

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
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
8 October 2017**

We Assemble to Worship

RINGING OF THE BELLS

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN

** PRELUDE "His Eye Is On the Sparrow"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Stewardship

** THE CONGREGATION GATHERS

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "For You, My God, I Wait" SPRINGTIME
"For you, my God, I wait with hope born of the Word..."

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 19 (NRSV) Amelia Surratt
Congregation Responses in **Bold**

1 The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**2 Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.**

3 There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard
**4 yet their voice goes out through all the earth
and their words to the end of the world.**

5 In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out
like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

**6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to
the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.**

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of
the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

**8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;**

9 the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of
the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**10 More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

11 Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

**12 But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.**

13 Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them
have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and
innocent of great transgression.

**14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

Let us pray together: **Faithful God, you sent us your Word as the sun of truth and justice to shine upon all the world. Open our eyes to see your glory in all your works, that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness, for the sake of him through whom all things were made, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

* HYMN 268 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" DIADEMATA

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray: **We are not worthy, O God, to be called your sons and daughters. Our thoughts are not your thoughts and our ways are not your ways. We are more concerned about ourselves than about others. We think more about the economy than about your kingdom. We have not learned to relax in your presence and enjoy praying. In many ways we are still unredeemed. We have not discovered the deep joys of the Spirit. Forgive us, O God, and save us from our own darkness. Let the blood of Christ atone for all our sin, and the Spirit of Christ fall upon us like saving dew. Amen.**

* Silent Confession

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

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God does not toy with us in his love.

People: He has promised to redeem us from our sin.

Leader: His promises are yea and amen.

**People: Surely God has heard our prayer and will answer us
in our need. Amen.**

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal) No. 581

We Proclaim the Word

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 53:1-10 Message Version

** HYMN 487 "These Treasured Children" (second verse)

*Our ancient story we shall tell, til these our children know it well with-in
their souls and minds and hearts, for this is where their journey starts.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: "Are You Willing to Take the Blame?"

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

ANTHEM "In Christ Alone" Townend/Getty/Angerman

SECOND LESSON: Romans 3:21-26 Message Version

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "At-One-ment: Is God Against Us?" Dr. Jerry Bron

* HYMN 212 "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" MARTYRDOM

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: **We believe in God, who created the world and all that is in it, including the men and women who are given dominion over earth and sea and sky. We believe that God gave his uniquely begotten Son, Jesus Christ, for the redemption of this world from sin and bondage, and that all who trust and follow him find a quality of life that others are missing. We believe**

that the holy Spirit of Christ is alive and active in the world, calling us to repentance and leading us to deeds of compassion and healing. We believe that God intends us to use our minds and imaginations in the service of his kingdom, constructing new possibilities for the poor and offering new hope for the challenged. We believe there are no hidden clauses in the gospel: God loves us; and our only happiness as followers of Christ is to lay down our lives for others, that he may accomplish his purpose. Amen.

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 441 "Hear the Good News of Salvation" NETTLETON

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

"Oh God, You Are My Hope" SPRINGTIME

"O God, You are my hope; I know that you forgive.

Your love redeems me from the depths so I may rise and live."

* TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

* POSTLUDE "Jesaia, dem Propheten, das geschah" Luther/Hirten

* Those who are able, please stand

** Seating of worshippers

A special thank you to Marquita Someliana-Lauer for sharing her music with us today. Marquita is the daughter of Sean and Lara Capparuccia. She and her husband, Cameron, live in Lynchburg, VA.

*THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF
MR. AND MRS. J. ALFRED BUTTS, MR. AND MRS. CROOM FAIRCLOTH
AND MISS CAROLE FAIRCLOTH BY MR. AND MRS. WILBERT FAIRCLOTH
AND MR. AND MRS. NEAL MATTHEWS*

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

HOSPITAL/ASSISTED LIVING

Doc Fields – Southwood; Rm. 109
Frances Hubbard - GlenAire
Margaret Faircloth – Mary Gran; Rm. 715

OTHERS:

*Betty Hairr – (Mother of Vickie Pope)
Juaweese Franklin – (Mother of Melissa Nimmo)
Joe Butler – (Brother-in-law of Penny Horne)
Jim McGuirt – (Former GMPC member)*

SYMPATHY TO: *The family on the passing of GMPC member, Barbara Lytch Kerr.*

October ushers are: Whit Tart, Boyde Bristow,
Mike Carter, Gib Palmer, Lyman Horne, Hal Price

Sunday, October 1, 2017 ~ I will be loyal to GMPC and support it with ...		
My Presence:	Sunday School Attendance 46	~ Worship Attendance 101
My Gifts:	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Tithes and Offerings	\$8,397.00	\$238,490.27
Building Fund Offerings	\$1,040.00	\$ 38,459.83
Needed for the Church Budget:	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Operating Budget	\$4,504.63	\$180,185.20
Building Fund	\$1,525.38	\$ 61,033.20

October: (Wednesday's: Handbells 6:00 p.m./Choir at 7:30 p.m.)

- 08 - 12:15 p.m. - Boundary/Child Protection Training (Approx. 30 minutes)
- 5:00 p.m. - Youth Group
- 09 - 6:30 p.m. - UCare Vigilance (GMPC Parking lot)
- 11 - 1:45 p.m. - Staff Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. - PresbyCrew; PresbyMusic: Children & Youth 5:00 p.m.
- 12 - 5:00 p.m. - Mother & Daughter High School Bible Study (Memorial Room)
- 15 - 11:00 a.m. - Worship (*Sunday School weekly 9:45 a.m.)
- 12:15 p.m. - Boundary/Child Protection Training (Approx. 30 minutes)
- 5:00 p.m. - Youth Group
- 7:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting
- 17 - 9:30 p.m. - Prayer Quilts / Newsletter Deadline

OTHER CONCERNS / LOOKING AHEAD . . .

Music Notes: Today we have heard a third hymn tune by Martin Luther (1483-1546). The postlude entitled "Jesaia, dem propheten, das geschah" can be translated as "Isaiah, mighty seer, in days of old" and was chosen to reflect today's Scripture reading from Isaiah 53:1-10. This piece was arranged by John Hirten, b. 1956. We have also heard "New freut euch" (Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice) on 10-1-17 aranged by John Eggert, b. 1946 and "Aus tiefer Not schrei ich bei" (from depths of woe I cry to Thee) on 9-24-17 arranged by Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau (1663-1712).

Boundary/Child Protection Training, led by Dr. Jerry Bron, will be held on Sunday, October 8th & 15th, beginning at 12:15 p.m. Training is required for all adult leaders/volunteers who will be working with our children, infants – Age 18, in any capacity. You will need to attend only one of the two sessions offered. Certification is valid for two years. *Those who received training last year, need to fillout/sign a recommitment form. Forms will be available on October 8th & 15th in the banner room and should take no more than 10-15 minutes to complete.

Stewardship Season: "A New Day Dawning". A Moment for Stewardship will be held, during worship, October, 1st – October 22nd. Plan to be in attendance as you will not want to miss this year's Moment for Stewardship presentations! **The 2018 Annual Operating Budget Pledge Cards** will be mailed Monday, October 9, 2017. Please prayerfully consider your financial support to our Lord through the 2018 GMPC Budget.

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! *Register today if you have yet to do so.

PresbyMusic: Cherub Choir (Prek-1st Grade:1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 4-4:30); **Children & Youth Choir/Handbells** (2nd-8th Grade: Wednesdays, 5-5:45); *Register today if you have yet to do so.

GET INVOLVED SPOTLIGHT: Southeastern Carolina Crossroads, Help & Hope Over Addiction, is a program designed to address addiction(s) through a faith based approach, providing compassion and support in an all male environment. **What you can do to help: Donate Needed Items!** (Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, Bleach, Plastic Wrap/Aluminum Foil, Coffee/Creamer/Sugar, NLT Bibles, 1" Binder Notebooks, Printer Paper, Gift Cards to Walmart/FoodLion) *A collection bin will be available in the GMPC Fellowship Hall and Narthex throughout October.

MISSION BUDDIES (All Children – 12th grade, 3rd Sunday's, as part of Sunday School). *October Mission: Southeastern Carolina Crossroads. We will be putting together Care Packages, on October 15th, for the men entering this program. *ITEMS NEEDED: Washcloths, Toothpaste/Toothbrushes, Men's Razors, Shaving Cream, Deodorant, Shampoo/Conditioner, Soap/Body Wash. A collection Bin will be located in the Fellowship Hall marked "MISSION BUDDIES". **We ask that all supplies be submitted by Friday, October 13th.**

GMPC's Fall Work Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 21, 2017 beginning at 8 a.m. This is a great time to come together and tidy up our Sunday School rooms, change bulletin boards, organize closets, work outside, etc. If there is an area that you are aware of that needs some special attention, please speak with one of our Property Committee members or the Church Office to bring it to their attention. See you on the 21st!

Consecration/Reformation Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, October 29, 2017. The congregation is encouraged to bring your 2018 annual pledge to submit during worship. A **Covered Dish Luncheon** will follow worship in the Fellowship Hall. Please make plans to attend.

GMPC's 2017-2018 Resident Directory will be available for pick-up in the Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, October 22, 2017.