

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2020

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

Thompson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

R. Dean Barr, Liturgist

Leader: The psalmist sings:
O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.

People: **Then I will go to the altar of God,
to show my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.**

Opening Prayer

O God:
You are the One who is faithful and true.
You sent to us the true Messiah
who teaches us the ways of the righteous
and brings us into your presence,
forgiven and restored.
Open our hearts, our ears, and our imaginations
to Your nourishment by Spirit and Word
that we might willingly obey and trust
through Jesus Christ, our Savior
who taught us to pray....

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Come! Live in the Light! We Are Called

see insert

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liturgist

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, the One who continually forgives and renews. Let us, therefore, name before God and each other how we have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. In humility, let us make our confession so that we may be healed.

People: **We acknowledge before you, O God, that we are drawn to false teachings. We succumb to the adoration of this world when we seek to be noticed, crave being honored, and look for the best seats. We have ignored the true teacher who calls us to lives of humility, kindness, and service toward others. Forgive us. Help us to practice the teachings of Jesus. As we long to place our burdens on you, confident that you will lighten our journeys, so long as we ease the burdens of our friends, families, neighbors, and creatures of the earth. Set us on your path, O God, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S MERCY

Liturgist

Leader: Sisters and brothers, God is good. God's mercy and love are from everlasting to everlasting. God desires our well-being. Therefore, trust this good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Called as Partners

see insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 3:5-12

Liturgist
p. 817 OT

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

p. 180 NT

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL SELECTION

Take My Life
arr. Trivette

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 23:1-12

Rev. Campbell
p. 22 NT

This is the Gospel of Christ.
Praise be to you, O Christ.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Rev. Kevin Campbell

“REMEMBERING OUR CALL”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

CALL TO GRATITUDE

OFFERTORY HYMN

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

see insert

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life-everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF SENDING

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

see insert

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

March on *"Jesus Calls Us"*

arr. Trivette

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – DEADLINE TO RETURN YOUR SHOEBOX IS NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15.

THIS THANKSGIVING SEASON *let us share our blessings by FILLING THE CORNUCOPIA* - The cornucopia will be in the sanctuary beginning today through Sunday, November 22. This year's donations will be used to fill our Blessing Box. Items needed include soup, canned meats (tuna, chicken, ham, Spam, etc.), ravioli, spaghetti, beef stew, chicken & dumplings, macaroni & cheese, beanie weenies, potted meat, vienna sausages, fruit and pudding cups, individual servings of cereal and oatmeal, and hygiene items of all kinds. In addition, snack type foods such as beef sticks, cookies and peanut butter crackers are needed.

Pop-top cans are preferred; please remember no expired food or glass containers. Currently, we do not need rice, dry beans, dry peas, or ramen noodles.

A THANKSGIVING OFFERING will be collected on November 22, to benefit the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands.

MISSIONS IN ACTION – we would love to share photos or videos of you and your family supporting our various mission projects. Whether it is packing a shoe box or shopping for the blessing box, send in your photos/videos and we will post them on our Facebook page or church website.

IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES AND WORSHIP HAVE RESUMED - Session would like to share information on what to expect when coming to a Sunday service and small group gatherings. The *Virginia Forward Guidelines* from the Office of the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, were resources that assisted in the development of this guideline. The Session's goal is to make worship and small group gatherings as safe as possible for those who will be in attendance. Below are guidelines that Sinking Spring will have in place. Please know there will be Ushers/Elders on duty requesting these guidelines be followed:

- No more than 60 individuals will be allowed in the sanctuary. If you plan to attend worship service on any Sunday, we ask that you make the church office aware no later than the Thursday before the service, or sign up on the church website – <https://sinkingspring.org> If necessary, an overflow room will be set up or an additional worship time will be organized to accommodate a larger crowd.
- The bulletins will be placed in the pews for you prior to the service. There will be **no** passing of the peace, signing the friendship registers, or singing. We will ask that you refrain from hand shaking, hugging, and any physical contact. A basket will be placed in the Narthex for the offering and you may place your offering in the basket at any time. On communion Sundays, prepackaged cups containing both the bread and juice will be available for your convenience and safety.
- The Bibles and hymnals have been temporarily removed from the sanctuary. Please feel free to bring your own Bible.
- Multiple stations containing hand sanitizer will be located throughout the building. Face masks are required to be worn while present during all worship services and small group gatherings. Face masks will be available if needed.
- Social distancing will be practiced at both Sunday worship and small group gatherings. There will be marks on the floor to aid in appropriate distancing and pews have been marked with green tape for proper distancing as well.
- Ushers/Elders will be outside of the main entrance to greet attendees. These Ushers/Elders will take your temperature prior to entering the church and assure that all in attendance are wearing masks. **(This will also apply to small group gatherings.)**
- An Usher/Elder will be inside the narthex to gather the names of those in attendance – this is to assist in contact tracing if there is an instance of potential COVID-19 exposure.
- There will be two Ushers/Elders who will escort you to a seat in the sanctuary. Once seated, we ask that you remain seated and not move around in the sanctuary.
- At the conclusion of the worship service, please remain seated until the pastor or Usher/Elder release each pew to exit the church. We ask that you not linger in the narthex after the service.

We do ask if you are generally feeling unwell in any way, have had a fever within the last 48 hours, had a sore throat, cough, lost taste or smell, or if you are pending a COVID test or have been instructed to quarantine or if you have been in contact with an individual that is being tested for the COVID-19 virus PLEASE STAY HOME – everyone's health and safety is of the utmost importance.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY, Sunday, November 8

11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Monday, November 9

6:30 p.m. Congregational Care Team Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, November 10

8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall
8:00 p.m. Al Anon next to Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, November 11 Church Office Closed

Wednesday's with Kevin & the Psalms - **CANCELLED**
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Thursday, November 12

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

Saturday, November 14

6:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, November 15

11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Bob Horsch (Commonwealth), Sherrye May (home), Juanita Mullins (Quillen), Eleanor Munsey (home), Bob Tolar (Abingdon Rehab), George Treadwell (home)

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE NEW CONCERNS: Vickie Wilson

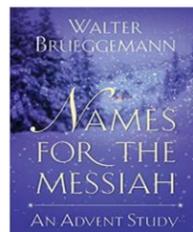
WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE CONTINUED CONCERNS: Vickie Cornelius, Belden Evans, Patricia Hudson and family, Randa McCall, Emma McCoy

AND FOR THESE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY: Joseph McGraw, Walter Holcomb Jr. (Afghanistan), John Nowell II, John Nowell III, Dexter Bevis and Travis Womer

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

WEDNESDAY'S WITH KEVIN & THE PSALMS IS CANCELLED BEGINNING NOVEMBER 11 THROUGH DECEMBER.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY: Rev. Campbell will present an Advent Bible Study on **"NAMES FOR THE MESSIAH: An Advent Study"** by Walter Brueggemann beginning the first Sunday of Advent, November 29 through December 20. Time for the class will be announced next week. Please contact the church if you would like to participate, study books will be \$12.50.



Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church

Organized 1772

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

November 8, 2020

23rd Sunday after Pentecost



“Remembering Our Call”



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.

*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.*

Ministers:	Members & Friends of the Congregation
Interim Pastor:	Kevin Campbell pastor@sinkingspring.org
Director of Music:	Joseph Trivette SSPCMusDir@gmail.com
Accompanist:	John Sharpe SSPCPiano@gmail.com
Office Administrator:	Donna Hale office@sinkingspring.org
Website:	https://sinkingspring.org