

Order of Divine Worship
Christ the King
34th Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 21, 2004

Gathering around God's Word

WELCOME AND SERVICE OF FRIENDSHIP Fred Coates
PRELUDE: "Prelude on Blessings" Edwin O. Excell
(Christy Floyd)

GATHERING SONGS: (8:30 a.m.) Alan Sledge
"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" No. 88
"We Will Glorify" No. 337

INTROIT: "The Lord Is in His Holy Temple" (11:00 a.m.) from Habakkuk 2:20
(Chancel Choir)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 46:1-2, 4-5) Alan Sledge
God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

*HYMN: "O Worship the King" No. 2

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You have called us, O Sovereign God, to be Your royal heirs but we have used it as an opportunity for self-indulgence. We are so often self-centered that we cannot be centered selves. We are so often preoccupied with things of little consequence that we cannot really appreciate the important matters of the heart and soul. Set us free, O God, from the sin that binds us and distracts us from Your holy will. Set us free to be faithful servants in Your gracious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord and King. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell and through him, all things, whether on earth or in heaven, are reconciled to God. Hear then the great good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

*RESPONSE: "Majesty" No. 43

Proclaiming God's Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM: "A Festive March" (8:30 a.m.) Michael Bedford
(High School Handbells)

"Canto de Esperanza" 11:00 a.m.) arr. Sondra Tucker
(Adult Handbells)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 23:33-43 (pew Bible, page 963) (8:30 a.m.) Tom Church
(11:00 a.m.) Lynelle Owen

*HYMN: "Jesus Shall Reign" No. 341

SERMON: "A Jarring Experience" Fred Coates

Responding to God's Word

*HYMN: "Be Thou My Vision" No. 502

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI: "Glory Be to the Father" No. 734

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 TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: "Give of Your Best to the Master" (8:30 a.m.) Charlotte A. Barnard
(Christy Floyd)

"A Festive Fanfare" (11:00 a.m.) Michael R. Keller
(Middle School Handbells)

Bearing God's Word into the World

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (8:30 a.m.) Scott Mauney
(11:00 a.m.) John Streb

*HYMN: "How Majestic Is Your Name" No. 42

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning" John Barnard
Recordings of the service are available at the sound console located at the rear of the sanctuary.

Visitors: 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. ...

Advent Workshop: Everyone is invited to attend the annual Advent Workshop next Sunday, November 28, during the church school hour (9:45-10:40 a.m.) in the fellowship hall. Activities include Christmas crafts, singing, refreshments, and the opportunity to make an Advent wreath. Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) if you are available to help with set-up, craft projects, or refreshments.

Operation Christmas Child: All Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes should be brought to the church office or taken directly to Broad Street Methodist Church by tomorrow, November 22. Please contact Ellen Auten if you are interested in volunteering at the Operation Christmas Child Charlotte Processing Center on Tuesday, December 7; the group plans to leave at 2:15 p.m. and return by 8:00 p.m. The group will be preparing the shoeboxes for shipment overseas.

Logos/MSM will not meet this Wednesday, November 24.

Saints Alive trip: Saints Alive is planning a trip to visit Old Salem on Friday, December 3. The group plans to leave at 10:00 a.m., have lunch at the Salem Tavern, then enjoy options including the Candle Tea (\$3), tour of historic Old Salem buildings (\$22), or shopping in the Old Salem village. Please contact Ellen Auten if you are interested in this trip.

Announcements and Calendar

Catechism Club: Catechism Club mentors will meet with their children tonight at 5:15 p.m. to hear recitation of questions.

The Church Office will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday.

- Sunday: 7:30 a.m. - Board of Deacons
8:30 a.m. - Worship Celebration
9:45 a.m. - Church School for all ages
11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration
3:00 p.m. - Handmaidens of the Lord (No. 6) at Margaret Auten's home
5:13 p.m. - PYF SALTeens
5:30 p.m. - Catechism Club
- Monday: 6:00 p.m. - Brownie Troop 794 in Room 313
7:00 p.m. - Purpose Driven Life Bible Study at the home of Liz Price
7:30 p.m. - Bible Study with Fred and Jean Coates
- Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. - PYF Supper Club at Pueblo Grande (note later time!)
6:15 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers
6:30 p.m. - Girl Scouts in Room 313
7:30 p.m. - Senior High handbells
- Wednesday: 7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir
7:30 p.m. - Community Thanksgiving service at St. Therese Catholic Church
- Thursday: - Church Office closed
- Friday: - Church Office closed
- Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - Promise Keepers

Liturgy Notes for Christ the King - Year C

The Church observes a cycle of seasons and settings known as the liturgical year. That cycle follows the life of Jesus from birth to death and resurrection. It constitutes a basic rhythm for the Christian's life of prayer, with its focal point at Easter. The liturgical calendar shapes the worship service - the what, why and when of the celebration - including the readings, sermons, music and the color of the paraments (vestments or hangings) and the general appearance of the worship space.

Following the liturgical calendar, a schedule of readings from the Scriptures, called the lectionary, has been established by common ecclesiastical consent. It follows a three year cycle (Year A, B, C) encompassing the breadth of the Biblical themes and passages. Today's lections include: Jeremiah 23:1-6, Psalm 46, Colossians 1:11-20 and Luke 23:33-43. The gospel lection for Christ the King Sunday always comes from a passion narrative, where the contrast between Jesus' way of being King and earthly kingship is most stark.

Today's liturgy acknowledges the absolute authority of Christ as King. His is a kingship which is unlike any on earth. His power and dominion are revealed not in the military power of armies enforcing His will upon the reluctant, nor in the adept expansion of social or political influence. The true nature of Christ as King is revealed on the cross... a sacrificial example of love in action.

As Christians, we are only temporary citizens of this world. Our permanent citizenship is found in the Kingdom of God. As Jesus' followers, we proclaim Christ as King and Lord of our lives. It is only in Him that we can find the hope and unity we will need to live in this world... and the next. We celebrate Christ the King today.



First Presbyterian Church

249 West McLelland Avenue
Mooresville, North Carolina

The Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth be silent before Him...

Habakkuk 2:20