

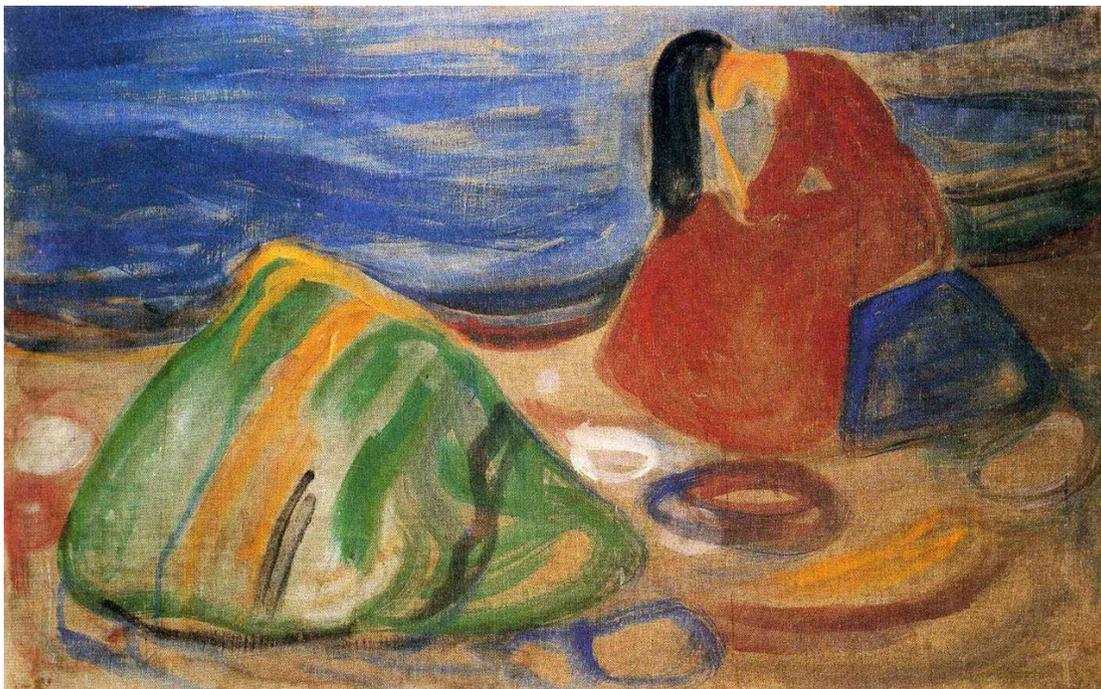
BLACKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

JANUARY 28, 2024

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

We are a community that welcomes all.
We are committed to experiencing beautiful worship,
nurturing lifelong growth,
and pursuing justice and love in the world.



Pastor - Rev. Sarah Wiles
Director of Music & Organist - Alice Brooks Sanders
Director of Children & Youth Ministries - Susan Hunter
Coordinator of Church Life - Sarah Windes
Office Manager - Rhonda Waller
Parish Associate - Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter

❖Please rise in body or in spirit. We invite you to join in with the words.

❖ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD ❖

Thought for Meditation: “Jesus is the one who occupies the place of shame with no shame.” —James Allison

Prelude: “Flute Stops and Aria”

KINGSFOLD
David Dahl

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Sarah Wiles & Sarah Windes

Centering Music: “Raise a Song of Gladness”

JUBILATE DEO

(Sing 3 times)

Hymn 155

**Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!**

❖ **Call to Worship**

Audrey Brownfield

Grace and peace be with you.

And also with you.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

At the beginning of this new day

we come, as we are, to God,

bringing with us

our hopes, our fears, our stories.

Come, friends,

let us greet God with our whole hearts

in this space and in this time.

❖ **Hymn 839:** “Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!”

ASSURANCE

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,
our brokenness is too heavy to carry,
too real to hide,
and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name,

what our hearts can no longer bear,

and what has become for us

a consuming fire of judgment.

Set us free from a past that we cannot change;

open to us a future in which we can be changed;

and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;

through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear and trust the good news: by grace our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

❖ **Grateful Response:** “Love Has Come”

BRING A TORCH
Hymn 110, v. 3

❖ **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(Worshippers may exchange signs of God’s peace, and children may come forward for a time of sharing faith together.)

❖ HEARING THE WORD ❖

Sharing Faith with Children

Melody Zobel

(Children in 1st grade age and up are invited to remain in the sanctuary. Children in kindergarten or younger may stay in the sanctuary or go downstairs to God's Garden or the nursery for nurturing and care. Please complete a sign-in sticker for each child.)

Scripture

John 4:1-29, 39-42, CEB

Sermon: Grace Pools Up at the Lowest Places

Rev. Sarah Wiles

❖ **Hymn 479:** "Ho, All Who Thirst"

JACOB'S WELL

(Choir will sing verses; congregation joins on refrain.)

Refrain:

**Ho, all who thirst,
come now to the water,
and all whose souls are parched
and weary, come and drink!
Ho, all who thirst,
come now to the water,
and from your heart will flow
a never-failing spring!**

Why forsake the Lord,
the fount of living water,
choosing broken cups
that cannot be filled? (Refrain)

For the Lamb will be
our shepherd and will guide us
to the wellsprings of
the water of life. (Refrain)

All who come may take
this gift of living water.
They will thirst no more,
for they shall be filled. (Refrain)

❖ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ❖

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now
and forever. Amen.**

Call to Offering

Offertory: "Fill My Cup, Let It Overflow"
(Congregation is invited to join the choir on each refrain.)

Isaiah Jones, Jr.
Hymn 699

Refrain:

**Fill my cup; let it overflow;
fill my cup; let it overflow;
fill my cup; let it overflow;
let it overflow with love.**

Lord, let me be your instrument,
spreading sunshine in the land;
let people see your works in me;
help me live the best I can. (Refrain)

It's my desire to live for you
and to always walk upright;
give me the strength to face each day;
stay with me through each dark night. (Refrain)

❖**Doxology:** "Jesus, Light of Joy"
**Jesus, light of joy, surround us;
let your splendid glory shine:
source of every earthly blessing,
heaven's everlasting sign.
Alleluia, alleluia,
we adore you, light divine.**

LAUDA ANIMA
Hymn 673, v. 1

❖**Prayer of Dedication**

❖ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD ❖

❖**Hymn 182:** "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

KINGSFOLD

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;
I found him in a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till traveling days are done.

❖Benediction

Postlude: "Variation and Chorale"

KINGSFOLD
David Dahl



Citations: Call to Worship from *Iona Abbey Worship Book, rev. ed.* Prayer of Confession from *Book of Worship, United Church of Christ*.

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

This is a space for everyone. No matter who you are, no matter what your story is, no matter what--you are welcome here. May this be a time where your breathing slows, your heart opens, and you connect with the Holy One. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to explore some of what happens in the life of this community.

Serving: Church Opener: Brian Smith

Ushers: Tom Pospichal, Lois Price, Rachel Parson, and Judy Pospichal

Elder Serving Refreshments: Susan Bailey

The flowers in the sanctuary today are provided by Benjamin, Clara, and Helen Corl to the glory of God and in honor of Julie Burger's birthday.

Nursery and God's Garden Sign-in Stickers (one per child): Complete information about each child and parent(s) on the sign-in sticker.

Headsets for the hard of hearing are available. Speak to an usher to use them for the worship service.

You can send prayer requests for Prayers of the People in Sunday worship and/or to be added to the *MidWeek Update* and website prayer list to Rhonda at (rhonda@blacksburgpres.org).



Text or QR Code to Give: To give by text, send keyword **bpcva** and an amount to phone number 779777 (e.g., bpcva 20). If it is your first time, there will be a brief registration process. To give via QR code, use the camera app on your phone and follow instructions. Thank you for your support of BPC's ministry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Sunday Night Discussion Group, 02/11, HCR (see below for meeting schedule) will begin a class on *Jesus and the Gospels: An Understanding of Jesus for a Complex World*. Each class will feature a Great Courses video lecture by Luke Timothy Johnson which will be followed by discussion facilitated by Russell Gregory and Jack Call. Contact Jack (jcall@radford.edu) or Russell (russellgregor@gmail.com) for details. **Note:** The class will meet at 7:00 pm except on February 25, March 3, and March 10 when it will meet at 6:30 pm.

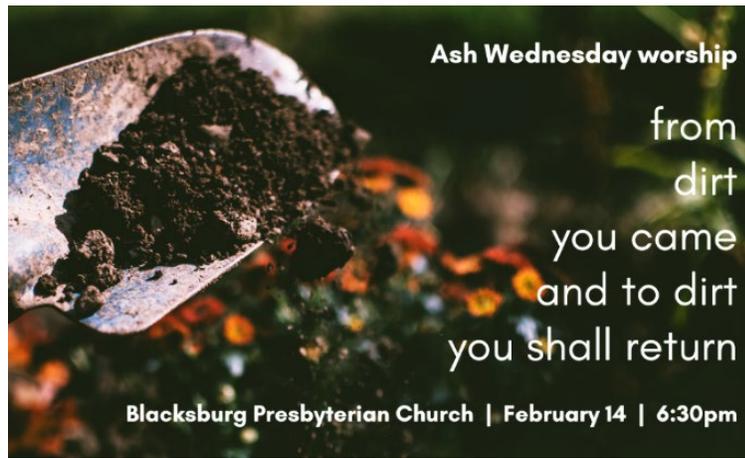
Blacksburg Presbyterian
Sunday evening
discussion group

Jesus and the Gospels

An Understanding of Jesus
for a Complex World

with lectures by Luke Timothy Johnson
from The Great Courses





Our Ash Wednesday service this year will be a meditative service centered around psalms paired with hymns and pieces composed by Felix Mendelssohn. The works by Mendelssohn, including several of his Songs Without Words contain the emotional themes of Ash Wednesday: lament, a longing for help, and trust in God's deliverance. The service will conclude with the imposition of ashes for all who wish to receive.



A Loving Lent

Sundays in Lent

Feb 25, Mar 3, 10, 17

4:30pm | activities for children
age 3 - 5th grade
5:30 - 6:30pm | dinner for all
6:30pm - 7:30pm | youth group
& adult classes

nursery care provided throughout

Blacksburg Presbyterian Church

THIS WEEK

FH-Fellowship Hall, HCR-Hatcher Conference Room,
WM-Westminster, SNC-Sanctuary, GS-Gathering Space

All activities are open to everyone.

Contact Rhonda at rhonda@blacksburgpres.org for more information.

Sun., Jan. 28:

- 10:30 am: Worship Service, SNC
- 3:00-5:00 pm: Presbyterian Women Annual Meeting, FH. All women are invited.
- 5:30-7:30: Youth Group, FH
- 7:00 pm: *Mere Christianity* book study, HCR, with Russell Gregory and Jack Call

Mon.-Sat., Jan. 29-Feb 3: Pastor Sarah will be out this week for continuing education. If you need pastoral care, please contact the church office.

Tues., Jan. 30:

- *Not meeting this week* - 7:30-9:00 am: Morningstars Bible Study, Zoom. Contact Pastor Sarah for link.
- 9:30-2:00 pm: Quilters, HCR

Wed., Jan. 31:

- 5:30: Handbell choir rehearsal, TBA
- 7:00: Choir rehearsal, choir room

Thur., Feb. 1:

- 5:00-6:00 pm: Hangout Hour, Moon Hollow Brewery (4237 Prices Fork Rd.). Feel free to just show up.

Fri., Feb. 2:

- 5:00-6:00: First Fridays Peace Vigil, downtown post office, 118 N. Main St., Bburg

Sun., Feb. 4: Communion Sunday

- 9:00 am: Children and Youth Sunday School, various rooms
 - 9:00: Adult Sunday School, WM
 - 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
 - 4:00-5:30 pm: Interfaith Discussion Group, Blacksburg Jewish Community Center (201 Roanoke St.)
 - 5:30-7:30: Youth Group, FH
 - 7:00 pm: *Mere Christianity* book study, HCR, with Russell Gregory and Jack Call
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thur., Feb. 8:

- 3:30-4:30 pm: AIM meeting, Zoom

Sun., Feb. 11:

- During worship: Souper Bowl Sunday. Support the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry by donating to the Souper Bowl of Caring. BPC's Youth will be collecting monetary donations during worship today, 02/11. You can also donate via BPC's Give page: www.blacksburgpres.org/give.
- After worship: Congregational Annual Meeting, SNC
- 7:00 pm: Sunday Night Discussion Group will begin, HCR. See announcements for details.

Mon., Feb. 12:

- 12:00-1:30 pm: Deacons meeting, HCR

Wed., Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday

- 6:30-7:30 pm: Ash Wednesday worship, SNC. See announcements for details.

Sun., Feb. 18: UKirk Sunday

- 7:00 pm: Session meeting, HCR
 - *No meeting this week* - 7:00: Sunday Night Discussion Group, HCR. See announcements for details. Note: The February 25 meeting will begin at 6:30.
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