

Spruce Pine United Methodist Church

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March 17th, 2019

2nd Sunday in Lent

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. 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 REFLECTION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION. TODAY WE CONTINUE IN A LENTEN SERMON SERIES CALLED "JESUS VS. RELIGION," IN WHICH WE WILL BE STUDYING JESUS' CONFLICTS WITH THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF HIS DAY. TODAY WE ALSO WELCOME MATT HOLLIFIELD TO BRING THE MESSAGE.

GATHERING OF THE CONGREGATION TO WORSHIP

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

GRANT SPARKS

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

"Gentle Shepherd"

WORSHIP & SONG 3096

^Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

You are invited into a time of silent prayer and confession.

(time for silent prayer)

Let us pray together:

Blessed Lord,

**who was tempted in all things like we are,
have mercy upon our failings.**

**We confess before you all those moments when we have yielded ourselves
to the ways of sin, evil, mean-ness, and selfishness.**

We repent, and ask you to forgive and recreate us.

Out of our weakness give us strength.

Support us in time of temptation,

especially when we are tempted to believe we can never be changed.
Give us such grace that we can see ourselves as you see us.
Help us to rise from where we have fallen to follow you again,
stronger than we were before,
trusting even more fully in your endless mercy.
In Christ's name, we pray.
Amen.

God is for us and not against us:
for that very reason, God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.
Believe the good news: in 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.”)

^ **Hymn of Praise** “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” UMH 295

Offering our Praises and our Gifts to God

Offertory “Minuet in G Major” BLAKE THAYER

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

Children’s Message GINNY DOWNS

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.)

Call to Prayer “Lord, Listen to Your Children” TFWS 2207

Prayers of the People / The Lord’s Prayer

PROCLAIMING AND HEARING GOD’S WORD

Choral Anthem “Restore My Joy” CHANCEL CHOIR

^ **Scripture Reading** Luke 7:36-50 NT 63

Proclamation of the Word “Jesus vs. Religion: Jesus’ Kind of Church” MATT HOLLIFIELD

RESPONSE TO THE WORD AND SENDING FORTH

^ **Sending Hymn** “Gather Us In” TFWS 2236

^ **Benediction**

^ **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.

MARCH / APRIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **WE WELCOME MATT HOLLIFIELD TO OUR PULPIT TODAY** while pastor Jeremy and family are away today attending a family and friends gathering in the Greensboro area. Matt is the long-time School Counselor at Bowman and Harris Middle Schools. He and his family have been worshipping with our church for about 10 months, and he is someone with deep insights into the Scriptures. Thanks Matt for sharing with us!
- **SUMMIT STUDENT MINISTRIES TODAY AT 5:30 AT SPUMC! (BUT NO HILLTOPPERS)** because of Pastor Jeremy's absence) All 6th-12th graders (Summit) are invited to enjoy a meal, fun activities, and time to grow in faith together.
- **MARCH CHURCH FELLOWSHIP MEAL - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20TH @ 6:00PM** in the fellowship hall. All are welcome.
- **PLANTING TREES AT THE ORCHARD THIS SATURDAY** - We are looking for servants who might be able to help bless our community and God's creation through a workday to dig holes and plant trees at the Orchard at Altapass this Saturday, March 23rd beginning at 9am- or perhaps even on some other day. Can you help? If you have any questions, please contact Jon Jirka at 828-260-1713.
- **SUMMIT YOUTH FUNDRAISER/POOR MAN'S LUNCH + SUPPER FOR HONDURAS MISSION TRIP - FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND - 11:30 AM-1:00 PM, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM** - A group of our Youth and Parents will be sharing in a mission trip to work with Children's Homes in Honduras in late June. To raise funds for this trip, the youth will be holding both a Poor Man's Lunch and Supper in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets are \$10 each, and lunch deliveries are available. Please be generous in supporting our young people as they follow God's calling.
- **WEDDING** - Randal Greene and Beverly Hale are to be married at Spruce Pine Methodist Church Saturday April 13 2019 at 2:00pm. No invitations to be sent. Friends and family are welcome. There will be a reception following the ceremony hosted by the Nightingale circle. Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend. The couple is registered at Belk and Target.

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **A SIGN UP SHEET IS AVAILABLE** on the Welcome Table - Please sign up and fill out the information if you are willing to periodically help members of our Church family. The primary focus is food and transportation requests.
- **CONTACT PERSON** - Janet Ouzts is the contact person for the 1st quarter and may be calling if someone is in need of food, transportation, etc. Her phone number is 828-467-1025.
- **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
3/24	Tracy Deyton	Beverly Hale	Wayne & Wanda Henline	Katie Willett	Kim Ledford
3/31	Aaron Buchanan	Melanie Murphy	Mary Robinson & Donnie Peters	Quincy Sparks	Meredith Hoilman
4/7	Meredith Hoilman	Tracy Carroll	Nancy Ball / Jan Hamilton	Sherry Sherman	Brandy Miller
4/14	Dwight Willett	Bruce Ikard	Susan Basini / Clara Ahlquist	Rachelle Shock	Tracy Deyton

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, Ramona Gragg*); *Beth Wyatt & Reg Bezzola*; Jo Thomas; June Wilson; David Hoeppner; *Bretta Walker*; *Charles Hale*; All expectant mothers and unborn children (*Carolyn Boles*); *Laura Curtis Hodges*; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2019; *Sandra & Louis Woodard*; Maggie Snyder (caregiver); Troubled Teenager; Lynda Briggs; Jan Hamilton's family, Weston Stout; Jane Greenwood; *Tim Hollifield*; Olivia Silver; Amanda Drum; James Davis; J.C. Gage; Crystal Wood; Stan Elkins; Muffy Dayton; Marcia Murphy; Dakota Yelton; Kimberly Oberhammer family; *Beverly Hale*; Mike Bartlett; Dennis Chandler; Rosemary Coffman; Rosemary (*Stan Cook's sister*); Barbara Butts (*Ann Denny's daughter*)
 - **FOR THOSE WHO MOURN:** those who have suffered miscarriage; family of Ruth Buchanan; the family of Cary Pitman; the family of Zoe Ellis; Gloria Schulman & family; family of Chris Ollis; family of Henry Street; family of Bea White; family of Rick Crisp; Paul Sherman & family (death of father); the family of John Ahlquist; the family of Kathryn Riddle
 - **FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY:** Jerry Morgan (*Quincy's dad - back*); Atlas Benton (back); *Ann Denny*; Wayne Whitson (*Ima's brother*); Allan "Jerry" Douglass (corneal transplant surgery); Bishop Sharma Lewis; Madeline McKenzie (Shoulder); *Danna Gibson (Crohn's)* ; David Wilson; Meredith Hoilman (bone marrow donor); Heather Walker (heart transplant); Norma Weathers; *Gloria Hoeppner (tests)*; *Wanda Henline (tests)*; *Neil Brown (surgery)*; Tom Wilson (abdominal surgery)
 - **FOR THOSE WITH CANCER:** Judy Rinard; Diane Meatyard; Joyce Woody; 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; Bill Hayes; Dan Whetstone; Dick Hautala; Darren Ward; Mike Burke (brain tumor); Peggy Grantham (bladder); Eliza Bray (4 yr. old) and family; Lisa McKinney; Cheryl Oglesby
 - **FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY:** Wayne Hoilman; Mike Snyder (Parkinson's); Aubree (encephalitis); Wanda McClellan (lupus); Mary Kay Thompkins (MS); Heather Blackburn; Sandra Glenn; Tonya Hall Wilson; Nelda Johnson; Danna Gibson; Allison Street; Brian Westveer (fall); Sarah Hobart; Amanda Ikard (discs); Martha Wrenn (Crohn's); Coy Hollifield
 - **FOR SURVIVORS OF INJUSTICE, DISASTER, OR TRAGEDY:** Survivors of sexual abuse or harassment; Survivors of child abuse; Separated children & families; Victims of human trafficking; Samuel Oliver Bruno family; Thacker family (house fire); people of Venezuela
 - **FOR AREA CHURCHES & MINISTRIES:** 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); 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
- 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
19 - Jake Deyton	19 - Zeke Deyton	20 - Jon Goldman	23 - Bill Prendergast	19 - Philip & Michela Buchanan
PRESENCE:		March 10 th , 2019		11:00 - 137
GIFTS	March 10 th , 2019	General Fund - \$4,589.00		Weekly budget need - \$4,583.00
		Year to Date - \$54,622.00		YTD Budget Need - \$45,830.00
		Children's Offering - \$77.00 - M-Y Meds.		Summit Youth - \$586.00
		Shepherd's Staff - \$25.00		Shepherd's Staff Donations - 38

The Spruce Pine UMC would like to acknowledge a gift to the general fund in Memory of John Ahlquist from Tim & Malgorzata Wyatt.

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

Lector: Grant Sparks Greeters: Beth Ziemba & Bill Dailey Children's Time: Ginny Downs
Head Usher: Vern Coulter Nursery: Becky Nance Preschool: Cindy Stewart Offertory: Blake Thayer

WITNESS: FOLLOWING IN THE WAY OF JESUS MEANS NOT ONLY SEEKING TO SAY AND DO WHAT'S RIGHT, BUT ALSO TRYING TO SAY AND DO WHAT'S RIGHT FOR THE RIGHT REASONS, WITH THE RIGHT MOTIVATIONS. JESUS CRITICIZES RELIGIOUS LEADERS WHO MAKE A BIG SHOW OF THEIR FAITH: WHO DO WHAT'S RIGHT, BUT WITH THE WRONG MOTIVATIONS, BECAUSE THEY WANT TO WIN PRAISE FROM OTHERS. BY CONTRAST, JESUS INVITES HIS FOLLOWERS TO SOMETIMES DO THEIR GIVING, AND PRAYING, AND FASTING "IN SECRET," FOR GOD ALONE, AND IN A WAY THAT ONLY GOD KNOWS ABOUT. ONE WAY TO WITNESS TO THE HUMBLE WAY OF JESUS IS TO DO GOOD WITHOUT CARING ABOUT GETTING ANY PUBLIC 'CREDIT' FOR IT. WHAT'S ONE GOOD THING YOU CAN DO FOR CHRIST OR FOR SOMEONE ELSE DURING LENT THAT NOBODY ELSE HAS TO KNOW ABOUT?

****Next Week's Scripture - March 24th, 2019****

Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9