

PRELUDE *Lift High the Cross*

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT *As In The Solemn Stillness*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
All: And also with you.
 One: We follow Christ
All: Who says, "Take up your cross."
 One: We follow Christ
All: Who bids us come and die.
 One: We follow Christ
All: Who summons us to new life.
 One: Come, let us worship our Creator.
All: Come, let us worship our King.

+HYMN *The God of Abraham Praise* #488

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving Christ, if we carry the name Christian then we have made a choice in the world. Yet we confess this morning that too often we do not act as though we have made that choice. We hurt others, rather than heal. We condemn others, rather than love. We are discouraging to others, rather than signs of joy. We offer judgment, rather than hope and good news. God of compassion, look upon us in your mercy, for we have not walked in the way of Jesus. In your loving kindness, forgive us. Strengthen our faith by your Spirit that we would have the courage to take up the way of the cross, so that you might be glorified now, and in ages to come. Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

+RESPONSE *What Wondrous Love Is This* #85, v. 1
 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul
 What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
 To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul
 To bear the heavy cross for my soul!

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *God Is Wonderful!*
Children's Choir

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward for the Time for Young Disciples. Afterward, children ages 4 thru 3rd grade may go to Worship Our Way (W.O.W.) while children in 4th grade and older are invited to worship with their families.

+HYMN *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said* #393

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING Jeremiah 29:4-14 p. 690 OT
 This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Cross-Cry*

GOSPEL READING Mark 8:27-9:1 p. 38 NT
 This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from
 We confess the following evangelical truths: Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death; as Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life; the Christian Church is the congregation of the brethren in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit and which, as the church of pardoned sinners, has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith, with its obedience, with its message, and with its order; the various offices in the church do not establish a dominion of some over the others; and the church's compassion consist in delivering the message of the free grace of God to all people in Christ's stead.

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*
 +Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* #592
 +Prayer of Dedication

+HYMN *I Surrender All* SURRENDER
 All to Jesus I surrender, all to him I freely give
 I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live
I surrender all, I surrender all, all to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all

All to Jesus I surrender, humbly at his feet I bow
 Worldly pleasures all forsaken, take me Jesus, take me now
Refrain

All to Jesus I surrender, make me, Savior, wholly thine
 May thy Holy Spirit fill me, may I know thy power divine
Refrain

All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to thee
 Fill me with thy love and power, let thy blessing fall on me
Refrain

+BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE *Go With Us Lord*

+POSTLUDE *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

+THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND

WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION
Elders: Randa McCall & Danny Wilson

THIS

- the liturgist is Mark Norden
- the acolytes are Madison Counts and Kaylie Cornelius
- the bellringer is Noah Gibson
- the W.O.W. leaders are Karen & Kent Peterson
- the nursery volunteers are Amber Moran, Seth & Sarah Land
- and Ruthann Froberg
- the sound board tech is Austin Patrick

VISITORS: We are delighted to have you with us this morning and hope you feel at home. Please let us know a bit about you by filling in your information in the Friendship Register. **A Nursery is available** for infants and children through age 4. If you need directions an usher can assist you.

HEARING DEVICES are available for the hearing impaired from an usher.

WE ARE CURRENTLY IN A YEAR-LONG SERMON SERIES on the *Gospel of Mark*. Mark says this is the story of God's Son and it is Good News. Each hearer of Mark's story must determine what his/her own response will be to this Good News.

NOONTIME LENTEN PRAYER SERVICES: Once again this year the downtown churches will be sponsoring Noontime Lenten Prayer Services on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon during Lent. Each will be followed by a free luncheon at 12:30 at the sponsoring church. These services will begin on Wednesday, February 18th and continue through Holy Week, the week of March 29th. A schedule of which congregations are hosting and when is on the insert, on the table in the Narthex, and listed below. This is a great opportunity to join hands with Christians of other denominations and show our commitment to the Lord and to one another.

Date	Location/Host	Homilist
Feb 25	Abingdon UMC	Father Francis Musoolooza (Christ the King)
Mar 4	St. Thomas Episc.	Robert Countiss (AUMC)
Mar 11	Abingdon Baptist	Hilary Streever (St. Thomas)
Mar 18	St. John Lutheran	Tim Reynolds (Sinking Spring)
Mar 25	Christ the King	Scott Homesley (St. John)

SPENCER-MILLER MEMORIAL CONCERT starring The Paramount Chamber Players will be TODAY at 3:00 p.m. Music will celebrate an age of elegance and sensibility featuring a rarely heard clarinet quartet, piano quintet and one of the most beautiful and lyrical pieces for piano and strings.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH
Elders: Alicia Arney & Kay Bunn

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY needs volunteers who can use building / construction or general labor skills for NEW REPAIR program. Crews are needed for short-term repair projects requiring 1 – 2 days effort on a periodic basis. If you would like to help, please complete the enclosed sign up form and place in the collection plate or return to the church office.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP
Elders: Lucy Phillips & Baird Smith

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: This week we will begin a 6-week Lenten-themed Bible study. The study is called *Will You Come and Follow Me* and will examine the meaning of the texts of 6 different Lenten hymns, as well as learning more about the hymn writers. We hope you join us during the 6 Wednesdays of Lent as we delve into what it means to follow the Way of Jesus.

DO YOU HAVE A LOVE FOR CHILDREN? The children's Sunday School Class is looking for additional leaders for that group. Class meets from 10:00 a.m. till 10:45 a.m. on Sunday morning. The curriculum is easy to follow and the 6 – 8 children that make up the class are eager to learn. Come visit the class to see what goes on. If you are interested contact Janet McGraw.

WINTER WEATHER POLICY: Now that winter is here it's probably a good time to remind everyone of our policies for inclement weather!

Sunday Worship: Worship will never be cancelled due to weather. Please use your own discretion, however, in deciding whether or not to come. Safety is of primary importance; stay home if you don't feel you can make it safely.

Sunday School: The teachers of each class will determine whether or not to meet. Teachers will call class members *only* if class is cancelled.

Wednesday After School Programs, Bible Study and Preschool: These activities follow the Washington County School schedule. If Washington County Schools are closed or dismissed early, then these activities will be cancelled.

All Other Activities (Choir, Session, Committees, etc.): These will be determined on a case by case basis. The church office will be closed only in the event of *extreme* weather.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY, Sunday, February 22nd

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Monday, February 23rd

6:30 p.m. Session Meeting

Tuesday, February 24th

8:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 25th

12:00 p.m. Noontime Lenten Prayer Service – Abingdon U. M. C.
3:15 p.m. After School Program
5:00 p.m. Junior Choir
6:30 p.m. Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
7:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday, February 26th

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, BabyCakes
8:00 p.m. AA in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 1st Communion

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY
Elders: Fred Holt & John Legard

Stewardship & Attendance for February 15, 2015

Attendance: 92
Offering: \$5,344.00

THE HUNGER OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED NEXT SUNDAY

CHURCH BULLETINS are now available on our website! The link to view is <http://www.sinkingspring.org/worship.html#ws>.

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Mazie Cook, Helen Napps, Reed Cooke (Grand Court), June Atkins, Hazel Warden (Abingdon Rehab) and Margaret Peters

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE NEW CONCERNS:

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE CONTINUED CONCERNS: David Henninger, Charles Henninger, Jay McCallum (Holston Valley), Arville Mullins, Amanda Hall, Lynn Hall, Colt Powers, The Biggerstaff Family and The Ratliff Family

AND FOR THESE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY: Joseph McGraw, Nathan McGraw, Mark Widener, Walter Holcomb Jr., John Nowell II, John Nowell III and Dexter Bevis

*Names remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks unless requested to keep them on longer

Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church
Organized 1772

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)



SINKING SPRING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

136 E. Main St. + Abingdon, VA 24210

Church Office: 276.628.3361

Email: office@sinkingspring.org

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

www.sinkingspring.org

Ministers: Members & Friends of the Congregation

Pastor: Tim Reynolds pastor@sinkingspring.org

Director of Music: Arch Snyder agstonsilcoach@gmail.com

Dir. of Christian Ed: Janet McGraw christianeducator@sinkingspring.org

Office Administrator: Donna Hale office@sinkingspring.org

Organist: Joey Trivette Joseph.Trivette@sw.edu

Preschool Director: Gypsy Holt

February 22, 2015