

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2003

Gathering around God's Word

PRELUDE: "Psalm XIX" Benedetto Marcello
(Christy Floyd, Organist/Pianist)

WELCOME AND SERVICE OF FRIENDSHIP Ed Lewis

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 19:7-9, 14) Fred Coates
The Law of the Lord is perfect; it gives us new life.

His teachings last forever, and they give wisdom to ordinary people.

The Lord's instruction is right; it makes our hearts glad.

His commands shine brightly, and they give us light.

Worshiping the Lord is sacred; he will always be worshiped.

All of his decisions are correct and fair.

Let my words and my thoughts be pleasing to you, Lord,

because you are my mighty rock and my protector.

*HYMN OF PRAISE: "I Love Your Kingdom, Lord" No. 549

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Psalm 19: 11-14)

By your teachings, Lord, I am warned;

by obeying them, I am greatly rewarded.

None of us know our faults.

Forgive me when I sin without knowing it.

Don't let me do wrong on purpose, Lord, or let sin have control over my life.

Then I will be innocent, and not guilty of some terrible fault.

Let my words and my thoughts be pleasing to you, Lord,

because you are my mighty rock and my protector. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE: "I Come to the Cross" No. 251

Proclaiming God's Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 20:1-17 Insert

*HYMN: "I Love You, Lord" No. 85

GOSPEL LESSON: John 2:13-22 (page 88, pew Bible)

(8:30 a.m.) Diane Harrington; (11:00 a.m.) Melanie Burton

SERMON: *The Summons: Come to the Cross*

3. "From the Church" Ed Lewis

Responding to God's Word

*HYMN: "We Are Called to Be God's People" No. 580

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from "A Declaration of Faith" [P.C.U.S.], VII, 1)

The church is founded on Jesus Christ.

Gathered around the Word and sacraments,

those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior,

together with their children,

have formed a corporate, visible body

in pilgrimage with God across the centuries.

The church has sought to order its life and ministry

in obedience to the teaching of the first apostles.

It has attempted to carry out Christ's commission

in various institutional forms and structures

that demonstrate both continuity and change.

We acknowledge that Christ chooses to be known in the world

through this community of ordinary people,

therefore we dare not despise or abandon the church.

Christ is the head of the church,

therefore we are responsible to Christ

when we make policy and decisions in the church.

Christ is the foundation of the church,

therefore it will not fall despite our weakness.

We are confident that the Lord of the church

will judge and defeat our sinful intentions and actions,

help us in our weakness and blindness,

and use the church to accomplish his purposes.

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.) "The Church's One Foundation" Samuel Wesley

(Debbie Church, soloist; words in the hymnal, No. 544)

(11:00 a.m.) "Renew Your Church" *The Sacred Harp*, 1844

(Chancel Choir; words in the hymnal, No. 462)

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (8:30 a.m.) Millie Amon; (11:00 a.m.) Vicki Eddleman

Bearing God's Word into the World

*HYMN: "The Summons" (verse 2 – soloist/choir; verse 4 – congregation) No. 350

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "The Church's One Foundation" Samuel Wesley

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

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

Lenten Bible Study: Fred Coates is leading a study of the Gospel of Mark, entitled *Marked for Life*, each Thursday through April 10, from 7:30-8:30 p.m., in the church parlor. Invite a friend to attend with you.

Lenten Schedule brochures containing information about our church's Lenten activities are at the rear of the sanctuary and in the church office.

Calendar and Announcements

- Sunday: 5:30 p.m. - PYF – “A Video Event”
7:30 p.m. - Session in Room 300
- Monday: 7:00 p.m. - Boy Scout Troop 166
7:00 p.m. - Small Group, “Breaking Free,” with Liz Price
- Tuesday: 3:00 p.m. - Chapel Ringers
5:30 p.m. - PYF Supper Club at Brooklyn Boys
6:15 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers
7:00 p.m. - Cub Scout Pack 166
- Wednesday: 4:00 p.m. - Logos/Middle School Ministry
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir
- Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - Through the Bible Study
3:30 p.m. - Genesis Ringers
6:30 p.m. - Presbyterian Women Council in the Library
7:30 p.m. - Lenten Bible Study in the Parlor
- Friday: 10:30 a.m. - Parenting study in the Library
5:00 p.m. - April Newsletter deadline
6:00 p.m. - PYF leaves for Spring Retreat at Camp Grier
7:00 p.m. - Small Group, “Exploring the Reformed Faith,” with Liz Price
- Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - Promise Keepers in the Library

Logos Trip: Members of our Logos Program, including music director Alan Sledge, are helping lead church school and worship this morning at Carmel Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. The group plans to return to Mooresville by 2:00 p.m. this afternoon.

Birth: Congratulations are extended to Don and Angie Copeland, 501 Woodberry Drive, into whose home was born a daughter, Amanda Michelle Copeland, on March 14.

Christian sympathy is extended to Nancy Baker and family in the death of her sister on March 21.

Wedding: Elizabeth Lynn Jones and David Cameron Monckton were united in marriage in our sanctuary on March 22. They will be at home at 5623 Marion Circle, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577. The flowers in the sanctuary today are from their wedding and are given to the glory of God in memory of Helen Crowell and in honor of Charlie Crowell.

At its meeting last Sunday, the congregation voted to purchase the house and lot at 313 West McLelland Avenue (adjacent to the church parking lot) for the price of \$174,000, plus any closing costs, and authorized the Session and Trustees to execute the necessary documents to effect the purchase of the property.

Some name tags are still on the table at the rear of the sanctuary, ready for their new owners to wear. Order a name tag (\$4 each, plus shipping and handling) on the friendship pad or by calling the church office.

Baptism is next scheduled for Easter, April 20. If you desire the sacrament for yourself and/or your children, please inform the church office as soon as possible.

Next week on the fourth Sunday in Lent: *The Summons: Come to the Cross*, 4. “From Indictment,” based on John 3:14-21.



First Presbyterian Church

249 West McLelland Avenue
Mooresville, North Carolina