

THE GATHERING

Prelude: *At the Cross*

based on HUDSON by Ralph E. Hudson
arr. by Lani Smith

**Chiming of the Hour
Welcome and Church Family News
The Passing of the Peace of Christ**

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

Choral Call to Worship # 627 *I Love You, Lord*

I LOVE YOU, LORD

Call to Worship:

Lent calls us to journey, this and every day, following Jesus wherever he leads us.

Lent calls us to journey: to the place where God covenants with us, to receive the new names we are given.

Lent calls us to worship together, to tell future generations the good news.

Lent calls us to practice justice, to bring God's hope to all people.

Lent calls us to faithful living, to trust the One who gives us life.

Lent calls each of us to take up our cross, to trust the One who bears it with us.

Lent calls us to journey with God.

Let us worship God, who walks with us, this and every day.

Mimi Sloop

Hymn of Praise # 49 *The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

Call to Confession:

Given a test on our faith, would we have a passing grade? Looking at our lives of discipleship, would we be considered good models for others? When we fail to trust God, we discover that we do indeed lead barren lives. Let us be honest as we stand before our God, and bring our confessions for forgiveness and hope.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

We name you Christ...and in the next breath we explain what we mean by that.

We offer our hearts and lives...on our terms.

We make sure you know when we think you've gone wrong.

We are full of human thoughts and there's little room for God's thoughts.

Forgive us again. Correct us.

Turn us around, and teach us your ways,

and lead us as we let go of all that we have grasped so tightly,

that we may pick up the cross and follow you (moment of silent confession). Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

This is the good news: God does not go back on the promises made so long ago. God does not reject us, God redeems us. God does not withhold love, God pours it into our barren lives.

Forgiven of our sins, filled with hope, living in relationship with God and one another - we are a new people.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response to God's Grace and Mercy # 447 *We Are Forgiven*

WE ARE FORGIVEN

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

First Lesson: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall

be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Choir Anthem: *Honor and Praise*

words & music by Twila Paris

Second Lesson: Mark 8:31-38

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Sermon: "Cross Purposes"

Rev. Kathy Campbell

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed** .(Hymnal page 35)

Hymn of Meditation # 18 *In Christ Alone (Songs of Worship)

IN CHRIST ALONE

Prayers of the People

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *When I Survive the Wondrous Cross*

from a Gregorian chant

arr. by Lari Goss

OLD HUNDRETH

Doxology # 606 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**

May these gifts represent our willingness to deny ourselves, so others might be blessed by your grace, your peace, as well as your hope, in every moment of their lives. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

THE SENDING

Closing Hymn # 765 *May the God of Hope Go with Us (sing twice)
(Song of Hope)

ARGENTINA

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: *Fantasia on a Scottish Folk Tune

based on CANDLER

arr. by Robert J. Hughes

Serving us today –Preacher: Rev. Kathy Campbell; Music Director: Kathy Hutcheson; Liturgist: Mimi Sloop

Announcements

Our Lenten Mission Project this year is to provide Military Bible Sticks (MP3 players) for our active duty men and women. Twenty-five dollars provides an audio reading of the New Testament and selected Psalms to a service member. In the past nine years, *Faith Comes by Hearing*, militarybiblesticks.com, has provided over 892,000 audio Bibles to our military men and women and their families. 2,040 Military Chaplains distribute these MP3 players upon the request of a service member. What a great way to support our active duty soldiers in their lives. Please consider a donation with a check made out to Crossnore Presbyterian Church and designated for Military Bible Sticks.

We need a few people this Sunday after worship and coffee fellowship to help remove and pack up the ornaments from the Chrismon tree in the sanctuary. We also need to bring the risers down to storage in the basement. The plan is to have the new carpet installed in March and we need to clear the sanctuary of the remaining Christmas decorations.

Our Wednesday Bible Study meets from 3-4:30 p.m. every Wednesday. We are using *On the Road to the Cross* for our Season of Lent study. Please come and join us!

Please join us for Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The group is currently studying *Experiencing the Life of Jesus*. Books are \$10.00.

Kitchen Clean-up Day! Thursday, March 1 at 9:00 a.m. We need folks to come and help get our kitchen cleaned up and reorganized.

If you would like to provide a meal for Pat and Archie McMannen, please contact the church. office at 828-733-1939.

The Knitting Group meets on Wednesdays, from 1-3:00 p.m. and help create hats and scarves the homeless shelter in Boone. Whether you are a knitter or just want to learn, please join Janis Kenyon and Marion Blue on Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.

Would you like to help a child with his/her homework after school and help to change a life? Bobbie Willard, the Director of the After-School Program in Avery County, would glad to talk with you! Phone number: 828-963-0241; Email: bobbie_willard@ncsu.edu.

OUR ELDER

Class of 2018: Mimi Sloop, Charlotte Davila
Class of 2019: Barbara Ross (Clerk of Session), Charlie Sims
Class of 2020: Marion Blue, Jason DeWitt, Linda Berkley
Ashlyn DeWitt: Administrative Assistant
Kathy Hutcheson: Director of Music
Barbara Ross: Voluntary Church Administrator
Attendance Last Sunday: 19

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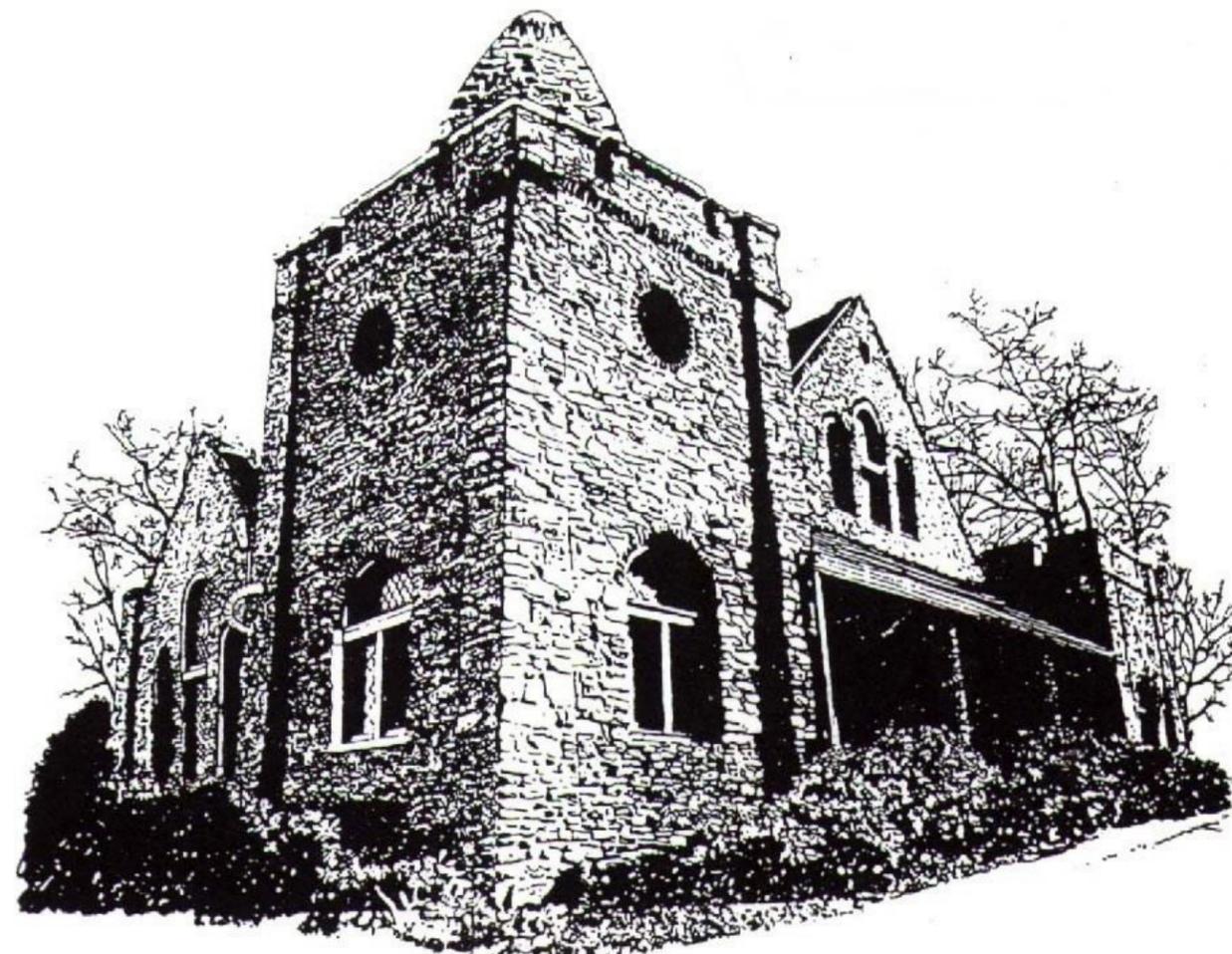
Prayers, Concerns and Thanksgivings

****Melanie Dunn's father passed away peacefully in the past 2 weeks.** Please keep Melanie, Robert and the family in your prayers in their time of grief and gratitude. Their address is 114 S. Sterling St., Morganton, NC 28655. ****Charlie Sims had total right knee replacement Wednesday, February 21.** He will be recovering at home in Florida. His address is 2796 Highland View Circle, Clermont, FL 34711. ****June Bagby's cochlear implant was successful.** The implant will be activated in one month. June's address is P.O. Box 256, Montezuma, NC 28653. ****Carroll Berkley continues his slow recovery from his heart transplant. He is still at Duke Hospital.** Keep the prayers and cards coming. His hospital address is Carroll Berkley, Room 7704, Duke University Hospital, 2301 Erwin Road, Durham, NC 27710. ****Penny McRae is in her 3rd week of rehab with her new knee.** She hopes to be at church on Easter Sunday. Her address is 8209 Jefferson Colony Rd., Charlotte, NC 28227. ****Shirley Price is recovering from pneumonia and feeling a bit stronger every day.** Her address is P.O. Box 275, Linville, NC 28646. ****Martha Lind, Bill Lind's sister, is home from the hospital and is living with acute health issues.** Bill's address is 3334 Land Harbor, Newland, NC 28657. ******Benny Frazier passed away peacefully in the early morning of January 30.** The funeral was held at 11:30 am on Saturday. Cards may be sent to John and Rose Culbreath (Benny's daughter) and Family at 663 Warren Street NE, Concord, NC 28205-3120. ****Mary Agnus Smith is at Banner Elk Life Care and enjoys visits.** She is Rachel Deal's sister. ****Lorraine Alls is struggling with leg and back issues.** She would appreciate your prayers. Her address: Apt. 208, 507 Linville St., Newland, NC 28657.

Rev. Kathy Campbell may be reached at the church office: 828-733-1939; at home: 828-963-5190; cell phone: 828-260-2512, email: rev.kathy.campbell@gmail.com. Her office hours are Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., weather permitting. Please call to ensure Pastor Kathy will be there.

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THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY



CROSSNORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CROSSNORE, NORTH CAROLINA

REV. KATHY CAMPBELL, PASTOR
2nd SUNDAY OF LENT, FEBRUARY 25, 2018
ELEVEN O'CLOCK A.M.