

Gathering around God's Word

WELCOME AND SERVICE OF FRIENDSHIP: Russell Mase
PRELUDE: "All Is Well".....Roy M. Darley

(Christy Floyd, organist)

MINUTE FOR MISSION..... Mac Herring
GIDEON SPEAKER..... Wayne Stowe

CALL TO WORSHIP

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid;

For though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me.

With joy we will draw water from the wells of salvation. And we will say in that day:

**Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name; make known his deeds among the nations,
proclaim that his name is exalted.**

Let us worship God!

*HYMN: "God of Grace and God of Glory".....No. 569

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, we are surrounded by human misery and calamitous events that sadden our spirits and challenge our faith. Though we may not be directly affected by these tragic events, we acknowledge that human sinfulness is ever at work in history, and our disobedience and selfishness contribute to the sorrows of this world. We pray for forgiveness and renewal, for left to ourselves we are soon overcome by greed and selfishness and forget our obligation to pray for and help in every way possible those in need. Grant that this service of worship may not only convict us of our sins, but by your grace provide us with the forgiveness that comes through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

*RESPONSE: "Go with Us, Lord".....No. 747

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.

Proclaiming God's Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM (11:00 a.m.): "It Is Well with My Soul"..... arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
(Exaltation Ringers)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Exodus 4:1-9..... (pew Bible page 49)
(8:30 a.m.) Carolyn Brawley (11:00 a.m.) Sharon Culp

SERMON: "Grasp the Real Security"..... Russell Mase

Responding to God's Word

*HYMN: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand".....No. 500

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostle's 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 forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: (8:30 a.m.) "I Worship You, Almighty God"..... Wood/McDonald
(Solo: Alan Sledge)

(11:00 a.m.) "My Jesus, I Love Thee".....Jeffery A. Smith
(Chancel Choir)

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....(8:30 a.m.) Andrew McIntyre (11:00 a.m.) Opal Westmoreland

Bearing God's Word into the World

*HYMN: "A Charge to Keep I Have".....No. 588

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Adagio".....Arcangelo Corelli

Recordings of the 11:00 a.m. service are available at the sound console at the back 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.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in honor of Ellen Karriker on her retirement and in appreciation for her years of service to the Weekday Preschool from the Preschool Committee.

Stewardship Fair: Come to the Stewardship Fair in fellowship hall on Sunday, October 2, open after both services, to see in a colorful and graphic way how your pledged funds are spent in the service of Christ. A congregational luncheon will be served at 12:15.

Port-A-Pit: Tickets are available from the Witness and Service Committee for the Port-A-Pit this Saturday, September 24 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m... Chicken or Ribs will be available this time, so make sure you get your tickets today! The proceeds from this event will continue to support the Mwandu Hospital Endowment Fund.

Saints Alive Trip: Thirty-one participants are registered for the Saints Alive trip to Bryson City this Monday through Thursday. Those riding in the church van should plan to be at the church by 9:30 a.m. on Monday, September 19. The group plans to return Thursday afternoon. Room payments will be made directly to Hemlock Inn.

All Committee budget figures are to be turned in to LuAnne Sledge by Sunday, September 25.

Saints Alive Luncheon: The September Saints Alive luncheon will be held next Tuesday, September 27, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All senior adults are encouraged to attend the luncheon (\$3) and program. This month's program will feature a trip "down memory lane," with our own version of "Antiques Roadshow." Participants are encouraged to bring antique items to

share with the group, along with a baby or childhood picture. Please note the change to the fourth Tuesday, this month only, due to the mountain trip

Flower Ministry: First Presbyterian has a number of shut-ins who are unable to attend our regular church services. The flower ministry was started so that flowers no longer needed at church could be taken to these members. A card with a special message accompanies the flowers. At this time, we need someone who will be willing to serve as chairman. If this is something you feel called to do, please call the church office.

College Addresses: Please inform the church office of members who will be in college or prep school this year, along with their address as soon as possible. This information will be included in the October Newsletter which will be published next week.

The Pastor Nominating Committee continues its work in the search for a new pastor. Having read 133 PIFs and listened to at least 18 sermons, the list is being narrowed to the top suitable choices. Your continued prayers and support are appreciated.

Hurricane Katrina: Brochures with information on how those of us in the Salem Presbytery can help are located on the table at the rear of the sanctuary.

The Week Ahead

- Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Early Worship Celebration
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration
3:00 p.m. - Handmaidens of the Lord (No. 6) in the Parlor
5:13 p.m. - PYPF
7:30 p.m. - Board of Deacons
- Monday: 9:30 a.m. - Saints Alive leave for their fall getaway
6:30 p.m. - Boy Scout Troop 166
7:00 p.m. - Purpose Driven Life Bible Study at the home of Liz Price
7:30 p.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fred and Jean Coates
- Tuesday: 5:30 p.m. - PYPF Supper Club at *Pueblo Grande*
6:15 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers
- Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner
4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM – *Beach Night*
5:00 p.m. - Kairos for High School students in the Kairos House (manse)
5:30 p.m. - High School Bible study at the home of Tony & Ginger White
5:30 p.m. - Confirmation Class
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir
- Thursday: 10:00 a.m. - Bible Study with Peggy & Harding Rogers
- Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - Port-A-Pit for Mwandi until 3:00 p.m.
- Sunday 9-25: **ALL COMMITTEE BUDGET FIGURES ARE DUE TODAY**
8:30 a.m. - Early Worship Celebration
9:45 a.m. - Church School
10:00 a.m. - Open House at Lake Norman Fellowship
11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration with the Logos Choir
4:00 p.m. - Executive Committee in Room 300
5:13 p.m. - PYPF
5:30 p.m. - Catechism Club
7:00 p.m. - Session



First Presbyterian Church

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

Habakkuk 2:20