

2nd Sunday after Christmas

January 5, 2003

Gathering around God's Word

PRELUDE: "But the Lord Is Mindful of His Own" Felix Mendelssohn
(Christy Floyd, Organist/Pianist)

WELCOME AND SERVICE OF FRIENDSHIP Fred Coates

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 147:12-14)

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

He keeps your gates strong;

he bless your people .

He keeps your borders safe

and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

*HYMN OF PRAISE: "Because He Lives" No. 447

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God: you make all things new,
and forgive old wrongs we can't forget.**

We confess we have spent time without loving

and years without purpose;

and the calendar condemns us.

Daily we have done wrong,

and failed to do what you demand.

Forgive the past; do not let evil cripple or shame us.

Lead us into the future,

free from sin, free to love,

and ready to work for your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Proclaiming God's Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOSPEL LESSON: John 1:1-18 (page 87, pew Bible)

(8:30 a.m.) Sue Stevens; (11:00 a.m.) Judith McLean

SERMON: "Living in a God-Invaded World" Ed Lewis

Responding to God's Word

*HYMN: "This Is a Day of New Beginnings" No. 355

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Ephesians 1:3-4)

**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ**

with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world

to be holy and blameless before him in love.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine
is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

ANTHEM: (8:30 a.m.) "From a Distant Home" arr. Walter Ehret
(Gene Auten and Alan Sledge)

(11:00 a.m.) "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" ... Kathleen Thomerson

*DOXOLOGY: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 34

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(8:30 a.m.) Rick Omohundro; (11:00 a.m.) Harding Rogers

The Sealing of God's Word

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

SOLO: "This Is a Time to Remember" Bryan Leech

Bearing God's Word into the World

*HYMN: "God of Our Life" No. 409

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "O Morning Star, Most Bright and Fair" Johann Pachelbel

Cassette tapes of the service are available at the sound console located at the rear of the sanctuary.

Calendar and Announcements

Sunday: 5:30 p.m. - PYF

Monday: 1:00 p.m. - Library Committee

7:00 p.m. - Boy Scout Troop 166

7:00 p.m. - Small Group, "He Chose the Nails," with Liz Price

7:30 p.m. - Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates

Tuesday: 5:00 p.m. - Girl Scout Troop 591

5:30 p.m. - PYF Supper Club

6:15 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers

Wednesday: 4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM

6:45 p.m. - Logos/MSM Parent meeting

7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - Through the Bible Study

6:30 p.m. - First Place

- Fun and Fellowship at Captain's Galley

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - Promise Keepers in the Library

6:00 p.m. - Spaghetti Supper and concert by Gideon's Torch

Guests: Welcome to First Presbyterian on this first Sunday of 2003. If you need a church home, we invite you to unite with our congregation. Please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gwen Crowell by her family.

Your 2¢-A-Meal Hunger Offering to alleviate world hunger should be placed in one of the special boxes at the rear of the sanctuary today.

Financially Speaking: Take advantage of the beginning of the new year to complete last year's commitments to the church. Please indicate any contributions which are given to fulfill your 2002 commitments. If you have recently transferred stocks or other securities to the church, or will in the future, please inform treasurer LuAnne Sledge so the identity of the donor may be known. Last Sunday the congregation approved a 2003 budget in the amount of \$591,764, a 9% increase over last year's budget. If you have not yet picked up your offering envelopes for this year, please get them today from the table at the rear of the sanctuary. If you cannot find yours, please contact the church office or treasurer LuAnne Sledge. Thank you for your generous and faithful support of the worship and work of our congregation.

A New Member Class will be held in Room 222 during the church school hour—9:45-10:40 a.m.—on the next three Sundays, January 12, 19, and 26, for those interested in knowing more about or becoming members of the church.

Logos/MSM: The Logos/MSM program second semester begins this Wednesday, January 8, at 4:00 p.m. Registrations are still being accepted. Questions about completing registration should be directed to Logos/MSM directors Janie Carpenter (704-664-6032), Christina McElroy (704-664-4369) or June Tyson (704-664-7685). All forms and tuition payments should be turned in by Wednesday, January 8, unless prior arrangements have been made. Scholarship help is available upon request. A parent meeting for new participants only will be held this Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. in the church library.

A fellowship supper and benefit concert will be held this Saturday, January 11. A spaghetti supper will be prepared by the Presbyterian Youth Fellowship and served at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. A special benefit concert will follow, presented by Gideon's Torch, a Southern gospel quartet comprised of church members Gene Auten, Harry Weyer, Mark Garland and Alan Sledge, and accompanied by Andy Jordan. Donations will be received to help with the cost of the PYF mission trip to Denver, CO, on June 29-July 5, 2003.

Presbyterian Men will hold their monthly breakfast meeting in the fellowship hall next Sunday at 8:30 a.m. All men of the church are invited.

All sessional committees will meet next Sunday, January 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Wedding: Anthony Neil Johnson and Patricia Doughten Vaughn were married on January 1 in the church parlor. They will make their home at 594 North Broad Street, Mooresville.

Appreciation is expressed to Martha Gragg for the unique contributions she has made to our communion services. After many years of making the bread for our celebrations of Holy Communion, she retired from making our Communion bread at the end of 2002. We thank Martha for her dedicated and faithful service.