

ORDER FOR THE CORPORATE WORSHIP OF GOD

September 24, 2006

11:00 A.M.

WELCOME AND INVOCATION.....The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown, Pastor

PRELUDE: *Adagio*.....Marcello
Joanne Daykin, Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Psalm 1:1-3)

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,

People: or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

Leader: but their delight is in the law of the Lord

People: and on his law they meditate day and night.

Leader: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

People: In all that they do, they prosper.

*HYMN: *The God of Abraham Praise*.....No. 16

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that our good intentions often go astray. Too often we favor people who are like us and write off those with whom we disagree. Too often it is easier to give pat advice that to do real good. Too often we criticize others for their failings, all the while ignoring our own. Forgive us, we pray, and grant us the depth of faith that will enable us to live by Your grace that will make a lasting difference in us and in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Galatians 1:3-5)

Leader: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

People: to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

*RESPONSE: *I Then Shall Live* (v.1).....No. 372

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven; I'll walk in joy to know my debts are paid. I know my name is clear before my Father; I am his child, and I am not afraid. So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive another; the law of love I gladly will obey.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM: *Jesus Loves Me*.....Bradbury
Logos Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Galatians 3:15-29.....Insert

SERMON: *The Gift of the Law*.....The Rev. Dr. Fred Coates
6th Sermon in the *All About Grace: A Walk Through Galatians* Sermon and Study Series

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION 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.

*HYMN: *He Leadeth Me*.....No. 499

*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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: *I Love To Tell the Story*.....arr. Raney
Chancel Choir

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

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....Brad Chappell

*HYMN: *Lead On, O King Eternal* (v. 1-2).....No. 508

*INVITATION AND BLESSING

*RESPONSE: *Lead On, O King Eternal* (v.3).....No. 508

Lead on, O King Eternal, we follow not with fears; for gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears; your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light; the crown awaits the conquest; lead on O god of might.

POSTLUDE: *Rigaudon*.....Haan
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* **Those who are able** will please stand.

If you are our guest today, welcome to First Presbyterian! We're so glad you're worshiping with us. As God leads, we invite you to become a member of our church family. For more information, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad as it is passed to you and speak with one of the pastors following the service. God bless you, and please return to worship with us again.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marti Estes by Eric, Bryce and Hayden Estes.

Announcements

Next Sunday's sermon by the Rev. Dr. Clay Brown will be on Galatians 4:1-20, *Children of God*, the seventh in the fall sermon and study series *All About Grace: A Walk Through Galatians*.

Saints Alive Trip: The Saints Alive group is planning a trip to Mount Airy, NC, on Friday, September 29. While in Mount Airy, the group will enjoy sights often associated with "The Andy Griffith Show," including Floyd's City Barber Shop, the Old Mayberry Jail, Snappy Lunch, Wally's Service Station, and Andy's childhood home. The group will leave at 9:30 a.m. and return in the late afternoon. Please contact Ellen Auten if you are interested in the trip.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will resume on Sunday, October 1 at 3:00 p.m. in the parlor. If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, please join us as we make shawls for the infirmed, shut-ins and babies.

A Walk-In Movie Night to benefit Mooresville Christian Mission will be held on Sunday, October 1 at 6:00 p.m. on the FPC lawn at the corner of Academy Street and Cedar Avenue. The "gates" will open at 5:30 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs and the whole family! Come early to get a good spot. We'll enjoy a family-friendly feature film starring Tim Allen in an hilarious story about a "shaggy dog." We'll conclude by 7:30 p.m. Please bring some non-perishable food items to help restock the pantry at the mission. Free popcorn and soft drinks will be available. In the event of bad weather the movie will be shown in the fellowship hall. Sponsored by the PYF.

A New "Pathway for Membership" for FPC Starts Oct. 1 - Sometimes it's hard for guests to our church to discover how to become members of our church family. With this in mind, the Session has approved a new "pathway" for people to join our community of faith beginning on Sunday, October 1, that will enable prospective members to join every Sunday.

1. There will be an invitation for Christian discipleship given at the end of every service, encouraging people to respond to God's call for salvation and for membership in our congregation, with one of the pastors going to a designated area (like the chancel steps or parlor) after the benediction to visit with any who respond.
2. Members of the Session will meet after both the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services in the Session Room to receive those who request membership. The Session will continue to meet at 10:45 a.m. for prayer and any other matters that need to be addressed.
3. At this brief meeting, prospective members will:
 - Share a little of their background and reason(s) for joining.
 - Respond affirmatively to the membership vows based on our current Membership Covenant.
 - Complete and sign the Membership Covenant.
 - Have their picture taken for the newsletter with our digital camera.
 - Receive information about the church (unless received earlier in a *Discover First Pres* class).
 - Be strongly encouraged to attend the next *Discover First Pres* class if not previously done.
 - Understand that joining a church is "Step One," the beginning of their Christian pilgrimage with our church, and that other steps naturally follow, and that sometime that same week, someone will contact him/her about "Step Two," a one-time, one-hour conversation the next Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. (see below).

What is "Step Two"? It is a one-hour orientation to church life (Location TBA). At this meeting, our Time and Talent inventories will be discussed, and information on Christian education, stewardship, and other ministries of our church will be shared. The goal is for "Step Two" to become a helpful one-on-one or small group conversation about how best a person can "plug in" to life at FPC.

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



11:00 A.M. Order of Worship

First Presbyterian Church

249 West McLelland Avenue
Mooresville, North Carolina 28115

(704) 664-5275 www.mooresvillefirstpres.org

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

Habakkuk 2:20

SERMON NOTES ♦ SEPTEMBER 24, 2006

The Gift of the Law

6th Sermon in the *All About Grace: A Walk Through Galatians Sermon and Study Series*

GALATIANS 3:15-29 (ESV)

¹⁵ *To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified.* ¹⁶ *Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, And to offsprings, referring to many, but referring to one, And to your offspring, who is Christ.*

¹⁷ *This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annula covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void.* ¹⁸ *For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.*

¹⁹ *Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary.* ²⁰ *Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.* ²¹ *Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.* ²² *But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.* ²³ *Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.* ²⁴ *So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.* ²⁵ *But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian,* ²⁶ *for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.* ²⁷ *For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.* ²⁸ *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.* ²⁹ *And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.*

WHAT THE LAW DOESN'T DO

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WHAT WE WERE UNDER THE LAW

WHAT WE ARE IN CHRIST

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Calendar

- Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Early Worship
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration with Logos Choir
4:15 p.m. - Alpha PYF
5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF
7:00 p.m. - Session meeting
- Monday: **Committee budgets due to treasurer**
7:00 p.m. - "Meet Clay & Cathy" at the home of Jim & Elaine Drye
7:30 p.m. - Bible study with Fred & Jean Coates
- Tuesday: 10:30 a.m. - *Exploring Our Reformed Faith* study in the library
5:30 p.m. - PYF Supper Club at Cheese Steakery
6:00 p.m. - Cub Scouts Pack Meeting in the fellowship hall
7:00 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers
- Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner
4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM – *F.R.O.G. Night*
5:00 p.m. - Kairos
7:30 p.m. - Chancel choir
- Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study with Peggy & Harding Rogers
11:00 a.m. - "Thursdays with Clay" in the parlor
7:30 p.m. - "Thursdays with Clay" in the parlor
- Sunday 10/1: 8:30 a.m. - Early Worship
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration with MSM Handbells
3:00 p.m. - Prayer Shawl Ministry in the parlor
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