



**The First Presbyterian Church  
372 Bee Tree Road  
Swannanoa, NC 28778**

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**[www.swannanoapres.org](http://www.swannanoapres.org)**

# *First Presbyterian Church*

*Morning Worship*

*11:00 a.m.*

*February 19, 2012*

*"Witnessing to Jesus Christ in our being, doing, and telling!"*

## **We Gather Before God**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Jay Plumb

Call to Worship

The Mighty One speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
**Keep not your silence before us, O God, but let the heavens declare your righteousness.**

"Gather to me my faithful ones, all you who have made a covenant with me."

**We offer you our sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving as we call on your name.**

Let us worship God!

Prayer of the Day and Lord's Prayer

**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.**

\* Hymn: "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty" Blue Hymnal #138

\* Call to Confession

Though we fall out of communion with God, God assures that if we repent, there will be forgiveness. Let us confess, in humility and faith, our sin to God.

\* Prayer of Confession

**God of compassion, have mercy upon us as we confess our sin. In Christ you bring light, yet we still dwell in darkness. Your Word offers guidance, but we choose to ignore your counsel. You promise renewal, but we heed not your wisdom. We bow to the gods of this world, choosing to hide from your truth. Speak to us again from beyond the clouds of our sinfulness; dazzle us anew with the light of Christ's love. Restore and forgive us. (Time for Silent Reflection)**

\* Declaration of Forgiveness

Hear the good news. God is light, and in God there is no darkness. "If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." God is faithful and just, and in Jesus Christ forgives us our sin. **Amen.**

Gloria Patri ***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;*** #579  
***As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,***  
***world without end. Amen. Amen.***

## The Word Proclaimed

Children's Sermon

Special Music

Prayers of the People

\* Hymn: "Arise, Your Light is Come" Blue Hymnal #411

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Mark 9:2-9

NT— p. 54

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: "Listening to the Word, Understanding the Light" Rev. Alex McLean

*Moment of Silence for Reflection*

### Our Thankful Response

\* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed p. 14 in Blue Hymnal

**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 catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

\* Offertory Prayer and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offertory Music Jay Plumb

\* Doxology *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;* #592

*Praise Him all creatures here below;*

*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\* Hymn: "To God be the Glory" Blue Hymnal #485

\* Charge and Benediction

*The congregation is invited to please stay seated for the postlude*

Postlude Jay Plumb

\* All who are able, please stand.

## ***Calendar for the Week***

- February 20**      Session Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- February 22**      Midweek Lenten services at St. James Episcopal Church
- February 25**      Christian Education Day Retreat, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

## ***Upcoming Events***

- February 27**      Life Line Screening at Bee Tree Christian Church
- March 2**            World Day of Prayer presentation at Tabernacle United Methodist  
Registration, 10:00 a.m., Program starts 10:30 a.m.

## **Reflection:**

*“We neither pray nor worship in order to create some kind of religious experience. Prayer and worship are responses to God by which we orient ourselves toward that which is of ultimate worth. In worship we open ourselves to being shaped in conformity with what truly matters for life, and shaped by the ground and source of our being... The place to seek the effects of our prayer is not in the prayer itself but in our lives. We do not worship in order to "get something out of it," but in order that our lives may be more fully in accord with the purposes and intention of God, more fully in accord with the deepest desires of our hearts, and more fully a manifestation of the person we were meant to be.”*

A Meditation from the Daily Feast by Geoffrey M. St. J. Hoare

**Welcome to our Guests!** We are delighted to have you worship with us today. Please sign the Ritual of Friendship pad found on the aisle end of the pew. If you are a first-time guest, please jot down your mailing address and phone number and put the sheet in the collection tray. Plan to stay a few minutes after service for a time of fellowship in the narthex, so we can welcome you in person.

**A nursery is available for infants and children, 5 and under,** during the worship service. Some children stay until after the Children's Sermon, then go to the nursery.

**The session will meet tomorrow at 6:30 p.m.**

**There is no bible study this Wednesday.** Pastor Alex will be out of town for continuing education. Also update events of the week with this change.

**On February 22nd, we will start the midweek Lenten services at St. James Episcopal Church** at noon. There will be an imposition of ashes. Lunch will follow.

**Rev. Alex will be out of the office on study leave in Michigan** between the 22nd and the 29th. He will be back in the office on the 30th. His cell phone in case of pastoral emergency is (828) 450-4856.

**Christian Education Day Retreat!** This year's retreat will be held on Saturday, February 25, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, Morganton. We're excited to have Mary-Todd Peters join us for "Through the Roof: Thinking Outside the Box about Bible Study!" ANYONE can attend!!! Registration is only \$10 per person, and includes lunch and refreshments. The deadline to register is February 10th ~ so don't delay!

**Life Line Screening at Bee Tree Christian Church on Monday, February 27.** Pre-registration is required. Call 1-800-690-6313

**The World Day of Prayer, sponsored by Church Women United, is on March 2nd** at Tabernacle United Methodist Church. Registration is at 10:00 a.m. with the program beginning at 10:30 a.m. George Michie, father of Lynn Michie (chaplain at the Correctional Facility) will be the presenter.

**Talking point for "Bible in a Year":** On the Day of Atonement, when a goat is sent off into the wilderness or desert, what does it symbolically carry with it? (Hint: Leviticus 16:22)

### **Congregational Concerns:**

Please pray for: Betsy Bullins, Liz Laufman, Donald, Kelsey Loudy, for those in families, and those living alone.

Please keep in your prayers the family of Helen Adwin as they grieve the loss of Helen

Those with ongoing health problems: Susan Burnette, Frieda Chance

Homebound: Frances Campfield, Bud Duncan, Marie Parks

Service Men and Women & Veterans: Doran Heck, Robby Ballard, Joe Rand, Jeff Ruppert

Overseas Connections: Barbara Nagy, Rev. Becca Young, Bethlehem Church in Guatemala, the Learning Center in Mwandu, Presbyterian churches and all churches around the world.

**Prayer Cards are available in the narthex, if you would like someone prayed for.**