

4th Sunday of Easter

April 26th, 2015

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Fantasia on "Praise Him, Praise Him"* Clark

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT *Seek the Lord* Carter

+CALL TO WORSHIP from *Psalms 34*

One: Jesus Christ has risen!

All: **He has risen indeed!**

One: I sought the Lord who answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

All: **Let us look upon the Lord and be radiant; our faces need never be covered in shame!**

One: Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who trust in God.

All: **Let us seek the Lord, for those who seek him never lack for any good thing.**

One: The eyes of the Lord are on his people; he hears them when they cry.

All: **Let us bless the Lord at all times. May his praise be always on our lips and may we exalt his name together!**

+HYMN *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* #482

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we acknowledge the greatness of your majesty, and the depth of our spiritual poverty. We have thought too highly of ourselves, and have failed to give you the glory you are due. We have sought for ourselves power and glory, rather than healing and transformation. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive our arrogance and selfishness. Open our eyes that we might see the power of your Word – to equip, to heal, and to transform us. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

+RESPONSE *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* #482

Praise to the Father and praise to the Son and the Spirit

Let us sing praise to our God so the whole world can hear it

For all he's done, and for the victory he's won

Praise Father, Son, and the Spirit

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

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 *Be Thou My Vision* #339

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING Isaiah 35:1-10 p. 622 OT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Lord, I Stretch My Hand to You* Althouse

GOSPEL READING Mark 10:46-52 p. 41 NT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory *Trust and Obey* arr. Carter

+Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* #592

+Prayer of Dedication

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *The Scots Confession* (1560)

Our faith and its assurance do not proceed from natural powers within us, but are the inspiration of the Holy Ghost; whom we confess to be God, equal with the Father and with his Son, who sanctifies us, and brings us into all truth by his own working. For by our nature we are so dead, blind, and perverse, that neither can we feel when we are pricked, see the light when it shines, nor assent to the will of God when it is revealed, unless the Spirit of the Lord Jesus quicken that which is dead, remove the darkness from our minds, and bow our stubborn hearts to the obedience of his blessed will. And so, as we confess that God the Father created us when we were not, as his Son our Lord Jesus redeemed us when we were enemies to him, so also do we confess that the Holy Ghost does sanctify and regenerate us, without respect to any merit proceeding from us, be it before or be it after our regeneration. To put this even more plainly; as we willingly disclaim any honor and glory for our own creation and redemption, so do we willingly also for our regeneration and sanctification.

+HYMN *O Christ, the Healer* #380

+BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE *Amazing Grace* Newton

+POSTLUDE *Go Out "With a Song Ringing"* Anderson

+THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND

THIS MORNING...

- the liturgist is Hazel Ramos-Cano
- the acolytes are Jamie Lee and Hope Shockley
- the W.O.W. leaders are Kurt & Amber Moran
- the bellringer is Noah Gibson
- the nursery volunteers are Rachel Fowlkes, Liz Edelman & Nissa Morrell
- the sound board tech is Dennis Bailey

WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION Elders: Matt Crum & Joey Lamie

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.

THE FINAL SPENCER - MILLER CONCERT OF THE SEASON IS TODAY, and features the Paramount Chamber Players presenting "music that imagines the beauty and majesty of nature juxtaposed with music that evokes the "colors of the spirit." The performance will include a variety of talented musicians, including 2014 Paramount Chamber Players award winner, pianist Michelle Schodowski.

SPECIAL THANKS TO LEAH FLEENOR AND BLUE GOTHAM for volunteering to work in the church office next week while Donna is gone.

BIRTHDAY PARTY!! Everyone is invited to come help *Eleanor Munsey* celebrate her 90th birthday on Saturday May 2nd from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. No gifts required. Your presence will be appreciated.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY Elders: Georgia Crews & Rachel Fowlkes

DISCOVERY CLASS TODAY Interested in uniting with the congregation? Just want to know more about being Presbyterian? If "yes" then please attend the spring Discovery Class downstairs in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. After lunch provided by the church, Pastor Tim will lead the class in learning about the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Reformed Tradition and the Sinking Spring congregation. There will also be a time for questions and answers.

ATTENTION SENIORS!! *Mystery Dinner Trip – May 1, 2015*...Meet on church parking lot at 5:00 p.m. See bulletin board for signup sheet if you plan to ride church van.

THE STEPHEN MINISTRY – Christ Caring For People Through People: Due to scheduling conflicts, the informational meeting for those interested in becoming Stephen Ministers, scheduled for Sunday, May 3rd has been postponed until a later date. The new date will be closer to the actual training sessions which will begin in late August. Stephen ministers are trained to be Christian caregivers with a Distinctively Christian approach to helping others in need. It is a great opportunity for our congregation to become more service oriented with that Christian Community Circle facing outward. For more information on becoming a Stephen Minister, please call Toni Oliver at 276-206-3321 or visit the web site at www.stephenministries.org.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH
Elders: Alicia Arney, Kay Bunn & Mimi Hull

THANKS to those who helped serve at Faith in Action during March. We had 15 volunteers and served 163 families. Please mark your calendar for May 17 – 23. Signup sheet is on bulletin board in Narthex. We need your hands and feet!

ADULT PEN PAL PROGRAM with our Sister congregation in Luwerezhi, Malawi, Africa. Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP). Malawi actually has two official languages – English and Chichewa. While not all Luwerezhi church members speak fluent English, many of them are very able to converse and write in English. We have asked Lewis Mwazembe, pastor, to identify some individuals and families who would like a pen pal relationship with someone from Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church. When you volunteer as a pen pal, you will be paired with someone who desires to enter into a meaningful relationship with God as the center across the miles between Abingdon and Luwerezhi. Our Malawi brothers and sisters are very different from us in some ways and yet just like us in other ways. They live in a very poor country (virtually at the bottom of the world-wide list), and yet they are far richer in spirit and living a Christian life than the vast majority of us! For more information about Malawi and its history as well as some hints and some potential “do’s and don’ts” about communicating with your pen pals please contact Wythe or Mimi Hull: 276.206.8392 Home or 276.698.8809 Mimi or email: mimihull@comcast.net or wythe@comcast.net.

You will be enriched by this experience – and should you ever have the opportunity to visit your pen pal, you may very well receive not only their love, but also a chicken or even a goat!!

P.S. The Pre-School children have already begun a wonderful exchange of “handmade” Christmas and Easter greetings.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP
Elders: Danny Wilson & Kate Shockley

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: We are currently studying Christian Marriage in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Class meets at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS JULY 6 – 10 THIS YEAR. Be in prayer about how you can help. *There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the Parlor.*

WE NEED YOU!! The Nursery needs adults to serve in the Nursery during Sunday School and Worship. “Many hands make light work”. Contact Janet McGraw today if you are able to help. 628-3361 or 492-7100.

A BIG THANK YOU!! The After School children would like to thank all those who contributed to the Presbyterian Children’s Home of the Highlands (PCHH). Mr. Rice, Director of PCHH, is coming Wednesday, May 6th to talk to the children. If you would like to donate items, you have until May 3rd. Thank you!

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY, Sunday, April 26th

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
12:00 p.m. Discovery Class
3:00 p.m. Paramount Chamber Players Concert

Tuesday, April 28th

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

Wednesday, April 29th

3:15 p.m. After School Program
6:00 p.m. Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday, April 30th

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

Sunday, May 3rd Communion

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
12:00 p.m. Fellowship Gathering

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY
Elders: Danny Brown & John Legard

Stewardship & Attendance for April 19, 2015

Attendance: 145
Offering: \$5,296.00

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 (Commonwealth Assisted Living), June Atkins, Hazel Warden (Abingdon Rehab), Don Preston (The Cottages, Greenville, SC) and Margaret Peters

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE NEW CONCERNS: Kelsey Johnson, Aidan Adair (grandchildren of Mr. & Mrs. Danny Brown) and Jasper Leidig

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE CONTINUED CONCERNS: David Henninger, Charles Henninger and McCallum 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

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