

**SERMON SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 8:22-30**

<sup>22</sup>And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. <sup>23</sup>And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Do you see anything?" <sup>24</sup>And he looked up and said, "I see men, but they look like trees, walking." <sup>25</sup>Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. <sup>26</sup>And he sent him to his home, saying, "Do not even enter the village." <sup>27</sup>And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" <sup>28</sup>And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." <sup>29</sup>And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." <sup>30</sup>And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

**SERMON OUTLINE**

**I. Opening Eyes – Physically (vv. 22-26)**

A. Coming to Jesus (v. 22)

B. Seeing Clearly (vv. 23-25)

C. Keeping the Secret (v. 26)

**II. Opening Eyes – Spiritually (vv. 27-30)**

A. Going with Jesus (vv. 27-28)

B. Seeing Clearly (v. 29)

C. Keeping the Secret (v. 30)

**Leadership of First Presbyterian Church**

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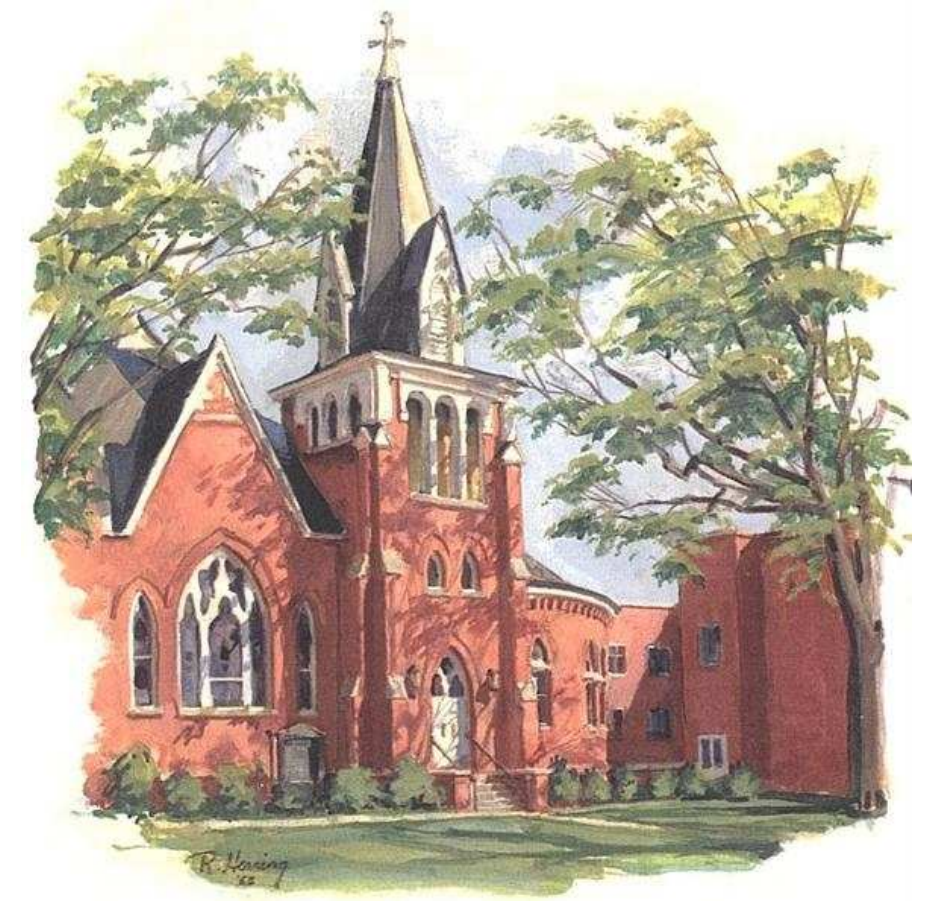
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Billy Black, Sexton

Jerilyn Fair, Hostess

Dr. Steven Mowery, Organist



*Loving God... Loving People... Making Disciples*

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

249 West McLelland Avenue  
 Mooresville, North Carolina 28115  
 704-664-5275 ♦ www.moorevillefirstpres.org

March 9, 2008 ♦ Fifth Sunday in Lent ♦ 11:00 A.M.

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**.....Dr. Fred Coates

Welcome and Announcements  
 Invocation

**PRELUDE:** *When I Survey*.....Sadowski  
 Dr. Steven Mowery

**\*THE 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.**

**\*OPENING SENTENCES**

**\*HYMN:** *We Come, O Christ, to You*.....No. 110

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**THE WORD OF GOD READ:** Isaiah 35:4-6..... Pew Bible, p. 629  
 Jim Davidson, Reader

**\*HYMN:** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*.....No. 264

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Confession  
Thanksgiving  
Intercession  
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.**

### GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory: *Open My Eyes, I Pray* .....Larson  
Chancel Choir

\*Response: *All Things Are Yours!* (Verse 2).....No. 687

**“Give out of love,” your Word commands. We are your head, your heart, your hands. Your Word you underscore with deeds by using us to answer needs.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

### THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

Mark 8:22-30  
*Journey to Jerusalem: Opening Eyes*.....Dr. Coates

**\*HYMN:** *Be Thou My Vision* (Verses 1-2) .....No. 502

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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.**

### \*GOING IN GOD'S NAME

Invitation  
Charge and Benediction  
Response: *Be Thou My Vision* (Verse 3).....No. 502

**\*POSTLUDE:** *A King Rides Forth*.....Rassler

**\* Those who are able** will please stand.

**If you are our guest today, welcome!** We're so glad you're here. For more information on FPC, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad and/or take home a “Welcome Home” folder from the Parlor. **You can become a FPC member TODAY** by your profession of faith, transfer of membership, or reaffirmation of faith. Please speak with a pastor following the service.

**Large print bulletins** are available from the ushers. **Assisted listening devices** are available from the sound console at the back of the sanctuary.

**The flowers in the sanctuary** this morning are given to the glory of God by the ladies of the Circle of Faith.

**Recent Prayer Requests:** Chong Lieu and family; Jim Belcher and family; Lee Doughton; Edith Thompson; Margaret Sanders; Catherine Craig; Fred Kann; Anita Teeter; Joyce Gilland, Jean Coates' sister; Terry Stevens; Curtis Blake, Cathy Brown's father; Martha Andrews; Sr. A Tim Irwin, USAF; and QM 3 SW Laban Thompson; and Ben Peacock, USAF.

**Marti Estes 5K - Mooresville Community Walk of Faith, April 19, 2008:** the Race/Walk date is fast approaching and the Organizing Committee encourages everyone to register for the event whether you are a runner or not! Drop by the event table in the parlor and sign up, or sign up on line by visiting the Church web-site, clicking on the Missions page and clicking again on the Race/Walk web-link. Don't feel up to running or walking? Race day volunteers are also needed and sign up sheets can be found at the display table or give Gretchen Little a call at 704-528-9796. A special thanks to all who have registered or contributed as sponsors/donors of the event to date. With God's help we will be able to exceed our goal in benefiting the Mooresville Soup Kitchen.

**Saints Alive Trip:** The Saints Alive group is planning a trip to the North Carolina mountains, May 13-16. Reservations have been made at Hemlock Inn in Bryson City, NC. Rates are \$166 per night, double occupancy; \$141 per night, single occupancy (+ approx. 8% tax), and include breakfast and dinner. Please contact Ellen Auten for further details; room deposits are due by this Friday, March 14.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** All children are invited to the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 22, at 10:00 a.m. The event will be held, rain or shine, with activities beginning in the fellowship hall. Donations of individually wrapped candy are greatly appreciated, and may be left in the basket in the church office.

**Lenten Sermon Series—“Journey to Jerusalem.”** The sermons preached during Lent will connect with the Scriptures our “Lent in the Living Room” groups will be discussing and will follow the theme of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. Here are the Scripture passages and sermon titles:

- ☐ 1st Sun. of Lent, Feb. 10: Mark 7:24-30, *Receiving Outsiders.*
- ☐ 2nd Sun. of Lent, Feb. 17: Mark 7:31-37, *Proclaiming Good News.*
- ☐ 3rd Sun. of Lent, Feb. 24: Mark 8:1-10, *Feeding Body and Soul—Again!*
- ☐ 4th Sun. of Lent, Mar. 2: Mark 8:11-21, *Missing the Signs.*
- ☐ 5th Sun. of Lent, Mar. 9: Mark 8:22-30, *Opening Eyes.*
- ☐ 6th Sun. of Lent, Mar. 16 (Palm Sun.): Mark 8:31—9:1, *Telling Truth.*

**Christian sympathy** is expressed Chong Lieu and family in the recent death of his mother and to Jim Belcher and family in the recent death of his father.

### Calendar for March 9-16, 2008

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| Sunday:  | 8:30 a.m. - Worship<br>8:30 a.m. - Presbyterian Men's Breakfast<br>9:45 a.m. - Church School<br>11:00 a.m. - Worship<br>11:00 a.m. - PYF Virginia Creeper Bike Ride<br>5:15 p.m. - Catechism Club<br>5:30 p.m. - Deacons' training<br>6:00 p.m. - Deacons' meeting<br>7:00 p.m. - Committee meetings |
| <b>Lent in the Living Room groups conclude this week</b> |  |
| Monday:  | 2:00 p.m. - Circle No. 1 in the parlor<br>6:15 p.m. - Circle No. 3 in the Session room<br>7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts   |
| Tuesday:   | 9:00 a.m. - Moms in Touch<br>10:00 a.m. - Circle No. 4 in the parlor<br>12:00 p.m. - Circle No. 5 at the home of Elaine Drye – bring a bag lunch   |
| Wednesday:   | 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner<br>4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM <i>Bible Character</i> night<br>6:15 p.m. - HS Supper Club at Chick-fil-A   |
| Thursday:  | 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home<br>6:00 p.m. - “Fun & Fellowship” at Golden Corral<br>6:00 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers<br>7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir  |
| Sunday 3/16:   | <b><i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i></b><br>8:30 a.m. - Worship<br>9:45 a.m. - Church School<br>11:00 a.m. - Worship with Palm Sunday Processional & Logos Choir<br>4:15 p.m. - Alpha PYF<br>5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF<br>5:30 p.m. - Catechism Club  |

**Looking Ahead to Easter Week: Mark your calendars –**  
*Thurs., March 20* Maundy Thursday program & supper at 6:30 p.m.  
*Fri., March 21* Good Friday Service at noon  
*Sat., March 22* Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 a.m.  
*Sun., March 23* Easter Sunday services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.