



The Weekly Bulletin  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina  
Matt Drumheller, Pastor

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: [www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)

March 21, 2021

**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

MORNING MEDITATION

*We're children of God through our blood kinship with Christ. We're also sons and daughters of Adam and Eve, with a hereditary craving for forbidden fruit salad.*

Barbara Brown Taylor

PRELUDE

*Prelude*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

First Presbyterian Church  
Worship Archive  
October 14, 2018

PEALING OF THE BELLS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Natalie Niederer

OPENING SENTENCES

Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord,  
**Your salvation according to your promise.**

Psalm 119:41

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kim Marshall, liturgist

We gather as a community of disciples of Jesus.

**Recognizing our unity, and the love that we share,**

Hearing the call for justice and aware of our need for forgiveness,

**Relying upon the connections that sustain us,**

We gather as a beloved community.

**We gather to worship God.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY 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, forever. Amen.**

HYMN 35

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

Lobe den Herren

First Presbyterian Church  
Worship Archive  
February 28, 2016

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;

Join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,

Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!

Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been

Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!

All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!

Let the amen sound from his people again;

Gladly for aye we adore him.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Hymn 415

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

Restoration

Frank Poolos, soloist

Come, ye sinner, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power.

*Refrain:*

*I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.  
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

Acts 2:43-47

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

**God of mercy, you have called us to depend upon one another, to care for one another, and to journey together. You have called us into community. Yet, we have given in to fantasies of self-reliance, and the idol of rugged individualism. We have forgotten our neighbor and lost sight of your vision for a connected community. Forgive us, Lord.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

First Presbyterian Church  
Worship Archive  
September 23, 2018

RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

hymn 643, stanza 3

*Now Thank We All Our God*

Nun danket alle Gott

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,  
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given;  
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,  
The God who was, and is, as shall be evermore.

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

First Presbyterian Church  
Worship Archive  
March 6, 2016

ANTHEM

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Gilbert M. Martin

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them through his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Gracious God, guide us by your Word through these forty days, and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so we may be reformed, restored, and renewed. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

[Ruth 1:1-17](#)

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Connected*

Reverend Drumheller

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

REFLECTION ON COMMUNITY

Debby Johnston

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

*Andante*

William H. Harris

Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

*The Lord's Table is open to all who trust in Jesus Christ and to those who want to trust him more.*

Words of Institution

Sharing the Meal

Anthem

Malcolm Archer

*Lamb of God from 'The Sewanee Service'*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
Have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
Have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
Grant us your peace.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

This is an excerpt from the Confession of Belhar, the newest creed included in our Book of Confessions.

We use this affirmation in the season of Lent as a reminder of the gift and challenge of community.

First Presbyterian Church  
Worship Archive  
September 16, 2018

Communion elements can be delivered or picked up at the church upon request.  
Please email  
mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org  
by the Thursday before worship.

First Presbyterian Church  
Worship Archive  
November 1, 2015

First Presbyterian Church  
Worship Archive  
March 18, 2018

HYMN 767

*Together We Serve*

Sans Anselmo

Together we serve, united by love,  
Inviting God's world to the glorious feast.  
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,  
Extending God's love to the last and the least.

We seek to become a beacon of hope,  
A lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.  
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through  
Until we see Christ in each person we meet.

We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,  
The busy, the lonely, and all who need care.  
We offer a home to those who will come,  
Our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.

Together, by grace, we witness and work,  
Remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.  
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,  
Remembering love is the strength of our song.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

John Rutter

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*  
The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
Amen.

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First Presbyterian Church  
Worship Archive  
October 13, 2019

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**Thank you** to Duncan Bryson and Leah Kilde for helping to create this morning's video. Thank you to Debby Johnston, Kim Marshall, and Frank Poolos for their participation in worship today.

**The acolyte today is** Natalie Niederer.

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** The family of Gregg Liles (son of Dick Liles), Sandy Saunders, Jean Rabe, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

In an effort to keep the newsletter prayer list updated, please notify the church office (704-982-2722 or pknighnten@fpcalbemarle.org) or Martha Sue Hall (704-985-5821 or hallmsh@hotmail.com) of changes.

Please stop by the church and sign a hymnal for Susan Pandich and for Mary Lane and Craig Minkler, & Emmett. Call the church office before you to come to make sure someone is in the building (704-982-2722).

**Community Art during Lent**

A public art installation on the North Street lawn at the bottom of the sanctuary steps is available for your Community Art contribution during Lent. You are invited to come by the church any time. Supplies and instructions are available at the location for you to use. Please take a picture of yourself adding to the project and send it to Matt. Come by on Easter Sunday to see the final result!

*Daily Scripture Readings during Lent*

<b>March 21</b>	<b>Mark 14:27-42</b>
<b>March 22</b>	<b>Mark 14:43-72</b>
<b>March 23</b>	<b>Mark 15:1-15</b>
<b>March 24</b>	<b>Mark 15:16-32</b>
<b>March 25</b>	<b>Mark 15:33-47</b>
<b>March 26</b>	<b>Mark 16:1-8</b>
<b>March 27</b>	<b>Mark 16:9-20</b>
<b>March 28</b>	<b>Mark 11:1-33</b>



**From the Scholarship Committee...**

Scholarship applications are available Monday, March 1 on the church website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)). **The deadline to return completed applications is Tuesday, April 6.** If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a scholarship committee member. Committee members for 2021 are: Steve Coats, Chair, Ben Jolly, and Courtney Niederer.



**Education & Conversation**

**Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m.**

Our March conversation around race in America will take place Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. We will be watching three TED talks around issues of race. TED talks are short, poignant lectures by experts on important topics. They can be found for free online. If you would like to participate and be included with emails containing the links for the relevant videos, email Matt ([mrdumheller@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:mrdumheller@fpcalbemarle.org)).



**Palm Sunday on March 28**

In preparation for Palm Sunday, you are invited to take pictures or videos of you waving palm branches. The pictures or videos will be used in the Palm Sunday worship video. There are two ways to participate:

- (1) You can come by the church on Wednesday, March 24 between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. (Lent dinner pick-up time) to pick-up a palm branch to wave. You can be filmed at that time, if you would like!
- (2) You can request to have a palm branch delivered to you.

Please plan to help us celebrate this special church holiday. Email Matt (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org) to reserve a palm branch.

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**Sunday, March 28**

For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need around the world. In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.



Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable through three life-saving programs:

*Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self-Development of People*

Please give generously. Mail your donation/check to:

First Presbyterian Church  
P.O. Box 1578  
Albemarle, NC 28002

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**DRIVE-THRU LENT MEAL ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24  
FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.**

**RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE MEAL**

Our last Lenten Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesday, March 24. If you would like a Lenten meal, please RSVP by 2:00 p.m. on the Monday, March 22. We will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

**Menu for Wednesday, March 24 (RSVP by Monday, March 22 at 2:00 p.m.):**

Ann Duckwall’s Chicken Niçoise Salad

(Grilled Chicken, Mixed Greens, Roasted Potatoes, Marinated Beans, Tomatoes, Carrots, Boiled Egg, Homemade Croutons) served with a house French dressing, and choice of pound cake, sweet potato cake, or brownie

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per family.

Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church.

All we need you to do is reserve meals with Anne Montgomery:  
call Anne Montgomery at 704-796-5841 or email Anne at johnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com  
and let her know how many plates and desserts you need, and if it will be a pickup or delivery  
(include address and any special instructions).

**After sharing your meal together at home, you can log on to a weekly Zoom call at 7:00 p.m. There will be dedicated time for you to catch up with your FPC friends and family, and we will close each week with a time of worship and music together.**

# S'MORES AND GAMES

Sunday, March 21 from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Join us Sunday, March 21 from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. for s'mores and games! Fire pits and s'mores bags will be available, as well as cornhole and other games. Fire pit times of 30 minutes must be reserved by contacting Melissa Eudy (704-439-6747 or [the5eudys@gmail.com](mailto:the5eudys@gmail.com)) or Michelle Cumming (704-984-0435 or [michellecumming85@yahoo.com](mailto:michellecumming85@yahoo.com)).

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## SCCM FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Please purchase the *smaller* options of mayo, ketchup, flour, sugar, cooking oil, etc. This is helpful when we build boxes for our clients because our boxes are based on weight.

Please take donations to SCCM:  
506 South First Street, Albemarle  
Monday-Thursday; 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Cereal (Plain & Pre-Sweetened)**

**Canned Meat (Not Tuna)**

**Mayo**

**Mustard**

**Ketchup**

**Canned Fruit (Peaches, Pears, Fruit Cocktail)**

**Toilet Tissue**

**Bar soaps**

**Toothbrushes (individually packed)**

**Cooking Oil**

**Navy Beans**

**Black Eyed Peas**

**Lima Beans**

**Applesauce**

**Flour (Plain & Self-Rising)**

**Sugar**

**Sweetened Condensed Milk**

**Evaporated Milk**

**Salad Dressing**

**Cake Mix**

**Jelly**

**Pancake Syrup**

**Pancake Mix**

**Instant Jello & Pudding**

**Salt & Pepper**

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## Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 28

For this year's Easter Egg Hunt, we have two options for families. The first option is for you to pick up Easter eggs from the church on Palm Sunday (March 28th) after worship to hide at your home. The second option is to have the youth hide Easter eggs at your house (also on Palm Sunday). If you would like to do either of these options, please fill out the google form using the link below. If you have any questions, contact Dorothy at [dhart@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:dhart@fpcalbemarle.org) or 828-244-3824.

<https://tinyurl.com/mbte898w>



### **LENTEN TIME OF REFLECTION**

We are creating a space in the parlor during Holy Week for you to spend some time in peaceful meditation. You will feel as if you are outside walking on a path. We will have a labyrinth (the path) to give you an opportunity to deepen your awareness of God's presence and guidance. Please sign-up if you would like to get out of your house to enjoy some peace and quiet in reflection. Call or email Matt Drumheller (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org or 540-449-5319) to sign up for 15 minute slots:

**Sunday, March 28 from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

**Monday and Wednesday, March 29 & 31 from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday and Thursday, March 30 & April 1 from Noon-7pm.**

### **Perk and Pray**

**Monday, March 29 – Friday, April 2 from 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.**

Drive through the parking lot on First Street for a cup of coffee/juice box and a prayer.

**Maundy Thursday Zoom Worship on Thursday, April 1 at 6:00 p.m.**

We'll read the story of Christ's last meal with his disciples and celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in this Zoom worship service.

**Good Friday Cross Drive on Friday, April 2 from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.**

From 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. on Good Friday, you can come by the church and pick-up a map to guide you to several spots around Albemarle.

At these spots, you will be encouraged to pray for our local community using provided prayers, as well as your own.

**Good Friday Online Worship at 8:00 p.m.**

**Friday, April 2**

Join us online for a contemplative worship service as we mark the final moments of Jesus' life.





**April 4  
7:00 a.m.**

Gather at the top of Morrow Mountain to celebrate the risen Christ.

**11:00 a.m.**

We will celebrate Easter online  
with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and joyful music.

**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, March 21** *Fifth Sunday in Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

- 8:30 am Session Meeting via Zoom
- 9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom
- 10:15 am Children & Youth Sunday School via Zoom
- 11:00 am Online Worship
- 3:00 pm-5:00 pm S'mores and Games (Reservations Required)
- 5:00 pm Youth Group

**Monday, March 22**

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 2:00 pm Deadline to RSVP for Lent Meal
- 7:00 pm March Book Conversation with Courtney Niederer via Zoom
- 8:00 pm Monday Night Bible Study with Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study with Debby Johnston & Jack Morton

**Tuesday, March 23**

- 5:30 pm-6:30 pm Confirmation Class via Zoom
- 7:00 pm Education & Conversation via Zoom

**Wednesday, March 24**

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast Zoom Meeting
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 11:00 am Staff Meeting
- 3:30 pm-4:00 pm Youth Club Trusty Travelers (K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders) via Zoom
- 4:00 pm-4:30 pm Youth Club Faith Explorers (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders) via Zoom
- 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Lent Meal Pick-Up
- 7:00 pm Lent Gathering via Zoom

**Thursday, March 25**

- 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

**Sunday, March 28** *Palm Sunday/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Confirmation Sunday/One Great Hour of Sharing/Holy Week begins/Easter Egg Hunt (Reservations Only)*

- 9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom
- 10:15 am Children & Youth Sunday School via Zoom
- 11:00 am Online Worship
- 2:00 pm-4:00 pm Lenten Time of Reflection (located in the parlor – Reservations Required)
- 5:00 pm Youth Group

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**Your on-going support of First Presbyterian Church is essential to the mission and ministry of the church and to the well-being of our ministry partners, locally and globally.  
Thank you for your generosity.**

**Tithes and offerings may be mailed to:  
First Presbyterian Church  
P.O. Box 1578  
Albemarle, NC 28002**

**Online giving can be done through the church's website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)).  
Click on the GIVE button.**

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**All staff members are working at home whenever possible to limit the risk of COVID exposure.** While there is often someone present at the church, the building will be open sporadically. If you need to come by the church, please call first to make sure the building is open. The church's answering machine is being checked periodically; however, in case of an emergency, please contact Matt (540.449.5319) directly.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**  
**MARCH**  
22-Jane Hartsell  
Maggie Melone  
24-Sam Holshouser  
27-Lachlann Currie  
**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**  
**MARCH**  
24-Nathan & Marlene Sanges