

SERMON NOTES ♦ DECEMBER 20, 2009
Magnifying God

SERMON TEXT
Luke 1:39-56 (NRSV)

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."
⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

NOTES

- **Magnifying God's Blessing...**
- **Magnifying God's Character ...**
- **Magnifying God's Revolution...**

DIACONATE

Kathleen H. Irwin, Moderator

Class of 2009

Dale W. Brawley
John G. Donelson
Judy L. Cole
Eric H. Estes
C. Marshall Hoisman, 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

The Rev. Tyler J. 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
christy@moorevillefirstpres.org



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Loving God, Loving People, and Making Disciples

December 20, 2009 ♦ 11:00 A.M. ♦ Fourth Sunday of Advent

WE COME BEFORE GOD

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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."

INVOCATION

PRELUDE: *He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child* French Carol
Christy Floyd

INTROIT: *Sing For Christ Is Born* Martin
Chancel Choir

***HYMN 185:** *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN

ADVENT WREATH: Love Charlton and Beth Allen

CHILDREN'S SERMON Tyler Domske

CALL TO CONFESSIO

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSIO

God of salvation, in Jesus Christ you have done great things,
and our hearts are filled with love. By your power you lifted us
out of the wasteland of sin and brought us into your kingdom.
Salvation is your gift to us. But we confess that often we try to
replace your gift with our own efforts. We try to complete what
is already perfect. We try to add to what is already full. We try
to earn what we already have. Forgive us for our foolishness.
Help us to focus on your grace and to live grateful lives in
return...

SILENT CONFESSIO

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE 179:** *Joy to the World* (v. 3) ANTIOCH

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 184: <i>What Child Is This?</i>	GREENSLEEVES
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION	
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Micah 5:2-5	Pew Bible, p. 820
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.	
People: Thanks be to God!	
ANTHEM: <i>Angel's Carol</i>	Rutter/Tucker
Exaltation Ringers	
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 1:39-56	Sermon Notes
Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.	
People: Thanks be to God!	
SERMON: <i>Magnifying God</i>	Clay Brown

WE RESPOND TO GOD

*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.

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: *Sheep May Safely Graze* Bach/Kindred

***RESPONSE 188:** Refrain of *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN 188: <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> (vv. 1-2)	GLORIA
*INVITATION	
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION	
* RESPONSE 188: <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> (v. 3)	GLORIA
* POSTLUDE: <i>Comfort, Comfort Ye My People</i>	Bourgeois

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.

Recent Prayer Requests: Holly Brumley; Sarah Sholar; Willie Allison; John Holt; Paul Trimble; Lynn Brooks; Jim Streetman's father; Aldo Martinez; Billie and Ray Brawley; Helen Templeton; Lottie Massey; Pam Winters' sister, Reaves Geist; Suzy Brawley; Mary Voils Aven; EO2SW Laban Thompson; Scott Knutsen; 1st Lt. Ben Peacock, USAF; Maj. Scott Goodrich; T. Sgt. Timothy Goodrich; all those who have recently lost loved ones; those who are looking for jobs.

Christian sympathy is expressed to Paul Trimble and family in the death of his mother on December 15 in Ohio.

Christmas Pageant: Everyone is invited to attend the annual Christmas Pageant at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The pageant will be presented by the 1st - 6th grade church school classes, along with the 4 year old and kindergarten church school class. Light refreshments will be served following the pageant.

Cherub Choir: All preschool and kindergarten age children are encouraged to participate in the Cherub Choir at the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Practice will be held this morning in the fellowship hall, immediately following the Christmas pageant.

Logos/MSM 2nd semester Registration: Registration is underway for the 2nd semester of our Logos (grades 1-6) and Middle School Ministry (grades 7-8) program. Logos/MSM meets on Wednesday afternoons, and includes Bible study, worship skills, recreation, and dinner. New participants are encouraged to join the program, which will begin second semester on Wednesday, January 13. Questions regarding the program may be directed to director Gretchen Little (704-528-9796), assistant director Lisa Davidson (704-662-9393) or DCE Ellen Auten (704-664-5275).

Congregational Meeting January 3: The Session has called a congregational meeting on January 3 following the 11:00 a.m. service for two items: 1) the presentation of the 2010 budget as approved by the Session to the congregation; and 2) a report from our Church Officer Nominating Committee with two nominations to complete two unexpired one-year terms for the Diaconate, Class of 2010. The committee will nominate Bea Lieu and Chip Whittington, the floor will be open for other nominations, and the election will then take place. Please be present at this important meeting.

Preschool registration has begun for church members. Please call the preschool office at 704 664-2701 to register your child.

The Winter edition of These Days is now available at the rear of the sanctuary.

Calendar for December 20-27, 2009

Sunday:	4th Sunday of Advent 9:00 a.m.-- Early Worship 10:00 a.m. - Church School 10:00 a.m. - Church School Pageant 11:00 a.m. - Worship 5:00 p.m. - Alpha & Omega PYF Christmas party & caroling
Monday:	6:15 p.m. - Handbell Christmas Party 7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts
Tuesday:	9:30 a.m. - Preschool Christmas Program 10:30 a.m. - Exploring Our Reformed Faith - library 12:30 p.m. - Saints Alive luncheon in the Parlor
Wednesday:	11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner 6:15 p.m. - SupperClub "Lite" at Shiki 7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Christmas Party
Thursday:	Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. - <i>Kid Friendly</i> Family Service 7:30 p.m. - Traditional <i>Candles & Carols</i> Service
Friday:	<i>Merry Christmas!</i>
Sunday 12/27:	9:00 a.m.-- Early Worship 10:00 a.m. - Church School 11:00 a.m. - Worship

From the Budget and Finance Committee: January – November 2009

YTD Budget = \$706,128
YTD Deficit = \$45,412

2009 Offering: December is historically a time during which we make up deficits in our operating fund, often receiving 20% of our total income during this joyous month. But let's not make assumptions! Please continue your tithes and offerings during this month. If you are able, please give an additional offering toward our operating budget too. Let's make up the deficit shown above and end the year in the black. Thank you for your support of the many ministries of First Presbyterian Church!

If you have a Yahoo email address, our church database system Fellowship One is having difficulties delivering email to your account. The problem is being worked on, and we hope it will be solved soon.

New sliding glass doors have been installed on the first floor by the Fellowship Hall entrance and drive-through for better wheelchair accessibility and improved security. ***On entering the church, the doors will open automatically. On exiting the church, the doors will not open automatically—please push the large button on the wall to your left by the elevator.*** Also these doors can be locked and unlocked from the office and have a TV and intercom system so that when the doors are locked, you can request entrance. Just push the intercom button to the right of the door. Thank you for your patience and your flexibility.