

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

February 11, 2007

11:00 A.M.

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

PRELUDE: *It Is Well With My Soul*.....arr. Thompson
Exaltation Ringers

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN: *Crown Him with Many Crowns*.....No. 317

*CONFESSION AND PARDON..... The Rev. Dr. Fred Coates, Associate Pastor
Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession
Assurance of Pardon
Leader: ...Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
Unison: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

*RESPONSE: *O How He Loves You and Me*.....No. 270
O how he loves you and me, O how he loves you and me; he gave his life—what more could he give? O how he loves you, O how he loves me, O how he loves you and me!

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

CHILDREN’S SERMON

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Matthew 20:1-16..... Pew Bible, pp. 20

*SCRIPTURAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *From Romans 8*

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, 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.

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: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*..... arr. Hayes
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 4:1-4 (Insert)

“Big Fish... Bigger God: And This Is a Bad Thing?”

Dr. Brown

*HYMN: *God of Grace and God of Glory* (Verses 1,2,3).....No. 569

***INVITATION AND BENEDICTION**

*RESPONSE: *God of Grace and God of Glory* (Verse 4).....No. 569

POSTLUDE: *March Petit* from Baroque Suite..... Young

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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. 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 a member of First Presbyterian TODAY by your profession of faith, transfer of church membership, or reaffirmation of faith. Elders from the Session meet after every service to receive new members. Please speak with Fred Coates, our associate pastor, in the Parlor 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 Christy Floyd for her years of faithful service to our church by Smith and Lois Kirk.

Announcements

Next Sunday—The Conclusion of “Big Fish... Bigger God.” The last sermon in the “Big Fish... Bigger God” series is next Sunday’s “Looking at Life Through a God-Shaped Lens” from Jonah 4:5-11.

New Lenten Sermon Series—“Living on Your Growing Edge: Discipleship with the Apostle Peter.” The sermons preached during Lent will connect with the Scriptures our “Lent in the Living Room” groups will be discussing and will follow a specific theme. This year’s theme is “Living on Your Growing Edge: Discipleship with the Apostle Peter.” What is your growing edge? It is that place in life where God is working with you most to shape and mold your character more and more into the likeness of Jesus Christ.

Here are the sermons and Scripture passages our pastors will preach during Lent.

- ☐ **1st Sun. of Lent, Feb. 25: “When You’re Out of Your Comfort Zone,” Luke 5:1-11.**
- ☐ **2nd Sun. of Lent, Mar. 4: “When You Step Out in Faith,” Matthew 14:22-33.**
- ☐ **3rd Sun. of Lent, Mar. 11: “When You-Know-Who Shows Up,” Luke 9:28-36.**
- ☐ **4th Sun. of Lent, Mar. 18: “When You Finally Get It Right,” Matthew 16:13-17.**
- ☐ **5th Sun. of Lent, Mar. 25: “When You Have Nowhere Else to Turn,” John 6:60-69.**
- ☐ **6th Sun. of Lent, Apr. 1 (Palm Sun.): “When You’ve Blown It,” Matthew 26:30-35, 69-75.**

A wonderful way for you to prepare for each sermon in this transformational series is to read the Scripture passage for Sunday before you come to worship and then to participate in a “Lent in the Living Room” small group to discuss the passage during the week. Information on the groups may be found in the bulletin insert. Come to worship ready to hear God’s Word shared, explained, and applied to our lives.

Need for Ushers and Greeters: If you are interested in this ministry of hospitality and welcome on Sunday mornings, please contact Phil Heilman, chair of the Worship and Music Committee, 704-663-6518, bichoperez@aol.com.

Thursdays with Clay continue on February 15 and 22, 1:00-3:00 and 7:00-9:00 p.m. This popular study series continues on February 15 and 22 with two “Understanding and Answering...” short courses on differing topics of interest. **“Understanding and Answering the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints”- February 15** attempts to offer a basic understanding of what the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, popularly called the Mormons, believe and how these beliefs compare with traditional Christianity. **“Understanding and Answering the Crisis in the Presbyterian Church USA”- February 22** is a change from the previously listed offering. This new course will focus on the issues of theology, community, and polity that concern many within the Presbyterian Church USA. Both courses are concentrated and self-contained in a two-hour time period, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and from 7:00-9:00 p.m., to help you use your time wisely and to provide the optimal introduction to the topic at hand. 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. Registration is strongly encouraged so we can prepare enough resources for participants. You can contact the church office by calling 704-664-5275, or by emailing us at secretary@moorevillefirstpres.org. Free child care will be provided upon advance notice given to the church office at registration.

As we enter 2007, the flower calendar is rather empty. If you would like to place flowers in the church sanctuary in honor or in memory of someone, please call or stop by the church office. The flower calendar will be in the parlor over the next several Sundays for your convenience and you may sign-up then, also. Please take a moment to see if there is a Sunday you would like to place flowers in the church.

Saints Alive Trip: The Saints Alive group is planning a trip to visit Komer’s Folly, a unique historic home in Kernersville, NC, on Friday, February 23. The group plans to leave at 10:00 a.m. and return in the late afternoon; cost is \$6. Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) to make a reservation.



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 Exaltation Ringers
5:15 p.m. - Alpha and Omega PYF
6:00 p.m. - Talent Show and Church Pot Luck Supper

Monday: 9:30 a.m. - Mom's in Touch
2:00 p.m. - Circle No. 1 in the parlor
6:15 p.m. - Blessed in Christ (No. 3) in the Session Room
7:30 p.m. - Bible study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. - Circle of Faith (No. 4) in the parlor
12:00 p.m. - Women of the Word (No. 5) at the home of Ellen Auten.
5:30 p.m. - PYF Supper Club at Showmar's
6:00 p.m. - Brownies in room 319
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 – *Valentine's Day/Polite 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
1:00 p.m. - Thursdays with Clay – Course 2 in the parlor
7:00 p.m. - Thursdays with Clay – Course 2 in the parlor
7:30 p.m. - Skater's Meeting in the fellowship hall

Saturday: 6:00 p.m. - Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquet in the fellowship hall

Sunday 2/18: 8:30 a.m. - PYF Ski trip
8:30 a.m. - Early Worship
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship
3:00 p.m. - Handmaidens for the Lord (No. 6) at the home of Margaret Auten
6:00 p.m. - Diaconate in room 300
7:00 p.m. - Committee Meetings

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SERMON TEXT

Jonah 4:1-4 (ESV)

¹But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. ²And he prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. ³Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Do you do well to be angry?"

SERMON OUTLINE

Big Fish... Bigger God: And This Is a Bad Thing?

I. JONAH'S RANT

1. THE PROBLEMS OF GRACE

2. THE GOD WE THINK WE WANT

II. GOD'S RESPONSE

1. THE BLESSINGS OF GRACE

2. THE GOD WE KNOW WE NEED

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