



Friendship Pad. \*Prayer cards are provided for sharing your joys and concerns. Please write your prayer requests on a card and the ushers will collect them.

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty, reconciliation out of estrangement. Open our hearts to know that you do not leave us alone, but labor to make all of us whole. Help us to perceive your unseen hand in the unfolding of our lives, and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit, that we may know the joy of being your people. Amen.

Sunday, February 19, 2017

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### THE CHURCH GATHERS

Prelude Sarah Abushakra  
Chiming the Hour

\*Hymn No. 701 (2X) Lord, Prepare Me SANCTUARY

Greeting The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**  
Welcome, Ritual of Friendship, Prayer Cards, Announcements and Opening Prayer

\*Sharing the Peace of Christ The Peace of Christ be with You. **And also with you!**  
(Please exchange signs of Christ's peace with those near you.)

### TO WORSHIP THE LORD OUR GOD

\*Responsive Call to Worship Liturgist: Peg Speidel  
We worship a God who is beyond us and yet near to us.  
**We worship a God who speaks to us in creation, Scripture and the Holy Spirit.**  
We revere God for God's power and might.  
**We draw near to a God who loves us tenderly.**  
Let us offer our prayers and praise to God.  
**Let us listen for the ways God will speak to us today.**  
We lift our voices in song.

\*Hymn No. 300 We Are One in the Spirit THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

Call to Confession Liturgist: Peg Speidel  
Friends, we all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. The good news is that with God, grace abounds and forgiveness is real to all who confess. Let us confess our sins collectively and then personally.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: Peg Speidel

**You do not call us to total perfection, O God, and you do not call us to be sanctimonious. You call us to holiness, to being set apart from the corruption of the world. We confess that we do not live up to the call you place upon us. We do not recognize the damage we do by our sin. We do not see the hurt that our carelessness and apathy cause others. We have not weeded the prejudice out of our souls. We give in too readily to sensuality and indulgence. We do not push ourselves to reach the next spiritual height. We do not stand up for those who cannot help themselves. For all of the ways we fail to be a set-apart people, we ask your forgiveness. Take away our guilt and strengthen us from within. Enable us to be strong in our witness while avoiding self-righteousness. Mold us into the individuals and church you expect us to be. Amen.**

*Silence for Personal Confession*

Assurance of Pardon

Liturgist: Peg Speidel

Friends, hear the good news and believe it: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

\*Gloria Patri Hymn No. 581

(The children are invited to join the Pastor on the steps)

Time With Young Disciples

Children's Church follows in Room 5

Tom Dendy

### TO WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER AND SHARED STEWARDSHIP

Prayers of the People – Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer ("debts and debtors")

Giving of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Offertory

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

Celebration Choir

\*Doxology Hymn No. 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Unison Prayer of Dedication **Faithful God, we receive your love and grace in so many ways, even when we feel unworthy, or too damaged, for such goodness. Your love is multiplied in us, as we experience it deeply and share it generously. Just as we receive, we give back, and we pray that you will multiply our gifts in your love, that your reign of love may reach farther, wider, deeper. And may hearts be transformed by your love and grace. Amen.**

### TO WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD

Scripture

Matthew 5:38-48

NRSV

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Sermon

*The Challenge of Christian Love*

Pastor Tom Dendy

### AND RESPOND IN FAITHFUL SERVICE IN THE WORLD

\*Charge and Benediction

Pastor Tom Dendy

\*Hymn No. 702

*Christ Be Beside Me*

BUNNESAN

\*Postlude

Sarah Abushakra

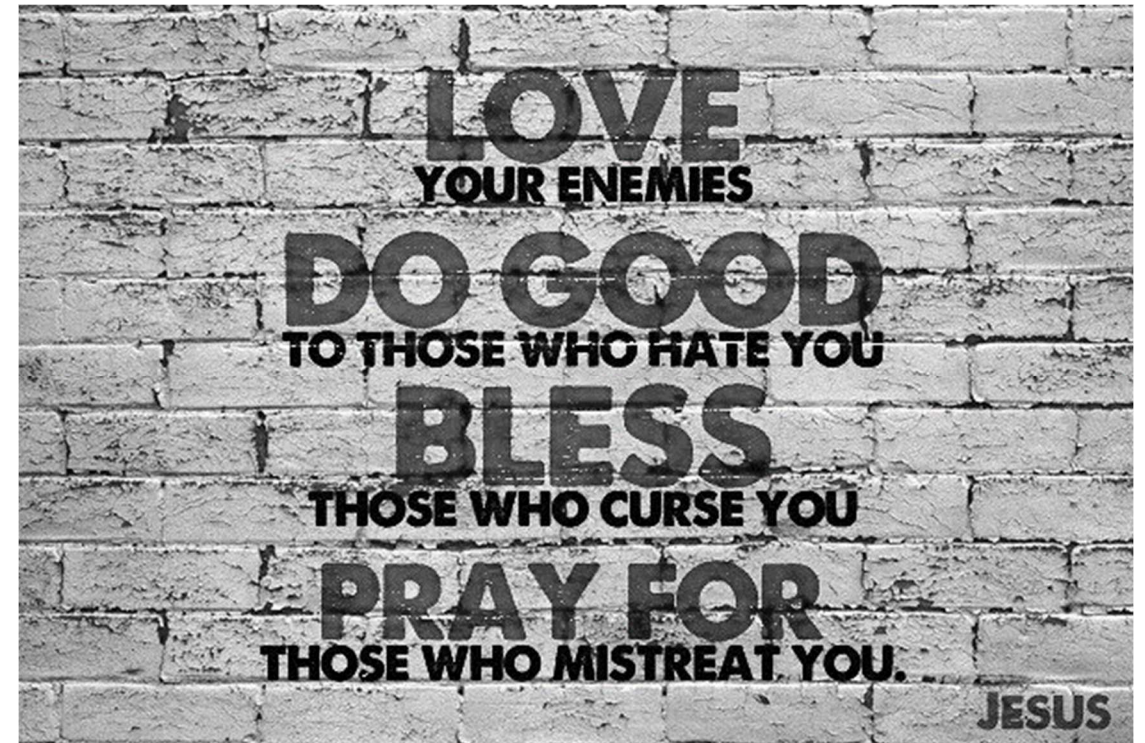
(\*If able, please stand at these points in the service.)

<b>CELEBRATION HAPPENINGS</b>		
Sun Feb 19	Coffee and Fellowship	10:15 am
	Worship, Nursery, Children's Church, He~Brews Café for the Youth	11:00 am
<b>STATED SESSION MEETING</b>		
Mon Feb 20	<b>PRESIDENT'S DAY – OFFICES CLOSED</b>	12:15 pm
	“Tool Time” Study of World Religions - Islam	10:30 am
Tue Feb 21	Quilters meet at the church	10:00 am
Wed Feb 22	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
Sat Feb 25	Presbytery Meeting at Melina Church, Gable, SC	
Sun Feb 26	Adult Sunday School	9:15 am
	Coffee and Fellowship	10:15 am
	Worship, Nursery, Children's Church, He~Brews Café for the Youth	11:00 am
<p><b>*** Many upcoming activities have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, please take a moment to sign up for the activities you would like to attend. ***</b></p>		

**Website:** [www.celebrationpresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.celebrationpresbyterianchurch.org)

**OUR PURPOSE** *is to Celebrate God's Glory by Reaching, Teaching, and Sending People to Love and Serve the Lord.*

***Celebrating 14 Years of Faithful Mission and Ministry!***



We are Christ followers who are open, accepting,  
loving and welcoming to all!