

PRELUDE *“Balm in Gilead”* Binckes

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

+CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
All: And also with you.
One: We gather as God’s people in a world that is divided and distressed.
All: Yet we gather as one people, united by God.
One: We gather as God’s people who have followed Jesus to Jerusalem and abandoned Jesus in Gethsemane.
All: Yet we gather as one people, travelling steadfastly together.
One: We gather as God’s people who have been given free will, the ability to choose between God’s way and not-God’s-way.
All: Yet we gather as one people, trying our best to follow in the unfailing footsteps of Christ, whose name we gather to praise.

+HYMN *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem* #308, vv. 1-3

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We want to believe, O God, that we bring our whole selves, our whole hearts, to you – but we don’t. You ask us to deny ourselves and follow you, but we don’t. You ask us to share the good news of the gospel, but we don’t. You ask us to put your concerns above our own worldly concerns, but we don’t. You ask us to choose you instead of the world, but we don’t. Forgive us, Lord, for all those times when we fall short, when we doubt, when we are tempted by Satan, when we deny you, when we choose the world over you. Send us your Spirit to help us to stand before you with our whole selves – trusting that it is you who makes us whole. Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE

+RESPONSE *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem* #308, v. 4
O sing a song of Calvary, its glory and dismay
Of Him who hung upon a tree and took our sins away
For He who died on Calvary is risen from the grave
And Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored, is mighty now to save

+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 5 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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION – Stephen Ministry

+HYMN *Lord, Is It I?* McIntyre/Reynolds

Tune: *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

Who was it that for profit betrayed with fond embrace
The Lamb of God to suffer, enduring my disgrace?
Lord, is it I? Lord, is it? Am I the one to blame?
Is it for me that you must die? Is it for me you came?

Who molded thorns into a crown and placed it on your brow?
Whose angry words of “Crucify!” are shouted even now?
Lord, is it I? Lord, is it? Am I the one to blame?
Is it for me that you must die? Is it for me you came?

Who fled then from the garden and who denied your name?
Who chose Barabbas to go free? Who mocked you as a game?
Lord, is it I? Lord, is it? Am I the one to blame?
Is it for me that you must die? Is it for me you came?

Have I betrayed and mocked you? And have you I denied?
Upon the cross in my stead, is Jesus crucified?
Lord, *it is* I! Lord, *it is* I! I am the one to blame.
It is for me that you did die, *It is* for me you came

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING Isaiah 52:13-53:12 p. 643 OT
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING Mark 15:1-15 p. 46 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 *Once Upon a Tree* Choplin
R. Dean Barr, soloist
+Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* #592
+Prayer of Dedication

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles’ Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

+HYMN *Ah, Holy Jesus* #93

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE *Beautiful Savior* arr. Smith

+THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND

WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION
Elders: Matt Crum & Joey Lamie

THIS MORNING...

- the liturgist is Jared Oliver
- the acolytes are Lila Godfrey and Morgan Crum
- the bell ringer is Emmie Allen
- the W.O.W. leaders are Dianne Loomis and Anne Willson
- the nursery volunteers are Melissa and Sarah Allen
- the sound board tech is Isaac Short

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.

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER ART: The painting on this week’s cover is titled “*Christ Before Pilate*” and was painted by Georges Rouault (1871-1956).

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY
Elders: Georgia Crews & Rachel Fowlkes

THE STEPHEN MINISTRY – Christ Caring For People Through People: It is now the time to begin recruiting Christians to become Stephen Ministers. *Do you have gifts of compassion? Are you a good listener?* If so, then you will want to attend an informational lunch meeting, immediately following worship service, on August 9, 2015. There will be a light lunch and then a presentation with detailed information about becoming a Stephen Minister. Lunch will begin at 11:15 AM and the meeting will end at 1:00 PM. Applications for the ministry will be available at that time. James tells us that the prayers of righteous people are powerful and effective (James 5:16). During the coming week we invite you to pray about our congregation’s Stephen Ministry. Specifically, please pray for those God is calling to serve as caregivers in this ministry. **SINCE WE ARE SERVING LUNCH PLEASE CALL AND RESERVE YOUR SPOT.** Toni Oliver-Stephen Leader 276-206-3321 or 276-429-5754

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP
Elders: Danny Wilson & Kate Shockley

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: Our Wednesday night Bible study is on summer hiatus. We will resume Wednesday night Bible study sometime after Labor Day.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUSPENSION ~ All Sunday School classes during the Summer Worship Time Change are suspended.

HOSEA BIBLE STUDY: The Wednesday Bible study on Hosea will **not** meet this week, July 29th. Prepare Week 2 in the member book for August 5th. The group meets in the parlor at 9:30 a.m. It’s not too late if you’d still like to participate. See Janet McGraw today to receive your book.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP...continued
Elders: Danny Wilson & Kate Shockley

ATTENTION PARENTS: We have mailed out letters to those who have children and youth in our church asking for feedback for the fall. We would LOVE to hear from everyone and hope to receive more responses. If you need another form and have any questions please feel free to contact Kate Shockley at 276-525-5108.

SINKING SPRING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL is now accepting children for half-day programs – Infant through Pre-kindergarten. Experiential learning centers, coupled with a nurturing environment, are facilitated by teachers trained in early childhood principles. For more information call: (276) 619-0020.

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

CHRISTMAS IN JULY ~ Good News Jail and Prison Ministry is starting their collection early this year. They will fill Inmate Christmas Bags with a variety of needed items to be distributed during the Christmas season in December. Our church has pledged bars of bath soap (full size please). Watch for those SALE items and help us with our goal of contributing 600 bars of soap! **Please leave your items in the container in the Narthex by July 30, 2015.** How much fun! Early Christmas for all us kids at heart!!

FAITH in ACTION: Thanks to all who worked and donated to Faith in Action this month. Mark your calendars for our next week to serve, September 6th thru September 12th.

THE FAITH IN ACTION GOLF TOURNAMENT will be held on Sunday, August 9th at 2:00 p.m. **Deadline for registration is August 3rd.** Both sponsors and players are needed. If you are interested in either there are information sheets hanging on the mission board in the Narthex.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HEALTHY FAMILIES – FAMILY FARMS ~ which was awarded \$3,000 from Abingdon Presbytery on behalf of a grant submitted by Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church. This money will go to purchase “seconds” produce from local farmers and feed our community in need.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY, Sunday, July 26th

10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Tuesday, July 28th

8:00 p.m. AA in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, July 29th

Women's Bible Study Group will *not* meet.

Thursday, July 30th

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Shoney's

8:00 p.m. AA in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 2nd Communion

10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY
Elders: Danny Brown & John Legard

Stewardship & Attendance for July 19, 2015

Attendance: 117

Offering: \$7,796.00

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, and Reed Cooke (Commonwealth Assisted Living), Hazel Warden (Abingdon Rehab), Don Preston

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE NEW CONCERNS: Robert May

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE CONTINUED CONCERNS: David Henninger, Charles Henninger, Richie Hooker, Arville Mullins, Marjorie Addison and Family, The Family of June Atkins, Ray Goins and Sherrye May

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
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Director of Music: Arch Snyder agstonsilcoach@gmail.com
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Preschool Director: Gypsy Holt

July 26, 2015