

*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 Lent  
18 March 2018**

**We Assemble to Worship**

RINGING OF THE BELLS  
BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN

\*\* PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\* THE CONGREGATION GATHERS

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "Restore in Us, O God" BAYLOR

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 119 (NRSV) Hollis White  
Congregation Responses in **Bold**

9 How can young people keep their way pure?  
By guarding it according to your word.

**10 With my whole heart I seek you;  
do not let me stray from your commandments.**

11 I treasure your word in my heart,  
so that I may not sin against you.

**12 Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.**

13 With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.

**14 I delight in the way of your decrees  
as much as in all riches.**

15 I will meditate on your precepts,  
and fix my eyes on your ways.

**16 I will delight in your statutes;  
I will not forget your word.**

Let us pray together: **Holy God, you are just in all your ways and your commandments are the greatest of treasures. Give us understanding of your law and direct us according to your will that we may be faithful in serving you for the sake of Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

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

\* HYMN 13 "The Mighty God with Power Speaks" KINGSFOLD

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray: **O Lord, God of grace and mercy, we flee to your redeeming love today. We acknowledge that we imitate the world too much, and the Lord Jesus too little. We confess that too often we are tempted to journey down the wide road of self-provision rather than trusting in the abundant life offered on the narrow road. Let us hear your direction for us today. Grant that our hearts may be filled with your love and forgiveness. Finally, cleanse us from every wrong, and give us the joy of making choices that bring honor to the name of Jesus, for it is in his name that we pray. 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! There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set us free from the law of sin and death.

Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

\* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal) No. 581

**We Proclaim the Word**

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 31:31-34 OT 735

\*\* HYMN 197 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" (first verse)  
*Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: "Written on Our Hearts"  
(Children age 4 - grade 1 depart for worship readiness with leader Tami Warren)

ANTHEM "Hymn of Promise" Natalie Sleeth

SECOND LESSON: John 12:20-33 NT 106

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE "We Want to See Jesus" Dr. Stephen Wilkins

\* HYMN 264 "At the Name of Jesus" KING'S WESTON

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

**We Respond to God**

OFFERTORY

*(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 826 "Lift High the Cross" CRUCIFER  
\* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN  
"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" MARTYRDOM  
\* TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST 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.**

A very special thank you to Melissa Fulton  
for covering the music today on such short notice.

*THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY  
OF MR. CARL H. PEAY, JR., MR. AND MRS. CARL H. PEAY, SR.,  
AND MR. AND MRS. NICHOLAS A. JOSEPH  
BY MRS. CARL H. PEAY, JR. AND FAMILY*

March ushers are: Brad Spell, Bill Fulton, Fred Beaujeu-Dufour,  
Lawton Eure, Michael Bradley, Eli Bradley, Plato Faison

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  
Don Wilson – REX for tests

**OTHERS:**

*Betty Hairr – (Mother of Vickie Pope)  
Juaweese Franklin – (Mother of Melissa Nimmo)  
Christine Stacey – (Mother of Lara Capparuccia)  
Joe Kozel – (Father of Kristi Williford)  
David Askins – (Former GMPC member)  
Kathryn Whitley-Jordan – (Former GMPC Choir Director)  
Hewitt Fulton – (Father of Bill Fulton)  
Bobby Stanley – (Brother-in-Law of Ted Qualls)  
Vivian Fidelia Someliana-Lauer & family – (Grandaughter of Sean and Lara Capparuccia)*

**SYMPATHY TO:**

*Ted Qualls and family on the passing of his brother, Billy Joe Qualls.  
Hallie Parker and family on the passing of her husband and former GMPC member,  
James Howard "Jim" Parker.*

Sunday, March 11, 2018 ~ I will be loyal to GMPC and support it with ...		
<b>My Presence:</b>	Sunday School Attendance 46 ~	Worship Attendance ???
<b>My Gifts:</b>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Tithes and Offerings	\$17,855.00	\$65,058.00
Building Fund Offerings	\$ 410.00	\$10,900.00
<b>Needed for the Church Budget:</b>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Operating Budget	\$5,942.00	\$59,420.00
Building Fund	\$ 660.00	\$ 6,600.00

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

- 18 - 3:00 p.m. - Officer Training #2
- 5:00 p.m. - Youth Group: Pottery Event, 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Crazy Egg Hunt
- 6:00 p.m. - Young Adult (20's & 30's) Gathering at the Manse
- 19 - 7:00 p.m. - \*Rescheduled: P.W. Quarterly Gathering & Birthday Observance
- 20 - 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Quilts; Newsletter Deadline
- 6:30 p.m. - Friends in Faith Minstry Leaders meeting
- 21 - 12:00 p.m. - Lenten Luncheons at FUMC: \*GMPC will host lunch at FUMC
- 24 - 8:00 a.m. - GMPC Spring Workday
- 25 - 9:45 a.m. - Confirmation Class #9 w/ Session (Banner Room)
- 11:00 a.m. - Worship (\*Sunday School weekly 9:45 a.m.)
- 3:00 p.m. - Officer Training #3
- 5:00 p.m. - Youth Group

## **OTHER CONCERNS / LOOKING AHEAD . . .**

**Presbyterian Penny Pincher Project:** A coin collection challenge to the GMPC congregation, for our annual March Building Fundraiser, has been issued. Get your special "collection cup" from the narthex or Church office, put it in a prominent place at home and empty your pockets, purses and piggybanks every day for a month! Bring your cup of coins each week and dump it in the container located in the narthex, to be counted. This special project will end on March 31<sup>st</sup>. So start collecting loose change from the sofa, the car, the laundry room and become a *'penny-pincher'* every day! Everyone can participate – every little bit helps... pennies, dimes and quarters -lots of them, we hope! (Of course, bills and checks will also be accepted!)

**First Baptist Church, 408 College Street, invites you to join them this Sunday, March 18, 2018, at 5:30 p.m.** for a Overture Music and Worship Conference, presented by Campbell University Divinity School, with special guest: Mary McDonald.

**\*The Presbyterian Women Quarterly Gathering / Birthday Observance** will be held on **Monday, March 19, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.** due to the inclement weather on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

**GMPC Prayer Quilt Ministry** meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the GMPC Fellowship Hall. Do not worry if you can not sew, that is only one aspect of creating these quilts. **Next Meeting: March 20, 2018.**

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

The **Church Spring Work Day** is planned for Saturday, March 24th beginning at 8:00 a.m. We encourage everyone to come out and be a part of our efforts. There should be something for everyone to jump in and help with. Please get together with your Sunday School Class or other groups within the church and work together to cover the room or area that you utilize. If that area is already covered please consider a common area that needs some work. We should be working all morning, so please come for whatever time you can.

March 25th is **Palm Sunday**. We ask that all children who would like to participate in this year's processional to assemble in the Banner Room, prior to worship on the 25th. Palm fronds will be passed out at this time. (\*Children will return to sit with their parents after the processional.) We thank you in advance for your participation.

**PresbyCrew Easter Egg Hunt:** will be held on March 28th. Once again we are asking for donations of plastic eggs filled with 1 piece of candy, gum, Bible verse, sticker, etc. (\*More than one item per egg is okay but not necessary!) Bags for collecting the eggs will be provided. \*Please bring your donations (at least one dozen per child) to the office by March 28th.

March 29th is **Maundy Thursday**. A worship service, modeled after a traditional Tenebrae service, will be held in the GMPC Sanctuary beginning at 7:00 p.m. The service will take us chronologically through the last evening of Jesus with his disciples—his last meal with them, his washing their feet, his prayer at Gethsemane, his arrest by the authorities and abandonment by his friends, and the threefold denial of Jesus by Peter. As the evening progresses, candles will be extinguished, symbolically taking us into darkness. Please plan to attend. Bring a friend.

March 30th is **Good Friday**. First Baptist Church, 900 College Street, invites you to join them at noon for a worship service, "The Seven Last Words". Rev. Wilkins will be one of the participants in the service. Plan now to be in attendance.

April 1st is **Easter/Resurrection of the Lord**. We will begin our day with an **Easter Sunrise Service** to be held at the Clinton Cemetery beginning at 6:30 a.m. We will also **Recognize Our Confirmands**, as they reaffirm their Baptismal covenant and publicly profess their faith during our 11:00 a.m. worship service. Special envelopes will be available for receiving the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**.