

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

January 14, 2007

11:00 A.M.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP .....The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown, Pastor
Welcome and Friendship Pads
Announcements
Invocation

PRELUDE: Epiphany Suite Prelude..... Callahan
Joanne Daykin, Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN: I Sing the Almighty Power of God.....No. 31

\*CONFESSION AND PARDON..... The Rev. Dr. Fred Coates, Associate Pastor
Call to Confession
Unison Prayer of Confession

Most holy and merciful Father, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy upon us, O God, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Teach us to hate our errors. Cleanse us from our secret faults. Forgive our sins, for the sake of your dear Son. Help us to live in your light and to walk in your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray; Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession
Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Scripture says, "As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us." Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

Unison: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

\*RESPONSE: To God Be the Glory (Verse 1).....No. 66

To God be the glory, great things he hath done; so loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the lifegate that all may go in. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Acts 5:17-18; 27-40 ..... Anne Telford

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

Constitutional Questions to the Officers and the Congregation..... Insert
Prayer and Laying on of Hands
Statement and Welcome

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: From Romans 8

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set us free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. We know that for

those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

\*HYMN: Etemal Father, Strong to Save.....No. 74

PASTORAL PRAYER 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

Invitation to Give
Offertory: Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross.....arr. Ramey
Chancel Choir

\*Doxology: 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

SERMON

Jonah 1:4-16 (Insert)

"Big Fish... Bigger God: You Can Run..."

Dr. Brown

\*HYMN: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (Verses 1,2,3).....No. 61

\*INVITATION AND BLESSING

\*RESPONSE: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (Verse 4).....No. 61

POSTLUDE: Epiphany Suite Postlude..... Callahan

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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 worshipping with us. For more information, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad and speak with one of the pastors following the service. God bless you! Please return to worship with us again.

You can become part of the First Presbyterian family of faith TODAY by your profession of faith, transfer of church membership, or reaffirmation of faith. The Session meets after every service to receive new members. Please speak with Fred Coates, our associate pastor, following today's service.

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

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 52nd wedding anniversary of Marshall and Rosie Crouch on January 15 by their family.

## Announcements

**New Sermon Series—Big Fish... Bigger God:** Think the story of Jonah is simply about a whale swallowing a man? Think again! Seven sermons from January 7-February 18 in both 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services will take us through this remarkable Old Testament witness to the acts of a loving, gracious God and the responses God desires from us.

**Preaching Schedule for *Big Fish...Bigger God*:**

1. 1/14/07, Jonah 1:4-16, "You Can Run..."
2. 1/21/07, Jonah 1:17—2:10, "Getting Our Attention"
3. 1/28/07, Jonah 3:1-3a, "A God-Sized Task"
4. 2/4/07, Jonah 3:3b-10, "Drastic Times and Drastic Measures"
5. 2/11/07, Jonah 4:1-4, "And This Is a Bad Thing?"
6. 2/18/07, Jonah 4:5-11, "Looking at Life Through a God-Shaped Lens"

A wonderful way for you to prepare for each sermon in this life-changing series is to read the Scripture passage for Sunday before you come to the worship service.

**Lent in the Living Room:** You will have the opportunity to participate in something new and exciting for First Presbyterian Church this Lent—a small group ministry called "Lent in the Living Room."

What happens during "Lent in the Living Room"? Small groups of between 8-14 people will meet once a week for six sessions in host homes in locations throughout Mooresville and the surrounding area during Lent. When they meet, they do the following:

- Study the Scriptures together, using the sermon passage preached the previous Sunday as the text with discussion questions and a trained small group facilitator from the church.
- Share with one another and get to know each other.
- Pray together.

Groups will begin to meet the week of the First Sunday in Lent, February 25, and will end the week of the Sixth Sunday in Lent, April 1. Groups will be offered in different locations and on most days and nights of the week, so you will be able to find a group on the day, at the time, and in the location best for you. Group gatherings usually take approximately 70-90 minutes. You will be able to register for the group of your choice beginning Sunday, February 4.

We are actively seeking facilitators to lead discussions and hosts to open their homes to groups. Training will be provided. If you are interested in serving as a facilitator, a host, or both, or if you simply want more information, please contact Clay Brown at 704-664-5275, [clay@moorevillefirstpres.org](mailto:clay@moorevillefirstpres.org).

**Saints Alive Luncheon:** The monthly Saints Alive luncheon (\$4) will be held this Tuesday, January 16, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The program will be presented by Evelyn Weatherman, and will feature "Birds in my Backyard," with ideas for feeding and enjoying wild birds in our backyards. Come bring a friend and enjoy the warm fellowship at Saints Alive.

**Recent prayer requests:** Sam Sanders, a patient at Charlotte Presbyterian hospital; Stacy Windsor's father who is critically ill in Georgia; Estelle Mott, recently released from Lake Norman Hospital; Dot McNeely in the death of her mother; Lynn Brooks and family in the death of her mother; Celia Putnam and family in the death of her father; Marshall Horsman, Jr. in the death of his grandfather; Jennifer Peoples, daughter of Faye Wright, home in Clinton, SC recuperating from hip replacement; and Laban Thompson and his shipmates on the USS Guardian.

**"Understanding and Answering Islam"** Thursday, January 25: This one-time class seeks to provide an introduction to the major tenets of Islam as well as respond to Islamic challenges to Christianity as part of the "Thursdays with Clay" study series led by the Rev. Dr. Clay Brown. The course is concentrated and self-contained in a two-hour time period, 1:00-3:00 p.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. The material presented from 1:00-3:00 p.m. is repeated at 7:00-9:00 p.m., so you may choose whichever time period fits your schedule best. Contact the church office to register, 704-664-5275, [secretary@moorevillefirstpres.org](mailto:secretary@moorevillefirstpres.org).



## 11:00 a.m. Worship 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

## Calendar

- Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Presbyterian Men's Breakfast  
8:30 a.m. - Early Worship  
9:45 a.m. - Church School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship with Ordination and Installation of Officers  
4:15 p.m. - Alpha PYF  
5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF  
7:00 p.m. - Committee Meetings – begin in Sanctuary
- Monday: **Martin L. King Day – Church office & preschool closed**  
7:30 p.m. - Bible study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates
- Tuesday: 10:30 a.m. - *Exploring Our Reformed Faith* Study in the library  
12:30 p.m. - Saints Alive  
5:30 p.m. - PYF Supper Club at Shiki  
6:00 p.m. - Brownies in room 219  
6:30 p.m. - Cub Scouts  
7:00 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers
- Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study with Fronnie Gardner  
4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM – *Favorite Caps Night*  
5:00 p.m. - Kairos  
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir
- Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Harding & Peggy Rogers
- Friday: **Newsletter Deadline**
- Sunday 1/21: 8:30 a.m. - Early Worship  
9:45 a.m. - Church School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship  
3:00 p.m. - Handmaidens of the Lord (No. 6)  
4:15 p.m. - Alpha PYF  
5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF  
7:00 p.m. - Diaconate

### ***Announcements continued***

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off**, sponsored by the Missions Committee, will be held on Sunday, January 28 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We need cooks interested in showing off their chili to share and be judged. All attending will have an opportunity to vote for their favorite. Drinks & dessert will be provided. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children (family maximum amount is \$15.) All proceeds will go to the Mwandu Endowment. If you have questions, call Trent Newell at 704-658-1052.

**The Salem Presbyterian Women** are sponsoring a Spiritual Enrichment Day on Saturday, February 10, 2007 at North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The theme is "A Celtic Spirituality Day." The cost is \$12 and includes lunch, snacks and materials. The deadline to register is February 2. Participants are encouraged to bring a small, religious item that holds meaning for you. For a registration form, please contact your Circle moderator, Susan Meade (704-799-3949) or Karen Brawley (704-662-8225.)

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**SERMON TEXT: Jonah 1:4-16 (ESV)**

<sup>4</sup>But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. <sup>5</sup>Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. <sup>6</sup>So the captain came and said to him, "What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish."

<sup>7</sup>And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. <sup>8</sup>Then they said to him, "Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" <sup>9</sup>And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." <sup>10</sup>Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

<sup>11</sup>Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. <sup>12</sup>He said to them, "Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you." <sup>13</sup>Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. <sup>14</sup>Therefore they called out to the LORD, "O LORD, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you." <sup>15</sup>So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. <sup>16</sup>Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.

**SERMON OUTLINE: *Big Fish... Bigger God: You Can Run...***

**I. THE GOD WHO IS IN CHARGE...**

**II. THE BELIEVER WHO WON'T BELIEVE ...**

**III. THE NON-BELIEVERS WHO BELIEVE ...**

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**ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS  
CLASS OF 2009**

**Constitutional Questions to Church Officers**

1. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
2. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?
3. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?
4. Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?
5. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?
6. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?
7. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
8. Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?
9. (For elder) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?
10. (For deacon) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

**Constitutional Questions to the Congregation**

1. Do we, the members of the church, accept *Chris Ahearn, Karen Brawley, Mike Campbell, Phil Heilman, Sparky Hitchcock, Thermond Thompson, and Scott Vaughn* as elders, and *Dale Brawley, Judy Cole, J. D. Donelson, Eric Estes, Marshall Horsman, Julie Morrow, and Kathy Irwin* as deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

**Congregational Response: We do.**

2. Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

**Congregational Response: We do.**

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