

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

January 8th, 2017

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *O Worship the King* *arr. Trivette*

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT *As We Enter Thy Holy Temple*

+CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 119*

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

All: **And also with you.**

One: Blessed are you, O Lord. Teach us your ways and statutes.

All: **With our lips, we declare all the counsel that comes from you.**

One: Open our eyes so that we may behold the wondrous things you have done.

All: **Help us to understand your ways and to meditate on your wondrous works.**

One: Open our hearts to your decrees so that we may not be swayed by thoughts of selfish gain.

All: **Help us to long for your righteousness that brings life.**

One: Let our cry come before you now, O Lord: Give us understanding according to your word and deliver us according to your promise.

All: **May our lips pour forth praise, our tongues sing of your promise, and our lives keep your decrees, now and forevermore!**

+HYMN OF PRAISE *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* # 142

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious Father, too often we come to worship looking for comfort, inspiration, stimulation or community. While these are not bad things in and of themselves, we confess that they are more focused on self-improvement than with thanksgiving, more focused on ourselves than on you. Forgive us for our self-centeredness. Send us your Spirit to help us come to worship to experience your presence, to connect with the sense of awe and wonder that gives birth to true thankfulness, and to seek out opportunities for growth and service that will help us express our gratitude to you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who is the very heart of worship. 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.

+PREPARATORY HYMN

*Spirit of God,
Descend Upon My Heart*

326

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42: 1-9

p. 630 OT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

Lord, I Stretch My Hands To You

Althouse

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3: 13-17

p. 3 NT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

"Chosen by God"

Kent Peterson

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Bradbury

+Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

#592

+Prayer of Dedication

+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.

+HYMN OF SENDING

*God Who Stretched
the Spangled Heavens*

268

+BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Go With Us, Lord

+POSTLUDE

Rondo in G Major

Bull

+THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND



WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION
Elders: **Matt Crum & Joey Lamie**

THIS MORNING...

- the liturgist is Amanda Livingston
- the acolytes are Morgan Crum and Lila Godfrey
- the bell ringer is Ben Campbell
- the Big W.O.W. leaders are Joey & Bridget Lamie
- the Little W.O.W. leaders are Dianne Loomis and Jeni Holt
- the nursery volunteer is Sydney Johnson and Lisa Crum
- the sound board tech is Gloria Wadle

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.

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

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY
Elders: **Georgia Crews & Jan Hardman**

CONGREGATIONAL UPDATES: Please remember **Elaine Ratliff**, who after a lengthy hospital stay, is at Abingdon Rehab recuperating, also remember **Rev. Joel Long** and family on the passing of his brother "Keith" on December 31. Cards may be sent to:

Rev. Joel Long
1B; 3656 McConnell Road
Greensboro, NC 27405

STEPHEN MINISTRY: As the New Year continues to move forward, the four Stephen Ministry trainees continue to move towards commissioning in February. With only four classes remaining, today, Kent Peterson, Helen Philips, Bridget Lamie and Jane Leidig will be learning how the supervision process works and how to make a first caring visit. The already commissioned three ministers, Larry Ball, Jan Frazier and Beth Smith continue their education and supervision meetings and will soon be beginning a study of caring for people before, during and after hospitalization. These 3 faithful ministers all currently have care receivers and **PROVIDED MORE THAN 125 HOURS OF LOVING CARE**. Please continue to pray for all our Stephen Ministers as they continue their faithful journeys of bringing the love of Christ to those in need.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP
Elders: **Kate Shockley & Stanley Haynes**

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.

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; Luwerezi 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!!

THE CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKET FUND COLLECTION is scheduled for January 22nd. A blanket can make such a difference in the face of disaster or for those who call the outside home. It can be a tent, a suitcase, a sling or a much-needed source of warmth and comfort. By helping provide a CWS Blanket, you will stand with neighbors in need as they face their darkest hours following a disaster or in the face of extreme poverty.

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:35-40 NIV)

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY, Sunday, January 8th

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

Monday, January 9th

6:30 p.m. Service & Outreach Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 10th

5:30 p.m. Spiritual Formation & Discipleship Committee Meeting
 6:30 p.m. Property Steering Team Meeting
 8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall
 8:00 p.m. Al Anon next to Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 11th

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

Thursday, January 12th

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

Saturday, January 14th

6:00 p.m. AA in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 15th

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

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY
Elders: Danny Brown & John Legard

Stewardship & Attendance for January 1, 2017

Attendance: 79
 Offering: \$2,100
 Hunger: \$105

CHURCH BULLETINS are 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) and Elaine Ratliff (Abingdon Rehab)

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE NEW CONCERNS: Rev. Joel Long and family (passing of his brother – Keith)

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE CONTINUED CONCERNS: Richie Hooker, Mary Barr, and Family of Betty Patterson

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
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 preschool@sinkingspring.org

January 8, 2017

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.