

✠ ENTRANCE ✠

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.
(Matthew 18:20^{NRSV})



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

***Call to Worship (Responsively)**

In life and death, baptism and flood...

Come to be washed in the waters of God.

A rainbow of grace paints the sky.

We worship a God of steadfast love and faithfulness.

The waters of baptism seal us in holy love.

We worship a God of steadfast love and faithfulness.

A voice over the water proclaims: "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

We worship a God of steadfast love and faithfulness.

***Opening Prayer**

***Hymn** "Holy, Holy, Holy"

#68 BH

***Confession of Sins (in Unison)**

Divine Spirit, You drive us into the wilderness of our lives. In the aloneness of our desert experiences: our thoughts rage out of control; our fears transform minor hills and obstacles into overwhelming mountains and bushy terrain. Renew us in the healing waters of our baptism, and send your angels to minister to us, that we may know that we are not alone. Set your bow in the clouds once more, Divine Spirit, that we might see the sign of your grace, and behold the promise of your salvation. Amen.

***Words of Assurance**

Hear and believe the good news: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news." The one seated at the right hand of God offers us forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace.

✠ PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD ✠

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading Genesis 9:8-19;

Gospel Reading Mark 1:9-15;

Children's Time

Hymn "The Old Rugged Cross" **#230 BH**

Sermon 1 Peter 3:18-22;

"THE RIGHTEOUS FOR THE UNRIGHTEOUS"

✠ RESPONSE TO THE WORD ✠

Hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" **#154 BH**

***Affirmation of Faith**

***Response** "Glory Be to the Father"

Concerns and Prayers/Lord's Prayer

Offering/Offertory Prayer

***Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

✠ SENDING FORTH ✠

***Closing Hymn** "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" **#450 BH**

***Charge & Benediction**

**Go forth as signs of God's love.
Go forth as rainbows of compassion and hope.
Go forth as children of God's promise.
Go forth as signs of God's love and mercy!
Go forth as heirs of God's covenant of grace. Amen.**

Postlude

In the Life of STONEGATE Family

Sunday, February 22, 2015,
3:00 p.m. MOMS IN PRAYER INTERNATIONAL
Ask Whitney for details
Tuesday, February 24, 2015,
6:30 – 8:00 p.m. CARD MAKING CLASS
Ask Valerie or Jeanette for details
Wednesday, February 25, 2015
6:30 p.m. BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, February 26, 2015
10:00 a.m. LADIES BIBLE STUDY
Friday, February 27, 2015
8:00 a.m. Friday Morning Group
Yard and Building Work
Sunday, March 1, 2015,
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service



Lead like Jesus...,

Lead to Jesus...,

Be led by Jesus...,

For Our Guests

We are so thrilled to have you worship with us today. We truly hope you are encouraged and inspired to grow closer to God as we worship the true and living God together.



Some prayers, litanies, and other worship resources or their parts used in bulletin, except as noted, come: "From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2015 Edition, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. Copyright © 2014 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission." and others come from unrecognized, unnamed resources, or are our own ideas.

WORSHIP LEADERS

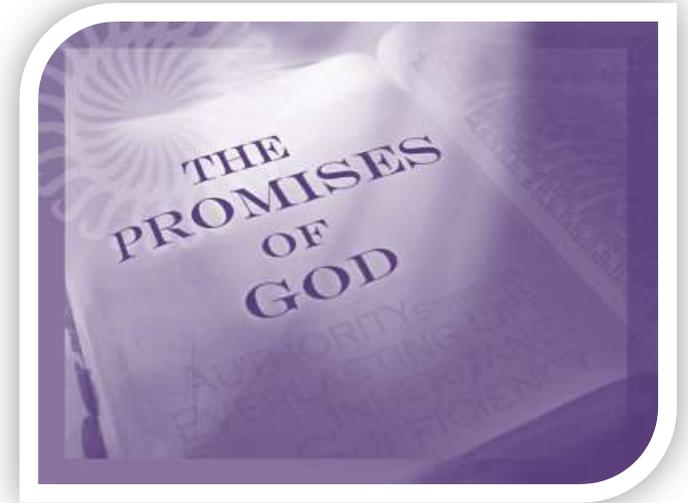
, Pastor
, Elder
, Pianist
, Singing
, Children's Time
, Welcome and Announcements



* Please rise as you are able
#156 RH = Page 156 Red Hymnal
#156 BH = Page 156 Blue Hymnal
Back Cover BH = Back Cover Blue Hymnal

THEME IDEAS

On this first Sunday in Lent, we revisit Jesus' baptism against the backdrop of covenant, mercy, and salvation. In Genesis, God makes an everlasting covenant with Noah, his family, and every living creature. As a sign of God's promise to never again destroy all flesh with a flood, God set a rainbow in the sky. The Psalmist seeks God's mercy and protection, truth and teachings. Extolling God's salvation, the Psalmist proclaims God's steadfast love and faithfulness for all who keep God's covenant and decrees. The epistle hearkens to the flood of Noah, and to the salvation offered through the waters of Christ's baptism. Finally, the Gospel recounts John's baptism of Jesus and the beginning of Christ's ministry to spread



STONEGATE CHURCH

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday Worship Service 10:45 am
First Sunday in Lent – February 22, 2015



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