

**Entrance**

Gathering *(As we gather to worship please greet those persons sitting around you.)*

Prelude *(You may come forward to light a prayer candle at this time.)*

*Vocalise* -W. Barnett

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* - arr. M. Hayes

*My Jesus, I Love Thee* - arr. L. Larson

Chiming of the Hour

Greetings and Welcome *(During this time please pass the pew notebooks.)*

Time of Centering Adult Hand Bell Choir

*What Wondrous Love Is This* - arr. L. Larson

Lighting of the Altar Candles

\*Call to Worship *(read responsively)*

*Psalm 23*

Leader: The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**All: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name sake.**

Leader: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

**All: For you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.**

Leader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

**All: You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

Leader: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

**All: And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

\*Extinguishing of a Lenten Candle John 3:19

*...the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light...*

\*Invocation

\*Opening Hymn No. 92

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

**Proclamation**

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 1:3-14

Stewardship Moment

\*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Children's Time

*(Children age 4 - 1st grade may leave for children's church.)*

Gospel Lesson Luke 18:18-30

Meditation Rev. Dr. Alan Swartz

**Response**

Joys and Thanksgivings/Prayer Concerns

Silent Prayers

Congregational Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

**Loving and gracious God, we recognize the shortcomings of our hearts. We tend to cling to those things that are fleeting instead of those that endure. We confuse that which is transient with that which sustains. In a world characterized by suffering and indifference, we seem to be sidetracked by trends and fashions. Forgive us, O God, and put a depth of spirit within us. Inspire us to seek that which is substantive rather than that which is vacuous. Use us as instruments of grace to bless the world in which we move. We ask this prayer in the name of the one who taught us to pray.**

The Lord's Prayer *(please pray in unison)*

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering of Our Gifts

Offertory

Jill Boliek and Chris Dodson, piano/organ duet

*It Is Well with My Soul* - arr. L. Larson

\*Doxology *(sung in unison)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Sending Forth**

\*Closing Hymn No. 430

*O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

\*Pastoral Benediction

\*Postlude

*Down at the Cross* - arr. L. Larson

-----

*\*please rise in body or in spirit*

**Today's worship service is being broadcast live on the internet and recorded for later viewing.**

**Weekly Prayer List**

*Sympathies* to Teri Lowder on the loss of her uncle.

**Concerns:** Jay Minnick; Cathy Anderson; Susan Paxton; Linda Hufnagel; Gail Waters; Steve Clifton; Evelyn Castleberry; Lydia MacKenzie; Diana Barbee; Brenda Cantu; Robbie Stewart; Thelmarene Hooper; Sharon Karlic; Keda Olive; Pam Richardson; Kristina Miller & her daughter; Sandy Castleberry; Bill Krieski's mom; Warren Williams's mom; Susan Brosnan's mom; Stacy Potratz's mom; Jeannette Day's mom, dad, & sister; Heather Wilson's dad; Martin Schreiner's mom & dad; Nikki Williams's mom; Kirk Pedersen's mom; Sandy Jennekens's mom & dad; Lisa Beers's mom; Bryan Koprowski's dad; Virginia Benner's mother-in-law; Trisha Myers's daughter, Rachel; Melissa Kennedy's grandson; Laura Hammond's brother, Steve; Brenda Cantu's sister, Lillian; Diana Barbee's sister, Gloria; Trisha Myers's brothers, Bill & John; Vickie McGee's sister-in-law, Marilyn; Jane & Dale Stokes's sister-in-law, Doris; Lucinda Sullivan's cousin, Martha; Jeff & Kristin Hoffmann's niece, Angie; Betty Pierce's niece, Donna; John McGlaughlin's brother's family; Philip Strickland's friend's husband; Eileen Anderson's friends, Gail & Eleanor.

*To place a prayer request on the prayer list, please email your request to office@pgumc.org or you may fill out a prayer request card and place it in the offering plate.*

**This Week's Calendar**

**Today:**

- 12:00 p.m. High School Youth Lunch Outing
- 3:30 p.m. Confirmation Class
- 4:30 p.m. Hand Bell Choir & Middle School Youth

**Monday:**

- 5:30 p.m. Great Minds
- 6:00 p.m. Sewing Group
- 7:00 p.m. Book Club

**Tuesday:**

- 1:00 p.m. YarnCraft Ministry
- 5:30 p.m. Band Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. MOPS Group

**Wednesday:**

- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

**Thursday:**

- 10:00 a.m. Little Seedlings
- 11:00 a.m. Sewing Group
- 11:30 a.m. Bring-Your-Own Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. Singing Through The Hymnal
- 6:00 p.m. CPR/AED Training

**Friday:**

- 10:30 a.m. Friday Folders

**Saturday:**

- 9:00 a.m. Cantata Rehearsal

**Today we are participating in a special offering for UMCOR Sunday.**

UMCOR is the United Methodist Committee on Relief, an arm of the United Methodist Church that provides humanitarian relief around the world. Gifts given on UMCOR Sunday strengthen the Church's global humanitarian response by underwriting UMCOR's administrative costs, allowing 100% of additional funds to be used for specific programs like U.S. & international disaster response and global migration. Please make checks payable to PGUMC and specify *UMCOR* on the memo line. Special envelopes for cash donations are located in the pew notebooks.

**Sing through the hymnal this Thursday!** Bring a bagged lunch at 11:30 a.m. and then join Chris Dodson in the Sanctuary at 12:15 p.m. to learn more about our hymnal as we sing through it together. Questions? See Chris or Deborah Horton.

**Volunteers are needed for our annual Spring Clean Up scheduled for next Saturday, March 25, from 8:00 a.m. - noon.** Please bring wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes, pitch forks, trimmers, blowers, and strong backs to help spread mulch and trim a few bushes. If anyone wants to provide flowers, we can plant those as well. Coffee, donuts, and water will be available. Contact Bart Halbert at purplestang69@gmail.com for more information.

**Please join us for the next installment of the PGUMC Concert Series next Sunday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m.** Dave Rivers will present organ music, ranging from Baroque to Modern. There will be a light reception in the Welcome Center immediately following the concert. Invite your friends and neighbors - all are welcome!

**Please help us fill Easter eggs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt.** Packages of empty eggs may be picked up in the Welcome Center. We ask that they be filled with candy, stickers, etc. and returned to church no later than April 2. Please do not include candy with nuts or nut butters as we may have some children with allergies.

**Speaking of Easter eggs, please join us for an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8, at 10:00 a.m.!** A light breakfast will be provided followed by an Easter egg hunt for children ages 2 years through 5th grade.

**Order an Easter lily to honor or remember a loved one.** Lilies cost \$10 each and we'll use them to decorate the church on Easter Sunday. Please complete an order form (located in the pew notebooks) and place it in the offering plate. Lily orders must be received by April 2.

**Automated external defibrillators (AEDs) have been installed in all of our church buildings.** They can be found in the following locations: in the Education Building above the water fountain, in the Hyder House near the water fountain, in the Welcome Center on the back wall, and in the hallway of the Mattie Bell Building. AEDs are used to assist someone experiencing cardiac arrest. Please note their locations in the event of a medical emergency.

**Church Ministry Team**

**Rev. Jay Minnick:** Minister  
jay.minnick@pgumc.org

**Chris Dodson:** Director of Worship Arts  
chris.dodson@pgumc.org

**Isaac Pyatt:** Director of Contemporary  
Worship Arts  
isaac.pyatt@pgumc.org

**Ashley Yohman:** Director of Children & Youth  
Ministries  
ashley.yohman@pgumc.org

**Deborah Horton:** Volunteer Coordinator  
deborah.horton@pgumc.org

**Jill Boliek:** Accompanist  
jill.boliek@pgumc.org

**William Holley:** Media Specialist  
william.holley@pgumc.org

**Julie Lebria:** Church Office Administrator  
julie.lebria@pgumc.org

**Warren Williams:** Custodian  
warren.williams@pgumc.org

*We welcome Rev. Dr. Alan Swartz to our pulpit this morning. Recently retired as the Senior Pastor of Highland UMC, Dr. Swartz has also served as Lead Pastor of Kitty Hawk, Horne Memorial, and Oxford UMC. He has served other churches in the North Carolina Conference for a total of 43 years of ministry. He holds degrees from Methodist College, the Divinity School of Duke University, and the Theological School of Drew University. While he was pastor at New Hope (Goldsboro) he was also an Adjunct Professor of Religion at Mount Olive College. He has chaired the Conference IT Committee, Resolutions Committee, Insurance Committee, and the Goldsboro District Council of Ministries. He has also served on the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Board of Worship.*