

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..)*

*A Moment of Prayer - D. Paxton
Lord, Reign in Me - arr. G. Parker*

Chiming of the Hour

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

Time of Centering Susan Brosnan & Jennifer Williams, flute
Speak, O Lord - arr. L. Larson

Lighting of the Altar Candles

*Call to Worship *(read responsively)*

Psalm 95:1-6

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

All: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Leader: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

All: In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it; for his hands formed the dry land.

All: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

*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. 384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Proclamation

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 2:4-10

Stewardship Moment

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Children's Time

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

Gospel Lesson Matthew 5:17-20

Meditation Rev. Dr. Alan Swartz

Response

Joys and Thanksgivings/Prayer Concerns

Silent Prayers

Congregational Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

We are embarrassed to admit, O God, how seldom we pause to give thanks for the many gifts of our lives. Somehow we have learned not to notice our own abundance. Gracious Lord, forgive us. Help us to share with others out of our abundance as you teach us to draw the circle of our lives ever larger. It is then that we will understand what it means to be part of the Body of Christ. Amen.

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

Lonesome Valley - arr. G. Martin

Chancel Choir

*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

Take My Life, and Let It Be

No. 399

*Pastoral Benediction

*Postlude

God Is My Strong Salvation - arr. G. Martin

**please rise in body or in spirit*

If you are looking for a church home in the Raleigh area we would love for you to become part of our church family here at Pleasant Grove. Please contact the church office for more information about church membership.

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 (Clayton), 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 (1978), the Divinity School of Duke University (1983), and the Theological School of Drew University (1993). While he was pastor at New Hope (Goldsboro) he was also an Adjunct Professor of Religion at Mount Olive College. Alan was licensed to preach in 1979, ordained a Deacon in the North Carolina Conference in 1980, and an Elder in 1984. 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.

Weekly Prayer List

Concerns: Jay Minnick; Cathy Anderson; Susan Paxton; Linda Hufnagel; Gail Waters; Steve Long; 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; Dale & Jane Stokes's son, Jared; 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; Teri Lowder's uncle, Doug; Jeff & Kristin Hoffmann's niece, Angie; Betty Pierce's niece, Donna; John McGlaughlin's brother's family; Philip Strickland's friend's husband.

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.

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

Weekly Announcements

Did You Know? Our Welcome Center is a great place to gather on Sunday mornings! Please stop by between 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. for light refreshments and fellowship with friends, old and new. Devotional materials and information about church activities can be found in the Welcome Center as well. Interested in helping out with refreshments? Contact Deborah Horton at deborah.horton@pgumc.org.

Volunteers are needed for our annual Spring Clean Up scheduled for 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 on Sunday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m. Dave Rivers will present organ music, ranging from Baroque to Modern. 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.

Our Habitat for Humanity Build Day has been set for Saturday, May 13! PGUMC and our partner Piney Grove AME will be building a house together on Saturday, May 13, from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Would you like to join us? There's something to do for beginners and for those who know their way around a toolbox. Tools and safety gear will be provided, or you can bring your own. Volunteers must be at least age 16. If interested in volunteering, please email Jane Albright at janealbright3@gmail.com. She will send you the sign-up link with more information.

Check your spam folders! Unfortunately, emails from the church office and church staff are often marked as spam by email servers - especially gmail. Please check your spam folder on a regular basis and mark emails from the church as “not spam”.

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