

Spruce Pine United Methodist Church

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March 4th, 2018

Third Sunday in Lent

Jeremy I. Troxler, Pastor
Glenna Tasedan - Children's Church

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. THE COLOR PURPLE IN THE SANCTUARY REMINDS US THAT WE ARE IN THE CHURCH SEASON CALLED "LENT." LENT IS A PERIOD OF ROUGHLY 40 DAYS (AND 6 SUNDAYS) IN WHICH WE PREPARE FOR THE MYSTERY AND JOY OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER THROUGH A TIME OF INTENTIONAL REMEMBERING, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION. CHRISTIANS OFTEN OBSERVE THIS SEASON BY EITHER GIVING UP SOMETHING DEAR TO THEM OR BY ADDING A NEW DISCIPLINE OR ROUTINE TO THEIR SPIRITUAL LIFE, SUCH AS GIVING ALMS, PRAYER, OR FASTING. AS YOU PREPARE FOR WORSHIP, ASK YOURSELF, "HOW MIGHT THIS SEASON OF LENT TO BE A TIME OF SPIRITUAL REVIVAL IN MY LIFE?" TODAY WE CONTINUE A LENTEN SERMON SERIES ON "THE CALL OF SIMON PETER."

GATHERING OF THE CONGREGATION TO WORSHIP

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

MATT MILLER

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

"Step by Step"

WORSHIP & SONG 3004

^Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

Let us pray together:

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

**Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

(Time for silent prayer and confession)

Hear the good news: Christ lived, died, and rose again for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Glory to God! Amen.

^ **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.”)

Offering our Praises and our Gifts to God

Offertory

PRAISE BAND

Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 95

Children’s Message

MICHAEL MURPHY

Children’s Change Offering

M-Y MEDS MEDICATION MINISTRY

(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**

Matthew 16: 13-23

NT 17

Proclamation of the Word

“Rock or Block?”

REV. JEREMY TROXLER

Choral Anthem

“Table of Plenty”

CHANCEL CHOIR

HOLY COMMUNION AND RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

^ **The Great Thanksgiving / The Lord’s Prayer**

UMH 15-16

Sharing Holy Communion

The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the following hymns during Holy Communion:

Worship & Song 3167 - “Feed Us, Lord”

Worship & Song 3168 - “Come to the Table of Grace”

Worship & Song 3169 - “You Feed Us, Gentle Savior”

Prayers of the People

^ **Sending Hymn**

“Walk With Me”

TFWS 2242

^ **Benediction**

^ **Choral Response**

“As We Go”

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. Contact our nursery coordinator Glenna Tasedan at 336-908-8075.

MARCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **SUMMIT STUDENT MINISTRIES AND 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.
- **PASTOR JEREMY WILL BE AWAY THIS WEEK FROM MONDAY - THURSDAY** on his annual prayer retreat to the monastery of Mepkin Abbey in SC. If you need assistance, please contact the church office at 828-765-7446, or after hours, Bruce Ikard at 828-467-0734.
- **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.
- **SPUMC BOOK CLUB** - Tuesday, March 6th at 10:00 am in the parlor. The book for March is "The Tall Woman" by Wilma Dykeman.
- **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS ON MARCH 11TH** - Remember to set your clocks forward on the 10th to avoid being late on Sunday morning!
- **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** - Thursday, March 15 at 5:00 pm in the FaithLink classroom.

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **WOULD YOU LIKE TO PROVIDE HELP TO MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY?** - We have a great church family. We have a sign up list for folks willing to provide assistance for our church family. This could involve food, transportation, or any other need.
- **LEFT BEHIND IN THE HIGH COUNTRY - SUPPORT GROUP FOR SUICIDE LOSS SURVIVORS** - Meets at 6:30pm 1st & 3rd 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** - Winter is coming. We need: 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
3/11	Grant Sparks	Kathey Hollifield	Jon & Melanie Jirka	Meredith Hoilman / Jen Newton
3/18	Tracy Deyton	Glenna Tasedan	Beth Ziemba / Bill Dailey	Brandy Miller / Nash Family
3/25	Aaron Buchanan	Chelsea Thayer	Wayne & Wanda Henline	Chelsea Thayer / Jessica Hoyle / Emree Hoilman
4/1	Chelsea Thayer	Greg Hoilman	Mary Robinson & Donnie Peters	Glenna Tasedan / Debrah Verla
4/8	Dwight Willett	Melanie Murphy	Susan Basini / Clara Ahlquist	Tracy Deyton / Ginny Downs

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); Larry Boone; *Beth Wyatt & Reg Bezzola; Laura Curtis Hodges*; Nichole Hoyle; *Grace Buchanan (adrenal fatigue)*; Libby Miller & husband; Luke Deyton; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2018; Jim Begley (Alzheimer's); Jonathan; *Katie, Dwight, Lila and Paul Marshall Willett*; Jo Thomas
 - **FOR THOSE WHO MOURN** the family of Trina Law; the family of Sharon Deyton; the family of Scott Sparks
 - **FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY:** *Bruce Ikard; Melanie Murphy; Mariea Tountasakis (tests) David Woodard (foot); Ken Anderson (prostate)*
 - **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)*
 - **FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY:** *Sandra Woodard; David Hoepfner; Wayne Hoilman; Mike Snyder (Parkinson's); Kent Brock (Parkinson's, Pneumonia); Bruce McKinney (Parkinson's); Mary Hampton (fibromyalgia); Evelyn Hughes (hip); Clarence Deyton (hand); Nancy Lopeman's little cousin (esophagus); LeeRoy Ledford (infection); Jeff dirk (flu); Aubree (encephalitis)*
 - **FOR SURVIVORS OF INJUSTICE OR TRAGEDY:** Victims of Hurricane Harvey, Irma & Maria; Wayne & Rachel Hoilman (house fire); 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; Jacob Potter
- 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	
4 th - Nicole Struble		7 th - Bert Sheeley	
		8 th - Lloyd & Nelle Glenn	
PRESENCE:		February 25 th , 2018	
GIFTS	February 25 th , 2018	11:00 - 96	
	General Fund - \$4,346.00	Weekly budget need - \$4,397.00	
	Year to Date - \$38,849.62	YTD Budget Need - \$35,176.00	
	Children's Offering - \$67.27	Community Assistance Fund	
	Finance meal for Assistance - \$209.00	Ramp Construction - \$25.00	
	Community Assistance - \$150.00	Shepherd's Staff Food Donations - 12	

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

Lector: Matt Miller Nursery: Grace Buchanan / Phil White Children's Time: Mike Murphy
 Head Usher: Vernon Coulter Greeters: Betty Sparks / Martha Long Offertory: Praise Band

WITNESS: IN TODAY'S SCRIPTURE SIMON PETER MAKES A FAMOUS DECLARATION ABOUT WHOM HE BELIEVES JESUS IS: "YOU ARE THE MESSIAH, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD." WHAT DECLARATION WOULD YOU MAKE ABOUT WHO JESUS IS? IF A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR ASKED YOU, "WHO IS JESUS?" WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

****Next Week's Scripture - March 11th, 2018****

Numbers 24:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22, Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:14-21