

**SERMON NOTES ♦ JULY 19, 2009**  
**“Is God Fair?”**

**SERMON TEXT**

Romans 9:1-13 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—<sup>2</sup>that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup>For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup>They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. <sup>5</sup>To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

<sup>6</sup>But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, <sup>7</sup>and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” <sup>8</sup>This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. <sup>9</sup>For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son.” <sup>10</sup>And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, <sup>11</sup>though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— <sup>12</sup>she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” <sup>13</sup>As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

**NOTES**

**I. Sorrow (vv. 1-3)**

**II. Signs (vv. 4-5)**

**III. Salvation (vv. 6-8)**

**IV. Sovereignty (9-13)**

**Leadership of First Presbyterian Church**

**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

**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**

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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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**PROGRAM AND SUPPORT STAFF**

Alan Sledge, Director of Music  
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Ellen Auten, Director of Christian Education  
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Nancy Kortright, Director of Preschool  
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LuAnne Sledge, Treasurer  
luanne@moorevillefirstpres.org

Nellie Goodman, Secretary  
nellie@moorevillefirstpres.org

Billy Black, Sexton

Jerilyn Fair, Hostess

Christy Floyd, Organist

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

**Loving God, Loving People, and Making Disciples**

July 19, 2009 ♦ 9:00 A.M.

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**PRELUDE**

Billie Brawley

**WELCOME**

Fred Coates

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**

Today is the day the Lord has made!

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**Let us praise God with song.**

Let us praise God with our whole selves.

**Let us praise the Lord our God with body, mind and soul.**

**INVOCATION**

**Almighty God, we have gathered as part of the body of Christ this morning boldly to offer You our prayers and praise, our thanksgiving and our devotion, for You alone are worthy. Prepare our hearts and minds to worship You that we might be fully present here with You, setting aside any distracting thoughts or trivial concerns. May our words and thoughts, whether spoken, silent or sung, be to Your glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN 56 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” MIT FRUEDEN ZART

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Loving and forgiving God, we are conflicted! We want to be followers of Christ, but we cling to our own desires and plans. We want to be filled with joy, but we are beset with worry and anxiety. We long for a vibrant prayer life, but our busy lives leave us tired and afraid of solitude. We confess that we succumb to the allures of this world — having more, doing more, running faster and harder — and all the while, we fail to see the needs of our neighbors and ignore the needs of our own souls. Forgive us, we pray. Renew within us hearts that are open to receive Your grace. Refresh our spirits with the fresh breeze of Your forgiveness. Rekindle within us faith, compassion and generosity. This we ask this in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, while we were yet sinners, Jesus Christ came to forgive, to redeem and to restore us to a right relationship with God. So, then, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**\*GLORIA PATRI #734** GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.**

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST LESSON:** Genesis 25: 19-23 Pew Bible, p. 21

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON LESSON:** Romans 9: 1-13 Sermon Notes

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON:** "Is God Fair?" Fred Coates

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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**

**OFFERTORY** Billie Brawley

**\*DOXOLOGY 34** 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.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN 708:** "Go Forth for God" (vv. 1-3) GENEVA 124

**BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\*OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE AND INVITATION**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*RESPONSE 708:** "Go Forth for God" (v. 4) GENEVA 124

**\*POSTLUDE**

**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** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Bedo and Pat Cuberson's 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary by Carole Crews. The flowers in the vestibule are given to the Glory of God by the Mack Family, in loving memory of our grandfather and greatgrandfather, John Mack, in celebration of our family's 106 years in America.

**Children in Action (CIA):** All rising first through sixth graders are invited to this week's CIA activity, swimming at the Kidwell's pool from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Bring swimming gear and a bag lunch. Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) to make a reservation.

**Combined Church School Class:** All adult, senior high, and middle school classes are encouraged to attend a combined church school class on July 19, 26, and August 2. The class will be held in the fellowship hall from 10:00-10:45 a.m., with light refreshments and fellowship prior to the class. This morning, Valerie Chamberlain, director of the Mooresville Christian Mission, will speak to the class. Next Sunday, the class will see the DVD, *John Calvin, His Life and Legacy*, Part 1.

**Saints Alive Beach Trip:** The annual Saints Alive beach trip is scheduled for Tuesday, October 27, through Friday, October 30, at Island Vista in Myrtle Beach, SC. Room deposits are due by Wednesday, July 29. Please contact Ellen Auten to make your reservation. Detailed information may be found in the July newsletter.

**Camp Grier:** Ellie Rader is attending Cherokee Camp at Camp Grier this week.

**Logos/MSM is still in need volunteers** for the 2009-2010 school year. Please contact Gretchen Little (gretchenwlittle@yahoo.com or 704-528-9796) or Lisa Davidson (lisadavidson@hotmail.com or 704-662-9393) if you feel called to serve in this ministry.

**Saturday, July 18th,** several of our youth departed with for the New Wilmington Mission Conference (NWMC), held on the campus of Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania just north of Pittsburgh. In some ways comparable to Montreat, NWMC is a multi-generational experience that will engage our youth with speakers, activities, and fellowship. Youth from around the country are connected with real missionaries to better understand what mission truly looks like, and are often surprised to find that it is not just in foreign lands, but also right at their doorstep. All of that is mixed together with a big dose of fun. Please be in prayer for God to be working in and through our youth this week, and for safe travel as they return home next Sunday, July 26th.

**Calendar for July 19 - 12, 2009**

- Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - Early Worship  
10:00 a.m. - Combined Church School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship
- Monday: Newsletter Deadline
- Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. - Swimming at Kidwell's pool  
7:00 p.m. - Executive Committee
- Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner  
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir
- Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home
- Sunday 7/26: 9:00 a.m. - Early Worship  
10:00 a.m. - Combined Church School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship  
7:00 p.m. - Session

**Recent Prayer Requests:** Cathy Brown and family; Terry Stevens; Lottie Massey; Rebecca Auten; Pam Winters' sister; Reaves Geist; Jan and Caroline Hampton; Suzy Brawley; Bill Raffety's father; Mick Raffety; Mary Voils Aven; Tip McGee; EO2SW Laban Thompson; Scott Knutsen; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Ben Peacock, USAF; all those who have recently lost loved ones; those who are looking for jobs.

**From the Budget & Finance Committee:**

<b>January – June</b>	
YTD Budget .....	\$385,161.00
Deficit.....	<\$1,192>

**Christian sympathy** is expressed to Cathy Brown and the entire family in the death of her father, Curtis Blake on July 12.

**Thanks to Billie Brawley,** our organist this morning, who is filling in for Christy Floyd while she continues to recover.