

O come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord our maker!
Come just as you are.

(Psalm 95:6)

O come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord our maker!
**Come, and know that God loves you,
just as you are!**

(Psalm 95:6)

(John 3:16, I John 4:17)

*SONG OF PRAISE: *"All Who Are Thirsty"* see insert

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Sarah Lampley
**Lord, thank you for making each and every one of us unique. We
come to you in our differences, knowing that we are united in your
love. Please forgive our ignorance and hypocrisy, and remind us of
the power of your love. For as you have said, "You shall not wrong
or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt."
(Exodus 22:21) Help us to be more like your perfect Son and radiate
your love in our daily actions to everyone we encounter. Amen.
(silent confession)**

RESPONSE IN SONG

***We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that our unity will one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yeah they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Jack Brownlee
I John 4:16-19 and 2 Chronicles 7:14

God is love and those who abide in love abide in God,
and God abides in them.

**Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness
on the Day of Judgment, because as God is, so are we in this world.**

There is no fear in love,

but perfect love casts out fear;

for fear has to do with punishment,

and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

We love because God first loved us.

Friends, believe the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*GLORI PATRI (sung): ***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 PEACE OF CHRIST: John 13:34-35 Alex Niblack
May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!
And also with you! (*Greet one another with the Peace of Christ.*)

NEWS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY Will Clifton

A TIME FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS: Matthew 19:14
Taylor Niblack and Braxton Clifton

*SONG: *"In Christ Alone"* see insert

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Taylor Niblack

FIRST OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-9, 12

SECOND OLD TESTAMENT READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-4, 6-13
Anna Aldinger

ANTHEM: *"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"* Ali Huston

FIRST NEW TESTAMENT READING: Matthew 11:25-30 Drew Hendrix

SECOND NEW TESTAMENT READING: Romans 5:1-5, 8-11
Alexis Aldinger

MEDITATIONS BY THE SENIORS Will Clifton
Ali Huston
Davis Kennedy

*HYMN #442: *"Just As I Am"*

*UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Romans 6:1-7 Ian Brotherton
**What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that
grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on
living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized**

into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Holly Hendrix
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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS
Offertory: "Good Good Father" (Brown & Barrett) Sherry Young
The congregation is encouraged to ponder the lyrics of our offertory as the offering is collected.

*I've heard a thousand stories of what they think you're like
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night
And you tell me that you're pleased and that I'm never alone
You're a good good father it's who you are,
And I'm loved by you it's who I am.
I've seen many searching for answers far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers only you provide
'Cause you know just what we need before we say a word
You're a good good father it's who you are,
And I'm loved by you it's who I am.
Because you are perfect in all of your ways to us.
It's a love so undeniable I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think
As you call me deeper still into love love love.
You're a good good father it's who you are,
And I'm loved by you it's who I am.*

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

*Prayer of Dedication Ben Schweppe
*CLOSING SONG: "I'll Fly Away" see insert
*CHARGE AND BLESSING: Ephesians 5:8-10 Noah Romich
*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY
*POSTLUDE: "I'll Fly Away" (Reprise) Sherry Young

*Those who are able may stand.
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Sound Board Operators: (8:30) John Brotherton (11:00) Jim Teddy Jr.
Ushers: Ian Brotherton, Braxton Clifton,
Drew Hendrix, Alex Niblack, Ben Schweppe
Childcare is available for preschool aged children in Room 102
and is staffed today by Tricia Butler and Chrystal Lively.

In order to protect your children, please be sure they are accompanied at all times by a parent or responsible adult caregiver.

WE WELCOME all who worship with us this morning **and thank** the Senior High Youth for leading the worship services today. If you are interested in more information or in becoming a member of our family of faith, please call the church office, 704-487-8503.

THE FLOWERS are given to the glory of God in honor of the Class of 2017 seniors and in loving appreciation for all our high school youth by the high school youth leaders.

A ROSEBUD is given in honor of Harrison Young Lee born March 15, 2017 at 9:07 a.m. in Simpsonville, SC to Marion and John Lee. He weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz. and was 20 inches long. Harrison has a brother, Jack age 2½, and their proud grandparents are Marie and Rusty Patterson.

A ROSEBUD is given in honor of Ruby Louise LeGrand born March 18, 2017 at 5:00 a.m. in Hickory, NC to Hillary and David LeGrand Jr. She weighed 8 lbs. 3.9 oz. Ruby has a sister, Lilly age 2½, and their proud grandparents are Lisa and David LeGrand.

THESE DAYS devotional books for April-May-June are available in the narthex. Please take one for your family.

YOUTH GROUPS:

Middle School Youth will meet today, 12:00-2:00, for lunch and “Spring Cleaning” on the playground.

Senior High Youth will not meet tonight.

THIS WEEK (MARCH 26-APRIL 1, 2017):

Sunday	12:00 pm	Middle School Youth lunch & “spring cleaning”
Monday	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 100 in Scout House
Tuesday	11:00 am	Bible Study in back parlor
	2:00 pm	Clerk’s Council in Pastor’s Study
	5:30 pm	Media Committee in Ellis Hall
	5:30 pm	Mission & Ministry Committee in back parlor
	6:30 pm	Spiritual Life Committee in conference room
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Worship & Music Committee in back parlor
	12:00 pm	Lenten Service/Lunch at Aldersgate UMC
	5:00 pm	Youth Ministry Task Force in conference room
	6:00 pm	Supper & Program in Ellis Hall
Thursday	6:30 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal in Bell Room
	7:10 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room
	10:00 am	SPC Staff Meeting in Pastor’s Study
	1:15 pm	Rainbow & SPC Staff Lunch in back parlor
Friday	4:00 pm	Deadline to order Easter Lilies
	9:15 am	Church Office Opens a little later than usual
Saturday	8:00 am	Church Work Day

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES continue this week and are held each Wednesday of Lent at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 12:00-12:30. The speaker this week is Rev. Christina Auch, Pastor, Ascension Lutheran Church. A light lunch is served each Wednesday at 12:30 in the Epworth Building for \$5.00. Menu this week: creamy vegetable soup, pimento cheese sandwiches, & butterscotch cookies.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT - MARCH 29
6:00 pm - Supper
<i>Ham & Turkey SubSandwiches - Bring side dishes & deserts!</i>
\$3/adults; \$1/under 12; \$10 family max.
6:30 pm - Program
<i>Susan Bell: “Easter Through Artists’ Eyes”</i>
Child care is available for infants through four year olds

CHURCH WORK DAY, Saturday, April 1: Bring your gloves, gardening tools, 12' step ladder if you have one, buckets, brushes, Clorox, whatever else you have that you think you will need. We need help pruning, weeding, mulching, gutter cleaning, replacing light bulbs in fellowship hall, cleaning mildew at doorway entrances, changing air handler filters, cleaning up at Scout Hut. The more help – the easier the work!

NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 2, both the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services will be held in the Sanctuary.

FOLLOWING THE 11:00 worship service next Sunday, April 2, church family and friends are invited to Ellis Hall for a Baked Potato & Salad Bar Lunch with Pick-Up Desserts to benefit the Guatemala Youth Mission Team. There will also be a Silent Art Auction to celebrate the original works of our SPC community. Handmade pottery, knitted & crocheted pieces, jewelry, photography, drawings, paintings, woodwork, and more will be displayed in Ellis Hall for bidding 8:00 am-1:30 pm that day. We have some amazing talents in our church family – you don’t want to miss the fun!!

ART AUCTION CONTRIBUTORS: Please deliver your pieces to the church office by Friday, March 31, at Noon. Include with your item the following: name of artist, brief description of the item, any personal note about the item that you might like to share (how/where it was made, what makes it special, it’s market value, etc.), and your suggested starting bid. If your art is intangible (ex., a dance class), please create a certificate outlining all necessary details and restrictions, or contact Mystie Brotherton to have one created for you.

OUR EASTER EGG HUNT will be held Sunday, April 9, 3:00-4:00, at the home of Devin, Claire, Lilly, and Anna Grace McCullough, 75 Fairview Farms. All you need to bring is your Easter Basket to put your eggs in. We will have refreshments! Looking forward to a fun afternoon!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT:

2017 Operating Budget.	\$543,199.00
2017 Monthly Budget Needs.....	\$ 45,266.58
Total Receipts March 1-6, 2017.....	\$ 35,465.76

CONTRIBUTIONS were given this week to the Memorial Fund in memory of Jan Clifton, Anne Taylor, Henry Weathers Jr.; to the Youth Mission Fund in honor of the leaders and church members for the amazing opportunity they are providing the Guatemala Mission Team.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER (also see ongoing prayer list in newsletter) . . .

Josie Bowles, Tripp Bowling, Jack Breen, Layla Bridges, John Campbell, Charles Clyatt, Ed Cushman, Joy Cushman, Steve Harrington, Chip Haskin, Fred Hunt, Ruth Layng, Mollie Ley, Camille Persing, Sandy Poston, Helen Turpish, Judy Wiggin, Troy Goss & all those serving in the military; Stephen Ministers & their Care Receivers; Food Ministry, Rainbow Connection, Our brothers & sisters of Monte los Olivos, Jo Ella Holman in the Caribbean, John McCall in Taiwan, Dr. Steve & Alene Burgert in Kenya; Christians around the globe who are persecuted for their faith

EASTER LILIES: If you would like to order a lily(ies) - \$10 each - to be placed in the church Easter morning, either in memory or in honor of someone, we ask that your check accompany the order form below and turned into the church office **by March 30** or drop it in the offering plate today.

EASTER LILY ORDERS ARE DUE BY THIS THURSDAY, MARCH 30:

I (We) would like _____ lily(ies) placed in the church on Easter.

Enclosed is \$_____ (\$10 each payable to SPC).

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

By _____