

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP**

**March 25, 2007**

**11:00 A.M.**

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

PRELUDE: *My Heart Is Every Yearning*.....Buxtehude  
Joanne Daykin, Organist

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

\*HYMN: *Holy, Holy, Holy*.....No. 136

\*CONFESSION AND PARDON..... The Rev. Dr. Fred Coates, Associate Pastor  
Call to Confession  
Prayer of Confession  
Assurance of Pardon  
Leader: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**Unison: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE: *At the Cross (Refrain)*.....No. 258  
*At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light, and the burden of my heart rolled away, it was there by faith I received my sight, and now I am happy all the day!*

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 119:97-105:.....Pew Bible, pp. 544-545  
Lynelle Owen, Reader

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic**

**Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

\*HYMN: *There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood* (Verses 1,3,5).....No. 256

**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: *How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place*..... Nygard, Jr.  
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**

**John 6:60-69 (Insert)**

***Living on Your Growing Edge: Discipleship with the Apostle Peter* Sermon Series**

**“When You Have Nowhere Else to Go”**

**Dr. Brown**

\*HYMN: *Wonderful Words of Life* (Verses 1,2).....No. 668

**\*INVITATION AND BENEDICTION**

\*RESPONSE: *Wonderful Words of Life* (Verse 3).....No. 668

POSTLUDE: *Lamb of God Most Holy*..... Pachelbel

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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 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 memory of Liz Rader’s father, Dr. Richard A. Boyd by Liz, Frank and Ellie Rader.

## Announcements

**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.

- ☐ **5<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Lent, Mar. 25: “When You Have Nowhere Else to Turn,” John 6:60-69.**
- ☐ **6<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Maundy Thursday Church Supper with Tenebrae and Communion Service April 5:** You are encouraged to attend a Maundy Thursday fellowship supper at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. This day takes its name from the new “mandate” Jesus gave his disciples to “love one another” and from the institution of the Lord’s Supper to be done “in remembrance of me.” After supper we will worship together, beginning at about 7:15 p.m., featuring the celebration of Holy Communion and a service of Tenebrae. Tenebrae means darkness, and during the service the lights are extinguished to commemorate the suffering and death of Christ. Childcare will be provided for preschoolers during the worship service. Plan to be a part of this special evening for food, fellowship, and inspiration as we dine with Jesus and walk with him to the cross, preparing for the celebration of Easter.

**Memorial Day Holiday Mission Trip to Mexico:** We are planning to “piggyback” with the good folks at Grace Presbyterian in Houston, Texas (Clay Brown’s previous church) and join them on their annual Memorial Day mission trip to Mexico. Our part of the “expedition” will be led by Dr. Brown. The group will be leaving Charlotte and arriving in Mexico via Houston on Thursday, May 24, and returning to Houston on Tuesday, May 29, and then to Charlotte on Wednesday, May 30. The cost is \$700 per person. We will be helping to build a church on the Yucatan Peninsula in the Playa del Carmen area. If you wish to participate, you need to be 18 years of age or older, have a willingness to work hard, and have a valid U.S. passport. The ability to speak Spanish is a real plus, but not needed. **Please contact Fred Coates or Clay Brown immediately if you are interested in the trip. Space is very limited!**

**We have accumulated lots of plates and dishes** in our kitchen that belong to those of you who have generously brought food for church meals, bereavement meals, etc. Our hostess, Jerilyn Fair, has a table set up in the parlor today with these dishes on it, so please check to see if any of them belong to you. Thank you.

**Special thanks to Peggy Davidson** as she directs the Chancel Choir this morning. Peggy is filling in for Alan Sledge while he is on the Logos Choir trip to Marion, NC. The choir, along with parent chaperones and bus driver, Bobby Hinson, spent last night at Funstation 2000 in Statesville. This morning they traveled to Marion, NC where they presented the musical, “Giddyup, Giddalong, Gideon” at First Presbyterian Church. The group will return this afternoon around 2:30 p.m.

**Laying Down Your Coat For Jesus:** Everyone is encouraged to bring an outgrown or gently used coat or jacket to next Sunday’s worship service, Sunday, April 1, in observance of Palm Sunday. All coats will be donated to Mooresville Christian Mission.

*Announcements continued on Calendar page.*



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. - Early Worship  
9:45 a.m. - Church School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship  
4:15 p.m. - Alpha PYF  
5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF  
7:00 p.m. - Session  
Lent in the Living Room

Monday: 7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts in the Scout building  
7:30 p.m. - VBS meeting in Room 300  
- Lent in the Living Room

Tuesday: **Newsletter Deadline**  
5:30 p.m. - PYF Supper Club at Waffle House  
6:00 p.m. - Brownies in Room 219  
6:30 p.m. - Cub Scout Pack 166  
7:00 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers  
Lent in the Living Room

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study with Fronnie Gardner  
4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM – *Outback/Crocodile Hunter Night*  
5:00 p.m. - Kairos  
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir  
Lent in the Living Room

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Harding & Peggy Rogers  
Lent in the Living Room

Friday: 7:00 p.m. - Leadership Retreat until 9:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - Leadership Retreat until 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday 4/1: 8:30 a.m. - Early Worship  
9:30 a.m. - “MAD” Victory Celebration in the Fellowship Hall  
9:45 a.m. - Church School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship with Logos Choir and MSM Handbells  
4:15 p.m. - Alpha PYF  
5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF  
Lent in the Living Room

### ***Announcements (continued)***

**Palm Processional:** All children are encouraged to participate in the Palm Processional next Sunday, April 1, at the 8:30 or 11:00 a.m. worship services. Children should meet in the parlor immediately prior to the worship services.

**Vacation Bible School Planning Committee:** Members of the VBS Planning Committee will meet this Monday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 300 Please note the time change.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** All children are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 7, at 10:00 a.m., rain or shine. Candy donations are needed and appreciated and may be left in the box in the church office - please include only individually wrapped candy.

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**SERMON TEXT**

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this?" <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is of no avail. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) <sup>65</sup>And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

<sup>66</sup>After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, <sup>69</sup>and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

**SERMON OUTLINE**

**WHEN YOU’VE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO...**

**I. BECAUSE CHRISTIANITY IS SO HARD (VV. 60-65)**

**II. BECAUSE YOUR HEART IS SO HARD (VV. 60-65)**

**III. YOU GO TO JESUS (VV. 66-69)**

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