

SERMON NOTES ♦ APRIL 5, 2009
On the Road to Death

SERMON TEXT
Mark 15:33-47 (ESV)

³³And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. ³⁴And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ³⁵And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." ³⁶And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

⁴⁰There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

⁴²And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the Council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead.

⁴⁵And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. ⁴⁶And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

NOTES

I. A death that needed dying...

II. A veil that needed ripping...

III. A confession that needed saying...

IV. A risk that needed taking...

Leadership of First Presbyterian Church

2009 SESSION

Dr. Clay Brown, Moderator

Dr. Frederick A. Coates CP Chappell, Clerk

Class of 2009

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

Class of 2010

David W. Brooks, II
Donald L. Fair
Donald F. Howie
Joyce S. Johnson
Thomas R. Kirkland, Jr.
W. Smith Kirk
Mark E. McNeely

Class of 2011

Mark E. Auten
Allen M. Brawley
W. Brent Curtis
Mary H. Fortanbary
Karen A. Shore
Paul S. Trimble
Harry Weyer

2009 DIACONATE

Kathleen H. Irwin, Moderator

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. Puer
J. Patrick Stutts
Eric R. Puer

Class of 2011

Bryan G. Cole
James N. Davidson
Thomas B. McMillan
Beth B. Sink
Mary Beth Stutts
Gene E. Vaughan
Lucinda Weyer

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

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

PROGRAM AND SUPPORT STAFF

Alan Sledge, Director of Music
alan@moorevillefirstpres.org

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

Nancy Kortright, Director of Preschool
nancy@moorevillefirstpres.org

LuAnne Sledge, Treasurer
luanne@moorevillefirstpres.org

Nellie Goodman, Secretary
nellie@moorevillefirstpres.org

Billy Black, Sexton

Jerilyn Fair, Hostess

Christy Floyd, Organist



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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

249 West McLelland Avenue

Mooreville, North Carolina 28115

704-664-5275 ♦ www.moorevillefirstpres.org

April 5, 2009 ♦ 9:00 A.M. ♦ Palm and Passion Sunday

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude: *The King of Glory Comes* Israeli Folksong arr. Ferguson
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."

Minute for Mission: Church Survey Chris Ahearn

Call to Worship and Invocation

*Processional Hymn #267: *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* ELLACOMBE

Time with the Children Tyler Domske

Call to Confession Fred Coates

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Have mercy upon us. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises, declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant, O merciful God, for Christ's sake that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name...

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: Luke 19:28-40 Pew Bible, p. 79 (New Testament)
Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!
Sermon Lesson: Mark 15:33-47 Sermon Notes
Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!
Sermon: *On the Road to Death* Clay Brown

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People and *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: *Come and See* Kendrick
Alan Sledge
*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
*Scriptural Affirmation of Faith: From Romans 8
We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.
*Hymn #253: *Lead Me to Calvary* (vv. 1-3) DUNCANNON

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Opportunities for Service
*Invitation to Christian Discipleship
*Charge and Benediction
*Response #253: *Lead Me to Calvary* (v. 4) DUNCANNON
*Postlude: *Blessed Be the God of Israel* Hopson

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 honor of our anniversary by Jimmy and Janie Carpenter.

Recent Prayer Requests: Richard Stillwell; Carol Donaldson; Bernice 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 Bemd's nephew; EO3SW Laban Thompson; Scott Knutsen; all those who have recently lost loved ones; those who have lost their jobs recently.

Christian sympathy is expressed to Pat and Mike Ladd and family in the death of Pat's mother and Mike's grandmother, Betty Talbert on March 29; to Pam Hendricks and family in the death of her father; and to Bill Lackey and family in the death of his mother on March 23.

Palm Processional: All children are encouraged to participate and 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. Coats brought to church this morning to symbolically "lay down your coat for Jesus," may be left in the church parlor. They will be given to Mooresville Christian Mission.

Easter Egg Hunt: All children are invited to the annual Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday, April 11, at 10:00 a.m. Activities will begin in the fellowship hall; the event will be held rain or shine. Bring your Easter basket! Donations of individually wrapped candy are needed and appreciated. Please leave candy donations in the box in the church office.

Egg Hunt Preparations: All PYF members are encouraged to attend an "egg-stuffing party" this Friday, April 9, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 300, and to assist with hiding the Easter eggs on Saturday, April 10, at 9:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 9, 6:30 p.m. You're encouraged to attend our traditional Maundy Thursday service on Thursday, April 9, in the Fellowship Hall. We begin with a supper at 6:30 p.m. After supper, we'll stay together in the Fellowship Hall for worship, starting at about 7:15 p.m. This year's service features a special observance of the Lord's Supper around each dinner table and "The Living Last Supper," performed by some of our best actors and speakers with music provided by the Chancel Choir. Childcare for preschoolers will be provided during the worship portion of the evening.

Good Friday Service and Lunch: Everyone is encouraged to attend the Good Friday worship service this Friday, April 9, at 12:00 noon in the sanctuary. Following the service, there will be a Chick-Fil-A lunch in the fellowship hall (\$5).

The Marti Estes 5k is Saturday, April 25th at 8:30 am. Please pre-register for the race if you are planning on participating. If you'd like to volunteer please email Allyson Hill at allysonhill@windstream.net. We are still accepting sponsors for the event. Please consider a donation to the race to benefit the Christian Mission. Contact Stacey Faulkenberry at staceyf41@yahoo.com or 704-995-9156.

What do you think about First Presbyterian Church? Tell us by participating in the Church-wide membership survey. The survey starts today online and will run through Sunday, April 19. This is your opportunity to tell us how well First Presbyterian is meeting your needs and to share your dreams for the future of the Church. Please fill out the survey online if possible. If you would rather fill out the survey on paper, copies are available in the back of the church, in the parlor and the church office. Completed paper surveys can be dropped in a locked survey box in the parlor. To make sure the information we gather is accurate, each member must fill out **ONLY ONE** survey. Watch your email for the link to the survey, or type this hyperlink into your web browser.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=cF_2byxQFrpIXhk5jTx5aRw_3d_3d

We look forward to hearing from you. (The Personnel Committee)

Calendar for April 5-12, 2009

Sunday:	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
Monday:	<i>Preschool will be closed until April 14</i> 7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts
Tuesday:	2:00 p.m. - Library Committee
Wednesday:	11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner 6:15 p.m. - No HS Supper Club today 7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir
Thursday:	9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home 6:30 p.m. - Church Supper and Maundy Thursday Service
Friday:	12:00 p.m. - Good Friday Service in the sanctuary followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall 6:15 p.m. - PYF "God Goes to the Movies"
Saturday:	10:00 a.m. - Children's Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 a.m. - Confirmation Mini-Retreat
Sunday 4/12:	Easter Sunday 9:00 a.m. - Early Worship 10:00 a.m. - Church School 11:00 a.m. - Worship

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).