

THE GATHERING

Prelude: *Stand by Me*

based on tune by Charles A. Tindley
arr. by Hugh S. Livingstone, Jr.

Welcome and Church Family News
The Passing of the Peace of Christ

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

Choral Call to Worship # 4 *Spirit Song (Songs of Worship)*

SPIRIT SONG

***Call to Worship:**

Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.

Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.

Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.

Come, let us love the Lord our God.

We come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.

Hymn of Praise # 35 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

Call to Confession:

With every choice we make, we show how faithful we are to God's hopes for us. Yet, despite the mistakes we make, the missteps we take, God remains forgiving and gracious. Let us come to our God, speaking honestly about our lives as we pray together.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

Loving God, you call us into community, you teach us your ways, and you bless us with abundant life. Yet we turn aside to follow other paths: we take the easy way out, listening to the world's call rather than your call to commitment; we quarrel with one another, letting differences divide us; we cherish our resentments, shutting off our hearts from forgiveness and reconciliation; we cling to petty jealousies, feeling we deserve more than we have. Forgive us when we wander from your love. Draw us into community with each other, and feed us with the milk of your grace, that we may grow in faithfulness and work together in peace (moment of silent confession). **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

God is at work, nurturing our growth and showing us the ways that lead to life. God is at work, reconciling us to one another and teaching us the paths of love. God is at work, hearing our confessions, forgiving our disobedience, and blessing us in love.

Thanks be to God!

Response to God's Grace and Mercy # 621 *I Will Call Upon the Lord*

I WILL CALL

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Choir Anthem: Lord, We Come to Ask Your Blessing

words by Fred Pratt Green
music by W. Daniel Landes

Second Lesson: Matthew 5:21-26

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

Sermon: “Choosing Life”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn of Meditation # 175 *Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

***Affirmation of Faith: Brief Statement of Faith, Sections 1 & 2, Glory to God Hymnal, page 37**

***Gloria # 581**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Doxology # 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

PRAISE GOD

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

**When we could choose to be selfish, may we share from our abundance;
when we could choose to be hoarders, let us give lavishly;
when we could choose to be broken, let us be reconciled with those around us.
Bless our lives, as well as these gifts, we pray. Amen.**

THE SENDING

Closing Hymn # 753 *Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: *My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

based on a Norwegian melody
arr. by W. Elmo Mercer

Serving Us Today

Preaching: Rev. Kathy Campbell; Director of Music; Kathy Hutcheson;

Prayer Requests—Please keep each of these people listed in your prayers

****Alberta Duncan** has moved to Appalachian Brian Estates in Boone as she begins a new chapter in her life. Her new address is Alberta Duncan, Apartment 318, 163 Shadowline Drive, Boone, NC 28607. ****Frank Martin** is suffering from sciatica and his address is P.O. Box 274, Montezuma, NC 28653. ****Linda Taylor** had successful cataract surgery. Her address is P.O. Box 186, Crossnore, NC 28616. ****Patricia McGarr** is recovering from a successful cataract surgery and her address is 1625 Courtney Landings Drive, Apt. 4008, Charlotte, NC 28217 ****Barbara Ross** is at home and continues her recovery for a knee replacement. She appreciates calls (828-387-6332) and cards. Her address is P.O. Box 30, Crossnore, NC 28616. ****Ashlyn DeWitt** has completed her third round of chemotherapy and her address is: 1911 Land Harbor, Newland, NC 28657. **** Daniel Coffey's grandfather, Kenneth Ward**, has terminal cancer and is foregoing treatment. Daniel's address is P.O. Box 112, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. **Ross Ross's sister, Joan Ross Cole**, passed away on January 20. Ross's address is: 2126 Land Harbor, Newland, NC 28657. ****Frances Magruder's** surgery to remove her bladder was successful. She has returned to the mountains to continue her recovery. Frances' address is P.O. Box 154, Linville, NC 28646. ****Sally Wilhite** continues to heal from a hairline fracture on her knee cap. Her address is 102 Woodwinds Court, Seven Devils, NC 28604. ****Mel Wilhite's sister, Rev. Nancy Jane Wilhite**, is having severe kidney issues. Mel's address is 102 Woodwinds Court, Seven Devils, NC 28604. ****Ulysses Long's father** passed away suddenly on January 21. Ulysses was with us this summer and shared his great gift of music, vocal and piano, in worship with us. Ulysses address is 296 Wood Bridge Road, Statesville NC 28625-2592. ****Lindsey Edwards, young friend of Bill and Laura Lind**, has been diagnosed with lung cancer that has metastasized in her bones and lymph nodes. She and her husband have 4 boys, ages 1, 3, 5, and 7. Her address is 413 Townes St., Greenville, SC 29601 ****Ryan Watts, Charlotte Davila's granddaughter**, is going through a rough period in her life. Charlotte's address is P.O. Box 38, Jonas Ridge, NC 28641. ****Nicholas (Cole) Gretz, the grandson of Birte and Jack Hogan**, is undergoing intensive chemo as he battles leukemia. Birte and Jack's address is 2784 Land Harbor, Newland, NC 28657, and cards can be sent to Nicholas and his family in care of his parents, Raymond and Gayle Gretz, 352 Marba Road, Serverna, MD 21146-2016. ****Susan Hartley**, daughter of Bob and Linda Taylor, continues to have health concerns. She enjoys cards! Her address is P.O. Box 35, Crossnore, NC 28616. ****Lorraine Alls** appreciates your prayers and cards. Her address is Apt. 208, 507 Linville Street, Newland, NC 28657. ****Mary Agnes Smith**, Rachel Deal's sister, is in the Banner Elk Life Care Center. Her address is Life Care of Banner Elk, P.O. Box 2199, Banner Elk, NC 28604.

Announcements

We warmly welcome you to worship this morning and we hope you experience God's presence in this time of worship and fellowship. Please join us for coffee fellowship following worship.

Bible Study meets this Wednesday, 3- 4:30 p.m., to continue studying the Book of Micah along with the book, What Does the Lord Require by James C. Howell. Please read Micah, chapters 3 & 4 and join with us in the learning and the sharing.

Our February Potluck luncheon will be held next Sunday after worship. Chili, coffee, and tea will be served. Please bring a side dish to share. **We will be collecting our Food for People and Pets and Five Cents a Meal next Sunday as well.**

The Women's Group had a delicious lunch and a delightful time at Kaye's Kitchen this past Tuesday. Our next gathering will be in March—date, time, and location to be announced.

The Lenten Season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26. You will be receiving a church mailing with a daily Lenten Devotional, a calendar of events for the Lent/Easter Season, and information about our Lenten Mission Project. We will be collecting donations for the Guatemala Educational Scholarship that keeps 25-30 children, youth, and young adults in school in Los Cerros, Guatemala. This is our sixth year in partnership with El Libano Presbyterian Church in Los Cerros.

OUR ELDERS

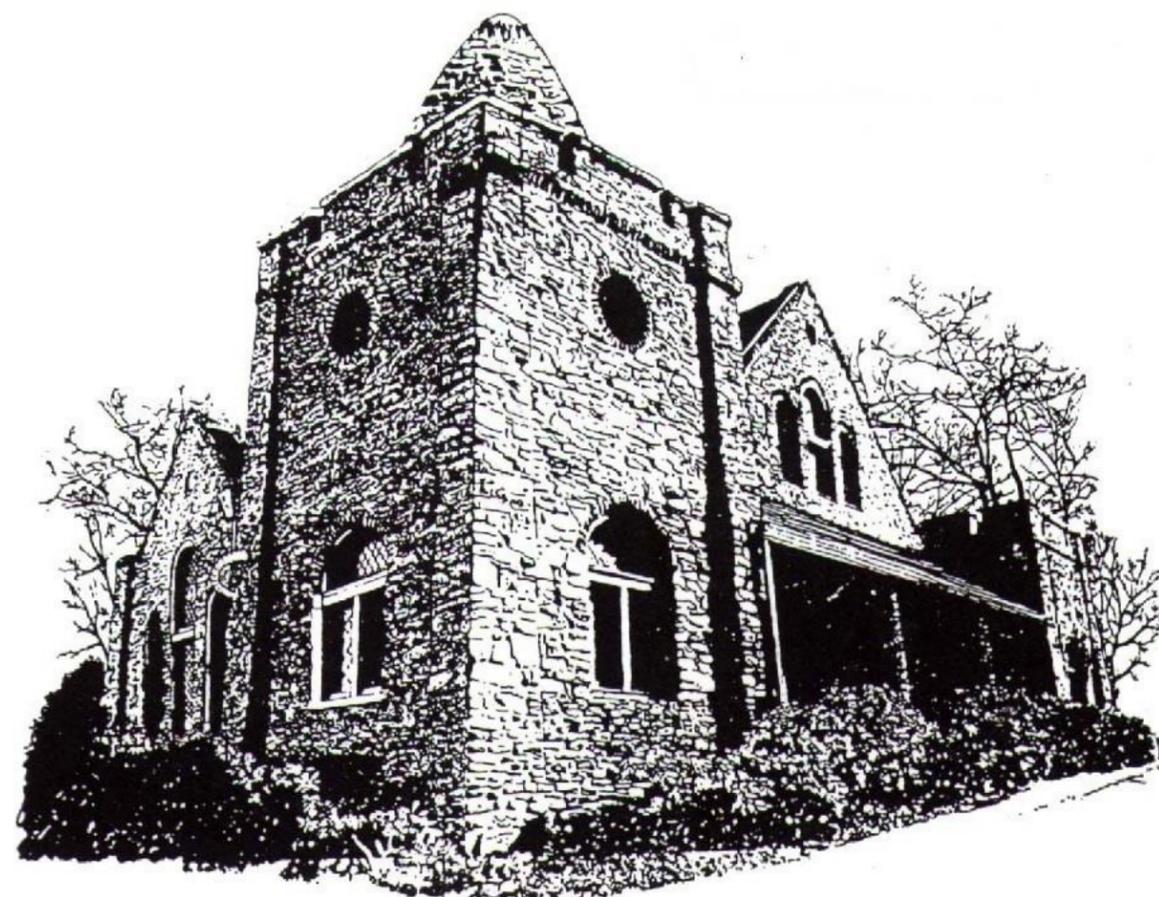
Class of 2019: Charlie Sims
Class of 2020: Jason DeWitt, Linda Berkley
Class of 2021: Charlotte Davila, Janis Kenyon (Clerk of Session),
Mimi Sloop, George Riggsbee
Ashlyn DeWitt: Administrative Assistant
Kathy Hutcheson: Director of Music
Barbara Ross: Voluntary Church Administrator
Attendance: 30

Crossnore Presbyterian Church
200 Chapel Drive, PO Box 386, Crossnore, NC 28616
Email: cpcpcusa@gmail.com
Phone: (828-733-1939)
Website: crossnore.wncpresby.org

Rev. Kathy Campbell may be reached at the church office: 828-733-1939; 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

"GROWING DEEPER IN FAITH, REACHING OUT IN LOVE"

CROSSNORE, NORTH CAROLINA

REV. KATHY CAMPBELL, PASTOR

6th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 16, 2020

ELEVEN O'CLOCK A.M.