

1st Sunday after Christmas

January 1st, 2017

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Noel* *Daquin*

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT *Come To The Table*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Come, now is the time to worship.

All: **We come, for now is the time to give our hearts.**

One: Come, just as you are to worship.

All: **We come, just as we are, before our God.**

+HYMN OF PRAISE *Arise, Your Light Is Come* # 411

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we come to worship you with our own expectations and our own agendas. We have made this hour on Sunday mornings about ourselves – the prayers we like, the music we like, the preaching we like, the hymns we like. Or, as is more often the case, we are distracted from you during this hour by those things we don't like. Forgive us, Lord. Help us remember that worship should be focused on you and your desire to be praised in ways that reflect your infinite and diverse nature. Send us your Spirit to remind us that worship is about meeting you, experiencing you, praising you, glorifying you, and pleasing you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

+RESPONSE *"Glory to God in the highest, glory to God in the highest heaven, glory to God in the highest, and peace to men of Goodwill!"*

+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.

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory *Sweet Hour of Prayer* *trad.*

+Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* # 592

+Prayer of Dedication

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING Isaiah 61:1 p. 651 OT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING John 4: 1-30 p. 82 NT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED "Why do we help fallen people find true freedom" Danny Thompson

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

THE LORD'S SUPPER Kent Peterson

Invitation to the Lord's Table

+Preparatory Hymn *Let Us Tongues and Talents Employ* # 514

Great Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer (Hymnbook p. 16)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

They are lifted up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+Communion of the People *In Communion* *Schram*

Prayer After Communion

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from* The Scots Confession

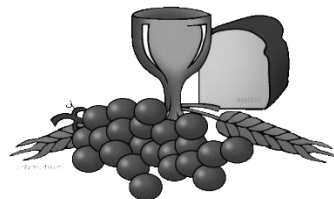
We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.

+ SENDING HYMN *O Word of God Incarnate* #327

+BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE *Peace To You All*

+POSTLUDE *Toccata on "Holy Manna"* *arr. Trivette*

+THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND



Communion: We welcome all who follow Jesus, regardless of denomination, to the Lord's Table this morning, including children. Parents who wish to go get their children from the Nursery or from W.O.W. to celebrate communion as a family may do so during the singing of the Communion preparation hymn.

WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION Elders: Matt Crum & Joey Lamie

THIS MORNING...

- the liturgist is John Legard
the acolytes are Madison Counts and Kaylie Cornelius
the bell ringer is Charlotte Moran
the Big W.O.W. leader is Jill Childress
the Little W.O.W. leaders are Kurt & Amber Moran
the nursery volunteer is Lila Thurmond
the sound board tech is Hope Shockley

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.

COMMUNION WILL BE RECEIVED VIA INTINCTION this morning. To partake, please proceed down the center aisle, break off a piece of bread, dip it in the cup on the side on which you are sitting, and return to your seat via the side aisle.

WE WELCOME MISSIONARY-CHAPLAIN DANNY THOMPSON to the pulpit this morning. Born and raised in Bristol, VA. Grew up in a Christian home and after completing a BA in Biblical Studies, was ordained in 1995 at Antioch Baptist Church in Bristol VA. Danny accepted the call from Sheriff Eddie Barnes in 1995 to be the Chaplain at the Bristol City Jail. In 2000 Danny started the ministry at the Sullivan County Jail in Blountville, TN, then he started the Abingdon Regional Jail ministry in 2005 where many lives have been impacted under the auspice of Good News Jail and Prison Ministry. This ministry involves Danny going into individual pods to give out Bibles, deliver religious mail, distribute Bible lessons, deliver any death notification and talking with inmates to develop relationships, hence opening the door for questions about their life and faith. Danny has oversight of 75 religious volunteers, training and ongoing ministry is a part of the Chaplain's responsibility. Pulpit supply for local churches as well as speaking to mission boards, WMU, ladies' circles, teen groups at local churches and civic organizations helps others grasp the role of the local Chaplain. While a captive audience is every Pastors dream, few are called to minister behind bars. Danny believes he has been called to be the Chaplain and God has given him the ability to minister to those lost souls looking for a new life. To see a person saved, changed, and wanting a different path to follow makes his day's "behind bars" worth it. "Breaking the Cycle of Crime, One Life at a Time" has been Danny's mantra for many years. Father of three, life is busy with his two daughters involved in sports and school activities. His oldest son serves in the Marine Corp. Danny is involved with several community ministries endeavoring to develop an aftercare network for inmates. This will assist released inmates on their journey with Christ in the world, maturing spiritually while learning to avoid all the world seeks to tempt them with.

SINKING SPRING APPRECIATES the tithe and thoughtful letter received from Betsy Gordon Crumley in memory of her mother, Sarah Anne Hughes, a member of our church who passed away in 2014 at the age of 99. Ms. Crumley wrote of her mother's memories of growing up as a member of our church and assisting Mrs. John Legard, Sr. (John Legard's grandmother) in teaching memory lessons to Sunday School students. She commented that even in her late 90's, her mother could recite a Bible verse for every letter of the alphabet, including x & z.

REV. JOEL LONG has accepted the position of Interim Pastor beginning February 12, 2017. Rev. Long was a guest speaker here at the church on December 4th. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH
Elders: Mimi Hull & Alice Rainey

The Service & Outreach team and the many agencies listed below would like to extend their gratitude for the support and participation you have provided this year to help make a difference in the lives of so many. With a heartfelt **THANK YOU:**

Ecumenical Faith in Action; Healthy Families/Family Farms; Hands & Feet Prison Ministry; Social Club; AES Backpack Program; Presbyterian Children's Home in Wytheville, VA; Good News Prison Ministry; Appalachian Service Project; CWS Blanket Fund; Camp Holston; Crossroads Medical Mission; Luwerez Church / Malawi; Friends of Santa; Community Christmas; Bristol VA Crisis Center; Weller Missionaries; West Virginia Flood Victims and Gatlinburg Wildfires Relief....

We look forward to a promising and rewarding year of service in 2017!!

YOUR JOY OFFERING of \$296 will be sent to the Presbyterian Mission Agency to assist our church workers during their time of need and provide training for our future racial ethnic leaders. Thank you for remembering them during this Advent Season.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY
Elders: Georgia Crews & Jan Hardman

CONGREGATIONAL UPDATES: Please remember the family of **Betty Patterson**; longtime member of Sinking Spring; who passed away on December 19th.

Also, please remember **Elaine Ratliff** in prayer, a feeding tube has been placed and she is in the hospital in Johnson City.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP
Elders: Kate Shockley & Stanley Haynes

AFTER SCHOOL activities resume this Wednesday, January 4th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES will resume next Sunday, January 8th.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FABIAN WADLE, son of Eldon & Gloria Wadle, who graduated from James Madison University December 17th with a degree in Internal Affairs. Fabian minored in Business Spanish and Translation – Interpretation Spanish – English.



IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY, Sunday, January 1st Communion

11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Monday, January 2nd

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY

Tuesday, January 3rd

6:30 p.m. Property Mgmt. Steering Team Meeting
8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall
8:00 p.m. Al Anon next to Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 4th

3:00 p.m. After School
6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
7:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday, January 5th

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

Saturday, January 7th

6:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 8th

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
1:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training – Grant Room

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

Elders: Danny Brown & John Legard

Stewardship & Attendance for Dec 24 & Dec 25, 2016

Attendance: Dec. 24th – 177; Dec. 25th – 39

Offering: \$4,800

THE HUNGER OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED TODAY

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 (Commonwealth Assisted Living), Reed Cooke (Commonwealth Assisted Living), Hazel Warden (Abingdon Rehab), Don Preston, Claude Greever (English Meadows), Marjorie Addison (English Meadows), Dorothy Phillips (English Meadows); Helen Napps and Doris Buchanan (Abingdon Rehab)

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE NEW CONCERNS: Family of Betty Patterson and Elaine Ratliff (hospitalized)

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE CONTINUED CONCERNS: Richie Hooker, Mary Barr;

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

*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)



*Responding to God's grace,
we are called to be a welcoming community,
following Jesus, serving joyfully,
and sharing God's love with each other and the world.*



SINKING SPRING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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
Teaching Elder: pastor@sinkingspring.org
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Dir. of Christian Ed: Janet McGraw christianeducator@sinkingspring.org
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Organist: Joey Trivette Joseph.Trivette@sw.edu
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