

April 16, 2006

*Gathering around God's Word*

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

PRELUDE: "Easter Medley"..... Sharon E. Rogers

(Exaltation Ringers)

LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE (Based on John 1:1, 4-5)

In the beginning was the Word,

**and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

**The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia.**

INTROIT: "The Strife Is O'er".....arr. John Ferguson

(Chancel Choir and Exaltation Ringers)

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"..... No. 288

\*INVOCATION..... Fred Coates

**God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,**

**for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.**

**From the waters of death you raise us with him**

**and renew your gift of life within us.**

**Increase in our minds and hearts**

**the risen life we share with Christ,**

**and help us to grow as your people**

**toward the fullness of eternal life with you;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM: "O Day Full of Grace".....Carl Schalk

(Chancel Choir and orchestra)

*The Sealing of God's Word*

CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM (11:00 a.m.)..... Insert

*Proclaiming God's Word*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: John 20:1-18..... (pew Bible page 109)

Jim McDonnell (8:30 a.m.) Susan Meade (11:00 a.m.)

ANTHEM: "My Jesus, I Love Thee".....Arnold B. Sherman

(Exaltation Ringers)

SERMON: "I Have Seen the Lord"..... Russell Mase

*Responding to God's Word*

ANTHEM: "The Glory of Christ".....K. Lee Scott

(Chancel Choir, Exaltation Ringers and orchestra)

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**This is the good news which we have received,**

**in which we stand, and by which we are saved,**

**if we hold it fast:**

**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 first to the women,**

**then to Peter, and to the Twelve,  
and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe that Jesus is the Christ,  
the Son of the living God.**

**Jesus Christ is the first and the last,  
the beginning and the end;**

**he is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE: "The Day of Resurrection"..... Lancashire

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad; the Passover of gladness, the Passover  
of God. From Death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free, our Christ has brought us**

**over with hymns of victory.**

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: "This is A Day of Rejoicing"..... Allen Pote

(Chancel Choir and orchestra)

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....Jack Ahearn (8:30 a.m.) Jay Trimble (11:00 a.m.)

*Bearing God's Word into the World*

\*HYMN: "Lift High the Cross"..... No. 287

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "The Lamb Upon His Throne"..... George Elvey

*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.

**Return of Adornments:** Silver appointments, which were removed from the sanctuary during Lent, will be returned during the processional hymn today as an expression of our celebration of God's victory over sin and death.

**The staff** wishes each of you a glorious Resurrection Day!

**The Bible study group** which meets at the home of Liz Price on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. is beginning a new series, *Fully Alive*, by James and Betty Robinson and Beth Moore. You may call Liz at 704-662-5270 for more information and everyone is welcome.

**Christian sympathy** is expressed to Vickie Eddleman and Jennifer London and families in the death of their father and grandfather, Edward Lancaster on April 8 and to George and Dale Brawley and families in the death of their mother and grandmother, Annie Brawley on April 13.

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** Communities from Asia to Africa have been ravaged by drought and poverty. They lack the water necessary for even the most basic activities of cooking, cleaning, and drinking. With your gift, we can help these communities access renewable water sources, that their families may thirst no more.

**Women's Bible Study:** The Women's Bible Study will resume meeting this Friday, April 21, from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. in the parlor. This five week study, "Small Changes for a Better Life: Daily Steps to Living God's Plan for You" will meet on Fridays April 21, 28, May 5, 12, and 26. Childcare will be provided. Please contact Ellen Auten if you are interested in attending and if you need childcare.

**Saints Alive Luncheon:** The monthly Saints Alive luncheon (\$4) will be held this Tuesday April 18, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The program, "Tulip Time in Holland," will be presented by Ellie and Gordon Den Blevker, and will feature a video presentation of their trip to Holland during the height of the tulip season. In addition, Smith Kirk will present a related devotional entitled, "Tulips and Calvin." All senior adults are invited to attend.

**FPC Easter Orchestra:** We welcome to the services today our Easter orchestra comprised of our own youth. They are members of the Mooresville High School Band and are joined by their student teacher, Mr. Ryan Holden, a senior at UNCC. They are: Ryan Holden, Darlene Peacock, and Neil Trimble, trumpet; Graham Sledge, horn; Jay Trimble and Logan Bates, trombone; John Patrick Justice and Cody Brown, tuba; Shannon Bates and Jordan Sledge, percussion.

### *Calendar and Announcements*

- Sunday: **Easter Day**  
 8:30 a.m. - Worship Celebration  
 9:45 a.m. - Church School  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration with Baptism
- Monday: Church office closed  
 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: 10:30 a.m. - Exploring Our Reformed Faith Study in Library  
 12:30 p.m. - Saints Alive  
 5:30 p.m. - PYF Supper Club at Shiki  
 6:15 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers
- Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. Bible Study with Fronnie Gardner  
 7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir
- Thursday: **Newsletter Articles Due**  
 10:00 a.m. - Bible Study with Peggy & Harding Rogers  
 7:00 p.m. - Sisters in Christ (No. 2) in the parlor
- Sunday, April 23 8:30 a.m. - Early Worship  
 9:45 a.m. - Church School  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration  
 3:00 p.m. - Handmaidens of the Lord (No. 6) at Christy Floyd's home  
 5:13 p.m. - PYF/SALT teens  
 7:00 p.m. - Board of Deacons  
 7:00 p.m. - Session

#### **CHURCH STAFF**

**Ministers:** All the members of the congregation

<b>Interim Pastor:</b> Russell Mase	<b>Associate Pastor:</b> Fred Coates
<b>Director of Music:</b> Alan Sledge	<b>Organist:</b> Christy Floyd
<b>Director of Christian Education:</b> Ellen Auten	<b>Secretary:</b> Nellie Goodman
<b>Preschool Director:</b> Nancy Kortright	<b>Custodian:</b> Billy Black
<b>Treasurer:</b> LuAnne Sledge	<b>Hostess:</b>
<b>Pastor Emeritus:</b> S. Edwin Lewis	

For up to date information on worship services, activities, a copy of the latest bulletin and newsletter, please check the church's website at: [www.mooresvillefirstpres.org](http://www.mooresvillefirstpres.org).



# EASTER

**First Presbyterian Church**

249 West McLelland Avenue  
 Mooresville, North Carolina  
 704-664-5275

[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

## AN ORDER FOR HOLY BAPTISM

### Presentation

*Persons to be baptized are brought to the font and presented for baptism. Parents promise to fulfill the responsibilities for Christian nurture. Sponsors promise to support those being baptized in their growth in the faith. The congregation promises to love and nurture the newly baptized and to assist them to be faithful disciples.*

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:18-20).

Obedying the word of our Lord Jesus, and confident of his promises, we baptize those whom God has called. In baptism God claims us, and seals us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church, the body of Christ, and joined to Christ’s ministry of love, peace and justice.

Let us remember with joy our own baptism, as we celebrate this sacrament.

On behalf of the session, I present **Avery Mackenzie London** to receive the sacrament of baptism.

### PARENTS OF INFANTS AND YOUNGER CHILDREN

Do you desire that your child be baptized?

Relying on God’s grace,  
do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child?

### SPONSORS

Do you promise, through prayer and example,  
to support and encourage her to be faithful a Christian?

### CONGREGATION

Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ,  
promise to guide and nurture her by word and deed, with love and prayer,  
encouraging her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of his church?

### Profession of Faith

*Those coming to be baptized, parents, and sponsors make vows, renouncing the ways of evil and affirming the way of Christ. The congregation joins them in affirming the faith of the church in the words of the Apostles’ Creed.*

Through baptism we enter the covenant God has established. Within this covenant God gives us new life, guards us from evil, and nurtures us in love. In embracing that covenant, we choose whom we will serve by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ.

As God embraces you within the covenant, I ask you to reject sin, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,  
do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?  
Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of 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.**

### Thanksgiving Over the Water

*God’s saving acts are remembered with thanksgiving, and the Holy Spirit is invoked, that those who are baptized may have their sins washed away, be reborn to new life, be buried and resurrected with Christ, and be incorporated into the body of Christ.*

### The Baptism

*In the name of the triune God, the minister sprinkles water on the head of each candidate.*

Avery, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### The Blessing

*As a sign of the gift of the Holy Spirit in baptism, the minister lays hands upon the head and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the newly baptized, praying for the gift of the Holy Spirit. A baptismal candle lighted from the paschal candle is given to the newly baptized as a sign of the light which comes from the risen Christ, expressing the link between every baptism and Christ’s death and resurrection.*

O Lord, uphold Avery by your Holy Spirit.

May she know and follow Christ and be a faithful member of your church, both now and forever.  
**Amen.**

Avery, child of the covenant, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism, and marked as Christ’s own forever. **Amen.**

“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16).

### Welcome

*The congregation welcomes the newly baptized into the household of God, sharing signs of peace.*

Avery has been received into the one holy universal and apostolic church through baptism. God has made her a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ’s church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**