

Our sole purpose is to glorify God, proclaiming through word and deed the love and compassion of Jesus Christ. We trust God's Spirit to lead and nurture us in all our community and congregational endeavors. We desire that all who come through our doors find deeper faith, larger hope, and more complete love.

**Service For The Lord's Day
Second Sunday After Christmas
3 January 2016**

Assemble In God's Name

RINGING OF THE BELLS
BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN

** PRELUDE Jean Hatch, Organist
ANNOUNCEMENTS

** THE CONGREGATION GATHERS
Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP
"All Out of Darkness" SUSSEX CAROL

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 147 (NRSV) Matt Johnson
Congregation Responses in **Bold**

12 Praise the lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!
**13 For he strengthens the bars of your gates;
he blesses your children within you.**
14 He grants peace within your borders;
he fills you with the finest of wheat.
**15 He sends out his command to the earth;
his word runs swiftly.**
16 He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.
**17 He hurls down hail like crumbs—
who can stand before his cold?**
18 He sends out his word, and melts them;
he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.
**19 He declares his word to Jacob,
his statutes and ordinances to Israel.**
20 He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do
not know his ordinances. Praise the LORD!

Let us pray together: **Loving God, great builder of the heavenly Jerusalem, you know the number of the stars and call them by name. Heal hearts that are broken, gather those who have been scattered, and enrich us all from the fullness of your eternal wisdom, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN 611 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" HYMN TO JOY

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray: **Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Jesus Christ our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

* Silent Confession

* KYRIE ELEISON

*Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The Apostle Paul has written: "If God is for us, who is against us? Neither death nor life, nor things present nor anything else in all creation, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Jesus Christ our Lord."

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal) No. 581

Proclaim God's Word

FIRST LESSON: John 1:1-18 NT 91-92

** HYMN 188 "Jesus Loves Me!" (first verse)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: "What a Gift" Ms. Lou Johnson
(Children age 4 - grade 1 depart for worship readiness with leader Hollis White)

SECOND LESSON: Jeremiah 31:7-14 OT 734

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "Singing, Dancing, and Making Merry" Dr. Moran

* HYMN 150 "As With Gladness Men of Old" DIX

* APOSTLES' CREED (Traditional) (Hymnal) Page 35

Give Thanks To God

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "The Birthday of a King" NEIDLINGER

Joni Fay Fetterman, Soprano

(*Visitors please fill out cards in pew rack and place in offering plate*)

* DOXOLOGY (Hymnal) No. 606

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

(Hymnal) pg. 35

BREAKING THE BREAD AND OFFERING THE CUP
PRAYER

Go In God's Name

* HYMN 151 "We Three Kings" KINGS OF ORIENT

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

"Glory to God"

VOM HIMMEL HOCH

* THE TAKING OF THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

* POSTLUDE

* Those who are able, please stand

** Seating of worshippers

We welcome our visitors today. If you wish more information about this congregation or the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), please speak with the minister. New members are received by 1) Re-Affirmation of Faith; 2) Transfer of Membership; and 3) by Profession of Faith and Baptism.

We are happy to welcome Jean Hatch as musician for our worship service today.

January ushers are: Richard Bryan, John Fox, III, Ron Nimmo, Jack Perry, Warren Sinclair, Glenn Spell, Don Wilson

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS: **REMEMBER IN PRAYER...**

HOSPITAL/ASSISTED LIVING

Doc Fields – Southwood; Rm. 403

Fay Gaddy – Rolling Ridge, Newton Grove

OTHERS:

Angie Prucha – (Daughter of Edwin Danford)

Billy Kerr – (Brother-in-law of Dorothy Sue Faison)

Minson Sessoms – DUKE (Father of Deborah Hall)

Roland Heath – (Father of Jeff Heath)

AT HOME

Barbara Kerr

Martha Dunn

Ted Lockerman

Jean Parker

Don Hollingsworth

Kathy Wall

Frances Hubbard

January

- 04 - 3:00 p.m. - Circle #1 (Home of Darby Scott)
7:00 p.m. - Circle #2 (Memorial Room)
- 05 - 10:00 a.m. - Circle #3 (Memorial Room)
- 06 - 7:00 p.m. - Epiphany Service @ St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- 07 - 7:30 p.m. - P.W. Coordinating Team Meeting
- 10 - 8:15 a.m. - Presbyterian Men's Breakfast @ GMPC
11:00 a.m. -Worship (*Sunday School weekly at 9:45 a.m.)
Ordination and Installation of Officers
5:00 p.m. - Youth Groups
7:00 p.m. - Session Meeting
- 13 - 10:30 a.m. - Bible Study #13 (Resumes)
3:00 p.m. - PresbyCrew
6:30 p.m. - Youth: Christian Food Bank of Salemburg
7:00 p.m.- Bible Study #13 (Resumes)
- 16 - 9:00 a.m. - Christian Food Bank of Salemburg
- 17 - 11:00 a.m.- Worship (*Sunday School weekly at 9:45 a.m.)
- No Youth Groups
7:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting

OTHER CONCERNS / LOOKING AHEAD . . .

DVD copies of this year's Christmas Joy Program, "The king meets The King" will be made available soon. A Sign-up sheet can be found outside the church office. Cost: \$10.00 per DVD.

CANCELED: First Wednesday Fellowship Covered Dish scheduled to be held on January 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the MacQueen Fellowship Hall. We will resume in February with our normal schedule. Thank you.

GMPC and the GMPC Handbell Ensemble will join with St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 110 W. Main St., Clinton, for an Epiphany service on Wednesday, January 6th at 7:00 p.m. We invite you all to join us, as we gather, to celebrate this Christian holiday.

The **Presbyterian Men's Breakfast Meeting** for January will be on the 10th at 8:15 a.m. (*Please note new time) at Graves memorial Presbyterian Church. We hope all men will join us as we combine and gather for breakfast and fellowship with our neighbors.

On Sunday, January 10, 2016, we will **Ordain and Install the Newly Elected Elders and Deacons of the Class of 2018 and one Elder of the Class of 2016.** We thank the Class of 2015 for their faithful service during the last three years!

BIBLE STUDY: will resume on Wednesday, January 13th with Dr. Moran. The 10:30 a.m. study will continue to focus on the lectionary. The 7:00 p.m. study will be on "The Gospel of Luke: Good News for All," a kerygma study. Please sign up, for the evening study, in the narthex or outside the church office. Cost of study material: \$20.00. Mark your calendars.

CAKES NEEDED for the January 14th First Baptist Soup Kitchen. We ask that all cakes be delivered to the GMPC kitchen by 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 13th. *Please contact Annette Newton to sign up/place your name on the January list.

A **Columbarium Development Committee** is being formed to explore the development of a columbarium here at GMPC. The term columbarium comes from the Latin word *Columba* (dove) and is defined as a place or niche for cremated remains. If you would like to serve as a member of this committee please contact Dr. Moran or the church office.

Mission Opportunity: Diaper Bank of Sampson County. Donations of diapers (all brands and sizes, to include adult diapers), diaper wipes and diaper rash cream are collected. A collection bin is located in the GMPC fellowship hallway for your convenience.
*For more info. contact Chris Driver: cdriver82@gmail.com, cell #990-7436.

Backpack Buddies Program: Volunteers meet each Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at Sunset Avenue School to pack food bags for over 250 "food insecure" Clinton City School children, ages Pre K - 8th grade. What you can do to help: *Volunteer Your Time! Donate Food Items! (canned soups, juice boxes, raisins, fruit cups, pudding cups, granola bars, pop tarts, trail mix & individual cereal boxes)* *Food drop off container located in the Fellowship Hallway.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED at First Baptist Soup Kitchen (408 College Street) on Thursdays, Weekly from 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. *11:00 – 3:00: Cooking, 3:00 – 5:00: Deliveries, 5:00 – 7:00: Serving. (Volunteer for the whole day or as your schedule allows.)