

La Plata United Methodist Church



**Last Sunday of Epiphany
February 11, 2018**

Café Worship (8:30)

You may leave your cell phones ON, but set to vibrate or silent, please

Gathering Music

Mike Rainwater

Welcome & Centering

Please stand, if able

Opening Prayer (Together)

Our Loving God in heaven, you call us to be your faithful servants. You ask us to trust in your love while you ask us to do difficult things. We come before you this day, asking for your mighty Holy Spirit to be upon us, as we prepare for the next chapter of our church's life. Grant us your peace. Grant us your courage. Remind us of your constant presence and your unconditional love. Give us hope and joy in this new day. Amen.

Greeting Each Other in the Name of Christ

Please be seated

Sharing News from Our SPRC

Rick Boggs, Chair

Prayer for Churches in Transition

See page 4

Announcements & Invitations

Time of Prayer:

Sharing Our Week's Blessings & Trials, Requests,

Silent Prayers, Pastoral Prayer
The Lord's Prayer (Together)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Reload

Scriptures for the Day

See pages 7

Old Testament Lesson

2 Kings 2:5-15

New Testament Lesson

Mark 9:2-9

The Message

Rev. Bruce Jones

“Passing the Mantle”

(Sermon Notes can be found on page 8)

Please stand, if able

Benediction

Departure Music

Mike Rainwater



Liturgist: Madelyn Mudd;
Service Prayer Partner: Sharon Bowie

Traditional Worship (11:00)

You may leave your cell phones ON, but set to vibrate or silent, please

Prayer Before Worship

Gracious Lord, as I prepare my heart and my mind for worship,
may your Spirit fill me with courage and hope. Amen.

Prelude, Lighting the Altar Candles, & A Time of Quiet Meditation

Linda Dent Mitchell

When the Prayer Before Worship has finished and the Prelude
begins, please quiet yourselves in preparation for worship.

Introit:

Cherub Choir

“Love is Something You Do”

Please stand, if able

Call to Worship (Responsively)

from Psalm 50

From the rising of the sun to where it sets, God, the Lord God,
speaks, calling out to the earth.

From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines brightly.

Our God is coming; he won't keep quiet. A devouring fire is before
the Lord; a storm rages all around our God.

**God calls out to the skies above and to the earth in order to
judge its people:**

“Bring my faithful people to me, those who made a covenant with
me by sacrifice.”

**The skies proclaim God's righteousness because God is the
judge.**

Opening Hymn

UM Hymnal, 157

“Jesus Shall Reign” (vs. 1-4)

Passing the Peace of Christ

The Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet our neighbors and extend God's peace to each other.

Please be seated

Anthem:

Cherub Choir & Crimson Angels
"You Can't Get to Heaven"

Children's Moment

Kathy Stapleson

Sharing News from Our SPRC

Rick Boggs, Chair

A Prayer for Churches in Transition (Together)

Almighty and Everlasting God, you love us and you care about your church even more than we do, and far more than we can imagine. We know that you are at work in our lives, and in the lives of others who are affected by this season of change in the life of our church.

We ask for your Holy Spirit to be upon Rev. _____ and family, that as you prepare them to come and be a part of this church and this ministry, you may fill them with hope, courage, joy and optimism about the future. Use them to move us forward in your divine plan for us. And may we surround them with love, support and affirmation, knowing that they are the ones you have chosen to lead us into the next chapter of this church's life and history.

Bless each one of us here, and our whole church family. Bless our ministries so that all that we do, all that we are, and all that we will be, may firmly be in your hands. We trust your love. We trust your goodness. We trust that you have our best future in your heart. We praise you for this appointment and we ask your very special blessings to be upon our new pastor and family. We pray all this in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

Welcome, News & Opportunities

The Old Testament Lesson

2 Kings 2:5-15

See page 7

Elijah is taken up into heaven

Response to the Reading

UM Hymnal, 703

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" (chorus only)

**Swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home;
Swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home.**

Offertory:

Crimson Angels

"I Give You My Heart"

The Doxology

UM Hymnal, 95

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all
creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn of Preparation

The Faith We Sing, 2173

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

The Gospel Lesson

See page 7

Mark 9:2-9

The Transfiguration

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated

The Message

Rev. Bruce A. Jones

"Passing the Mantle"

(Sermon Notes can be found on page 8)

Please stand, if able

Closing Hymn

UM Hymnal, 555

"Forward Through the Ages"

Benediction

Congregational Response

The Faith We Sing, 2080

All I need is you, Jesus, all I need is you.

You are the source of all I need. All I need is you.

Postlude

Linda Dent Mitchell

† Among the top 50 Favorite Hymns & Songs of 2017

Acolyte: Allison Bowser; Liturgist: Randi McWilliams; Soloist: Olivia Gordon
Organist: Linda Dent Mitchell; Cherub Choir Co-Director: Linda Dent Mitchell
Cherub Choir Co-Directors: Sherry McConnell, Judi Gordon, Rev. Sue Carns
Service Prayer Partner: Jan Saunders

*The flowers on the altar
are to the glory of God,
and in honor of Karen Sheffield.
“You’re an amazing wife & mother,
Happy Valentines Day,
We Love you!”
Given by Scott, Nate & Lex Sheffield*



The Scripture Lessons

2 Kings 2:5-15 (NIV)

The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," he replied, "so be quiet."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan."

And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two of them walked on.

Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?"

"Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied.

"You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not."

As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.

Elisha then picked up Elijah's cloak that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the cloak that had fallen from Elijah and struck the water with it. "Where now is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" he asked. When he struck the water, it divided to the right and to the left, and he crossed over.

The company of the prophets from Jericho, who were watching, said, "The spirit of Elijah is now resting on Elisha." And they went to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

Mark 9:2-9 (NIV)

After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Sermon Notes

“Passing the Mantle”

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 11

- 8:30a **Café Worship** (FH2)
- 9:30a Disciple I-Fast Track (Rm. 102)
- 9:45a Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00a **Traditional Service** (Sanctuary)
- 1:30p Sagepoint Service
- 5:00p Alpha course (FH1 & 2)

Monday, February 12

- 5:30p 12 Step Home Group - AA (Rm. 104)
- 6:45p Silent Auction Meeting (FH1)
- 7:30p PMNS - "Fearless" (Rm. 102)
- 8:30p AA Meeting - Warner Group (Rm. 104)

Tuesday, February 13

- 7:30a Community Round Table - at Panera Bread
- 9:00a BLP Valentine Party (FH1)
- 10:00a UMW Book Club (Parlor)
- 1:30p BLP 2's Team Meeting (Rm. 412/Board Room)
- 5:00p Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (FH1)
- 6:00p Creative Circle (Rm. 106)
- 6:00p Men's Emmaus Reunion Group (FH2)
- 7:00p Disciple II Fast Track (Rm. 110)
- 7:30p Finance Meeting (Rm. 412/Board Room)

Wednesday, February 14

- 9:00a BLP Valentine Party (FH1)
- 9:30a Wednesday Morning Bible Study (Rm. 110)
- 12:00p AA Meeting - Serenity Seekers (Rm. 104)
- 1:30p BLP 4's Team Meeting (Rm. 412/Board Room)
- 2:00p Food Pantry (Bowie Annex)
- 5:30p Beatitudes Practice (Rm. 110)
- 7:00p Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)
- 7:30p Chancel Choir Practice (Adult Choir Room/ Rm.100)

Thursday, February 15

- 9:00a Lifeline Screening (FH1)
- 1:30p BLP 3's Team Meeting (Rm. 412/Board Room)
- 6:00p Carillon Choir practice (Sanctuary)
- 6:30p Cub Scout Pack 423 (FH1. Rm. 104, 106 & 110)
- 7:00p Jesus in the Gospels (Rm. 102)
- 7:30p SPRC Meeting (Rm. 412/Board Room)

Friday, February 16

- 6:00p Pine Wood Derby Set up (FH1)

Saturday, February 17

- 8:30a Pastor's Prayer Partners (Rm. 110)
- 9:00a Pinewood Derby Races (FH1)
- 5:00p Eagle Scout Fund Raiser (FH1)

Sunday, February 18 - Safe Nights

- 8:30a **Café Worship** (FH2)
- 9:30a Disciple I-Fast Track (Rm. 102)
- 9:45a Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00a **Traditional Service** (Sanctuary)
- 11:15a Kid's Church (Rm. 104)
- 1:15p He Choise the Nails - Bible Study (Rm. 102)
- 5:00p Alpha course (FH1 & 2)

KEY: FH1=Old Fellowship Hall, FH2=New Fellowship Hall, Rm. 104=Old Youth Room, Rm. 106=Old Conf. Rm #1, Rm. 110=Old Conf. Rm. #2, Rm. 102=Old Parlor BLP=Blessed Lambs Preschool, M & M=Meal & a Message

Program News

WORSHIP

OUR REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE - On Sundays, Café Service at 8:30 AM in fellowship hall 2 and Traditional Worship in the sanctuary at 11:00 AM. Sunday school classes are at 9:45 AM for all ages.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - We will be holding a traditionally-based Ash Wednesday Service on the first day of Lent, Wednesday, February 14. The service will be at 7:00 PM. Please join us for a moving service with normal Ash Wednesday liturgy and the imposition of ashes as an option for all worshipers.

ATTENDANCE PADS - The information you write on the attendance pads found in the pews is used for many different things. If you move or change your phone number, you can use the attendance pad to notify the church office of your new information. You can sign up for classes, dinners, and events, add your email address to The Grapevine mailing list, and much more.

The attendance sheets come to the church administrator and she records all the information and sends it off to where it needs to go. She also tracks attendance for each of the worship services and this information is passed on to our Congregational Care Ministry Team so that they can send a note to those folks who have been absent from church for a few weeks. Please write all the names of your family on the pad so that attendance at worship can be recorded accurately. Remember there may be more than one family in the congregation with the same last name, so if you just put your last name on the pad there is no way to know which family it is. Also, please be sure to write the service you are attending on the pad, Café, 11:00, or one of our special services.

NURSERY IS AVAILABLE - Nursery care for little ones (ages 0-4 yrs) is available during the 11:00 Sunday morning service. Please be considerate of the other worshipers. If your little one becomes unsettled and distracting, please step out of the service. An usher can direct you to the nursery or to the rocking chairs in the back. We are grateful to the staff and volunteers that help us provide a nursery each week. If you would like to volunteer in the nursery, please contact Alyssa Wheeler or Carrie Summers.

HEARING ASSIST DEVICES - are available, please see an usher to get one.

FELLOWSHIP

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES - Shrove Tuesday is February 13 and the youth will host the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner from 5 - 7 in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to this annual event which is a fundraiser for the youth.

DISCIPLESHP

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails" a six week Lenten Bible study led by Pastoral Intern Gwen Rodriguez. This study is a companion study to Pastor Bruce's current study: "Because of Bethlehem". Lent is a time to focus on our spiritual journey as we reflect on the gifts of the cross. The study will meet on Sunday afternoon for six weeks beginning February 18 through March 25 from 1:15 PM to 2:15 PM. Join us for this class by writing "Nails" on the fellowship folders.

SERVICE & CARING

BLESSED LAMBS PRESCHOOL - is currently doing a fundraiser through Elbert's Enterprises. They are selling Butter Braids, Gourmet Cookie Dough and Tennessee Cheesecakes. To place an order, please contact Julie Robbins, at 301-934-2289 or blessedlambsoffice@gmail.com. Orders are due in by Friday, February 23.

BAKE SALE - Sagepoint will be holding a bake sale to benefit the Residents of Sagepoint Senior Living Center. The bake sale is on February 13, 2018 at 10:00am in the lobby of Sagepoint until we sell all the baked goods. Please email Ann Bergerstock at annber103066@yahoo.com if you can donate baked goods. You can deliver your items on February 12 or the morning of the 13th to the receptionist. Please come over to Sagepoint and purchase some baked goods and visit with the residents. As always thank-you! for supporting the residents.

LIFELINE SCREENING - On Thursday, February 15, our church will host a session by Life Line Screening. Life Line Screening is a medical company that performs 5 non-invasive tests which can provide information to you and to your doctor concerning 5 areas of common danger. While each exam costs \$70, a package of all five exams are available for only \$139. You will be given your results that day. You do have to call their 800 number and make a reservation. It is not open for walk-ins. Please call 1-800-403-6832 to schedule

a convenient time and appointment. The tests will be conducted behind privacy screens in FH1 (our older fellowship hall).

EAGLE SCOUT FUND RAISER - Anthony Graves is a candidate for his Eagle Scout Award and for his project he is creating an outdoor classroom. We are hosting a fund raising dinner on Saturday, February 17 in Fellowship Hall 1, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Instead of a cost for the meal, there will be an opportunity for you to make donations to the project.

BRICKS FOR SALE - We are still selling bricks to be engraved and placed below the bell tower to benefit our building fund. The bricks range in price from \$100 - \$1,500. Please stop by the church office in order to hand pick the location of your brick and choose your engraving. Please share this idea with anyone you think will want an opportunity to participate. If we sell all the bricks, we will raise nearly \$88,000 for the Building Fund.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP - Our church's food pantry is requesting that we bring in the following food items: canned vegetables, fruit and soup, macaroni and cheese, shell pasta, cereal, peanut butter, grape jelly, and children's pouches or boxes of juice. Please remember that pets need food too and our food pantry also accepts pet food. You may also make a monetary donation.

FAITH SHARING

HAS GOD BLESSED YOU? - When God answers our prayers, or provides healing, or helps us find a job or get a promotion; when God has touched our lives – we have a responsibility to tell others what God has done. This is a great way to start a conversation about our faith with those who know us. Tell them how you feel about being touched by God, or how God has answered your prayers.

PLEASE INVITE YOUR FRIENDS - It is the simplest and most effective way to share Christ with others: just invite your friends to church with you. Most people who grew up as Christians and who aren't in a church say they just haven't found a church they like, and because no one has invited them. Most people if you ask, will say yes to an invitation. Just ask them to come to church for a special event, or special Sunday, or to hear a sermon you think will help them.

MAKE A NEW FRIEND TODAY - As you enter Church today to worship, look around and see if you can find someone you don't know. During Passing of

the Peace, make a point to introduce yourself to them and invite them to join you in an activity of the Church. If you can't get to them during the Passing of the Peace, hang around for a bit after worship and strike up a conversation with them. In time you'll discover if they are long lost members, or here for the first time. Either way, you get to make a new friend. Thank you for being one of the friendliest and most caring congregations around.

ADMINISTRATION

WINTER WEATHER NOTIFICATIONS - If wintry weather is predicted on a Sunday morning, the leaders of the church will make a decision around 6:00 AM and decide whether to cancel Café Worship or cancel both services. Sunday School will be cancelled if both services are called off. If only Café is cancelled, we will make a separate decision about Sunday School. We will let the congregation know by posting a message on Facebook (our church page is "La Plata Umc") and by posting a notice on our web site's homepage.

DONATIONS - Please check with the church office before "donating" items to the church, then we can notify the proper program or ministry to pick them up or put them away. If you simply drop things off, no one knows who they belong to or what to do with them.



Our Prayer List

Chris Rogers - is in the hospital in South Carolina recovering from a stroke.

Larry, Gay and Claire Johnson would like to thank the congregation for all of the phone calls, texts, visits, food and most importantly, the prayers, during Larry's surgery and recovery. You are an amazing church family and we are so blessed to be a part of it. Thank you.

Sharon Bowie - will be having shoulder replacement surgery on February 22.

Ronnie Lucas - is recovering from two back surgeries.

Bill Sigmon - is home recovering from back surgery.

Jerome Church - Jesse Coombs' grandson-in-law, is still awaiting a liver transplant.

Continue praying for these friends & loved ones:



Christina Kingsbury
Jennifer Carpenter
Kevin McKay
Lillian Leiman
Chris Moorhouse
Sharon Ferguson
Rollie Hower
Rosalie Snyder
Dorothy Jackson
Drey Thomason
Crystal Rupprecht
Howard Viguers
Landin Richards
Sonny Rupprecht
Celeste Church
Larry Johnson
June Hanson

Alyssa Buckler
Hailey Sellers
Barbara Williams
Jim Harmon
Mike Merritt
Mike Williams
Sonny Davis
Jennifer Hamer
Katrina Gessner
David Smith
Don Stapleson
Duke Deldeo
Christine Tressler
Bev Nuzzi
Charlie Parsons
David Beatty
Lloyd Bowling

Jennifer Hancock
Julie Burch
John McPherson
Sal Aloisio
Marion Craft
Jason Morrison
Patricia Buckler
Sharon Biasatti
TR Gandee
Robert Altiero
Becky Dean
Linda Belanger
Randy Hill
Sam Barber
Laurie Hamilton
Jimmy & Dorothy Roberts

Our Church Staff & Church Leadership

Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones	Senior Pastor
Rev. Ed Chance	Retired Pastor / Visitation
Gwen Rodriguez	Pastoral Intern
Karen Hamner	Church Administrator
Corrie Roberts	Youth Leader
Patricia Day	Choir Director
Linda Dent Mitchell	Organist
Cheryl Reckeweg	Hand Bell Choir Director
Laurie Smith	Church Treasurer
Ed McKenzie	Building Superintendent
Jim & Dina Harris	Church Sextons
Bill Riley	Groundskeeper
Julie Robbins	Preschool Director
Trish Carruth	Asst. Preschool Director
Eugene Bradford	Administrative Council Chair
Kevin Robbins	Board of Trustees President
Rick Boggs	Staff-Parish Relations Chair
Scott Sheffield	Finance Committee Chair

Our Church Motto for 2018

"We are trusting in God's providence to lead us and bless us as we go through a year of change and growth"



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