

Christian Gregor's *The Prince of Peace Is Come* was written for performance at a sacred service on December 24, 1760, probably at Hernhut, Saxony, the spiritual center of the Moravian church, where Gregor was music director.

Christian Gregor has been called "the father of Moravian music." The appellation is appropriate, for there was no more influential on its development in the 18th century. Born in Dirsdorf, Silesia, on January 1, 1723, he was orphaned as a child. He joined the Moravian Church as a teenager, devoting his entire life to its service until his death in 1801. He rose through the church's ministerial ranks to become a bishop (its highest ecclesiastical order). His nearly 300 anthems and solo songs, his hymnal and choral book, and his revision and standardizations of the liturgies of the church, have influenced the development of Moravian music to this day.

The Moravian Church had its organized beginning in 1457, growing out of a movement led by Jon Hus of Bohemia. Though numerically small, it spreads world-wide. It is unique on its mission and educational efforts. Worship is liturgical. Music is an integral part of worship and has been from the beginning. Moravians coming to America over 200 years ago brought hand-copied manuscripts by known composers of the period. They composed music of similar style after they arrived.

The Christmas Eve service in the Moravian Church has always been one of the most beautiful and spiritually enriching services of the entire year. Central to the celebration is the lovefeast, the traditional Moravian service in which a simple meal (usually a bun and coffee) is served to the congregation, while music is sung and played continuously. Advent hymns and Christmas carols by the congregation are intermingled with anthems, solos, and duets from the choir. It was undoubtedly for this part of the service that Gregor's musical telling of the Christmas story was intended.

Karl Kroeger, Director
The Moravian Music Foudation
Winston-Salem, North Carolina



Leadership of First Presbyterian Church

2008 SESSION

Dr. Clay Brown, Moderator

Dr. Frederick A. Coates CP Chappell, Clerk

Class of 2008
C.P. Chappell
Roger Hyatt
Bill Lackey
Scott Mauney
Eddie Nelson
Trent Newell
Steve Robinson

Class of 2009
Christine B. Ahearn
Karen O. Brawley
F. Michael Campbell, MD
Philip L. Heilman
Weldon M. Hitchcock
Thermond E. Thompson
J. Scott Vaughan

Class of 2010
David W. Brooks, II
vacant
Donald F. Howie
Joyce S. Johnson
Thomas R. Kirkland, Jr.
W. Smith Kirk
Mark E. McNeely

2008 DIACONATE

Jim McDonnell, Moderator

Class of 2008
Don Copeland
Neil Faulkenberry
Gretchen Little
Carol McClure
Jim McDonnell
Lucy Hastings
Susan Williams

Class of 2009
Dale W. Brawley
John G. Donelson
Judy L. Cole
Eric H. Estes
C. Marshall Horsman, Jr.
Kathleen H. Irwin
Julie R. Morrow

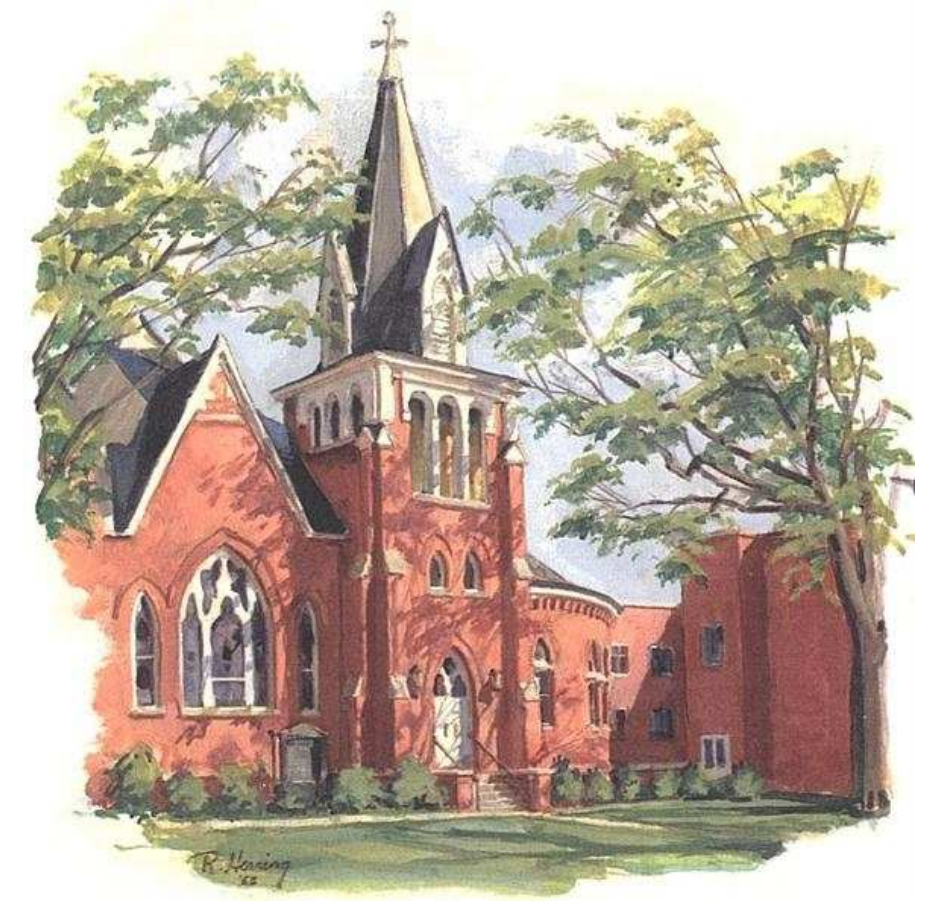
Class of 2010
Kathy B. Ballard
Laura E. Bates
Lynn T. Brooks
Rebecca B. Deal
Janice S. Plover
J. Patrick Stutts
Vacant

PASTORS

The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown, Pastor/Head of Staff
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The Rev. Dr. Fred A.H. Coates, Associate Pastor for
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The Rev. Tyler J. Domske, Associate Pastor for Youth
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LuAnne Sledge, Treasurer
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Nellie Goodman, Secretary
nellie@moorevillefirstpres.org
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

December 14, 2008 ♦ 11:00 A.M. ♦ Third Sunday of Advent

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP.....Clay Brown
Welcome and Announcements
Invocation

PRELUDE: *Creator of the Stars of Night*.....Held
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**

HYMN: *O Come, All Ye Faithful..... 182

THE ADVENT WREATH: Joy..... The Chappell Family
Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
People: And also with you.

Leader: We light again the candles of hope and peace to show that hope and peace come only through Jesus Christ.

People: Jesus Christ is the hope of the world. He is the Prince of Peace.

Leader: The third candle is the candle of joy.

People: Christ fills our hearts with joy.

Leader: He will fill the world with his everlasting joy when he comes again.

People: We are preparing for the days spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, when the people of God shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace, when the mountains and the hills shall break forth in singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands in celebration.

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

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON..... Tyler Domske

THE WORD OF GOD READ: Isaiah 42:1-4..... Pew Bible, p. 636

***HYMN:** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*..... 198

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE..... Fred Coates

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*..... arr. Sledge
Chancel Choir

*Response: Refrain of *Angels We Have Heard on High*..... 188

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Prayer of Dedication

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED IN SONG

Cantata: *The Prince of Peace Is Come*..... Insert

***HYMN:** *Angels We Have Heard on High*..... 188

***GOING IN GOD'S NAME**

Invitation
Charge and Benediction

Response: Refrain of *Angels We Have Heard on High*..... 188

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***POSTLUDE:** *Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending*..... Held

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.

Recent Prayer Requests: Bedo Culberson; Aimee Culler's father; 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.

***Love Worth Giving to You at Christmas* Book giveaway - Copies to give away available today. 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 ***Love Worth Giving to You at Christmas*** to communicate the meaning of Christmas in a clear, insightful way. 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 will be gratefully received.

Christmas Open House at the Manse today, 4:00-6:00 p.m.: The pastors and families will host a come-and-go Christmas Open House at the Manse and 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 this evening and enjoy Christmas goodies at 114 S. Academy St.

Saints Alive Luncheon: The monthly Saints Alive luncheon (\$4) will be held this Tuesday, December 16, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. While the luncheon will be catered, the group is asked to bring a special holiday dessert for a "Pot Luck Dessert." For our program, everyone is encouraged to share a family holiday tradition. Bring a special decoration or share a tradition that you use in your Christmas celebration.

Christmas Pageant: Everyone is encouraged to attend the annual Christmas pageant next Sunday, December 21, at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The pageant will be presented by children in the 4 year old, Kindergarten and 1st-6th grade church school classes. Light refreshments will be served.

Cherub Choir: A Cherub Choir (preschoolers and kindergarteners) will sing at the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service, and will practice this morning at 10:00 a.m. in Room 210, and next Sunday, December 21, immediately following the Christmas pageant in the fellowship hall. The choir will be directed by Lisa Davidson and Jen McNeely.

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.

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 basis. Please contact the church office to set up a date and time.

December Contributions Important: Please remember the church with your tithes as well as your special gifts and offerings in December as we seek to end 2008 in the black. Your contributions make a difference.

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.

Logos/MSM Registration: Registration for 2nd semester Logos/MSM will be held in the parlor for the next two Sundays (December 14 and 21). The Logos/Middle School Ministry (MSM) program is a mid-week program of Christian nurture for children and youth in grades 1-8. Held on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00-7:15 p.m., the program consists of recreation, worship skills, Bible study, and dinner. Cost for the program is a \$30 registration fee and a \$50 per semester tuition fee. Scholarship help is available upon request. Please contact program director Gretchen Little (704-528-9796) or assistant director Lisa Davidson (704-662-9393) with questions. The registration deadline is Wednesday, January 7.

Calendar for December 14 - 21, 2008

Sunday:	8:00 a.m. - Presbyterian Men's Breakfast 9:00 a.m. - Early Worship with Christmas Cantata 10:00 a.m. - Church School/Pageant practice 11:00 a.m. - Worship with Christmas Cantata 4:00 p.m. - Christmas Open House at the Manse 4:15 p.m. - Alpha PYF 5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF 6:00 p.m. - Diaconate 7:00 p.m. - Session
Monday:	7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts
Tuesday:	9:30 a.m. - Preschool Christmas Program 12:30 p.m. - Saints Alive luncheon 7:00 p.m. - Cub Scouts
Wednesday:	9:30 a.m. - Preschool Christmas Program 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner 6:15 p.m. - HS SupperClub @ Shiki
Thursday:	Newsletter Deadline (note early date) 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home 6:00 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers: downtown Mooresville
Sunday, Dec .21	9:00 a.m. - Early Worship 10:00 a.m. - Christmas Pageant 11:00 a.m. - Worship 3:00 p.m. - Angel Tree Reception TBA - PYF Christmas Party