

Spruce Pine United Methodist Church

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December 2nd, 2018

1st Sunday of Advent

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. AS WE WORSHIP TODAY YOU WILL NOTICE THE COLOR PURPLE IN THE SANCTUARY WHICH MARKS THE BEGINNING OF THE CHRISTIAN SEASON OF ADVENT. THE WORD "ADVENT" MEANS "COMING," AND ADVENT IS A SEASON OF FOUR SUNDAYS IN WHICH WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS TO CELEBRATE THE "COMING" OF CHRIST TO US ON CHRISTMAS, AND WHEN WE LOOK FORWARD WITH HOPE TO CHRIST'S FINAL "COMING" IN VICTORY.

GATHERING OF THE CONGREGATION TO WORSHIP

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

TIM DRUM

Prelude

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE

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

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" vs 1-5"

UMH 211

^Prayer of Confession

Let us confess our sins to God together, trusting in God's mercy and forgiveness:

Gracious Lord Jesus,

**you come to us with the good news of salvation,
but too often we fail to notice.**

**You come to us day by day, yet we close the doors of our hearts
and do things our own way.**

We ignore your presence, fail to prepare your way, and turn from the call to follow you.

We have failed to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God.

Forgive us, merciful Lord.

Help us to live so that the world will know that you have come, and will come again.

Amen.

(Time for silent confession)

"I am making all things new," says the Lord.
This is Christ's gracious word: "Your sins are forgiven."

Amen. Thanks be to God.

^ **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 "Star Child" SHARON DRUM

Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

Children's Message / Lighting of the First Advent Candle GREG HOILMAN
Sung Response "Light the Advent Candle" v. 1 TFWS 2090

Children's Change Offering OPEN FOR CHRISTMAS SEASON
(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 21:5-11, 20-33 NT 80-81

Proclamation of the Word "Coming Soon" REV. JEREMY TROXLER

Choral Anthem "Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain" CHANCEL CHOIR

HOLY COMMUNION

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

Sharing the Bread and Cup

RESPONSE TO THE WORD AND SENDING FORTH

Prayers of the People

^ **Sending Hymn** "Soon and Very Soon" UMH 706

^ **Benediction**

^ **Choral Response** "Until Jesus Comes" 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.

DECEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - TODAY @ 3PM AT SPUMC** - A special community service for all who have ever grieved the loss of a child, or are close with someone who has. Please bring a picture/and or memento to be placed on the memorial table during the service. Refreshments and a time of fellowship will follow.
- **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.
- **CHRISTMAS PLAY ANNOUNCEMENT** - The children and youth will begin rehearsing for their Christmas production (Sunday, Dec. 16th) this coming Sunday. Youth group rehearsal will be during morning Sunday school time. Children will rehearse during Hilltoppers on Sunday nights. If your child/teen wishes to participate please make sure they are present for rehearsals the next few weeks.
- **SPUMC BOOK CLUB** - Meeting on Tuesday, December 4th at 10:00 in the parlor.
- **ADVENT PRAYER & DEVOTION** - Wednesday Nights at 5:45 pm in the Sanctuary. We hope you can join us>
- **ANGEL TREE GIFTS DUE FOR PICKUP ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018** - Please have them wrapped, labeled and ready to go.
- **CHURCH CHRISTMAS MEAL - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19th AT 6PM** - All are welcome. Donations encouraged but not required. The food will be catered by Sue Lanier.

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **WE WILL SOON START ON NEXT YEAR'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP LIST** - See Tim Drum if you want to come aboard as a Lector or as a Children's time person, or if you want to drop off the list.
- **COULD YOU HELP WITH OCCASIONALLY OFFERING A RIDE TO SOMEONE TO CHURCH OR TO A MEDICAL APPOINTMENT?** If so, please let Pastor Jeremy or our Office Manager Tim know. Thank you!
- **CONTACT PERSON** - Beverly Hale is the contact person for the 4th quarter and may be calling if someone is in need of food, transportation, etc. Her phone number is 704-502-6015.
- **LEFT BEHIND IN THE HIGH COUNTRY - SUPPORT GROUP FOR SUICIDE LOSS SURVIVORS** - Meets at 6:30 pm the 1st Wednesday 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.
- **BRIDGE OF HOPE / SONS OF THE SON** - wants you to be part of our Ministry by Praying for us: Needs: coats, gloves, hats, socks, blankets, food and toiletries etc. 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.
- **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	PRESCHOOL
12/9	Bruce Ikard	Tracy Carroll	Glen & Jane DeVos	Rachelle Shock	Meredith Hoilman
12/16	Marvin Walker	Bruce Ikard	Jack Riley / Ima Conroy	Becky Nance	Brandy Miller
12/23	Sharon Drum	Ginny Downs	John Campbell / Ginny Downs	Katie Willett	Dwight Willett
12/30	Jack Riley	Sharon Drum	Bert & Diane Sheeley	Tracy Deyton	Emree Hoilman

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 (*Shirley McManus*); Brian Center, Smoky Mountain, and Mitchell House Residents; Staff, and Families (*Mabel Whiton, Audrey Davenport, Bea White; Ramona Gragg; Ruth Buchanan; Beth Wyatt & Reg Bezzola; Jo Thomas; June Wilson; John Ahlquist; David Hoepfner; Bretta Walker; Charles Hale*; All expectant mothers and unborn children (*Carolyn Boles*); *Laura Curtis Hodges*; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2018; *Sandra & Louis Woodard*; Maggie Snyder (caregiver); Troubled Teenager; Lynda Briggs; Edwin; Jan Hamilton's family, Weston Stout; Jordan, Meredith & Keziah Nance; Rosemary; Jane Greenwood; Heather Boone; Irene Poteat & Cody; Leigha Basini & baby; Rachel Jones; *Tim Hollifield*; Guy Hoilman (dementia); Patricia Douglas; Jack Byrd; Laura Richmond; Amanda Hasty; Larry & Julia Deyton
- **FOR THOSE WHO MOURN:** family of Paula Scifres; family of Seth McKinney; family of Natasha Hullett; family of Joy Chism; family of Bill Stewart; family of Bob Downs; family of Zachary Solomon; family of Worm Wilson; the family of *Jim Smith*; the family of Connie Sedberry; the family of Sam Singleton
- **FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY:** Luke Sherman (liver); Joyce LaFar (heart ablation); *Tracy Carroll* (recovery from knee surgery); Ima Jean Metcalf; Jerry Morgan (*Quincy's* dad - back); Stanley Urbina (shoulder surgery); Atlas Benton (back); Ann Stuck (back); *Diane Struble (back)*; James Ouzts (knee replacement); Wally Thompson (knee); Jan Hamilton (neck surgery); Amanda Drum; Angela Pitman; *Ann Denny; Leroy Ledford; Allan Douglas*
- **FOR THOSE WITH CANCER:** Nora Murray (*Neil Brown's* sister); Judy Rinard; Diane Meatyard; Tom Wilson (tumor); Chip Smith (colon); Joyce Woody; Carol Batton (breast cancer); Laurie Norman (esophageal); Holly (brain tumor); Randy Chambers (cancer treatment); Jada Daniels (lung); Larry Metcalf (liver); Chase Ambrose; Ava Hollifield; Shirley Hise; Hal Harrison; Janet Ward Slaughter; Gloria Smith (lung); Brian Baker: Rev. Brenda McDaniel; Claire Spence; Becky Hoilman; Unnamed Person
- **FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY:** Wayne Hoilman; Mike Snyder (Parkinson's); Aubree (encephalitis); Wanda McClellan (lupus); Dan LaFar (shingles); Mary Kay Thompkins (MS); Warren Lewis; Heather Blackburn; Sandra Glenn; Tonya Hall Wilson; Nelda Johnson
- **FOR SURVIVORS OF INJUSTICE OR TRAGEDY:** Survivors of sexual abuse or harassment; Survivors of child abuse; WNC Flooding Survivors; Separated children & families; Victims of human trafficking; California wildfires; Survivors & responders to Hurricanes Florence & Michael; Victims & Survivors of Tree of Life Synagogue; wildfire victims; Samuel Oliver Bruno family
- **FOR AREA CHURCHES & MINISTRIES:** 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); M-Y Parish Food Bank; Lamplighters Children, Families and Staff; Shepherd's Staff
- **FOR THOSE TRAVELING, ON MISSION, OR IN THE MILITARY:** Dallas Martin (Marines); Tucker McElrath; Lindsey Potter (Army National Guard); Ben Potter (Army); those on Mission Trips; Students starting college

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					
2 - Larry Hutchinson	2 - Andrew Shock	3 - Jim Dunn	3 - Beth Wyatt	7 - Lucy Murphy	8 - Lisa Leahy Royer
PRESENCE:		November 25 th , 2018		9:00 - 35	11:00 - 86
GIFTS	November 25, 2018	General Fund - \$4,823.00		Weekly budget need - \$4,397.00	
		VANCO GIVING for November - \$500.00			
		Year to Date - \$208,977.62		YTD Budget Need - \$204,356.00	
		Children's Offering - \$68.00 - Centro Latino		Community Asst. Art Sale - 437.00	
		Community Assistance - \$205.00		Shepherd's Staff Donations - 21	

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

Lector: Tim Drum Greeters: Wayne & Wanda Henline Children's Time: Greg Hoilman
 Head Usher: Vernon Coulter Nursery: Sherry Sherman Preschool: Kim Ledford Offertory: Sharon Drum

WITNESS: GENEROSITY IS ONE OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A FOLLOWER OF JESUS. HOW MIGHT YOU BE AS INTENTIONAL IN YOUR GIVING TO THOSE IN NEED DURING THIS SEASON AS YOU ARE IN GIVING GIFTS TO YOUR FAMILY?

****Next Week's Scripture - December 9th, 2018****

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6