

La Plata United Methodist Church



**Seventh Sunday of Epiphany
February 19, 2017**

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)

As you have brought us safely through another week, O Lord, you have given us new opportunities for this day and the days to come. We thank you for your care of us, and we pray that we may receive, in this service of worship, the wisdom and the faith to walk through the doors that you have opened for us. Fill us with your perfect love, which casts out our fear, and find us together in that unity which you share with the Father and the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Greeting Each Other in the Name of Christ

Please be seated

Eagle Scout Recognition

Announcements & Invitations

Time of Prayer:

Praise for Blessings & Things to Pray For,
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

Romans 10: 5-15

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 14: 22-33

The Message

Rev. Ed Chance

“There’s Life Beyond the Bunker”

(Sermon notes can be found on page 8)

Please stand, if able

Benediction

Departure Music

Mike Rainwater



Liturgist: Tina McCormick

Service Prayer Partner: Jeanette Tull

Traditional Service (11:00)

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

Prayer Before Worship

Almighty God, we celebrate your presence, in both its righteousness and mercy. Pour steadfast love into our hearts, and give us an enduring faithfulness. Inspire us ever to sing your praises as holiness and power move us boldly to proclaim your name. Remind us this day, Father, that we are not alone, and that the soil beneath us is not all upon which we stand. Amen.

Prelude, Prayer & Meditation & Lighting the Altar Candles

Cheryl Reckeweg

When the Prelude begins, those who wish to pray together at the front are invited to come forward; others may quiet themselves in meditation or pray the prayer printed above silently to themselves during this time.

Introit:

Chancel Choir

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Please stand, if able

Call to Worship (Responsively)

UM Hymnal, 828

Psalm 105: 1-11

Opening Hymn

UM Hymnal, 89

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

Presentation and Posting of the Colors

The Pledge of Allegiance (Together)

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The Invocation (Together)

Our heavenly Father, we your humble children invoke your

blessing upon us in this hour of worship. We adore you, whose nature is compassion, whose presence is joy, whose word is truth, whose spirit is goodness, whose holiness is beauty, whose will is peace, whose spirit is perfect freedom, and in knowledge of whom stands our eternal life. Unto you be all honor and all glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Passing the Peace

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:

Chancel Choir

"My Shepherd Knows"

Children's Moment

Kathy Cox

Welcome, News & Opportunities

Scouting Sunday Recognitions

Recognition of those in Scouting, past and present

Scouting Video

The Boy Scout Oath/Promise

On my honor, I will do my best. To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

Girl Scout Promise & Law

On my honor, I will try: To serve God and my country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law. I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

What Scouting Has Done for Me

The New Testament Lesson

Romans 10: 5-15

See page 7
Salvation Is for All

The Offertory:

Chancel Choir

“Christ for the World We Sing”

Please stand, if able

The Doxology (Together)

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.**

Offertory Prayer of Dedication (Pastor)

Hymn of Preparation

UM Hymnal, 140

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

The Gospel Lesson

See page 7

Matthew 14: 22-33

Jesus Walks on the Water

This is the Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Message

Rev. Ed Chance

“There’s Life Beyond the Bunker”

(Sermon notes can be found on page 8)

Please stand, if able

Closing Hymn

UM Hymnal, 421

“Make Me a Captive, Lord”

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

Cheryl Reckeweg

† Among the Top 50 Favorite Hymns of 2016

Acolyte: Allison & Kaitlyn Sayers; Liturgist: Scouts
Substitute Organist: Cheryl Reckeweg; Chancel Choir Director: Pat Day
Service Prayer Partner: Sandy Tull

*The Flowers on the Altar
are given to the glory of God,
and in celebration of their engagement,
by Larry Gandee and Diane Dade*



The Scripture Lessons

Romans 10: 5-15 (NRSV)

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Matthew 14: 22-33 (NRSV)

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.

And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying "Truly you are the Son of God."

Sermon Notes

“There’s Life Beyond the Bunker”

Do you know how to tell a really good golfer from a bad one? The really good golfer is the one who can _____ from setback on the course. When he hits the ball into the bunker twenty feet from the green, he doesn't _____ his club or mentally give up the game. He simply _____, concentrates, and hits it out of there, right up to the pin. There's a lot of good _____ in that observation. We all make some bad shots in life. The important thing is not to _____.

ILLUS: This was so with Jesus. His ministry began with high expectations and strong support.

ILLUS: Nazareth was an inconspicuous mountain town.

Then, some began to question his popularity: "Who is this man?" We too often debate about the superiority of heredity over environment or environment over heredity, and we often lose sight of some simple truths.

NOTHING SO ENRICHES LIFE AS LOYALTY TO SOME WORTHY END.

Having worthy goals, mark the difference between making a living and living a life. To get up every morning with an adventurous _____ to some conviction, to face the issues of life whether gain or loss, favor or disfavor, with the conviction that "for this cause came I into the world." This will put _____ in your blood and fire the flames of faith.

Furthermore, when you live with _____, the incidentals and the accidentals of life take on meaning. Sooner or later, the broken pieces of life fall into place and become one.

THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AFFIRMS THE MIRACLE OF GOD'S GRACE. God has made _____, and has put within the reach of every person, inexhaustible _____ for recovery and redemption. That is the meaning of the Christian faith. It is true that the disciples weren't highly educated or culturally refined. Christ selected the weak and the lowly to show the world the divine possibility of a life that is committed to God.

ILLUS: Peter flunked Theology of the Cross 101.

JESUS IS THE ONE THROUGH WHOM WE CAN UNDERSTAND ALL THE EVENTS OF OUR LIVES. We are so prone to think we are correcting our course in life, concentrating on hitting the ball out of the bunker, but, if Jesus isn't in it, we may only be hitting into the rough or into another bunker.

ILLUS: Even ministers have this problem.

After all, it is Jesus who matters, not anything else. Jesus is the _____ on the green. Until we learn that, we will not do very well at improving ourselves on the golf course of life.

What do you do when you feel that you've made a monumentally bad start in life? We can recover by making the next shot a good one-by _____ ourselves to Him and living differently. Peter summed it up beautifully in I Peter 1:3-9. Take this battered and bruised _____ and build upon it until "the chords that are broken shall vibrate once more."

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 19 - PRAYERS FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

- 8:30a **Café Worship Service** (FH)
- 9:45a Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00a **Traditional Worship Service** - (Sanctuary)
- 11:15p Kid'S Church (YR)
- 12:30p Program Council Meeting (FH)
- 5:00p Alpha Class (FH & Parlor)
- 6:30p Youth Group (YR)

Monday, February 20 - PRAYERS FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE PRESIDENT'S DAY - BLP AND CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

- 8:30p AA Meeting - Warner Group (YR)

Tuesday, February 21 - PRAYERS FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

- 7:30a Community Round Table - at Panera Bread
- 6:00p Men's Emmaus Reunion Group (FH)
- 6:00p Women's Emmaus Reunion Group (Parlor)
- 7:00p LPUMC Art Studio (Classroom C)
- 7:30p Disciple I/Fast Track (CR2)
- 7:30p Trustees Meeting (CR1)

Wednesday, February 22 - PRAYERS FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

- 10:00a Wednesday Morning Bible Study (CR2)
- 12:00p AA Meeting - Serenity Seekers (YR)
- 2:00p Food Pantry - open till 4:00 (Behind Church Office)
- 6:00p Order of the Arrow (FH)
- 6:00p Puppet Ministries Practice (CR2)
- 7:00p Cherub Choir & Crimson Angels Practice (YR)
- 7:30p Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Thursday, February 23 - PRAYERS FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

- 9:00a Lion's Club Spaghetti Dinner prep (Kitchen)
- 6:00p Carillon Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
- 6:30p Cub Scout Pack 423 Meetings (CR2 & YR)
- 7:00p Christian Believer (CR1)
- 7:00p Disciple III (FH)
- 7:30p The Shack Class (Choir Room)

Friday, February 24 - PRAYERS FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

- 9:00a Bi-weekly Construction Progress Meeting (CR1)
- 4:00p Lion's Club Spaghetti Dinner (FH)

Saturday, February 25 - PRAYERS FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

- 8:00a Alpha Holy Spirit Day (FH, YR, Parlor & Sanctuary)

Sunday, February 26 - PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

- 8:30a **Café Worship Service** (FH)
- 9:45a Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00a **Traditional Worship Service** - (Sanctuary)
- 11:15p Kid'S Church (YR)
- 12:15p Bible Exploration Day (FH)
- 12:15p Confirmation Class (YR)

**KEY: FH = Fellowship Hall, YR = Youth Room, CR1 - Conf. Rm #1, CR2 = Conf. Rm. #2,
BLP = Blessed Lambs Preschool**

Program News

WORSHIP

WORSHIP SCHEDULE - We worship on Sunday mornings at 8:30 & 11:00. Our Café Worship is at 8:30 AM in the fellowship hall, and our Traditional Service is in the sanctuary at 11:00 AM. Sunday school classes begin at 9:45 AM and we offer classes for all ages.

FLOWER CHART - The **2017 Flower Chart** is posted on the wall in the narthex, and there are many dates still open. Please take a moment to stop by and choose a date to provide flowers to decorate the altar in celebration, or in memory of a special person or event in your life.

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 worshippers. 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. The Nursery is located on the upper floor of the education wing. 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.

FELLOWSHIP

YOUTH GROUP - Tonight is the second Evening Youth Group! All youth in grades 6 - 12 are welcome to join us from 6:30 - 8:00 pm for fellowship and discussion. We will gather in the youth room. Friends are welcome also!

PANCAKE DINNER - The annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner will be held on February 28 from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. The youth are once again hosting this event. The menu is: pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, tater tots, applesauce and drinks. This is a free dinner, but donations to our youth are welcome. Please invite a friend and plan to join us!

DINNER THEATER - The Fellowship Ministries Team is once again sponsoring a trip to a local dinner theater. This time we will be traveling to Fredericksburg, VA to Riverside Center for the Performing Arts to see "Saturday Night Fever The Musical" on May 6. The cost for the bus, dinner and show will be \$75 per person. You will choose from four entrees, multiple sides and two desserts once seated and there will be no need to decide ahead what to eat. Please call the church office,

301-934-2288 and reserve your spot with Karen or the preschool office, 301-934-2289 and reserve your spot with Julie. Deadline to register for the dinner theater is March 22.

DISCIPLESHIP

40-DAYS OF LENT - The entire congregation is invited to read a 40-day devotional book called, "Draw the Circle" by Mark Batterson. There is much to learn about how we can protect our loved ones, our homes, ourselves, and special places in our lives. Please be praying about sharing in this incredible journey to see what God can do in your life.

REGISTRATION OPEN - Blessed Lambs 2017/2018 registration is now open to the public. We have part-time programs for 2, 3, and 4 year olds. Blessed Lambs is an Accredited program with the Maryland State Department of Education. Contact Julie Robbins at 301-934-2289, or blessedlambsoffice@gmail.com, or visit our website blessedlambs.org for more information.

PASTOR'S MONDAY NIGHT STUDY - The next PMNS is a five week study based on the book "Half Truths" by Adam Hamilton beginning on Monday, February 27 at 7:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. In this study Adam Hamilton will compare common Christian cliches to the message and ministry of Jesus. You can sign up on the attendance pad, or by calling Karen in the church office at 301-934-2288.

SERVICE & CARING

SAFE NIGHTS - Our church will host Safe Nights from March 5 - 12. We are requesting donations of personal size toiletries and disposable razors for the bathrooms. You can also donate snack items through the Sunday school classes.

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. Also, 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.

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.

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.

ADMINISTRATION

STEWARDSHIP - We are all called to be good stewards of our church building. Jim Harris, our church sexton, has found the front door (route 6 side) ajar and therefore unlocked on numerous occasions. This door cannot be closed securely from the outside. Please do not use this door, unless there is an emergency, when exiting the building, use the parking lot exit doors. If you see someone in the building you don't recognize, ask them if you can offer them some assistance. It is our responsibility to turn off the lights and the thermostats, close the fire safe doors, and ensure that the outer doors (all of them) are locked when we leave the building. Thank you. Your Trustees

NOTARY PUBLIC - The church office provides free Notary Public service to all church members.

PRAYER LIST - Please take a moment and look at the bulletin's prayer list (inside back cover), if you have information regarding anyone on the list, please call Karen in the church office so that she can update the list. Thanks!

ONLINE AND ELECTRONIC GIVING - You are able to make your contributions to the church via our church web site, where you can make one-time contributions, or set up a weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or quarterly giving pattern. If you don't have internet service, you can obtain an authorization form from the office and Karen will set up your giving profile for you. Decide how much you want to give, and never worry about having your checkbook or enough cash again. Call the church office if you have questions. Once you create a profile, giving is as easy as 1-2-3.

SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING - Kevin Robbins will be holding a Safe Sanctuaries Training on Friday, February 17 at 6:00 PM. Our Safe Sanctuaries Policy is in place to protect our children and youth, and the adults who work with them. If you work with children or youth in any capacity, you must be Safe Sanctuary Trained and have a background check performed. If you have questions, please contact the church office at 301-934-2288.

PRESIDENT'S DAY - The Church office will be closed on Monday, February 20 in honor of President's Day.

The
WORD
by name
is Jesus Christ

Our Prayer List

The family of Ed Wilson - Karen Hamner's brother-in-law, as they mourn his passing.

The family of Conley W. Stewart - Joyce Dean's brother-in-law as they mourn his passing.

Karyl Beveridge - is recovering at home..

Jean Manders - has suffered another stroke.

Buddy Bowling - is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

David Smith - Laurie Smith's brother-in-law has been diagnosed with stage 3 stomach cancer.



Continue praying for these friends & loved ones:

Christina Kingsbury

Sherry McCahill

Loretta Haught

Sharon Bowie

Dianna Barrick

Paul Pontorno

Dave Hollar

Roger Rollins

Carolyn Kier

Charlie Karsten

Jerome Church

Rosalie Snyder

Dorothy Jackson

Alyssa Buckler

Steve Hardin

Travis McPherson

Jennifer Hancock

Hailey Sellers

Barbara Williams

Jim Harmon

Sal Aloisio

Chris Moorhouse

Alma Hardin

Mike Williams

Jessica Unkle

Jennifer Hamer

Miriam Lum

Brenda Rollins-Newman

Doris Ager

Elizabeth Deboe

Jennifer Carpenter

Julie Burch

John McPherson

June Hanson

Kevin McKay

Greg Kenney

Marion Craft

Jason Morrison

Patricia Buckler

Cathy Thomas

Robin Boswell

Our Church Staff/Church Leadership

Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones	Senior Pastor
Rev. Ed Chance	Retired Pastor / Visitation
Susan Matteson	Program Director
Corrie Roberts	Youth Leader
Karen Hamner	Church Administrator
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
Kirby Blass	Staff-Parish Relations Chair
Scott Sheffield	Finance Committee Chair

Our Church Motto for 2017

“Worshipping and growing in fellowship & knowledge of Christ. Maturing from membership to discipleship: for us, others, and for Jesus’ sake.”

‘Friend’ us on Facebook: La Plata Umc



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