Parkinson's); Mary Hampton (fibromyalgia); Aubree (encephalitis); Jesse Wray (accident - neck); *Susan Basini*; Brandon Thomas (car accident)
- **FOR SURVIVORS OF INJUSTICE OR TRAGEDY:** Victims of Hurricane Harvey, Irma & Maria; Victims of Human Trafficking; Survivors of Parkland School Shooting; Survivors of sexual abuse or harassment; Survivors of child abuse
- **FOR AREA CHURCHES:** The Toe Valley UMC Charge (Mt. Zion - Pine Grove); Bakersville UMC, Red Hill - Deyton Bend UMC; The Newdale UMC Charge (Celo-Martin's Chapel-Windham) ; SPUMC (Pastor, Staff & Members)
- **FOR THOSE TRAVELING, ON MISSION, OR IN THE MILITARY:** Dallas Martin (Marines); Tucker McElrath; Lindsey Potter (Army National Guard); those on Mission Trips; Ben Potter - Army

*We want to join with you in prayer for your concerns and needs. Simply contact Pastor Troxler or the church office and tell us about your prayer concern. Please submit names to the church office by Thursday morning to be included on the weekly list.*

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK				
1 <sup>st</sup> - Beth Ziemba	3 <sup>rd</sup> - Mariea Tountasakis	4 <sup>th</sup> - Donna Martin	4 <sup>th</sup> - Michael Murphy	5 <sup>th</sup> - Clara Ahlquist
PRESENCE:		March 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2018		11:00 - 130
GIFTS	March 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	General Fund - \$4,744.00		Weekly budget need - \$4,397.00
		Year to Date - \$55,920.62		YTD Budget Need - \$52,764.00
		Children's Offering - \$84.87		Tarboro Mission Trip
		UMCOR Sunday - \$100.00		Mission Trip Meal - \$537.00
		Community Assistance - \$720.00		Shepherd's Staff Food Donations - 31

**SERVICE:** Thanks to those who are serving in special ways throughout the past week and today ...

Lector: Tim Drum                      Greeters: Mary Robinson & Donnie Peters                      Children's Time: Greg Hoilman  
 Head Usher: Vernon Coulter                      Nursery: TBA                      Offertory: Chelsea Thayer

**WITNESS:** A CHRISTIAN NAMED KARL BARTH WROTE ONCE THAT THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS MEANS THAT CHRISTIANS SHOULDN'T WALK AROUND WITH LONG FACES ALL THE TIME: EASTER SHOULD PUT A SMILE ON OUR FACES AND A LAUGH IN OUR HEARTS. TODAY WE CELEBRATE ABIDING JOY: THE JOY OF KNOWING THAT GOD'S MERCY IS GREATER THAN THE POWERS OF THIS WORLD, GREATER THAN DEATH, GREATER THAN OUR BETRAYAL, GREATER THAN OUR SIN, GREATER THAN OUR SUFFERING. LOVE WINS! WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS THIS WEEK BY LAUGHING AT EVIL, BY GRINNING AT HARDSHIP, AND BY REJOICING ALWAYS.

**\*\*Next Week's Scripture - April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018\*\***

Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133, 1 John 1:1 - 2:2, John 20:19-31