

November 27, 2005

*Gathering around God's Word*

WELCOME AND SERVICE OF FRIENDSHIP: ..... Russell Mase

PRELUDE: "Now Thank We All Our God" ..... arr: James Pethel

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

**Blessed, O God, are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage.**

For the Lord God is a sun and shield:

**The Lord bestows favor and honor;**

No good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

**Let us worship God!**

\*HYMN: "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" ..... No. 82

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of wondrous patience, hold us close in the midst of our doubts and fears, for the coming of your Kingdom will demand much from us...our time, our energy and our resources. Forgive us for having so little faith; remind us that you can provide all that we will need. Release through us grace and courage that will bring healing where there is hurt, creativity where there is hesitancy, new beginnings where there are dead ends, openness where there is prejudice and justice where there is brokenness. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, through whom all things are possible, Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of mercy, who forgives all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

\*RESPONSE: "Spirit of the Living God" .....No. 492

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

*Proclaiming God's Word*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH..... (8:30 a.m.) Kyle, Keri, Kristen,  
Janie and Jimmy Carpenter

(11:00 a.m.) Stacey, Kristen, Dorothy and Bob Campbell

**Shine on us, O God of justice; Guide our path through gloom of night;**

**Bear within us Wisdom's glory; Come to us, O Christ the Light.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON: ..... John 3:16-21 (pew Bible page 89)

(8:30 a.m.) Ginny Swedenberg, (11:00 a.m.) Lynelle Owen

SERMON: "Unconditional Forgiveness"..... Russell Mase

*Responding to God's Word*

\*HYMN: "Blessed Be the God of Israel" .....No. 158

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

**This is the good news which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day; and that he appeared to Peter, then to the Twelve and to many**

**faithful witnesses. We believe he is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end, he is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

**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.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" ..... J. S. Bach

(8:30 a.m. Christy Floyd, 11:00 a.m. Chancel Choir)

Jesu, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright, drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light. Word of God our flesh that fashion'd with the fire of life impassion'd. Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying, round Thy throne.

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....(8:30 a.m. Maria Heilman) (11:00 a.m.) Leeann DeCastro

*Sealing of God's Word*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*Bearing God's Word into the World*

\*HYMN: "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" .....No. 590

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "From Thy Throne So High".....Christolph Willibald Von Gluck

*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.

**First Presbyterian Church Cookbooks:** The cookbooks will not be in until January 15, but if you planned to give one as a Christmas gift, you may pay for the book and receive a gift card today through December 11. The ladies have set up a table on the second floor hallway where you may take care of this. Also, you may pay for a book for yourself, so you'll be sure of getting one when they come in.

**Appreciation** is expressed to Peggy Davidson who is conducting the choir today while Alan Sledge is away on vacation.

**Congratulations** are expressed to John and Amanda Amon on the birth of a new son, Cooper Jacob on November 22.

**Christian Sympathy** is expressed to Diane Harrington in the death of her uncle in Alabama.

**Thanksgiving Special Offering:** Today's loose offering as well as designated gifts will help support the ministry we Presbyterians do in the name of Christ to troubled youth and their families at Barium Springs

Home for Children, about 10 miles north of Mooresville. Envelopes are located in the pews for your convenience.

**Saints Alive Trip:** Saints Alive is planning to tour Darshana Hall Plantation this Friday, December 2. The group plans to leave the church at 12:00 noon, eat lunch together, tour the historic home and return by 4:00 p.m. Cost of the tour is \$10. Please contact Ellen Auten if you are interesting in the trip.

**Advent Workshop:** Everyone is encouraged to attend the Advent Workshop in the fellowship hall this morning from 9:45 – 10:40 a.m. Nursery care will be provided for children under 3.

**A December Challenge:** Dear Friends, Carmen and I intend to respond to the “faith line” item in the 2005 budget by making an extra gift to the church in December. Pending Session approval of a motion from the Finance Committee, we invite you to join us in gratitude to God for his gift of Jesus Christ during this Advent Season by giving what you can to help meet the “faith line” item adopted for the current year. We will dedicate this December Challenge at the services on December 11 *Thanks and blessings.*

**Russell E. Mase**

### The Week Ahead

- Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Early Worship with communion  
9:45 a.m. - Church School  
9:45 a.m. - Advent Workshop  
11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration with communion  
5:13 p.m. - No PYF  
7:00 p.m. - Session
- Monday: 7:00 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: 2:00 p.m. - Library Committee  
5:30 p.m. - PYF Supper Club at What –a-Burger  
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 – *Disco Night*  
5:00 p.m. - Kairos  
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  
7:30 p.m. - Executive Committee meeting
- Thursday: 8:15 a.m. - Volunteers to Operation Christmas Child  
10:00 a.m. - Bible Study with Peggy & Harding Rogers  
7:00 p.m. - Mooresville User's Group
- Friday: 12:00 p.m. - Saints Alive to Darshana Hall
- Sunday 12-04 8:30 a.m. - Early Worship Celebration  
9:45 a.m. - Church School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration with MSM Handbells and Logos choir  
Logos registration in the parlor  
3:00 p.m. - Prayer Shawl Ministry in the parlor  
4:00 p.m. - Youth Council meeting  
5:13 p.m. - PYF  
6:00 p.m. - Fellowship Supper and Christmas Concert



## First Presbyterian Church

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[www.mooresvillefirstpres.org](http://www.mooresvillefirstpres.org)

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

Habakkuk 2:20