

Spruce Pine United Methodist Church

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April 15th, 2018

3rd Sunday of Easter

Jeremy I. Troxler, Pastor

Kathey Hollifield, Music Director

Kathy Miller, Organist

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! THE WORD "WORSHIP" COMES FROM THE OLD ENGLISH WORD FOR "WORTHY." WHEN WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD, WE ARE DECLARING THAT GOD ALONE IS "WORTHY" OF OUR LIVES AND OUR PRAISE. LAST SUNDAY WE CELEBRATED CHRIST'S RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD, THE ULTIMATE SIGN OF GOD'S VICTORY OVER SIN AND DEATH. TODAY IS THE 3RD SUNDAY OF THE SEASON OF EASTER. THE MEANING OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST IS FAR TOO BIG TO BE CELEBRATED ON ONLY ONE DAY: IN A WAY, EVERY SUNDAY IS A LITTLE EASTER, A REMINDER OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK. WITHIN THE CHURCH, EASTER IS NOT JUST ONE DAY, BUT A SEASON OF 50 DAYS (7 SUNDAYS) IN WHICH WE CELEBRATE THE WAYS THAT CHRIST LIVES AMONG US, AROUND US, AND IN US THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT. THE STORY OF CHRIST'S LIFE HAS NOT ENDED: WE ARE LIVING ITS NEXT CHAPTER. PRAISE GOD!

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

MEREDITH HOILMAN

Prelude

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE

Entry of the Light of Christ

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

OFFERING OUR PRAISE, GIFTS, AND PRAYERS

^Song of Praise

"Bless His Holy Name"

TFWS 2015

^Easter Greeting

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

^Opening Responsive Prayer

Let us pray responsively.

O risen Lord, who in your first appearance to Mary was mistaken for the gardener:

be present with us, and show yourself to us in all our mistakes and uncertainties.

O risen Lord, who appeared to your dejected disciples on the road to Emmaus, and

opened to them the scriptures, so that their hearts burned within them:

be present with us, and set our hearts on fire with love for you.

O risen Lord, who gave to your distraught followers the assurance of healing and forgiveness:

be present with us, and bring together all Christians in peace and harmony.

O risen Lord, who mindful of the needs of your disciples, prepared a meal by the Sea of Galilee:

be present with us, and make yourself known in all acts of hospitality and sharing.

O risen Lord, who in your final appearance on the Mount of Olives lifted up hands of blessing on all people:

be present with us, and grant that our prayers today may be taken up into yours on behalf of the whole world.

(a prayer from the Church of South India)

^ **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** **“Easter People, Raise Your Voices”** UMH 304

Offering our Praises and our Gifts to God

Offertory AARON & GRACE BUCHANAN

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

Children’s Message TRACY CARROLL

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.)

Call to Prayer **“O Lord, You’re Beautiful”** TFWS 2064

Prayers of the People / The Lord’s Prayer

Choral Anthem **“Season of Promise”** CHANCEL CHOIR

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

^ **Scripture Reading** **Acts 3:1-20** NT 114

Proclamation of the Word **“Preaching Like Peter”** REV. JEREMY TROXLER

RESPONSE TO THE WORD AND SENDING FORTH

^ **Sending Hymn** **“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”** UMH 340

^ **Commissioning of Tarboro Mission Team**

^ **Benediction**

^ **Choral Response** **“God Be With You till We Meet Again”** CHANCEL CHOIR

^ **Postlude**

^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

- **SUMMIT STUDENT MINISTRIES & HILLTOPPERS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - TODAY!** at 5:30pm at SPUMC. All kids (Hilltoppers) and all 6th-12th graders (Summit) are invited to enjoy a meal, fun activities, and time to grow in faith together.
- **INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP - THIS WEDNESDAY, AT 9:30 AM 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.
- **WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL** - This Wednesday, April 18 at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This menu is baked lasagna, salad, bread, banana pudding/desserts and drinks, sponsored by the Trustees.
- **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** - Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 5:00 pm in the FaithLink Classroom.
- **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.
- **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING** - Sunday, April 22nd at 4 PM. Committee chairs are asked to submit notes from their meetings in February. Be prepared to discuss goals for your committees.

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 1st Thursday 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
4/22	Sharon Drum	Aaron Buchanan	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	Framton & Danna Gibson	Quincy Sparks / Brandy Miller
5/13	Jack Riley	Bruce Ikard	Bryan & Chelsea Thayer	Jessica Hoyle / Chelsea Thayer
5/20	Dwight Willett	Kathay Hollifield	Dottie Myers / Becky Nance	TBA
5/27	Jane DeVos	Melanie Murphy	Greg & Meredith Hoilman	TBA
6/3	Randy Hembree	Greg Hoilman	Martha Long / Evelyn Hughes	TBA

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, 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 Dayton; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2018; Jo Thomas; Van McClintick; Gary Baskin; *Sandra & Louis Woodard*; Karen Wright; Wilma Garland; *Ginny Downs' father*; June Wilson
- **FOR THOSE WHO MOURN** the family of Jeremy Swofford; Lanning family; the *Dailey* family
- **FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY:** Howard Hoilman (lung transplant); Joe Stanton (heart surgery); *Tim Hollifield*
- **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; Marcia Huskins Murphy; Jane Glass
- **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); *Susan Basini*; Brandon Thomas (car accident); Pastor Don Sneller (fall); Suzanne Dayton, *Tracy Carroll; Jack Jones*
- **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 - Dayton 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; Tarboro Mission Team
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						ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK
15 - Tracy Carroll	16 - Dolly Phillips	17 - Richard Rodgers	18 - Donnie Peters	20 - Jim Sockwell	21 - David Hoepfner	15 - Beth Wyatt & Reg Bezzola
PRESENCE:		April 8th, 2018			11:00 - 100	
GIFTS	April 8th, 2018	General Fund - \$3,692.00			Weekly budget need - \$4,397.00	
		Year to Date - \$63,949.62			YTD Budget Need - \$61,558.00	
		Children's Offering - \$64.23 - Mission Trip			Tarboro Mission Trip - \$60.00	
		Community Assistance - \$1,155.00			Shepherd's Staff Food Donations - 18	

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

Lector: Meredith Hoilman Greeters: Marvin Walker / Frank Baskin Children's Time: Tracy Carroll
 Head Usher: Vernon Coulter Nursery: Grace Buchanan / Joey Stout Offertory: Aaron & Grace Buchanan

WITNESS: THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEATH MEANS THAT CHRISTIANS MUST NEVER DESPAIR. EASTER IS A PROMISE THAT JOY AND LIFE WILL HAVE THE LAST WORD, NO MATTER HOW DARK LIFE APPEARS. YOU COULD ALMOST SAY THAT, AFTER EASTER, CHRISTIANS HAVE A *DUTY* TO REJOICE. WHERE ARE YOU TEMPTED TO DESPAIR IN YOUR LIFE? HOW MIGHT YOU SHOW YOUR EASTER FAITH BY LIVING INTO JOY INSTEAD?

****Next Week's Scripture - April 22nd, 2018****

Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18