

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5th Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2008

The Collect for Mediation & Personal Reflection

Cleary the trick in life is to die young as late as possible.

William Sloane Coffin

GATHERING

Prelude Michael Rorex

Welcome & Concerns of the Church Ed Evans

Introit *This Is The Day* Choir

*Call to Worship

L. The psalmist tells us if we will but wait, God will whisper hope to us. Do you believe this?

P. **We believe God's Word is not a pipe dream, but the river of love which flows forever!**

L. Paul reminds us that it is foolishness to think only of ourselves and our wants. Do you believe this?

P. **We believe that when we pay attention to God, we will find joy, peace, love!**

L. Jesus calls us to walk in the light, so we will not continue to stumble over our sin. Do you believe this?

P. **We believe he is the One who leads us out of a Hopeless Valley into the kingdom of grace and life!**

*Prayer of Praise and Adoration

*Hymn of Praise *Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above* #483

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Like the disciples, Holy One, we drag our feet when it comes to following you. You would have us face conflict, and we prefer to look the other way. You would lead us into those hopeless valleys where so many of your children live, and we would build homes on the mountaintops. You would bring us into peace and reconciliation, but we would stay

entombed in our troubles and fears.

Forgive us, Creator of new lives. As Lazarus was brought forth from the grave, unbind every worry which keeps us from living as your children. As the Spirit led Jesus from the tomb into the joy of the Resurrection, fill us with the power to walk in the light of this hope. As Jesus offers us the life and resurrection we need, help us to believe the good news which comes from our Lord and Savior.

Silence Is Kept

Prayer Response *What Wondrous Love Is This* (v. 1) #85

Assurance of Pardon

L. Jesus loved Lazarus so much, he brought him back from the grave. God loved Jesus so much that he was raised to new life. See how much God loves us - loves you! - by forgiving and saving us.

P. **We thank you for hearing our prayers, Lord God, and for setting us free from everything which would bind us to sin and death. Amen.**

*Pardon Response *What Wondrous Love Is This* (v. 2) #85

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

(please share the "Peace of Christ" with those in the pews around you)

L. The peace of Christ be with you all.

P. **And also with you.**

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Reading Romans 8:6-11 N.T. p. 150

Anthem *And This Is Love* Choir

Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14 O.T. p. 829

Gospel Reading John 11:1-45 N.T. p. 99

Sermon **Life From Death** Rev. Muder

*Hymn *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* #316

*Affirmation of Faith *The Apostle's Creed* p. 15
Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer Donna Rose
The Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts
*Stewardship Response *Holy, Holy (v. 1)* #140

SENDING

*Hymn *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* #422

* Benediction

L. God says, "I will put my Spirit in you, and you shall live..

P. **We live to go with God.**

L. Peace be with you as you leave this place.

P. **We, leave, renewed in spirit, to do God's work in the world.**

L. Go with God. Amen.

* Choral Response Choir

***Please stand as able**

Join us this evening at 6:00 for our Taizé Worship Service

Session will meet Wednesday at 6:30pm in the Calvary Room

If you wish to purchase lilies for our Easter Morning worship service -please return the following form, along with your check for \$10.00/plant, to the church office no - later than Sunday, March 9

Name _____ \$ _____

____ In Honor of _____

____ In Memory of _____

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
114 Bienville Street Natchitoches, LA
352-3016 Rev. Kathy Muder, Pastor
Church Website: www.fpcnatchitoches.org



**We welcome everyone as children of the heavenly King.
Your presence adds joy to our gathering and enthusiasm to
our worship. May God's presence be real to us all.**

This Week

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>6:00pm</i>	<i>Taizé</i>
<i>Monday</i>		
<i>Tuesday</i>		<i>Kathy at Pastor's Group</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>5:30 pm</i> <i>6:30</i>	<i>Choir Practice</i> <i>Session Meeting</i>
<i>Thursday</i>		
<i>Friday</i>		
<i>Saturday</i>		
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>9:45 am</i> <i>10:30</i> <i>11:00</i>	<i>Passion/Palm Sunday</i> <i>Sunday School</i> <i>Social Time</i> <i>Worship Service</i>

Next Week's Helpers

Lay Assistant: Amelia Hall

Prayers of the People: Mike Pierce

Refreshments: Colleen Lancaster

Lectionary Next Week

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Matthew 21:1-11

Prayer List

At Home: Harbert Smith Jr., Susie Lam, Glenda LaCaze, Brenda Ebert, Iris Saez, Clint Gibson, Brenda Page, Vickie Crawford, Evelyn Hinshaw, Ron Corkern, Ann Maechling, Dolly Kroesen, Donna Beauboeuf, Carrie James, Gail Procell, James Verret, Bill Spooner, Jim Hart, Kimberly Crawford, Raybon Raines, Helen MacKaskill, Rob Lockwood, Scotti Vermaelen, John Parsons, Barb Mahoney, Ken Culverson, Jon Kerstetter, Judy East, John Shaw, Tom Murchison, John Price, Lou Archibald, Rev. Bud Green, Catherine Donahue, Susan Berndt, Everett Morgan, Kayla Barras, Jim Welch, Byron Bissell, Renee Fontenot, Tracy Harman, Jack Starnes.

Hospital: Ada Jarred, Brent Rascoe, Nicholas Pruitt.

Nursing Home: Bob Giesey, Marge MacKenzie (Heritage Manor).

In the Military: Ben Aton, David Evans, Mike Black, Eric Maxwell, Tim Evans, Matt Williams, Mac Davis, Kevin Hall, David Coleman, Scott Tipple, John Hatley, Mark Jeansonne, Joshua Hogan, Sean Lawson, Brian Johnson, Regan Ammons, Greg Hemelt, Stephen Lawson, James Gelston, Phillip Brown, Thomas Melton (and the men under his command in Iraq).

Law Enforcement: Cary Hargrove, Stan Williams