

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
MARCH 7, 2010**

**THE CHURCH GATHERS**

**THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION** – “Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?”  
--Mary Oliver

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Susan Verbrugge

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you...**(All are encouraged to sign the Friendship Pad in the pews. We hope our visitors will leave an address so that the church can contact you.)

**PRELUDE**

*Variations on “Lobe den Herren”*

Jacques Berthier

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Psalm 63

O God, you are my God. I seek you; my soul thirsts for you.

**So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.**

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

**So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name. We worship and praise you together.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

*The Glory of These Forty Days*

No. 87

**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** (“debts” and “debtors”)

**Holy One, you take us by the hand and lead us in this Lenten journey in the shadow of the cross. On the journey, you help us to taste and see that you are good. You give us bread which feeds our lives and love which sustains our days. And so, with deep gratitude, we say thank you, and we pray together the prayer you taught us to pray, Our Father, who art in heaven...** (Lord's Prayer on p. 16 in hymnal)

**THE CHURCH CONFESSES AND SEEKS ASSURANCE**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Elva Miller

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**So often, God of justice, we don't want to face the words, “Repent or perish.” And yet, we make choices and live our lives in a way which reveals that we have chosen to perish. Forgive us for not loving you as we should, for not loving ourselves or our neighbors as you would have us do. Forgive us for our stubbornness which holds us entrenched in ways which lead us to death instead of to your abundant life. Give us the courage to turn toward you...(a time of silent confession follows)...**

**PRAYERFUL RESPONSE**

*Behold the Lamb of God*

Iona Community

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God invites us to the other side of “repent and perish” which is “forgiveness and life”.

**In this moment, we, through God's grace, choose life and live as Christ's forgiven people.**

**\*GRATEFUL RESPONSE** Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Tune: Nettleton

**O to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be!**

**Let that grace now, like a fetter, Bind my wandering heart to Thee:**

**Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love;**

**Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.** (Worshippers may exchange signs of God's peace through the use of these words alone or accompanied by a handshake, a hug, or a touch on the shoulder. Be aware of what you and others around you are comfortable doing. Children are invited at this time to come forward for the time of Sharing Faith with Children.)

**THE CHURCH PROCLAIMS GOD'S WORD**

**SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN**

(**There will be no Children's Worship today** so that children may experience communion with their families. Extended session, a time of nurture and fellowship for pre-school children is offered at this time. Parents may take their children downstairs at this time.)

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

**Isaiah 55:1-9**

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

**1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

**ANTHEM** *My Soul Is Thirsting for You, O Lord, My God* Charles Callahan  
(Please see insert.)

**GOSPEL READING** **Luke 13:1-9**

**COMMUNION MEDITATION** Susan Verbrugge

**PRAYER OF COMMITMENT**

### THE CHURCH RESPONDS IN FAITH

**\*HYMN** *Become to Us the Living Bread* **No. 500**  
(Opening Alleluias are sung only before verse 1.)

**OFFERING OF OUR LIVES**

**OFFERTORY** *The Lamb* Neil Harmon

**\*GRATEFUL RESPONSE** *Doxology* Tune: Old Hundredth  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**INVITATION AND PRAYERS**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**COMMUNION** (Today, we celebrate the Lord's Supper. All are invited to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread from one of the two servers. Then, proceed to the server on your side with the cup. After drinking the cup, return it to the tray the server is holding and return to your place by the side aisle. Those preferring to be served in the pews may remain seated and elders will serve you there. In addition to the regular bread for communion, we are offering bread that is gluten, dairy, and egg free in the small silver bowls on the bread trays.)

**CLOSING PRAYER**

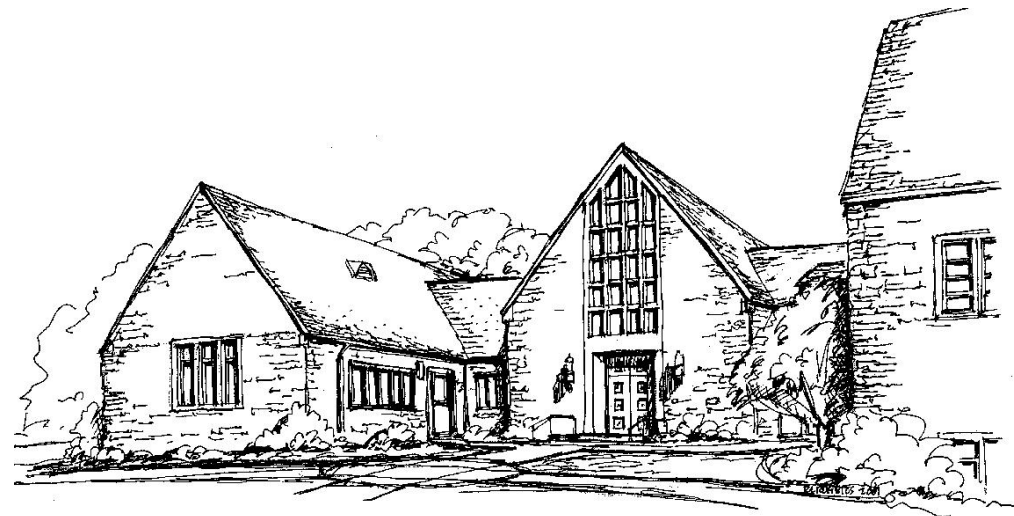
**\*HYMN** *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me* **No. 366**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE** *Voluntary* Douglas E. Wagner

**COMMUNITY WORSHIP ENDS –  
DISCIPLESHIP AND SERVICE BEGIN AGAIN**

\*Those who are able may stand at these times.



## Blacksburg Presbyterian Church

### Our Mission

To proclaim God's Word in our contemporary world  
To grow with commitment, faith, and understanding  
To welcome all to our community and fellowship  
To extend comfort and grace to those in need  
To work actively for justice and peace in the world  
To be generous, responsible stewards of God's gifts.

*Ministers - All Members*

*Associate Pastor - Susan Verbrugge*

*Parish Associate - Charles Taylor*

*Director of Music, Organist, Bell Choir Director - James Bryant*

*Children's Choir Director - Mary Harder*

*Director of Children and Youth Ministries - Susan Hunter*

*Administrative Assistant - Sherry Ingham*

*Custodian - Viola Howery*

*Presbyterian Campus Minister at Cooper House - Catherine Snyder*

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

## MARCH 7, 2010

**Welcome to all who gather for worship today.** May each of us know something of God's grace today and be moved toward deeper faith, sincere love and service following Christ. Regardless of who you are, where you have come from, or what you are seeking, all are welcome here. **If you are visiting, or seeking a church home, we invite you to explore all that happens in life and ministry in this church.** Speak to the pastors for more information and be sure to sign the Friendship Register, which is found in the pew. We also invite you to leave us your address, phone number, and/or email that we might contact you.

**Students,** welcome to BPC! Please include your email address on the red friendship register so we can contact you. There are many ways that you can participate here, and there are a number of student programs. There are also fellowship and many programs for you at the Presbyterian Campus Ministry at Cooper House. Check the Student Welcome Table in the Narthex for more information.

**One Induction Neckloop is now available for use with the Hearing Assistance Units in the Sanctuary, Westminster Hall and Hatcher.** It is used in place of the earpiece or headphones and communicates directly with most hearing aids. Speak to the Head Usher or Gavin Faulkner to use one for the worship service.

**We give special thanks today for Elva Miller who is our liturgist today. Also, thanks to our flutist, Azusa Inaba, for enriching our worship with her music.**

**After worship today, Dr. Sue Makin will be here to share many stories of her years in Malawi.** We will be having a potluck luncheon following worship. We hope to see you there for this fun event!

**The Congregational Care Committee will meet Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in Westminster Hall.** All who are interested in this special ministry are invited. Please call Judy Pospichal at 239-9513 if you have any questions.

### CELEBRATION FLOWERS ARE STILL IN NEED OF SPONSORS FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES:

May 2 May 9 July 11 Aug. 1 Aug. 15 Aug. 29

Arrangements are \$50 or Peace Lilies may be used in worship and a donation made to your favorite charity. Forms are available in the Gathering Space if you are interested in sponsoring any of these dates or you can contact Sherry in the office at 552-2504.

### SERVING TODAY

Elder of the Week: Easley Smith **Next Week:** Dale Wolf/Mary Spencer

Head Usher for March: Ken Goff

Greeters: Irene Lamb, Bill and Lily Sembello, and Dale and Evelyn Wolf

Children's Worship: No Children's Worship Today

Ushers: Susan, Elizabeth and Ken Goff, and Jim Echols

Counting Assignment: Ned Lester and David Harder

**Next Week:** Jim Hardell and Easley Smith

### THIS WEEK AT BPC- \*HCR-Hatcher Conference Room, \*WM-Westminster, \*FH-Fellowship Hall

- March 7 Third Sunday of Lent – Coffee Sales today!  
Moni, Malawi Potluck Luncheon with Dr. Sue Makin following worship-\*FH  
Youth Group Pizza & Movie Night @ BPC 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.  
Bell Choir practice at 6:30 p.m.  
Called Session Meeting at 7:00 p.m.-\*HCR
- March 8 Staff Meeting at 9:30 a.m. - \*HCR  
Hildegard meets at Connie Cummings home at 6:00 p.m.
- March 9 Bible Study meets at 7:30 a.m. - \*HCR  
Prayer Group meets at 10:00 a.m. – Prayer Room  
Children's Ed Comm. Meets at 7:00 p.m.-Senior Pastor Office  
Community Ministry Comm. Meets at 7:00p.m. - \*WM
- March 10 Way Cool Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. – Beach Party  
Adult Ed. Lenten Series meets at 5:45 p.m.-Prayer Room
- March 14 Daylight Saving Time begins! Spring Forward –One Hour!**  
Fourth Sunday of Lent  
Spring Sunday School Classes for all ages at 9:30 a.m.  
Coffee Fellowship at 10:30 a.m.  
Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
Sojourn Center Luncheon following worship-\*FH  
PJGM meets at 12:15 p.m.-\*HCR  
Youth Group Dinner and Youth Sunday Program-5:30 – 7:30 p.m.\*HCR

### UP-COMING ACTIVITIES AT BPC- \*HCR-Hatcher Conference Room, \*WM-Westminster, \*FH-Fellowship Hall

- March 15 Deadline for OCT grant requests
- March 16 Quilting group meets-\*FH
- March 17 Nominating Comm. Meets at 5:45 p.m.-\*HCR
- March 18 Ministry Group and PRAYS committee meets at 10:00 a.m.-\*HCR
- March 20 Youth Sunday Rehearsal 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- March 21 Youth Sunday  
BPC's Two Cents a Meal collection  
Treat Students to Lunch  
Stewardship Committee meets at 12:15 p.m.- \*HCR  
Session Meeting at 7:00 p.m.-\*HCR
- March 22 Lily/One Great Hour of Sharing deadline  
OCT meets at 5:30 p.m.-\*HCR
- March 23 Knitwits meet at 6:30 p.m. - \*WM
- March 29 OCT meets at 5:30 p.m.-\*HCR
- April 1 Maundy Thursday worship at 6:30 p.m.-\*FH
- April 3 Easter Egg Hunt at BPC-10:00 a.m.
- April 4 Easter Day/Resurrection of the Lord  
Worship at Smithfield Plantation at 7:00 a.m.  
All Church Breakfast at BPC begins at 9:30 a.m.  
Special Music at 10:45 a.m.  
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 a.m.

**BPC's Adult Ed invites you to a 4 week ecumenical Lenten study.** This includes, devotion, and discernment using scripture, video, and discussion on *"No More of This,"* with Tony Campolo's *"It's Friday, but Sunday's Coming,"* and other dynamic Christians, including Sister Dianan Ortiz, Elizabeth Mcalister, and Lennox Yearwood. **Gathering in the Prayer Room on Wednesday evenings, Feb. 24-March 17: fellowship and food: 5:45p.m, study 6:30-7:30 p.m.** Lent offers us a special time in the liturgical year to discern as we prepare for Easter and we hope you will make this part of your Lenten journey. Coordinators: Phyllis Albritton-Webb and Kirby Deater-Deckard. Please call the church office if you would like a ride.

### **Spring Adult Sunday School Classes begin- March 14 to May 30, 2010**

**"Rediscovering Values on Wall Street, Main Street, and Our Street"**, a new book by Jim Wallis, will offer an opportunity for us to discuss our current economic situation from a faith perspective. Michael J. Sandel, Professor of Government at Harvard University says of the book, "Jim Wallis argues persuasively that the financial crisis is also a moral crisis". A vivid storyteller and prophetic voice, he shows how the worship of markets has led us astray--and how repairing the economy requires a moral awakening and a new commitment to the common good. This wise and hopeful book points us toward a new economy and a more spiritually satisfying public life. Wallis--founder and president of Sojourners, worker with and prophet of the poor, author of 4 books, and Harvard Divinity School lecturer--hopes people of faith will join together in understanding where we need to go, both personally and as a nation.

Coordinated by Phyllis Albritton-Webb and Dave Synder. ***Meet in Westminster Hall.***

**Are you a Young Adult at Blacksburg Presbyterian?** Young at heart? Join us as we continue from the Winter Quarter to gather together during the Sunday School hour. We will read about and discuss contemporary issues and how we as Christians should respond. For young to youngish adults (young parents, professionals, grad and undergrad students), though "youngish" is how you define it – all are welcome!

Coordinated by Angela and Jonathan Anderson. ***Meet in the Prayer Room.***

**The Healings and Miracles of Jesus as told by Mark.** In this bible study, we will address several questions: What can we learn from the healings and miracles of Jesus? Why did Jesus do these things? How do these stories about the healings and miracles relate to our lives today? Let's explore these and other aspects of Jesus' life through Tom Wright's book, "Mark for Everyone". This book is part of a series that serves as a contemporary and accessible guide to the books of the Bible. Tom Wright offers a straightforward interpretation of the Gospel of Mark that is true to the original text but presented in today's language in a way that speaks to all of us. Join us and bring a friend as we read, discuss and pray together.

Coordinated by Keirsten Deater-Deckard. ***Meet in Hatcher Conference Room.***

