

**Pastoral Concerns:** Bernice Hamrick, Lisa Thomas, Becky Justus, Bobby Justus, Sylvia Mahaney, Pat Medley, Vickie Hughes, Deborah Harkins, Faye Greer, Carrol Marshall, David McKinney, Mike Duncan, Theo Weger and his parents Daniel and Christiana, Gus and Pat McKinney, Phillip and Caroline McKinney, Martha Pound, Leshia Justus, Eveline Horrell, Judy Weger, Conner Miller, Bobby and Becky Teague, the Wyatt family, Joe Davenport, Shirley Hise, Sam Deyton, Heather English, Dr. Andrew Davis, Dennis Dale, Cathy Fullerton, Erin and Jaik Halpainy, Betty Pendley, Ava Holifield, Michelle Bonner, Christian Hall, and the family of Helen Haberneck.

**Announcements:**

Mayland Fellowship will meet January 28<sup>th</sup> at Burnsville First Presbyterian Church. Dinner at 5:00 with program presented by the folks at Camp Grier our PCUSA Summer Camp.



Our Dear Eveline has decided to retire as Director of Music at the end of January. Eveline has served faithfully for 35 years and we are so grateful for her leadership and service to the Church. Please take some time over the next few weeks to thank her as we celebrate her ministry and the many ways she has blessed and enriched our worship and our lives!

**Church Staff**

Pastor of Worship, Jim Taylor-828-963-0349cell  
[Singingpreacher53@gmail.com](mailto:Singingpreacher53@gmail.com) or [taylor@lmc.edu](mailto:taylor@lmc.edu)

Director of Music, Eveline Horrell--828-766-9184

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Spruce Pine, NC 28777  
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**Grassy Creek Presbyterian**

*January 7, 2018*

*We Worship, We Share, We Serve*

**Announcements and Welcome**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Leader:** The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**People:** And also with you.

**Prelude:** *I Hear Thy Welcome Voice/I Need Thee*

**Preparation for the Word**

**Call to Worship**

From the waters of Creation, the earth sprang forth.

*From the waters of a womb, God's blessed Son was given to us.*

From the waters of a river, people were baptized and marked as God's Children

*Praise be to God, whose loving gifts and presence have called us together.*

Let us shout our love to God for God's abundant love

*We Praise You Loving God for grace upon grace. Amen.*

*\*Hymn of Praise—485 To God Be the Glory*

## **Unison Prayer of Confession**

Timeless God, you cast Light into sin's dark places and call us your Beloved. Forgive us: when we still linger in the shadows; when we treat others in hurtful ways; when we speak ill of your friends. As he knelt in the waters of the Jordan, you proclaimed Jesus as your Child, pointing to him as the way to you. Forgive us: when we put ourselves ahead of him; when we think he is no longer needed; when we fail to see him in the broken of our world. Baptized and blessed in your living waters, you would have us be your servants in our time. Forgive us: when we fail to welcome the stranger; when we refuse to forgive as we should; when we believe we are too good to kneel down and tie the shoes of the lost, the least, the last, the little... (*a time of silent confession*) Amen.

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Touched by the waters of life, fed at the feast of grace and hope, embraced in the warmth of God's love and hopes - this is good news!

*Blessed by baptism's tears, called to servanthood by the Beloved, filled with the peace of the Spirit, we are indeed God's people - redeemed, restored, refreshed to serve. Thanks be to God! Amen.*

## **The Word Proclaimed**

### **First Reading**

**Genesis 1: 1-5, Isaiah 42: 1-9**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:** *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

### **Second Reading**

**Mark 1: 1-13**

## **Sermon:**

## **Swimming Lessons**

**Pastor Jim Taylor**

## ***Reaffirmation of Our Baptismal Covenant***

## **Response to the Word**

***\*Hymn of Response—356 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing***

## **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

## **Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory: O Jesus, I Have Promised**

**\*Doxology**

## **\*Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

Bathed in the waters of baptism, we are graced people. As graced people, we recognize the gifts which have been poured out upon us. Recognizing these gifts, we take them and give them back to you, God of the waters, so that others might be bathed in hope, graced with joy, gifted with your peace and love. Amen.

## **Invitation to the Lord's Table**

## **The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

## **Sharing the Bread and Cup**

**\* Hymn of Sending—Jesus Call Us**

## **\*Charge and Benediction**

## **Postlude**

***\*Please stand if able.***

## **Down by the Jordan**

**To the tune (Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty)**

Down by the Jordan, a prophet named John was baptizing,  
Preaching a message the people found bold and surprising:  
"God will forgive! Show that you'll change how you live!  
Surely God's new day is rising!"

There by the river, the crowd came with great expectation:  
"Are you God's Chosen One, sent here to rescue our nation?"  
"No!" John replied. "He who is mightier than I  
Judges and offers salvation."

Jesus, you went to be baptized along with the others,  
Taking your place among sinners, God's lost sons and daughters.  
Then with great love, God's Spirit came as a dove!  
Your work began in those waters.

Here in the Church, we are baptized and filled with God's Spirit.  
Freed and forgiven, we're welcomed with joy! Can you hear it?  
This is God's sign! This is how God says, "You're mine!"  
Let's take the good news and share it!

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# Jesus Calls Us 720

1 Je - sus calls us: o'er the tu - mult of our  
2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
4 Je - sus calls us: by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice  
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thy o -

sound - eth say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."  
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

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