

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
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
28 January 2018**

We Assemble to Worship

RINGING OF THE BELLS
BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN

** PRELUDE "The Way of Holiness" Louise E. Stairs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP (See hymn #749 for the text.)
"Come! Open Your Heart!" WE ARE CALLED

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 111 (NRSV) Julian Beaujeu-Dufour
Congregation Responses in **Bold**

- 1 Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- 2 **Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.**
- 3 Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.
- 4 **He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.**
- 5 He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- 6 **He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.**
- 7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.
- 8 **They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**
- 9 He sent redemption to his people; He has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.
- 10 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.**

Let us pray together: **Faithful God, you have nourished us in your holy covenant with the food and drink of Christ's Love. Keep us firm in our faith and loyal in our love, that we may obediently serve as disciples of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

Now let us join together in the prayer that our Lord taught us,
Our Father Who Art in Heaven

* HYMN 755 "Alleluia!" Laud and Blessings" WEISSE FLAGGEN

* 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 Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life for 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

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that in Christ you are forgiven, and be at peace. Thanks be to God! Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal) No. 581

We Proclaim the Word

FIRST LESSON: Luke 4:16-21 NT 61

** HYMN 377 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (first verse)
*I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: "Always Be a Mission Buddy!"
(Children age 4 - grade 1 depart for worship readiness with leader Linda Carr)

ANTHEM "Return to God" Marty Haugen

SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 58:1-10 OT 688

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "My Kind of Church: At Work in the World" Dr. Wilkins

* HYMN 314 "Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness"
CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "Apostles' Creed" (Hymnal) pg. 35
PASTORAL PRAYER

We Respond to God

OFFERTORY "Meditation on 'Rescue the Perishing'" Doane/Rasley
(*Visitors, please fill out cards in pew rack and place in offering plate.*)

* DOXOLOGY (Hymnal) No. 606

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Go Forth to Serve

* HYMN 852 "When the Lord Redeems the Very Least"
I'LL FLY AWAY

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
"Come! Live in the Light!" WE ARE CALLED

* TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD
* POSTLUDE "Andante Maestoso" Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)

* 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.

*The congregation is cordially invited to the
Installation Commission Service of Dr. Stephen H. Wilkins
Sunday, the fourth of February at four o'clock in the afternoon.
A Reception will follow in the MacQueen Fellowship Hall.*

THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND IN HONOR OF THE FAITHFUL SERVANTS OF GMPC
BY MR. AND MRS. B. J. WILLIAMSON, JR. AND FAMILY

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

HOSPITAL/ASSISTED LIVING

Doc Fields – Southwood; Rm. 109
Frances Hubbard - GlenAire
Margaret Faircloth – Mary Gran; Rm. 701
Tink Purcell – The Cardinal at North Hills
Betty Heaton – Mary Gran; Rm. 204

OTHERS:

Betty Hairr – (Mother of Vickie Pope)
Juaweese Franklin – (Mother of Melissa Nimmo)
Joe Butler – (Brother-in-law of Penny Horne)
Christine Stacey – (Mother of Lara Capparuccia)
Joe Kozel – (Father of Kristi Williford)
David Askins – (Former GMPC member)
Kathryn Whitley-Jordan – (Former GMPC Choir Director)
Tim Shankweiler – (Former GMPC member)

AT HOME

Martha Dunn
Margaret Register
Ted Lockerman
Russell Byrd (Winston Salem)
Brooks Barwick
Julie Stefanovich

SYMPATHY TO: Pinckney Heaton and family on the passing of his sister, Mary Frances Heaton Davis.

Sunday, January 21, 2018 ~ I will be loyal to GMPC and support it with ...		
My Presence:	Sunday School Attendance 56	Worship Attendance 143
My Gifts:	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Tithes and Offerings	\$3,598.00	\$15,657.00
Building Fund Offerings	\$3,410.00	\$ 5,970.00
Needed for the Church Budget:	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Operating Budget	\$5,942.00	\$17,826.00
Building Fund	\$ 660.00	\$ 1,980.00

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

**January/February: (Wednesdays: Handbells 6:00 p.m./Choir at 7:30 p.m.);
(Cherub Choir: PreK-1st Grade, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 4-4:30);
(Children & Youth Choir/Handbells: 2nd-8th Grade, Wednesdays, 5-5:45)**

- 28 - 3:00 p.m. - Session Meeting
5:00 p.m. - Youth Group: Celebration Dinner @ Small House
- 04 - 9:45 a.m. - Confirmation Class #2
11:00 a.m. - Worship (*Sunday School weekly 9:45 a.m.)
4:00 p.m. - Installation Commission Service of Dr. Stephen H. Wilkins
5:00 p.m. - Youth Group: SOUPer Bowl @ Colemans

OTHER CONCERNS / LOOKING AHEAD . . .

Coffee Hour at GMPC is held each Sunday, between Sunday School and worship, in the fellowship hall. We hope everyone will come for a time to visit before worship.

Copies of the 2018 Lenten devotional, *Jesus and the Prophets*, are now available outside the church office and in the narthex. The Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, PC(USA) pastor, board trustee for Union Presbyterian Seminary and director of the PC(USA) office of Public Witness in Washington, D.C, has assembled a collection of challenging daily reflections, Scripture and prayers to help us on our Lenten journey in the footsteps of the prophets. The text is accompanied by hauntingly beautiful oil paintings by Steven Burgess, an accomplished artist and member of First United Presbyterian of Salem, N.Y. Pick your copy up today!

NEW: La Leche League of Sampson County. Breastfeeding? Or pregnant and planning ahead? Join us the 1st Thursday of every month, in the GMPC Nursery, at 10:00 a.m. The La Leche League of Sampson County, led by Lucy Lockamy, will offer valuable breastfeeding support and information. Pregnant women, mothers, and babies welcome! Next Date: February 1, 2018

February PW Circle Meetings are as follows: (Bible Leader: Linda Williamson)

Circle #1 will meet on the 5th at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Linda Williamson.

Circle #2 will meet on the 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the GMPC Memorial Room.

Circle #3 will meet on the 6th at 10:00 a.m. in the GMPC Fellowship Hall.

Our next **First Wednesday Fellowship and Covered Dish Meal** will be on February 7th, at 6:30 p.m., in the MacQueen Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite dishes to share.

February Host: Memorial Room Sunday School Class

The **Presbyterian Men's Breakfast Meeting** for February will be on the 11th, beginning 8:15 a.m., at 1st Baptist Church. We hope all men will join us for breakfast and fellowship! Please mark your calendars and plan to be in attendance.

Boy Scout Troop 27 and Cub Scout Pack 27 invite you to join them in celebrating Scouting at GMPC. On Scout Sunday, February 11th, the Scouts will be participating in the 11:00 a.m. service, and serving a BBQ lunch with all the fixings following worship in the GMPC Fellowship Hall. Lunch is free, but donations will be accepted and greatly appreciated. You can help by notifying any former troop members you know. We would like to have as many Scouts and leaders here as possible. Thanks for all your support.

Wednesday Lenten Luncheons at First United Methodist Church will begin on February 14th at Noon (each week through Wed., March 28th). The cost of lunch will be \$5.00 per plate. GMPC will host lunch on the 21st of March. We are grateful to FUMC for hosting these meditations and luncheons for the community during the Lenten season. Everyone is welcome.

Please join us on Wednesday, February 14, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. for **GMPC's Ash Wednesday Service**, as we begin our journey through the season of Lent.

A PODCAST (audio file, mp3 format) of Sunday Sermons Is Available on the GMPC Website. To listen to posted sermons visit: <http://gravesmemorial.org/sermons.shtml>.

PresbyCrew meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of every month from 3 – 5 p.m. for Kindergarten – 5th grade. Plan to join us & bring a friend!

GMPC's **Prayer Request Cards** are located in the pews for your convenience. If you have a prayer request, simply fill out the prayer request card and place it in the offering plate.