

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
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
4 February 2018**

Assemble In God's Name

RINGING OF THE BELLS
BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN

** PRELUDE "Land of Rest" arr. Bernard Wayne Sanders

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP
"Great Are You, Lord" M.W. & D.D. Smith

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 147 (NRSV) Charlotte Harrell
Congregation Responses in **Bold**

- 1 Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praise to our God;
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
- 2 The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.**
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.**
- 5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.
- 6 The LORD lifts up the downtrodden;
he casts the wicked to the ground.**
- 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain
for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.**
- 9 He gives to the animals their food,
and to the young ravens when they cry.
- 10 His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;**
- 11 but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.
- 20 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 515 "I Come With Joy" DOVE OF PEACE

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray: **O God, you have given us a firm foundation in Jesus Christ, yet we have chosen to build in other places. The things we have made are weak and unstable. The works of our hands crumble around us, and we realize that our best efforts are not good enough; for sin is real, and we are powerless before it. Forgive us for thinking we know best. Heal our pride and mend our broken values. Create within us hearts that seek your purposes, so that what we build may give you glory. Amen.**

* Silent Confession

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

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news! If we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal) No. 581

Proclaim God's Word

FIRST LESSON: Mark 2:1-5 NT 36

** HYMN 188 "Jesus Loves Me!" (second verse)
*Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago, taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me." Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: "Take Them to the Doctor"

** P.A.T.H. OFFERING

(Children age 4 - grade 1 depart for worship readiness with leader Tami Warren)

SECOND LESSON: Galatians 6:1-10 NT 191

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE "My Kind of Church: Caring for One Another"
Dr. Steve Wilkins

* HYMN 797 "We Cannot Measure How You Heal"
YE BANKS AND BRAES

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

Give Thanks To God

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "For Where Love Is, There Is God"
Lee/Wagner
(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 306 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" DENNIS
* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" ENVIADO
* TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD
* POSTLUDE "Gavotte" (organ solo from a Concerto)
Matthew Camidge (1758-1844)

* Those who are able, please stand

** Seating of worshippers

The **P.A.T.H. Offering (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger)** is being received this morning. This offering, collected by GMPC since 1986, is sometimes called the 2 Cents a Meal Offering. Families are requested to "set aside" this amount per person, per meal in your family home and given bi-monthly on the 1st Sunday when Communion is observed (February, April, June, August, October, December). Of this, 25% is withheld and used to supplement our own "Sick and Relief" benevolence. The remaining 75% is forwarded to our Presbytery of Coastal Carolina. The presbytery's disbursement formula for what they receive from participating churches is as follows: 40% for International support (countries such as Haiti, Malawi and Bangladesh); 25% for PC(USA) hunger projects; 25% for local hunger programs within our Presbytery and 10% for administration.

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 Service of the Rev. 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.*

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
Trish Sessoms

February ushers are: Whit Tart, Ed Carr, Chuck Spell, Jody White,
Henry Faison, Mac Purcell, Tommy Newton

**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)
(PresbyCrew: K-5th Grade, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 3 – 5:00)**

- 04 - 12:00 p.m. - Special Session Meeting
- 4:00 p.m. - Installation Service of the Rev. Dr. Stephen H. Wilkins
- 5:00 p.m. - Youth Group: SOUPer Bowl @ Colemans through Halftime
- 05 - 3:00 p.m. - Circle #1 (Home of Linda Williamson)
- 7:00 p.m. - Circle #2 (Memorial Room)
- 06 - 10:00 a.m. - Circle #3 (Fellowship Hall)
- 07 - 6:30 p.m. - First Wednesday Fellowship & Covered Dish
- 7:30 p.m. - Come See the Manse!
- 11 - 8:15 a.m. - Presbyterian Men's Breakfast @ 1st Baptist Church
- 9:45 a.m. - Confirmation Class #3
- 11:00 a.m. - Worship (*Sunday School weekly 9:45 a.m.) SCOUT SUNDAY
- 5:00 p.m. - Youth Group: What is Your purpose?
- 14 - 12:00 p.m. - Lenten Luncheons at FUMC
- 1:45 p.m. - Staff Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. - PresbyCrew
- 7:00 p.m. - GMPC Ash Wednesday Service

OTHER CONCERNS / LOOKING AHEAD . . .

Requested Address: Steve & Julie Stefanovich; 1315 Live Oak Parkway; Wilmington, NC 28403.

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

Come See the Manse! Steve and Carol have settled into the manse, and they invite you to come and see it. The manse will be open after the covered dish meal on February 7th.

CAKES NEEDED for the February 8th First Baptist Soup Kitchen. We ask that all cakes be delivered to the GMPC kitchen by 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 7th.

*Please contact February coordinator: Nita Aiken to place your name on the list.

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 attend.

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.

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!

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.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY: Christian Food Bank of Salemburg, every third Saturday, monthly, bags of food are given to those in need beginning at 9:00 a.m. What you can do to help: *Volunteer Your Time! Donate Food Items!* **Next Food Bank: February 17, 2018.**

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.

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.

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>.