

*The Church Gathers***Chiming of the Hour****Welcome and Concerns of the Church**

Pastor: This is the day that the Lord has made!

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Invitation to Christian Discipleship**Preparation for Worship**

Let us prepare our hearts for worship first in silence, then as we listen to the prelude.

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, that we may become instruments of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prelude

"Beneath the Cross Of Jesus" Maker, arr. Cherwien

Congregational Introit #485 (vs. 1 and refrain) "To God Be the Glory"***Call to Worship**

Psalms 19

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

People: **The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes.**

Leader: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

People: **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

Hymn of Praise #457 "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"**Prayer of Adoration and The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*The Church Confesses***Invitation to Confession****Unison Prayer of Confession:**

Merciful God, how fickle we are; we sin against you without even knowing it. Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin, and save us from willfully ignoring your way. Let your commandments rule and guide us. Forgive us for worshipping anyone or anything except you; keep us faithful. Forgive us

for failing to honor all our relationships— with those closest to us and those who are distant neighbors. Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness, rather than words that belittle or destroy. Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness. Forgive us for thinking everything depends on our efforts and power, for you are the God who made us, led us out slavery, and has brought us into the community of faith. Help us to depend on you alone and to rest in your peace. In Christ's name we pray. (The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession.) Amen.

Kyrie

You are the Lord, Giver of Mercy.

You are the Christ, Giver of Mercy.

You are the Lord, Giver of Mercy.

Assurance of Pardon

***Gloria Patri (Hymn# 579)**

*The Church Proclaims God's Word***Message for Children**

Liz Stokes

Prayer of Illumination

Debbie Carmical

First Scripture Reading: John 2: 13 – 22 (NT page 87 in your pew Bible)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

"God So Loved the World"

Stainer, arr. Mueller

Adult Choir

Second Scripture Reading: Exodus 20: 1 – 17 (OT page 63 in your pew Bible)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "God of the Covenant: I am the Lord Your God"

Reverend Nath Briley

*The Church Responds in Faith****Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed (ecumenical, p. 15)**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering of Life and Two Cents-a-Meal Offering

Offertory "If Thou But Trust In God to Guide Thee" J S Bach

***Doxology** (Hymn # 592)

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One:The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One:Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One:Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise. (The prayer continues...)

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

***Hymn #281** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

***Charge and Benediction**

***Congregational Response #587** "Amen"

***Postlude** "Come, Let Us All with Fervour" J S Bach

Worship Has Ended - Service Begins

**Those who are able may stand at these times.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 11, 2018

Blessings and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day! *If you are visiting with us, we offer a special word of welcome and an invitation to participate in the life of the congregation.* If you are interested in learning more about our ministry, please speak with the pastor after worship. **Copies of The Connection are available in the Narthex and Parlor hallway** for those who do not receive it by email. Please contact the church office to add your email address for correspondence.

Visitors with children: We welcome you to worship and are always glad for your children to be with us! Should you desire, nursery (0 – 17 months) and toddler (18 months – 3 years) rooms are available for our youngest children

each Sunday morning on the lower level of our sanctuary building. **Please complete the parental questionnaire and sign-in sheet when you drop off your little one. This information will be on a table in the nursery. We ask that you include your cell phone number in case you may be needed during the church service (please place your phone on vibrate).** Following the Children's Sermon, preschool children (4 to 5 year olds who have not entered kindergarten) are invited to attend Preschool Church in the toddler room of the nursery. Children may be picked up there after worship.

Children's worship bulletins are available from the ushers. Children's worship bags are also available in the narthex. Please return the bags following worship to be used again next week.

Please remember to turn off all electronic devices except for parents with children in the nursery. These parents should make sure their phones are on vibrate.

AUDIO ENHANCEMENTS: Audio devices for the congregation and visitors to use are located in the narthex. If you are in need of one of the devices, please speak to one of our ushers or greeters, and they will gladly assist you.

EASTER LILY FUND: This year we will again be **receiving memorials and honorariums for an Easter Lily Service Fund.** The funds will be used to support the Jane Morris Service Fund which provides qualified people with assistance in paying their utility bills. **Envelopes will be available in the pew racks today through the next Sunday, March 18th.** Inserts with the memorials and honorariums will be included in the bulletins on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS: Our Wonderful Wednesday programs will continue on **March 14th with the dinner line opening at 5:30pm in ASH. Dinner will be a delicious meal from Shortfield's (\$6 per adult, \$4 per child 11 and under). We ask that you sign up using the tear off slip and place in the offering plate or contact/email the church office by Tuesday at noon.** We want to be good stewards of our resources and also make sure we have enough food for everyone to enjoy. **Classes will be from 6:15-7:00pm. Programs will be offered for all ages. The adults will continue their participation with Nath's Doctoral Project.**

Please help us in determining how many to expect for the Wonderful Wednesday meal at 5:30pm on March 14th if you have not already signed up for a standing reservation. Also, please check if you would like the vegetarian option for dinner

The _____ family plans to attend the dinner: #of people-_____
I am available to volunteer to help clean up after the meal

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: Youth will meet this evening at 5:30 for dinner and activities. **Karen and Ken Roper will provide the meal.**

LENTEN LUNCHEON SERIES: The Community Lenten Luncheon Series sponsored by the Pickens Ministerial Association **will continue on Tuesday, March 13th.** The services will begin at noon with lunch to follow.

† **Tuesday, March 13th at Grace United Methodist Church,** Rev. Nath Briley Pickens Presbyterian Church will preach;

† **Tuesday, March 20th at Faith Lutheran Chapel,** Minister Carlton Holley from Griffin Ebenezer Baptist Church will preach.

CHURCH WORK DAY: We will have a workday on Saturday, March 24th, beginning at 8:30 with prayer and coffee. There is plenty to do. Bring your gloves and tools. We will conclude with a sandwich-lunch by noon. **If you have suggestions or have noticed items needing attention, please see the insert and return to David Chamlee.**

FOOD PANTRY: In March, we are asking for canned fruit, and any other food items to fill the boxes for hungry people who come to the church.

GENERAL FUNDS UPDATE: Offering last Sunday: General Fund: \$4,983. Building Fund: \$160.00.

PRAYER REQUESTS: You are encouraged to share prayer concerns on the pink cards in the pew racks.

A list of **CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS** is available in the narthex.

<i>Serving:</i>	<u>March 11, 2018</u>	<u>March 18, 2018</u>
Flowers:	Carol Marsh	Betsey Chalmers
Beadle:	Kay Rentz	Carole Thomas
Toddler & Preschool Church:	Nevaeh Harden	Kay Rentz
Refreshments:	Carol Owens	Jan and Gary Sparks
Pulpit Elder:	Debbie Carmical	Doc Giddings
Children's Moment:	Liz Stokes	Kay Rentz
Youth Meal:	Ken and Karen Roper	<i>No Youth Fellowship</i>
Sunday School Superintendent:	Cindy Townsend	Cindy Townsend
Sanctuary Guild:	Debbie Hendricks	Debbie Hendricks
Crisis/Celebration Coordinator:	Carol Marsh	Carol Marsh
Ushers:	Debbie Carmical, Darrell Cook, Dianna Morris and Carole Thomas	Debbie Carmical, Darrell Cook, Liza Holder and Carole Thomas
Greeter:	Debbie Carmical	Debbie Carmical
Communion Set Up:	Liz Stokes	
Communion Servers:	1 – Bill R, 2 – Carole T, 3 – Liz S, 4 – Martha B, 5 – David C, 6 – Butch M	

Lectionary readings for today:

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

Lectionary readings for next Sunday:

Jeremiah 31: 31 – 34
Psalm 51: 1 – 12 or Psalm 119: 9 – 16
Hebrews 5: 5 – 10
John 12: 20 – 33

Church Activities and Events This Week:

Sunday, March 11	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Fellowship in All Saints' Hall
	11:00am	Worship
	4:30pm	Confirmation Class
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship
Monday, March 12	11:00am	Centering Prayer
	1:30pm	Ministry for Caregivers
	5:30pm	Evangelism & Membership Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 13	9:00am	Jane B. Morris Service Fund
	12:00pm	Lenten Lunch Service – Grace Methodist
	5:00pm	CDV Class – McJunkin Room
Wednesday, March 14	9:45am	CDC Children's Chapel
	10:30am	Bible Study
	12:00pm	Rotary Club
	5:30pm	Wonderful Wednesday Dinner & Program
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, March 15	10:00am	Book Club
Friday, March 16		<i>Office Closed</i> Middle School Lock-in Senior High Montreat Retreat
Sunday, March 18	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Fellowship
	11:00am	Worship
	4:30pm	Confirmation Class

Online calendar: <http://73970421.view-events.com>

Concerns and Celebrations:

Liz Stokes' mother, Ruth Greer, had a stroke this past week and is in Greenville Memorial Hospital. Pray for her recovery and for Liz as she cares for her at this time.