

**SERMON NOTES ♦ MARCH 29, 2009**  
**On the Road to Crucifixion**

**SERMON TEXT**  
**Mark 15:16-32 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup>And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. <sup>17</sup>And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. <sup>18</sup>And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup>And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. <sup>20</sup>And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

<sup>21</sup>And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. <sup>22</sup>And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). <sup>23</sup>And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. <sup>24</sup>And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. <sup>25</sup>And it was the third hour when they crucified him. <sup>26</sup>And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." <sup>27</sup>And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>29</sup>And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, <sup>30</sup>save yourself, and come down from the cross!" <sup>31</sup>So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. <sup>32</sup>Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

**NOTES**

**I. The irony of "Hail, King of the Jews!"**

**II. The irony of Simon of Cyrene carrying Jesus' cross**

**III. The irony of the crucifixion itself....**

**IV. The irony of "Save yourself... come down now from the cross"**

**Leadership of First Presbyterian Church**

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**Dr. Frederick A. Coates CP Chappell, Clerk**

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F. Michael Campbell, MD  
Philip L. Heilman  
Weldon M. Hitchcock  
Thermond E. Thompson  
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Beth B. Sink  
Mary Beth Stutts  
Gene E. Vaughan  
Lucinda Weyer

**PASTORS**

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LuAnne Sledge, Treasurer  
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Nellie Goodman, Secretary  
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Billy Black, Sexton

Jerilyn Fair, Hostess

Christy Floyd, 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 29, 2009 ♦ 9:00 A.M. ♦ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

Prelude: *Shout to the Lord* Zschech

Christy Floyd

Welcome and Ritual of Friendship Clay Brown

Please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it down your pew for all to sign.

An asterisk (\*) marks when those who are able will please stand.

Please turn off your cell phones or place them on "vibrate."

Call to Worship and Invocation

\*Hymn #68: *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*

Time with the Children Fred Coates

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts, we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; Amen.**

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

\*Response #34: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD 100TH  
**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.**

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

\*Hymn 254: *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley* LONESOME VALLEY  
 Prayer for Illumination  
 First Lesson: Isaiah 53:10-12 Pew Bible, p. 649  
 Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**  
 Sermon Lesson: Mark 15:16-32 Sermon Notes  
 Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**  
 Sermon: *On the Road to Crucifixion* Clay Brown

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

Prayers of the People with *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  
 Anthem: *The Beautiful Garden of Prayer* Fillmore  
 Alan Sledge, Soloist  
 \*Response #688: *We Give Thee but Thine Own* (v. 1) SCHUMANN  
**We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be: all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**  
 \*Prayer of Dedication  
 \*Affirmation of Faith: *The Apostles' Creed*  
**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.**  
 \*Hymn #256: *There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood* (v.1-4) CLEANSING FOUNTAIN

**BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*Opportunities to Serve and Invitation to Discipleship  
 \*Charge and Benediction  
 \*Response #256: *There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood* (v.5) CLEANSING FOUNTAIN  
 Postlude: *You Shall Go Out With Joy and Be Led Forth with Peace* Deuermann

**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 the pastor in the chancel area 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 Rie Heilman by Maria and Phil Heilman.

**Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley** is our theme hymn for the season of Lent and our sermon series "On the Road to the Cross." We will sing the American spiritual in every Lenten worship service through Palm Sunday. As we sing, may we be reminded of Jesus' journey to the Cross, a journey he undertakes so that we may be forgiven of our sin and reconciled with God.

**Recent Prayer Requests:** Carol Donaldson; Helen Templeton; Clayton Davidson; Sible Winebarger; Bemice Melchor; Anita Teeter; Don Fair; Rebecca Auten; Fred Hoke; Mary Voils Aven; Bob Davidson; Terry Stevens; Tip McGee; Cathy Brown's parents; David Ortwein, Ken Bernd's nephew; EO3SW Laban Thompson; Scott Knutsen; all those who have recently lost loved ones; those who have lost their jobs recently.

**Logos Banquet:** All weekly Logos/MSM volunteers are invited to a year-end "Hawaiian Luau" Logos banquet this Wednesday, April 1, at 6:15 p.m. in the fenced yard. In the event of rain, the banquet will be held in the fellowship hall. Parents are invited to attend the year-end slide show at 6:45 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Participants will follow their regular Logos/MSM schedule on Wednesday (4:00-7:15 p.m.).

**Church School Social:** Everyone is invited to a Church School Social this morning in the fellowship hall, from 9:50 – 10:10 a.m. Light refreshments will be served, and regular church school classes will be held immediately following the Social.

**Palm Sunday:** You are encouraged to bring your used or outgrown winter coats to church on Palm Sunday, April 5, symbolically "laying down your coat for Jesus," as part of our Palm Processional. The coats will be donated to Mooresville Christian Mission. You may leave your coats in the church parlor.

**Palm Processional:** All children are encouraged to participate in the Palm Sunday processional at the beginning of the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services next Sunday, April 5. Children who would like to participate should meet in the parlor immediately prior to the worship services. Logos choir and MSM handbell members should meet in the music room at 10:40 a.m.

**In Memoriam**  
**Martha Wingate Weaver Andrews**  
 June 17, 1927 – March 24, 2009  
*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord henceforth that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them! Revelation 14:13*

**Camp Grier:** Summer camping sessions are offered at Camp Grier in Old Fort, NC, from June 14 through July 31 for children and youth in rising second through twelfth grades. Informational brochures may be found in the church office and at the rear of the sanctuary; more information is available at their website: [www.campgrier.org](http://www.campgrier.org). Scholarship help is available.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Donations of individually wrapped candy are needed for the annual Easter Egg Hunt, scheduled for Saturday, April 11, at 10:00 a.m. Please leave candy donations in the box in the church office.

**Christian sympathy is expressed** to Everett Andrews and family in the death of his wife, Martha, on March 24. Also, to Bill Lackey and family in the death of his mother, Naomi, on March 23 in Liberty, IN; to Margaret Carrigan in the death of her sister, the Rev. Dr. Doris C. Weddington, former pastor of Jones Memorial United Methodist Church and to Phil Loftin in the death of his brother-in-law, David Montgomery.

**Calendar for March 29-April 5, 2009**

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - Early Worship  
 9:50 a.m. - Church School Social  
 10:00 a.m. - Church School  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship with Eagle Scout Award  
 4:00 p.m. - Alpha PYF  
 5:00 p.m. - Omega PYF  
 5:30 p.m. - Catechism Club

Monday: 7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts  
 7:00 p.m. - LLR at the Coates' home

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner  
 4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM – *Hawaiian Luau*  
 6:15 p.m. - HS Supper Club @ Jack in the Box  
 7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home  
 6:00 p.m. - Exaltation Singers  
 7:30 p.m. - Mooresville User's Group

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - PYF Mission & a Movie

Sunday 4/5: **Palm Sunday**  
 8:00 a.m. - Presbyterian Men's Breakfast  
 9:00 a.m. - Early Worship with Palm Procession  
 10:00 a.m. - Church School  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship with Palm Procession, MSM Handbells & Logos Choir  
 3:00 p.m. - Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 4:00 p.m. - Alpha PYF  
 5:00 p.m. - Omega PYF  
 7:00 p.m. - CE, Missions, Budget & Finance and Worship Committees

**Upcoming Studies:** Because the Crucifixion and Resurrection are so important to our Christian faith, Dr. Brown will teach two courses following Easter that will help put them into their right perspective. The courses are for two distinctly different audiences and sets of needs. "EXPLAINING CHRISTIANITY" will begin April 26 and is for self-acknowledged non-Christians or anyone wondering about Christianity. "THE CORE OF THE GOSPEL" begins April 16 and is for Christians who want to be grounded in the faith. See the April Newsletter for more information or call the church office (704-664-5275).