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March 29th, 2020

5th Sunday in Lent

Kathey Hollifield, Music Director
Bruce Ikard, Worship Technician

Kathy Miller, Organist
Rick Schilling, Pastor

ONLINE WORSHIP EDITION

Prelude

“Sonatina in G Major”

Blake Thayer

Greeting

Aaron Buchanan

Call to Worship

Aaron Buchanan

Lord, breathe into every troubled soul your loving Spirit,
And surround us with your all in all.
Help us find rest along our wilderness journey,
And comfort us during times of darkness.
You are the Alpha and Omega,
The beginning and the end of our faith walk.
Give our heart and minds true liberty, that we can worship and serve You.

Opening Hymn

“God Will Take Care of You”

UMH 130

Opening Prayer

Aaron Buchanan

Let us offer our prayers to the One who comforts our minds, bodies, and spirits...

Lord God, the Great I Am, you are the resurrection and life. As we worship You this day, remind us who we are: bearers of the good news, bringers of peace, providers of care, and messengers of resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing of Peace

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:9-13 & 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 CEB

CEB 1215 & 1415

Proclamation of the Word

“A Time of Comfort”

Rev. Rick Schilling

Doxology

Benediction

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RICK

Hello all. As the practice of “social distancing” to help curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus continues, we at SPUMC are adhering to the North Carolina United Methodist Bishops’ recommendation to suspend public worship, which now has been extended until further notice. The Bishops, who are following CDC guidelines for public gatherings, will let us know when it will be okay for public worship gatherings. Again, we are doing this out of prevention; we are not acting out of fear. Because of this, this reality affects us in numerous ways. Since we aren’t able to spend time with each other in worship and fellowship, we need to make an effort to reach out to others via phone, text, email, and social media. We especially need to reach out to those who are most vulnerable to illness, and those who might not typically get visitors.

We will continue to record the sermon and other portions of a typical “in-person” worship service to help keep us connected. Our goal is to post the videos to our church website and our Facebook page by Saturday evenings, so that you can watch and worship at your convenience – no matter the day or time.

In addition, we are reminding you that the church’s ministry doesn’t stop in the midst of this crisis. Please continue to send your tithes and offerings every week. You can send them via the “Donate Now” tab on our church website. Here’s the direct link to the “Donate Now” page:

http://sprucepineumc.org/NewSite/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=151

You can also mail your tithes/offerings to the church or bring them to the church office during regular office hours (Monday – Thursday; 9:00 am – 2:00 pm).

Thank you for your patience, flexibility, and support during this trying time. We will get through this together as a church family and community. Let’s continue to shine God’s light of love and mercy to the world in need!

In humble service with you...Pastor Rick

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.

MARCH / APRIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMONS ON VIDEO! Our website www.sprucepineumc.org has the current videos online! Simply click on the tab (at the top of the screen under our logo) marked “Sermons” to view them. We are excited for the progress, as we continue to connect with all our worshippers and members - locally and beyond!

FLOWER CALENDAR - SPUMC now has a “**Flower Calendar**” for those who would like to remember, honor, or celebrate their friends and loved ones. Located near the bulletin boards (near the Welcome Center), please fill in the date(s) in which you plan to have flowers in the sanctuary, and in whose honor/memory they are for.

CHURCH WORKDAY – We had a church workday scheduled for Saturday, March 21, with an alternate date of Saturday, March 28. Given the situation we’re facing with “social distancing” to help curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we are postponing them to a later date. However, there is much outside work that needs to be done. So, if you are bored, or need to get out of your house, or want some quality time with your family or small group of 10 or less people, we invite you to come out any day and anytime to help spruce up the outside of

our church. We are in desperate need of weed removal from all the flower beds around the church. Although, this isn't the most glamorous job, it needs to be done – so that we can show our community that we are expecting them to visit. We were hoping to get all the outside sprucing up done before Easter, so if you can spare some time, please come pull some weeds. Thank you for caring about your church and the community we serve.

WATCH LEADER MEETINGS – **Postponed to a later date.** The meeting after the early service will be in the Welcome Center and the meeting after the 11:00 service will be in the Parlor. If you have agreed to be a Watch Leader, these are important meetings.

MISSION TRIP – **April 26-May 1** our church will be sending a team to Burgaw in Pender County for disaster relief from Hurricanes Matthew and Florence. This area has had people waiting years to return to their homes. Experience is not required, only a servant's heart. Please consider joining the team, for information contact Melanie 828-260-1714 or Marvin 828-766-5379

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONTACT PERSON – Carolyn Burleson 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 467-2277 (Cell). Larry Bohannon Goldman is the contact person for the 2nd quarter (beginning in April) and may be called then is someone is in need of food, transportation, etc. His number is 828-592-1156.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE: (for when we return)

(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
4/5	Meredith Hoilman	Melanie Murphy	Nancy Ball / Jan Hamilton	Sherry Sherman	Brandy Miller
4/12	Dwight Willett	Tracy Carroll	Susan Basini / Clara Ahlquist	Chelsea Thayer	Larry Bohannon
4/19	Tim Drum	Bruce Ikard	Lloyd & Nelle Glenn	Becky Nance	Tracy Deyton
4/26	Bruce Ikard	Troy Hoilman	Stan & Lisa Cook	Meredith Hoilman	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 & Mitchell House Residents; Staff, and Families (*Mabel Whiton*, Barbara Day); *Beth Wyatt & Reg Bezzola*; June Wilson; David Hoeppner; *Bretta Walker*; *Charles Hale*; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2020; *Sandra Woodard*; Jan Hamilton's Mother Jo (healing), Weston Stout; *Tim Hollifield*; Muffy Dayton; Marcia Murphy; Rosemary Allen (*Stan Cook's sister*); Frank Henline; Wayne Lemzoni; Jacquelyn Taylor; Trevor Higgins; Jennifer Willett (*expecting*); Rick Aldridge; Mike McKinney; Kathy Baker; Faye Vickers family; Marcus Wood; Charlotte Clark; Susan Hoeg, Virginia, Charlie & William; those with mental health issues; Hannah Blanton; Mike Lewis; Ron & Linda Cromarty; Dori Ann; Beth's pregnancy (Dwight's sister); Lynda Briggs; Bob & Glenn (*Glenna's cousins*); Myra Haberneck Strube; Jessie Wray; Ann Butler & family; *Michela Buchanan (baby Lily)*; Sam & Jenell Young; Richard Baker and family; June Wilson; Gloria Schulman; for those struggling to stay warm; for DSS; Andy Grindstaff; Art Hoover & family; Bob Cook, Aticus Grindstaff; *Beth Ziemba's* Daughter in law's pregnancy; Jaden Pernell (friend of the Sparks); Kenneth Huskins; Doris Deyton (*Sam's mother – health*)

FOR THOSE WHO MOURN: family of Christine Gortney; family of Elizabeth Davenport; family of Claire Spence; family of Cleve Jacobs, family of Trace Magner; the family of Lori Haythorn; the family of Kameron Wilson; the family of Melanie's cousin Mike; family of Frankie Buntz; *for the family of Sue Phillips*; the family of Marlene Clark; the family of Kathey's niece Roxanne; the family of Vernon George Grindstaff, Jr., for the family of Daryl McKinney; the family of Becky Hoilman (Bill Hoilman – grief); the family of Mariana Jaeger

FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY: Wayne Hoilman; Ozzie Hernandez; Mary Woodfrey (hip); Patti Morgan; Laura Moore (back surgery); Dean (Judy's cousin, heart & kidney transplant); Shannon Perdue (kidney transplant March 4 & donor Audra Wiseman); Heather Walker (back in hospital); Heather's Mom (hospital); Bud Myers (hospital); Mary Ruth Webb (waiting on kidney transplant); Catherine Andre (hip replacement); Herman Buchanan; Carolyn Sproles; Neil Brown (recovery);

Phil White (recovery); Paul Long (Margaret Troxler's dad – hospital); David Hoeppner; Jerry Douglass (*Maria's* dad); *Beverly Greene* (recovery); Larry Lanning (surgery); *Diane Sheeley* (recovery); *Starli's* dad Tommy (surgery); Jeff (Diane Truesdell's son-in-law, surgery); Brenda (*Lila's* daughter-in-law's sister, life support); Larry (transplant list); *Chelsea Thayer's* uncle David Wilson; *James Ouzts* (Shoulder Surgery)

FOR THOSE WITH CANCER: Judy Rinard; Diane Meatyard; Joyce Woody; Holly (brain tumor); Chase Ambrose; Ava Hollifield; Janet Ward Slaughter; Gloria Smith (lung); Peggy Grantham (bladder); Eliza Bray (4 yr. old) and family; Marcia Murphy; Danny Gortney; Gary Graham; Erin (brain cancer); Todd Fleenor; Gloria (*Susan Curtis'* friend – chemo/kidney failure); Lawrence Glenn; Mike Willis (brain tumor); Joyce Alvarez (health issues); Raymond Mayberry; *Carolyn Brunning*; Richard (Marvin's friend); Lily Bray (breast cancer); Randall McKinney (prostate); Carolyn Dotts; Jeff Kaplan (leukemia); Shirl Phillips (melanoma)

FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY: Wanda McClellan (lupus); Mary Kay Thompkins (MS); Sandra Glenn; *Danna Gibson*; Carol Woodward; Annette McKinney (ALS); *Dwight Willet's* father (meniscus); Homer Cook (*Stan's* dad); Doris (*Eva's* aunt); Jeanette Dellinger; Benny (health); Charlene (fall); Louise Weeks (rehab); Rosemary (auto accident); Mr. Long – (nearing end of life); Keith Renfro (accident); David DeVos (heart attack); Twyla (friend of Connie-hit by car); Ann Butler; Isabella (5 year old in hospital); *Bill Habernack* (medical); Josh (Melanie's friend – muscular dystrophy); Barbara (*Rae Carr's* neighbor – heart attack); Bruce Hobson (suffering from Vertigo for 3 months); Satyra Askeland (fall, broken leg and ankle); Brooke (kidney infection); *Eva Jobin* (gallbladder); John Lacey - sepsis; *Lucy Murphy* (health issues)

FOR SURVIVORS OF INJUSTICE, DISASTER, OR TRAGEDY: Survivors of sexual abuse/harassment; Survivors of child abuse; Separated children & families; Victims of human trafficking; Samuel Oliver Bruno family; people of Venezuela; Clement & Mary of Colombo, Sri Lanka, their family & church family at St. Anthony's; solutions to gun violence; Bahamas residents; for the people of Australia; the situation in Iraq; for the people of Nashville (tornado victims); for those suffering due to the coronavirus health crisis; for workers and business owners who are hurting now

FOR AREA CHURCHES & MINISTRIES: 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; Peter Constantian

FOR THOSE TRAVELING, ON MISSION, OR IN THE MILITARY: Dallas Martin (Marines); Tucker McElrath; Lindsey Potter (Army National Guard); Josh Swindler (Navy); Ben Smith (Army); Karen (new teacher in Istanbul); *Tim Hollifields* sister (Pakistan); Will LeMieux (deployed National Guard); Laura & Alex Sharpe (Mission Trip to Guatemala); Ben Potter (Army); *Glenna's* daughter (*China*); Justin Arnold – Samaritan's Purse - Bahamas

We want to join with you in prayer for your concerns and needs. Simply contact Pastor Rick 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				
3/30 - Tom Ledford	4/1 – Beth Ziemba	4/3 – Mariea Tountasakis	4/4 – Donna Martin	4/4 – Mike Murphy
PRESENCE:		March 22 nd , 2020		COVID 19 - Online only
GIFTS	March 22 nd , 2020	General Fund - \$3,140.00		Weekly budget need - \$4,912.75
		Year to Date - \$59,497.18		YTD Budget Need – \$58,953.00
		Community Assistance - \$100.00		Special Gift - \$100.00
		Mission Trip - \$100.00		Shepherd's Staff Food Donations -0

WITNESS: OUR TIMES IN THE WILDERNESS — THE TOUGH TIMES OF LIFE...OUR VALLEYS — ARE DARK, LONELY, AND CHAOTIC TIMES IN OUR FAITH WALKS. OFTENTIMES, GOD SEEMS DISTANT; FRIENDS AND FAMILY MIGHT AVOID US OR MISUNDERSTAND US; WE FEEL ISOLATED. EVEN IN THE MIDST OF OUR DARK “STOPPING PLACES,” ESPECIALLY DURING OUR JOURNEY TO THE CROSS, GOD NEVER ABANDONS US — WHETHER WE REALIZE IT OR NOT. GOD BLESSES US WITH PEACE AND ASSURANCE. BUT, GOD’S BLESSING ISN’T FOR US ALONE. PART OF OUR WITNESS IS TO SHARE ALL THAT GOD BLESSES US WITH, EVEN DURING THE WILDERNESS TIMES. WE ARE BLESSED TO BLESS OTHERS.

****Next Week's Scripture – April 5, 2020****

Liturgy of the Palms – Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Liturgy of the Passion – Isaiah 40:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14 – 27:66