



## Community Opportunities during Lent

### **Loudon Avenue Christian Church Community Lenten Revival**

March 7—Pastor Lee Pusha'

March 14—Pastor Michael Palmer

March 21—Pastor Sylvia Ball

March 28—Pastor Melton Johnson

March 30—*Good Friday*—Pastor Anthony L. Holmes, Sr.

*All services begin at noon each Wednesday and last for 30 minutes. A light lunch of soup and sandwich will be served after each service.*

### **Wednesday Evening Lenten Study/Worship Series "From Confession to Communion"**

This *supper* series is co-sponsored by First Baptist (Gainsboro) and Greene Memorial United Methodist Church. *The group meets each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at First Baptist, with a meal of soup and sandwiches provided each week at no charge.* The intention of the series is to facilitate the building of community, to overcome our disconnections over race, gender, politics, generations, and change. It will conclude on Wednesday, March 28.

A flier is posted in the vestibule with additional information, or you may call First Baptist (981-1241) or Greene Memorial (344-6225).

**See the insert for more information regarding our annual  
"One Great Hour of Sharing" offering,  
to be received on Easter Sunday, April 1.**

Or, visit [presbyterianmission.org/oghs](http://presbyterianmission.org/oghs)

*\$50 can provide a refugee family  
with a good basket full of essential supplies.*

**"You shall be called repairers of the breach." (Isaiah 58)**



Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church  
301 Patton Avenue NW, Roanoke, Virginia 24016

Office Phone: 540.342.0264

<http://www.5thavepresbychurchroanoke.com>

*Historic Past • Contemporary Presence • Exciting Future*

## Third Sunday in Lent

March 4, 2018

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Organist..... Mr. Frederick Bolden  
Pastor ..... The Rev. Vernie Bolden, Jr.

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### We Assemble in God's Name

#### Organ Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Gathering in Song (seated)      *"Revive Us Again"*      # 295

#### Welcome

**Prayer of Preparation (unison):** God of grace: Give me a pure heart—that I may see Thee; a humble heart—that I may hear Thee; a heart of love—that I may serve Thee; a heart of faith—that I may abide in Thee. Amen.      *(Dag Hammarskjöld, 1905–1961)*

#### Chimes

**\*Call to Worship**      *from Psalm 19*

**Leader:** The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**People:** *There is no speech, nor are there words; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, their words to the end of the world.*

**All:** *Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.*

**\*Hymn of Praise..... "God of Grace and God of Glory" .....# 292**

#### Announcements and Celebrations

#### Welcome of Visitors

**\* Passing of the Peace +**

**Leader:** May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

*People: Peace be with you! Let us now share the peace of God with one another.*

*(Congregation greets one another, exchanging words of peace.)*

### **Special Music**

#### **Invitation to Confession**

**Leader:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

**Prayer of Confession (unison):** Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to change what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

#### **Silent Confession**

##### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

**Leader:** Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

*People: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.  
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.*

**Leader:** Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**All:** *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.*

#### **Prayer Concerns**

##### **Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

*All: 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.*

**Prayer Response.....** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" (vs. 1).....# 410

## **We Proclaim God's Word**

**Special Music**  
**Prayer for Illumination**  
**Sermon**

The Rev. Vernie Bolden  
"WTF? (Where's the Faith?)"

## **We Respond to God's Word**

**\* Invitation to Discipleship**

**\* Hymn of Commitment**      *"Lord, Who Throughout"*      # 81 **Blue**

**\* Affirmation of Faith**

**The Apostles' Creed**

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

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy universal church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

**\* Gloria Patri** ..... *"Glory Be to the Father"* ..... # 623

*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.*

### **The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts**

**Offertory Prayer (unison):** God of mercy, we praise you that in love you have reached across the abyss of our sin and brought us into your embrace. We thank you for the sacrifice of your Son on the cross, for the breaking of his body for our sakes, and for the spilling of his blood to seal us in the covenant of your love. By your Spirit, give us the grace of repentance, and guide us in ways of righteousness. Take our humble offerings as tokens of our commitment to follow Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord. Amen

**\* Choral Response**

*All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee.*

# Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**Prayer of Praise**

**Words of Institution**

The Rev. Dr. Dusty Fiedler

**Partaking of the Bread and Cup**

Hymn: "At Calvary" # 338

**Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison):** Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Help us, O God, to be obedient to your call to love all your children, to do justice and show mercy, and to live in peace with your whole creation. Guide us through the desert of life, quench our thirst with the living waters, satisfy our hunger with the bread of heaven. Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when with the redeemed of all the ages we will feast with you at your table in glory. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. Amen.

## **We Go in God's Name**

**Charge and Benediction**

The Rev. Vernie Bolden

**We Carry Our Light Into the World**

*"We Will Glorify"* # 72

\*Those who are able may stand

+ Late worshipers seated

## ***Welcome Visitors!***

We are glad you have joined us in worship today. Please fill out the card that the ushers gave you at the door. We hope to see you here again soon. Anyone who is interested in joining this part of Christ's church should speak to the pastor or one of the elders.

**Remember our Shut-Ins/Friends  
and Members Away from Our Community**

Mr. Bob Hale—Salem Health & Rehabilitation Center, 556-6680  
1945 Roanoke Blvd, Salem VA 24153

Mr. Jim Slaughter—1219 Grayson Ave NW (24017) 366-0391

Mr. Don Wahls—138 Whaley Rd, Raeford NC 28376

Email: don.wahls@gmail.com

+ Notes from the Pastor +

- Start the New Year off right with Bible Study! *“Forming Faith”* meets Tuesdays at 6 pm here at the church. This week, *Karen Watson* will be leading a study in *“The Christology of Matthew”*. Please join us this week, not only to enrich your spirit, but also to support Karen as she furthers her studies at Lexington Theological Seminary.
- Office hours this week: By appointment—contact [vernlee3@hotmail.com](mailto:vernlee3@hotmail.com), or call the office—540.342.0264

+ Other Announcements +

- Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. *Lois Breuer and Katrine Cole* will serve.
- Our First Sunday Hunger Offering will be received today as part of our expanding outreach to the community. Please give as generously as you are able.
- The Adult Choir meets as announced. Come join the fellowship. New members are welcomed.
- *Remember:* No one should have to choose between heating their home and feeding their family. Bring a food offering to share with those who need our help.
- Check out our web page: [www.5thavepresbychurchroanoke.com](http://www.5thavepresbychurchroanoke.com)

## **Congregational Prayer and Pastoral Concerns**

**For our nation and its leadership, for President Trump; for our state and local officials, and those elected to national office— for wisdom and compassion, for a spirit of cooperation and the overcoming of barriers; for a capacity to seek the greater good instead of personal gain**

**For the leaders of other countries, and the efforts of all who seek to bring *peace* to the world—for North and South Korea; for Iran; for Israel/Palestine; for The Congo**

**For our enemies, both personal and national, including terrorists**

**For our pastor and his family; for our ministry together**

**For unity in the Church, cooperation among denominations, for people of other faiths and for those who have no faith**

**For all who mourn the deaths of loved ones and friends: *The Vernie Bolden family, the Joseph Breuer family, Russ Merritt & family*; for victims of violence; victims of *school shootings*; California wildfires & mudslides, and others dealing with the aftermath of both natural disasters and manmade accidents, & for those who work to help them rebuild their lives; for those suffering from famine and hunger; for people in our own Roanoke & SW Virginia region**

**For those battling cancer & other health and life-challenging issues, for those dealing with depression, with addiction; for those recovering from illness or surgery: Rev. Joseph Keaton & Central Baptist church; Rev. Sylvia Ball, Todd Moorman, Priscilla Preston, Bob Hale, Terry Campbell, Audra Williams, Pat Brown (Ruth's sister), Carolyn Coleman (cousin of Joyce & Fred), Rev. Dusty Fiedler, Anita Pendleton, Jim Slaughter, The Roberson family, Cynthia & Nat Harris, Ruth Hilton, Brenda Williams, Jackie Manns, Harold Robertson, Paul Witting (with Parkinson's); Thom Witting; Robert Woodworth; health care workers and researchers; for the elderly**

**For our children and youth; for their teachers & school staff; for those in our neighborhood; for those who work with young people and seek to bring them to Christ and to nurture their faith in him**

**For our service men and women stationed around the world and their families**

**For those who seek employment, for the under-employed, for the homeless, for those who are in fear of losing their homes or their jobs; for those under stress at work and at home.**