

June 29, 2003

Gathering around God's Word

PRELUDE: "God Leads Us Along" arr. Fasig/Smith
(Christy Floyd, Organist/Pianist)

WELCOME AND SERVICE OF FRIENDSHIP Ed Lewis

GATHERING SONGS

- "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" No. 496
- "Blessed Be the God of Israel" No. 158
- "God Is Working His Purpose Out" No. 564
- *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" No. 358

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, we know that you are always with us,
our ever-present help in time of trouble.
Yet we are often unaware of your presence.
We become so caught up in our daily tasks and responsibilities that we forget you.
We are too busy to say or think a few words of acknowledgment,
much less to set aside an uninterrupted time of prayer.
Forgive, Lord, our frenzied existence,
and help us to walk closely and carefully with you,
delighting in your presence and serving you with loving obedience;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Proclaiming God's Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON..... Thermond Thompson

*HYMN: "Bringing in the Sheaves" Insert

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17 (page 237, pew Bible)
(8:30 a.m.) Scott Vaughn; (11:00 a.m.) Opal Westmoreland

SERMON: *Summer Stock Sermon Series*
5. "Bringing in the Sheaves" Ed Lewis

Responding to God's Word

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

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Romans 8:28-29)

**We know that in all things God works for good with those who love him,
those whom he has called according to his purpose.
Those whom God had already chosen he also set apart to become like his Son,
so that the Son would be the first among many believers.**

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

SOLO: (8:30 a.m.) "O God Beyond All Praising" Gustav Holst
(Alan Sledge, soloist)

ANTHEM: (11:00 a.m.) "Find Us Faithful"Jon Mohr

We're pilgrims on the journey of the narrow road, and those who've gone before us line the way. Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary, their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace. Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run the race not only for the prize; but as those who've gone before us, let us leave to those behind us the heritage of faithfulness passed on through godly lives. Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful, may the fire of our devotion light their way. May the footprints that we leave lead them to believe, and the lives we live inspire them to obey. Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful. After all our hopes and dreams have come and gone, and our children sift thru all we've left behind. May the clues that they discover and the memories they uncover become the light that leads them to the road we each must find...

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....(8:30 a.m.) John Streb; (11:00 a.m.) Brittany Harris

Bearing God's Word into the World

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" No. 393

POSTLUDE: "Toccatina in C Major" Johann Pachelbel

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

Calendar and Announcements

Monday: 7:00 p.m. - Small Group "Breaking Free" with Liz Price

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. - CIA – swimming at the Kidwell's
5:30 p.m. - PYF Summer Tuesday

Wednesday: 5:00 p.m. - Saints Alive to First Presbyterian Church of Gastonia for
patriotic carillon recital
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - Through the Bible Study at the home of Peggy Rogers

Friday: - Office closed

Saturday: - No meeting of Promise Keepers

Guests: Welcome to First Presbyterian on this Lord's Day. If you need a church home, we invite you to unite with our congregation. Please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad.

Saints Alive Trip: Saints Alive is planning a trip to First Presbyterian Church in Gastonia this Wednesday, July 2, to hear a patriotic "American Music Salute" carillon recital, given by Mary McFarland. The group plans to leave at 5:00 p.m. and return following the 6:30 p.m. recital. Please contact Ellen Auten by tomorrow, if you plan to attend.

Invite a Friend Sunday: You are encouraged to invite a friend, especially someone who does not already have a church home in our community, to attend First Presbyterian with you next Sunday, July 6. Invite them to stay for the picnic as well.

Children in Action (CIA): All children in rising first through sixth grades are invited to attend this week's CIA activity, a swimming outing at the home of Mark and Mary Kidwell, 345 W. McLelland Avenue. Participants should meet at the church at 10:00 a.m., and plan to be picked up at 1:00 p.m. Bring swimming gear and a bag lunch; drinks will be provided.

Combined Church School Class for Adults: All adult church school classes are encouraged to attend a special series of combined classes during the month of July, from 9:45-10:40 a.m. each Sunday in the fellowship hall. The series is entitled “Theology101 for Dummies: Reflections on the Doctrine of God,” and will be led by Smith Kirk. The first session in the series, “God Denied,” begins next Sunday, July 6. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Combined Middle School and High School Church School: All middle school and high school youth are encouraged to attend a special series of church school classes during the month of July in the youth room, featuring “The Beverly Hillbillies Bible Study.” The series begins next Sunday, July 6, with a lesson entitled “Count Your Many Blessings.”

Church Picnic: Everyone is invited to a “picnic on the grounds” following the 11:00 a.m. worship service next Sunday, July 6. The picnic will be held in the church yard beside the manse (bring lawn chairs), or in the fellowship hall in the event of rain. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, and ice cream for a cost of \$1 per person. Participants are asked to bring one side dish (salad, baked beans, fruit, deviled eggs, etc.) to complete the picnic lunch. Dishes may be dropped off in the church kitchen prior to church school and worship, and will be taken out to the picnic area for you. You are encouraged to dress casually for all activities.

Saints Alive Beach Trip: Deposits of \$65 per room are due by Friday, July 11, for the Saints Alive trip to Sea Island Inn in Myrtle Beach, SC, scheduled for October 22-25.

Mwandi Mission Hospital Fund: Donations are still being accepted for the communications project at the Mwandi Mission Hospital in Zambia. Due to the urgent nature of the communications problems, a new satellite phone was purchased (at a cost of \$2400) on the faith that funds would be donated. You are invited to contribute to that effort. Any donations beyond the cost of the phone will be used to help with setting up a proposed Internet connection for the hospital, which would save additional operating capital and enable online medical research.

As we celebrate our nation’s birthday: “If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:14)

PYF Mission Trip: Twenty-three of our young people plus their advisors left yesterday for Denver, CO, where they will serve this week under the auspices of YouthWorks, working in soup kitchens, homeless shelters, nursing homes, community centers and the like. The group will return next Sunday. Please pray God’s blessings for them and for those they will serve.

These Days: The devotional booklets for July, August and September are available without charge at the rear of the sanctuary.

Next Sunday on July 6

8:30 a.m.	Early Worship <i>Summer Stock Sermon Series: 6. “The Pyrotechnic Prophet”</i>
9:45 a.m.	Church School for all ages
11:00 a.m.	Worship <i>Summer Stock Sermon Series: 6. “The Pyrotechnic Prophet”</i>
12:15 p.m.	Picnic on the grounds for members and guests



First Presbyterian Church

249 West McLelland Avenue
Mooresville, North Carolina