



Sunday, February 4, 2024

Reverend Delton Farmer, Pastor

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"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"

Order of Worship

3rd Sunday In Lent

*Congregation Stands/rise in spirit

PRELUDE

In Death's Strong Grasp The Savior Lay – J.S. Bach Were You There? – arr. Charles Callahan Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley – arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Text: Stephen Key Tune: Stephen Key 5 1993, StepKey Music

INTROIT #107 (AA)

"We've Come To Worship You"

HIS ADORATION AND PRAISE GOD OUR FATHER WE'VE COME TO WORSHIP YOU Thus says the LORD: "Let my people go, so that they may worship me," Exodus 8:1 wor You. we've we've we've come to Lord, give You thanks. to Lord, come give Youpraise. to Lord, come You, we've we've ship to wor come Lord thanks, You to give come Lord You praise, we we've to give Lord. we've and wor - thy, Lord, that Your name is we've and wor - thy, oh Lord, that Your name is we've and wor - thy, oh Lord. Your name that You. ship come to WOL thanks You come to give give You praise come to

FUPC License number: 11348664

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul

All: The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple

Leader: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart

All: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever

Leader: The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether All: They are more desirable than gold and sweeter than honey

Leader: Let us worship God!

* PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION (Unison)

O Holy One of Israel, in Christ you call us to dwell in your favor; we gather to praise you and worship your name. You are the rock that keeps us from falling, the redeemer who can save us from sin. You set us upon the sure foundation of your commandments; you cleanse us from all unrighteousness through the gift of your Son. Accept our words as we honor your judgment and be pleased with our worship as we respond to Christ's call.

*OPENING HYMN #327 (AA)

1. Come, Thou

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Come, To "Come, Thou Almighty King"

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THE TRINITY

327 COME, THOU ALMIGHTY KING

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Moses and Aaron... came out and blessed the people; and the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people.

Leviticus 9:23

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Three



all ther. glo ous, O'er all vic - ous, to Thy word Come and - ple bless, And give Thy suc-cesspeo Now Thou who al might -V art, rule in ev heart, TV May reign glo maj see.



Text: Anonymous, c.1757 Tune: ITALIAN HYMN, 66 4 666 4; Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

FUPC License number: 11348664

CALL TO CONFESSION:

Christ calls us to live lives in harmony with our God and our neighbors. Even our best efforts fall short. Yet our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Trusting that abundant mercy, let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of righteousness, we confess that have not kept your commandments. We bow down before idols, declaring our allegiance to other powers and principalities. We take your name in vain, using it to justify our own prejudices and opinions. We do not make adequate time to rest and remember your goodness, nor to revel in the delight of family and friends. We look the other way in the face of violence and oppression, misogyny and sexual assault, land grabs and unjust economic practices. Our dishonesty and greed get the better of us. Yet you gave us commandments not for condemnation, but so that we might live in justice and joy. Purify us by your righteousness and enfold us in your grace. Sanctify our intentions and actions, that our lives may begin to reflect your Beloved Community. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Hear these words from the Apostle Paul, "God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength." The grace of Christ is sufficient for us.

ALL: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL SELECTION

Praise Team - "Changed" by Tramaine Hawkins

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT – Psalms 34:1-8 **NEW TESTAMENT** – James 1:1-4

SERMON "The Joy Of The Lord"

Rev. Dr. Julia Robinson Moore

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP





Text: John H. Sammis, 1846-1919 Tune: TRUST AND OBEY, 66 9 D with refrain, Daniel B. Towner, 1850-1919

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (adapted from The Confession of 1967)

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. It includes our natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. God wills that God's purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ, and all evil be banished from God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

God's house does not operate according to the logic of the market, but according to the abundance of God's grace. Let us each give what we have, trusting that by God's generosity, it will be enough. Let us receive the morning offering.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SELECTION

Praise Team - "Trust Me" by Richard Smallwood

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION #708 (GG)

"We Give Thee but Thine Own," verses 1 & 2

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Invitation to the Lord's Table

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you People: And also, with you Leader: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them to the Lord

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God People: It is right to give him thanks and praise

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

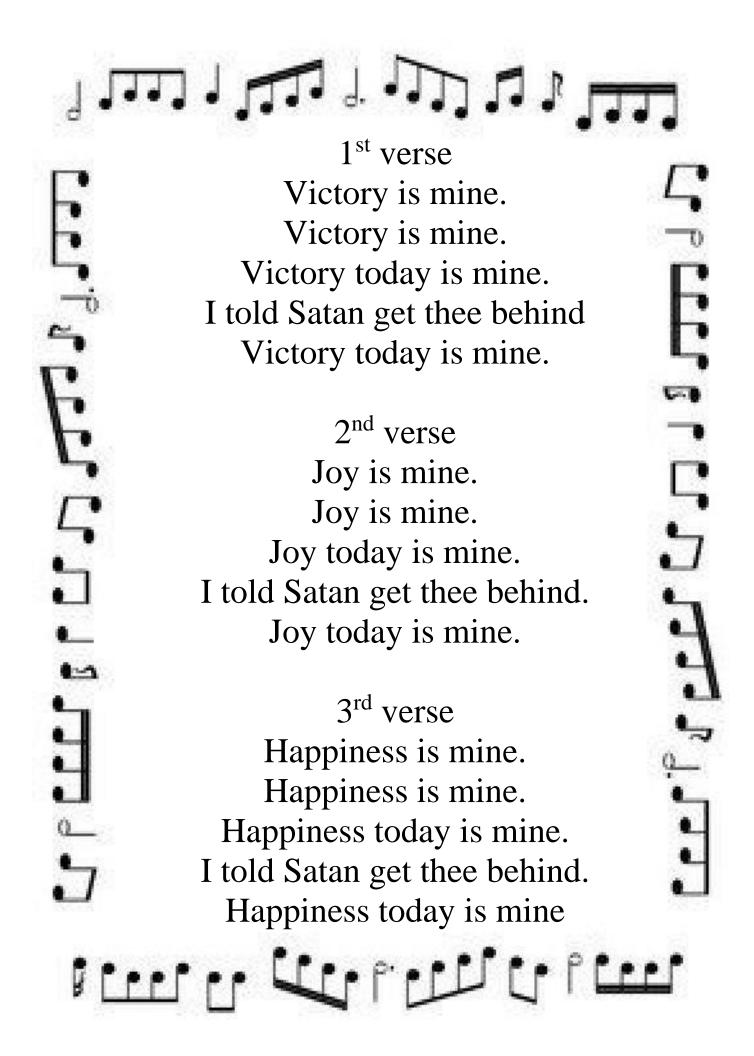
*CLOSING HYMN #489 (AA)

"Victory Is Mine" (see next page)

Body of Christ, go forth from this place knowing that it is your Lord who drives you out into the world. Go forth, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to be the very place where God's presence dwells. And as you go, may Christ's grace nurture your heart, God's justice guide your mind, and the Holy Spirit's power fill your every breath, To the glory of our living Lord, Amen.

POSTLUDE

Prelude on O Darkest Woe – arr. Charles Callahan



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP with FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: We will be worshipping with First Presbyterian Church (TBA). Be sure to tune in to their TV ministry on channel 64.



TEN CENTS A MEAL - We Can Make a Huge Difference when ALL participate. Using the same passage Two and Five Cents-a-Meal has been used since 1982. Please consider a gift to Ten Cents-a-Meal every 1st Sunday.

PW BIBLE STUDY/CT Meeting - Saturday, February 17, 2024 @ 11:00 am via Zoom **Meeting ID:**872 5882 5653**PC:** 758558 **Call in:** +1 301 715 8592

Women are asked to read Lesson 5: [A Person with Leprosy Encounters Jesus] and Lesson 6: [A Person with a Physical Disability Encounters Jesus 1 independently and to start paying dues of \$45 which are due in March.

LOAVES & FISHES 5TH Fridays @ First Presbyterian, the next date will be March 29, 2024

CLEANSING WATERS SHOWER MINISTRY - 1st & 3rd Sundays from 9:00 am - 10:30 am

BT EXPRESS (Alcohol/Narcotics Program) Mondays & Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY – (Hybrid) - Bible Study every Wednesday night @ 6:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting **Meeting ID:** 834 3423 2514 **Passcode:** 306013

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83434232514?pwd=OU9aMGFkSkt6Z0R6U2ZIM2FRYm90Zz09

One tap mobile, + 1-301- 715-8592, follow the prompts: then give meeting ID - 834 3423 2514#, Enter passcode - 306013#

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Church family,

Thank you for the surprise recognition you gave me during Black History month. It was a reflection of many years ago but certainly a worthwhile cause. Civil rights towards a more equitable education for all was the goal. God equipped me and inspired my parents at the right place and at the right time to help in this struggle. I found strength and resilience that I did not know I had. To God be the glory. -Lydia Hall Johnikin

«March Birthdays»

			(
Christina Solis	March 5 th	Olanda Carr, Jr.	March 6 th
Selene Burris	March 8 th	Aliyah Tate	March 10 th
Erica Junious	March 13th	Anthony Dozier	March 18 th
Monique Hibma	March 18th	Sidney Y. Byers	March 22 nd
Abigail Flanders	March 24th	Jerome Walker	March 26 th
Lovett Digsby	March 27 th	Simone Dozier	March 28th
Chandler Mouzon	March 29th	Kristen Ervin	March 30 th

First United Presbyterian Church

406 N. College Street Charlotte, N.C. 28202 Rev. Delton H. Farmer., Pastor

Officers by Class

2024 Leadership Team Assignments and Nominating Committee

Ministry of Discernment and Governance (Session)	Ministry of Compassion and Service (Deacon Board)
Class of 2024	Class of 2024
Natalie K. Beard (Education) - a Olanda Carr, Jr. (Stewardship) - a Donna Fair (Worship) - a	Ellen Smith (Christian Nurture/Service) - a Charles Jackson (Christian Nurture/Service) - a Tamara Tate- (Worship) - b Valerie Tutt (Education) - a
Class of 2025	Class of 2025
Sharon Kelley (Christian Nurture/Service) - a E. Michelle Maxwell (Personnel) - a Renea Stitt (Media) - a	Stephanie Davis (TBA) – a
Class of 2026	Class of 2026
TBA	Clifford Waddell, III (Facilities Maintenance) - a

Nominating Committee

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Helen \ Hairston - (3^{rd} \ Term) & Ronald \ Thomas \ II - (1^{st} \ Term) \\ & Tamara \ Williams - (3^{rd} \ Term) \\ & Session \ Appointment - TBA \\ & Deacon \ Elected - TBA \end{tabular}$

Facilities/Ground Maintenance

Elder Kyron Williams-Session Liaison

a – First Term b – Second Term

First United Presbyterian Church



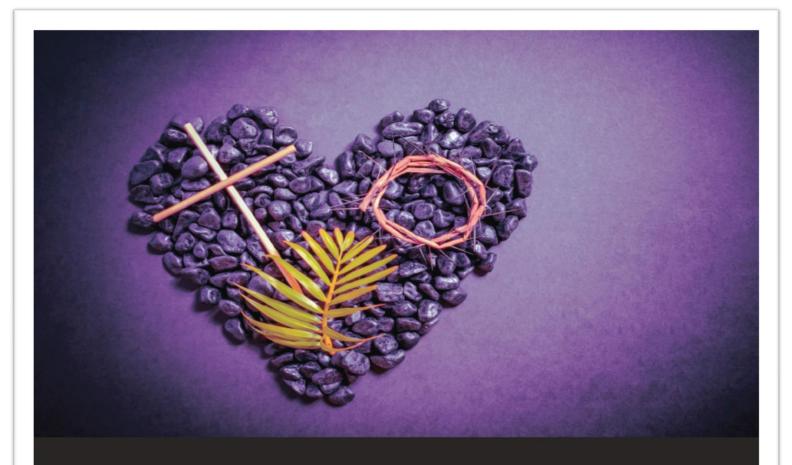
Wonder Woman: Real or Myth?

March 9, 2024 - 11:00 am--Gathering Fellowship Hall

March 10, 2024 - 11:00 am -- Worship Service Speaker -- Rev. Serenitye Taylor

" Women planning to attend, please sign-up in the Secretary's office"





Lenten Devotional 2024

We hope you'll follow along daily, be deepened in your faith through this year's ministry of our community, and prepare your heart to celebrate at Easter the new life that Jesus Christ made possible for all.

Use this devotional resource in the way that best enhances your Lenten thoughts and practices:

- » Read a printed copy.» Read and listen online. Visit www.pts.edu/devotional.
- Receive daily e-mails. Go to www.pts.edu/e-mail, click "Devotionals."



PICK UP A COPY TODAY IN THE LIBRARY

CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP

April 18-21, 2024 |

Cost: \$450 per person; \$250 single supplement

Register: http://fpc.tiny.us/civilrightstripFUPC or scan QR code Leaders: Larry Bosc, professional civil rights tour guide and former educator in CMS and Rev. Lucy Crain, Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian Church

Members of First Presbyterian and First United Presbyterian Churches will embark on a transformative three-day journey to explore the history of the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama. We will visit iconic landmarks, engage in meaningful discussion, share moments of introspection, and connect

with fellow travelers as we delve into

the pivotal events that shaped



scan to register

http://fpc.tiny.us/civilrightstripFUPC

This immersive experience promises not only to educate but also to inspire and renew our commitment to justice and equality for all God's people. Join us as we honor the legacy of those who fought for freedom and continue the journey towards a more just and inclusive future.

INCLUDED IN FEE:

our nation.

All transportation and accommodations, three breakfasts, one lunch, guides and tips

Contact gkeesler@firstpres-charlotte.org for more information.



Civil Rights march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965

"We've learned to fly the air like birds, we've learned to swim the seas like fish, and yet we haven't learned to walk the earth as brothers and sisters."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.





Registration for the Civil Rights Trip is NOW open.

4 spaces remain for First United

Contact the FUPC church office if interested 704-376-8014
Or email: secretary@fupcc.org

Cost: (\$450 Dbl occupancy) (\$700 single)

Contact: Rev. Farmer if Scholorshp assistance is needed.

&CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Hello First United Family,

Your monthly support for the Capital Campaign means so much.

Your Capital Campaign Pledge is your financial commitment to our 3-year funding drive to raise needed capital for major repairs and possible future renovations.

The roofs on the Sanctuary and the Education Building have been completed and paid for, but to continue to give our church new life and remain a part of the up-town landscape, your support is vital and needed more than ever.

ARE YOU COMMITTED TO DOING YOUR PART?

ARE YOUR PLEDGES UP TO DATE?

Thank you so much for those of you who continue to support this church , have faith and hope by paying your pledges to help move forward with the Lord's work on the corner of 7th and College Streets

"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus". [Philippians 1:6]

Yours in Christ, The Capital Campaign Leadership Team

7 Marks of Congregational Vitality

- 1. A commitment to forming disciples over every member's lifetime. This leads first to personal transformation, as people put on the heart of Christ, and then to social transformation, as people joyfully go forth into the community and tackle the issues facing today's culture.
- **2.** Embracing the call to evangelism. We show forth the love of Christ by our actions and our lives even more than by our words. Our relationships are genuine and caring. People know we are Christians by our love.
- **3.** An outward focus. Our church is not a place to escape from the world, but rather our gateway to our community where we may be the hands, feet, heart and mouth of Jesus Christ for people who are suffering or marginalized.
- **4.** Empowering every member to discover their individual calling and the gifts God has given them so they can go forth and serve.
- **5.** Spirit-inspired worship that challenges, teaches, transforms, convicts and energizes us so when we are sent out, we have experienced the wonder of God and are changed for the better from when we arrived.
- **6.** Caring relationships modeled on God's love. We open our doors and hearts to all people, and we build relationships modeled on God's love, which leads to genuine reconciliation and peace.
- **7.** Congregations with healthy systems. Our mission focuses are clear. There is fiscal responsibility and accountability. We have thoughtful decision-making structures. Our leaders and staff enjoy a sustainable balance of work/rest time.



History of our Partnership

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN + SUN COUNSELING AND WELLNESS

The Opening Doors campaign identified mental health as an outreach priority after Charlotte's Opportunity Task Force included access to mental healthcare as a major factor in socioeconomic mobility and flourishing. First Presbyterian Church recognized barriers to quality, accessible mental health counseling within the uptown community (cost, location) and set out to partner with excellent therapists to provide care in uptown.

COVID-19 underscored the widespread need, not only for direct services for people of all income levels, but also for more opportunities to destignatize education about mental health and wellness.

After receiving proposals from many potential partners, Sun Counseling was identified as the church's dinical partner for this project. First Presbyterian values Sun Counseling's proven excellence in clinical practice, as well as their commitment to compassionate, engaging education about mental health concerns that are familiar to many of us.

The Opening Doors Capital Campaign will fund incomebased scholarships for dients seeing the therapists at the First Presbyterian location. FPC will also provide two offices in the Fresco Lobby during business hours.

Sun Counseling will provide educational opportunities throughout the year for the congregation and community of First Presbyterian Church.





About Sun Counseling and Wellness

Sun Counseling and Wellness is made up of a consortium of providers that have many years of experience working with individuals, couples, families, and groups. We are passionate about helping clients achieve a balanced and fulfilling life and treating the WHOLE person. We use modern and evidencebased therapeutic techniques and are individualized and creative in our work with clients. Some of our specialty



areas include trauma, grief, eating disorders, arxiety, depression, self-esteem, body image, life transitions, integrative wellness, yoga, acupuncture, and more.

VALUES

Authenticity, Creativity, Compassion, Education, Service, Showing up. This spells ACCESS. By definition, access is "a means of approaching or entering a place and the ability, right, or permission to approach, enter, speak with, or use." Our hope is for every person to find permission to tend to their wellness and to have the opportunity to do so.

These are approachable, safe, inclusive, nonjudgmental counseling relationships to fit your needs. It is our privilege to work with clients and we are on a mission to destignatize, elevate the conversation, and normalize dialogue around mental health. We want people to feel proud to say "Yep, I go to therapy!"

Scheduling an Appointment

Sun Counseling and Wellness will handle all scheduling for appointments in the First Presbyterian counseling center. The new client form can be accessed on their website: suncounseling and we liness.com/new-clients

You do not need a referral from a First Presbyterian minister to make an appointment.

About the Scholarships

The cost of therapy can be a barrier to many. Sun Counseling therapists will work directly with individual clients to identify the appropriate rate for services rendered, using the income-based charts provided below.

If you think you qualify for a reduced rate, please fill out the form at fpc.tiny.us/scholarship or speak directly with your therapist during or prior to your first session.

For adult alients or guardians with FEWER than four dependents:

YOUR INCOME	SESSION COST
Up to \$15,000	\$10/\$15
\$15,001-30,000	\$25/\$35
\$30,001-40,000	\$50 / \$75
\$40,001-50,000	\$75 / \$100
\$50,001-55,000	\$100/\$150
\$55,001-60,000	\$125/\$165
\$60,001+	\$150*/\$200*

For adult alients or guardians with MORE than four dependents:

YOUR INCOME	SESSION COST
Up to \$20,000	\$10/\$15
\$20,001-\$40,000	\$25/\$35
\$40,001-50,000	\$50 / \$75
\$50,001-60,000	\$75 / \$100
\$60,001-65,000	\$100/\$135
\$65,001-70,000	\$125/\$165
\$70,001+	\$150*/\$200*

the for session with a provisionally licensed therapist
 Full-rate fees: \$175 for a 60-minute intake / \$150 for subsequent 50-minute sessions

fire for session with a fully licensed therapist

*Full-rate fees: \$250 for a 60-minute intake session / \$200 for subsequent 50-minute sessions

Meet the Therapists

Sun Counseling and Wellness provides two full-time therapists who are available for appointments on the First Presbyterian campus.



Dr. Sheba Surratt, DBH, LCMHC

I have 15 years of experience providing counseling, professional development, and consultative services. I work with children, teens and adolescents, and adults. I provide services to individuals with emotional, psychological, lifestyle changes, and various other problem-situations. I work to reduce behavioral and/or mental health

symptoms that impair quality of life in order improve overall self-care management and wellness. Specially areas: Anxiety, depression, grief and loss, deve lopmental concerns, adjustment and life transitions, self-esteem and self-concept, interpersonal conflict and relationship issues, substance use.

Andrea Juarez, LCSWA

I am a Latinx, Bilingual (English/ Spanish), Licensed Clinical Social Worker Associate. I am passionate about breaking the stigma surrounding mental health and helping individuals find healing in their life. My aim is to work collaboratively with you to empower and support through life's ups and downs. It is my



priority to create a safe and inclusive space for you to process and explore your feelings. Specially areas: complex trauma, intergenerational trauma, anxiety, depression, relationship dynamics, First Gen experience, LatinX experience, change/life transitions, navigating family of origin experiences.

Participating in Worship – March 3, 2023

Liturgist: Elder Olanda Carr, Jr. **Communion:** Elder Mabel Williams

Deacons Preparing Communion: Deacons Ellen Smith and Valerie Tutt

Offering: Monica Carr and Elder Sharon Kelley **Usher:** Stephanie Davis and DéAndre Yongue

Greeter: Debra Givens
Guest Organist: Dr. Pam Dennis
Guest Flautist: Karen Solis

SICK AND SHUT-INS S

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Dr. Sand	ra Govan
	D NURSING FACILITIES, HOSPITALS & SENIOR LIVING
Dr. Mild	red Y. MosleyWALTONWOOD AT COTSWOLD
	5215 Randolph Rd Apt 2018, Charlotte, NC 28211-5164
Mrs. Ma	rgaret Freeman SUMMIT PLACE OF SOUTH PARK
	2101 Runnymede Lane, Room #116, Charlotte, NC 28209
*****	*********************
	PRAYER LIST Email: prayer@fupcc.org
	Barbara Cannon cs Caryle Blakeney-Bennett cs Abby Flanders
	Shepard Foley S Ms. Jane Reid S Connie Patton
*****	**********************
MATTHEW 25	God of the circling years, we await the day when all hearts shall love you and Christ shall reign supreme. In the meantime, we shall continue to call on your guidance, and pray that our efforts will be found worthy of your mercy and grace. Amen.
IVIAT IIILW 23	SERMON NOTES
Script	
БСГРС	