

SERMON TEXT

Isaiah 25:6-9 (ESV)

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
"Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

NOTES

I. An image to be savored (v. 6)...

II. A pall to be lifted (vv. 7-8)...

III. A longing to be satisfied (v. 9)...

Leadership of First Presbyterian Church

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Dr. Clay Brown, Moderator

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Roger Hyatt
Bill Lackey
Scott Mauney
Eddie Nelson
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Laura E. Bates
Lynn T. Brooks
Rebecca B. Deal
Janice S. Plier
J. Patrick Stutts
Vacant

PASTORS

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Nellie Goodman, Secretary
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Billy Black, Sexton

Jerilyn Fair, Hostess

Joanne Daykin, Interim Organist



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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

November 30, 2008 ♦ 11:00 A.M. ♦ First Sunday of Advent

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP Clay Brown

Welcome and Announcements
Invocation

PRELUDE: *Now, Come Redeemer of our Race*..... Buxtehude
Joanne Daykin

***THE DOXOLOGY:** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*..... 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.**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Fred Coates

***HYMN:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*..... 154

THE ADVENT WREATH: Hope.....David and Elizabeth Jones

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent means coming, and in this season we prepare for the coming of Christ. The Advent wreath helps us in our preparation.

People: Its shape is a circle, representing the truth that God has no beginning and no end.

Leader: The light from the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love remind us of God's promises to us.

People: God's love and care for us lasts forever.

Leader: The first candle is the candle of hope. In Christ we find hope for today, for tomorrow, and for all time.

People: We are preparing for the days spoken of by the prophet Jeremiah: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for wholeness and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Leader: Today we light the candle of hope. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

People: We are the people of hope. Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S SERMON..... Tyler Domske

THE WORD OF GOD READ: Luke 13:22-30..... Pew Bible, NT p. 72
Kim Streb

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory: *Oh That I Had a Thousand Voices*..... Manz
Joanne Daykin

*Response: *Come, All Christians, Be Committed* (v. 2)..... HYMN TO JOY

Of your time and talents give now, they are gifts from God above, to be used by Christians freely to proclaim his wondrous love. Come again to serve the Savior, tithes and offerings with you bring; in your work, with Christ find favor, and with joy his praises sing.

*Prayer of Dedication

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED: Isaiah 25:6-9

A Feast to End All Feasts..... Clay Brown

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table
Prayers of Intercession, Thanksgiving, and Consecration
Words of Institution and Breaking of Bread
Communion of the People
Post-Communion Prayer

*GOING IN GOD'S NAME

Invitation
Charge and Benediction

*Response: *The Lord's Prayer*..... 740

***POSTLUDE:** *Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying*..... Manz

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 and in memory of loved ones by Roger and Debbie Hyatt.

Recent Prayer Requests: Bedo Culberson; Aimee Culler's father; Gene Harris; Claude Voils; Lottie Massey; Don Fair; Mary Voils Aven; Bob Davidson; Anita Teeter; Terry Stevens; Cathy Brown's parents; David Ortwein, Ken Bernd's nephew; Martha Andrews; EO3SW Laban Thompson and all those who have recently lost loved ones.

Church Supper and Christmas Concert next Sunday, December 7 starting at 6:00 p.m. The menu will be an Italian dinner and the concert will feature soloists, instrumentalists, as well as favorite carols for congregational singing. This will be a seasonal home grown concert by our church family and a fantastic opportunity for fellowship. Nursery provided.

Love Worth Giving to You at Christmas Book giveaway - *Copies to give away available December 7. Donations of \$3 per book requested*

Christmas is perhaps the best time of year for evangelism. So many people are open to hearing the story of Jesus and how we may be forgiven and have new life from God. This Christmas, we will have a low-stress, high-touch, non-threatening way for you to share the gospel with your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family members. Renowned author Max Lucado has written *A Love Worth Giving to You at Christmas* to communicate the meaning of Christmas in a clear, insightful way. Beginning Sunday, December 7, please take with you copies of this book along with bookmarks containing information about our Advent and Christmas activities. The books are free. As you give them away, please invite the recipients to attend our Advent and Christmas events as a witness of your faith in Christ. We believe the Lord will provide both the people to whom you should give a book and the funds to cover the costs—\$3 per book—yet the books are meant for you to pass out as a free outreach of FPC without passing on any costs. Your donations will also fund the delivery of these books to our neighborhood residents along with a gift bag from the church. So your kind and generous donations, if you choose to give them, will be gratefully received.

Christmas Open House at the Manse December 14, 4:00-6:00 p.m.: On Sunday, December 14, 4:00-6:00 p.m., the pastors and families will host a come-and-go Christmas Open House at the Manse. They invite everyone in the congregation to take advantage of this opportunity to experience the joy of Christmas with one another. So please drop in for a few minutes on December 14 and enjoy Christmas goodies at 114 S. Academy St.

Communion for Shut-ins in December: The pastors and elders of the church would love to celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper with our shut-in church members sometime in December on an appointment-only basis. Please contact the church office to set up a date and time with you or with your loved one or friend.

Saints Alive Trip: The Saints Alive group is planning a trip to the National Gingerbread Display at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville this Tuesday, December 2. The group plans to leave at 8:15 a.m. and return in the late afternoon. Reservations are essential; contact Ellen Auten today if you are interested in attending.

Christmas Pageant: Elementary classes will begin rehearsals for the Christmas pageant next Sunday, December 7, from 10:00-10:45 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Please turn in pageant forms to Ellen Auten by today.

Cherub Choir: A Cherub Choir will sing at the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service, and will practice the following two Sundays at the beginning of church school in Room 210, and on Sunday, December 21, immediately following the Christmas pageant in the fellowship hall. The choir will be directed by Lisa Davidson and Jen McNeely.

Two Special Church Officer Meetings for December:

1. **A joint called meeting of the Session and the Diaconate, followed immediately by a meeting of the Session, is scheduled for Thursday, December 4, 7 p.m., in the Parlor.** The purpose of the meetings are to fulfill the Book of Order requirement for a joint meeting of our two boards, to receive a report from the Budget and Finance Committee on the 2009 budget, and to take any actions necessary related to the report.
2. **The stated Session meeting will take place on Sunday, December 14, 7 p.m., in Room 300.** The primary item on the agenda for this meeting at present is the examination of new officers as well as any additional and needed business related to church life.

Orientation and training for church officers-elect will take place on Friday, December 12, 2008 and Saturday, December 13, 2008. It will begin Friday at 6:30 p.m. with a meal with all the elders and deacons elect in the Fellowship Hall. The cost of this meal is \$5 per person. The remainder of the evening will be spent in training related to those aspects of church officer service that elders and deacons hold in common. Then on Saturday, board-specific training will occur from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Fred will meet with the deacons elect in Room 300, while the elders elect will meet with Clay in Room 301. After the training, officers elect will be examined by the Session. **This examination is scheduled for Sunday, December 14, 7 p.m., in the Parlor.**

Calendar for November 30 - December 7, 2008

Sunday:	9:00 a.m. - Early Worship
	10:00 a.m. - Church School
	10:00 a.m. - Advent Workshop in the FH
	11:00 a.m. - Worship No PYF
Monday:	7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts
	7:30 p.m. - Bible Study at the Coates' home
Wednesday:	10:00 a.m. - Prayer group in the library
	11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner
	4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM Christmas Night
	6:15 p.m. - HS Supper Club @ Chick-fil-A
	7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir
Thursday:	9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home
	6:00 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers
	7:00 p.m. - Joint Session/Diaconate meeting
	7:30 p.m. - Mooresville User's Group
Friday:	6:00 p.m. - <i>Walk Thru Bethlehem</i> at Camp Wesley
Saturday:	9:00 a.m. - PYF Mission and a movie
	4:00 p.m. - <i>Walk Thru Bethlehem</i> at Camp Wesley
Sunday, Dec. 7	9:00 a.m. - Early Worship
	10:00 a.m. - Church School/Pageant practice
	11:00 a.m. - Worship
	3:00 p.m. - Prayer Shawl ministry
	5:00 p.m. - Alpha & Omega PYF
	6:00 p.m. - Church supper and Christmas Concert

NOT TOO LATE TO TURN IN PLEDGE CARDS AND TIME AND TALENT BROCHURES...

If you have not yet been able to turn in your 2009 pledge card or your 2009 Time and Talent brochure, please do so as soon as you can. Your pledges help our Budget and Finance Committee and the Session to determine the 2009 church budget. Your responses on the Time and Talent brochure help us to put people in the right places for service. You can find pledge cards and Time and Talent brochures in the Sanctuary, Parlor, and the church office. If you like, let us know and we'll send you another set.