

SERMON NOTES ♦ DECEMBER 24, 2008
Chili Con Came

SERMON TEXT
John 1:1-14 (ESV)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴**And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

NOTES



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

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Jim McDonnell, Moderator

Class of 2009

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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. Puer
J. Patrick Stutts
Vacant

PASTORS

The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown, Pastor/Head of Staff
clay@moorevillefirstpres.org

The Rev. Dr. Fred A.H. Coates, Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care and Missions
fred@moorevillefirstpres.org

Tyler Domske, Associate Pastor for Youth
tyler@moorevillefirstpres.org

PROGRAM AND SUPPORT STAFF

Alan Sledge, Director of Music/Interim Youth
alan@moorevillefirstpres.org

Ellen Auten, Director of Christian Education
ellen@moorevillefirstpres.org

Nancy Kortright, Director of Preschool
nancy@moorevillefirstpres.org

LuAnne Sledge, Treasurer
treasurer@moorevillefirstpres.org

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
Mooreville, North Carolina 28115
704-664-5275 ♦ www.moorevillefirstpres.org

December 24, 2008 ♦ 7:30 P.M.

ENGAGING GOD WITH MUSIC AND PRAYERS

Pre-Service Carols FPC Brass Ensemble

Welcome and Announcements Clay J. Brown

Invocation

Prelude: *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES
Presbyterian Youth Fellowship Praise Band

Call to Worship Tyler Domske

*Carol #200: *While by the Sheep*

1. While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tidings brought an angel bright.

Refrain: How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!

2. There shall be born, so he did say, in Bethlehem a Child today. (Refrain)

3. There shall the Child lie in a stall, this Child who shall redeem us all. (Refrain)

4. This gift of God we'll cherish well, that ever joy our hearts shall fill. (Refrain)

*Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty God: in love you spread good gifts before us, more than we need or deserve. You feed, heal, teach, and save us. We confess that we always want more, that we never share as freely as you give. We resent what we lack, and we are jealous of neighbors. We misuse what you intend for joy. God, forgive our stubborn pride and greed. In your mercy, help us to take such pleasure in your goodness that we will always be thanking you. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

*Response #187: *O Holy Night* (Verse 1)

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining, it is the night of the dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn! Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine! O night when Christ was born! O night divine! O night, O night divine!

The Christ Candle The Campbell Family

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

People: And also with you.

Leader: The last four Sundays, we have lit candles of hope, peace, joy, and love. We light these candles again to show that hope, peace, joy, and love come only through Jesus Christ.

People: Jesus Christ is the hope of the world. He is the Prince of Peace. He brings true joy. He reveals God's perfect love.

Leader: The last candle on the wreath is the Christ candle.

People: Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, has come.

Leader: We light this candle to show that our waiting is over.

People: We rejoice that the days spoken of by the Apostle John are here. In Jesus Christ, the Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. We have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Leader: Tonight we light the Christ candle. As we look at this candle, we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ to the world.

People: We are the people of hope, peace, joy, and love. We are Christ's people. Thanks be to God!

Anthem: *Oh, How Joyfully* Jamaican Folk Tune
Presbyterian Youth Fellowship Praise Band

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading (Pew Bible, p. 605): Isaiah 7:10-14

*Carol #203: *Away in a Manger*

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

New Testament Reading: John 1:1-14

Sermon: *Chili Con Carne*

Clay Brown

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Others and Ourselves

Presentation of Christmas Joy Offering

Offertory: *Comfort Ye from Messiah*

Graham Sledge, French Horn; Miriam McNeely, Piano

Handel

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

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Prayer of Dedication

*Carol #218: *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain)

2. The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)

3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

Lighting of the Congregation's Candles

(Please light your candle as the ushers pass on the light from the Christ Candle. As they do so, please tip only unlighted candles. Adults, please assist children in lighting their candles.)

Carol #186: *Silent Night*

1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, 'round yon virgin mother and child; holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light, radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

4. Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing, alleluia to our king; Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Prayer

*Carol #179: *Joy to the World* (Verses 1-3)

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

2. Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; let men their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as, the curse is found.

LEAVING TO SERVE

*Charge and Benediction

*Response #179: *Joy to the World* (Verse 4)

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders, of his love.

*Postlude: *Good Christian Men, Rejoice*

Held

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* Those who are able will please stand.

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

Welcome! If you are our guest tonight, Merry Christmas and 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!

Christmas Joy Offering: This annual offering is split 50-50 to assist retired or other church workers in the Presbyterian Church USA with needs and to assist the eight PCUSA racial ethnic schools and colleges.