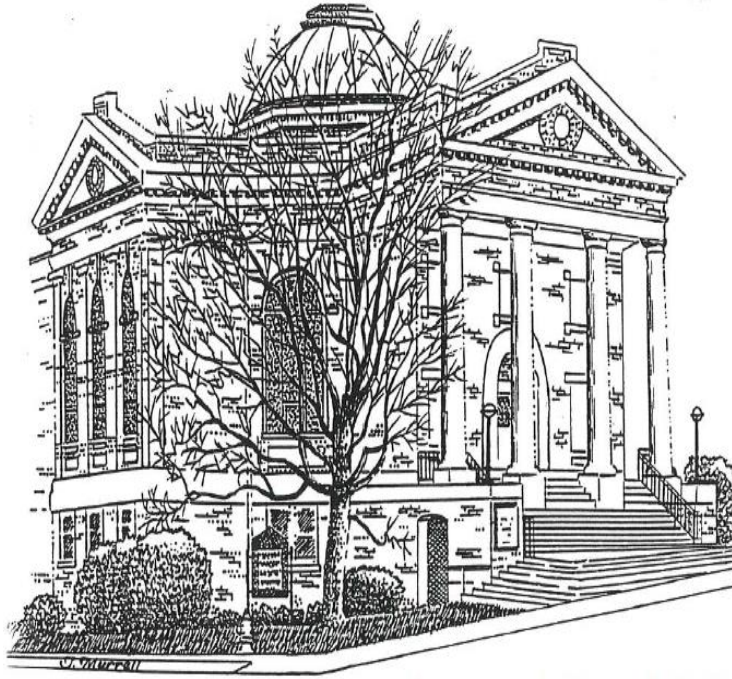


First Presbyterian Church *Albemarle, North Carolina*



April 23, 2023
3rd Sunday of Easter

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Friendship Register

PRELUDE

“O God of Truth”

Robert Powell

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Carter Gibson , acolyte

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 116

I love the Lord, because God has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because you inclined your ear to me, therefore I will call on you as long as I live.

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, Jesus, our risen Lord, was made known to the disciples in the breaking of the bread. Open the eyes of our hearts, that we may recognize his presence, and with his disciples cry, “The Lord has risen, indeed!” Through Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN 612

“We Praise You, O God”

KREMSER

*We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring;
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name: glad praises we sing.*

*We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers; through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o’ertake us, you will not forsake us, and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.*

*With voices united our praises we offer and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us. To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, our world is filled with corruption: power disguises itself as truth; convenience masquerades as goodness; selfish pleasure imitates love. We confess to you, O God, that we have been caught in the web of the world’s sin. By the power of the Holy Spirit, save us from these deceptions and free us for glad obedience, that we may see the joy of Jesus’ resurrection and receive the promise of everlasting life.

Silent Confession and Reflection

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*Response 394
SQUARE

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

REGENT

(stanza 4)

*Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one: One in might and one in glory while unending ages run!*

THE WORD

ANTHEM

“Rejoice, the Lord is King”

Malcolm Archer

Rejoice the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing, And triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, you opened the meaning of the Scriptures to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and set their hearts ablaze. By the power of your Spirit, kindle our hearts as we hear your word proclaimed, that we may receive you with joy.

SERMON

“We Had Hoped”

Rev. George

*HYMN 252

“Day of Arising”

RAABE

*Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day, and bread is broken, Christ is made known.*

*When we are walking, doubtful and dreading, blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
Yet Christ walks with us ever awaiting our invitation: Stay, do not part.*

*"Lo, I am with you," Jesus has spoken. This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:
When the church gathers, when bread is broken, there Christ is with us in bread and wine.*

*Christ our companion, hope for the journey, bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning that all creation with you may rise.*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From a *Brief Statement of Faith*, PC(USA)

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love, God created the world good, acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation, and makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God, was crucified, and raised from the dead, delivering us from death to life eternal. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Offertory

“Praise the Lord, My Soul”

Johann Pachelbel

*Response 697

“Take My Life”

HENDON

(stanza 6)

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever only all for thee.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives. Let us be a sacrifice of thanksgiving in union with our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever.
Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN 295
NOMINE

“Go to the World!”

SINE

*Go to the world! Go into all the earth; Go preach the cross where Christ renems life's worth,
Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

*Go to the world! Go into every place; Go live the word of God's redeeming grace;
Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

*Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray; the nights of tears give way to joyful day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

*Go to the World! Go as the ones I send, for I am with you till the age shall end,
When all the host of glory cry, "Amen." Alleluia. Alleluia.*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

“Fourfold Amen”

John Stainer

*POSTLUDE

“Immortal, Invisible”

Robert Powell

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Bold print indicates places where congregation reads or sings.

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Thank you to Michael Rowland, Frank Poolos, and Chancel Choir for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Carter Gibson.

Ushers for April: Lee Snuggs (captain), Jim Hesley, John Howell, Nathaniel Eudy, Cidney Eudy, Seth Richards

Outside Ushers for April 23: Jack Morton, Chris Whitley

Elder Greeters: Heather Kilde, Bill Jolly

Streaming Coordinator: Evan Sanges **Film:** Andy McLeod **Nursery:** Bailey Mitchell
Kids Crew: Thora Kilde

There will be no Children’s Church or Faith Sharing today.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Claude Harwood, Penny Welling (friend of the congregation), Gloria Bryson (Trinity Place), Ann Byrd (Home), Tim Rodgers, Doris Forte-Spring Arbor, Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Nancy Jolly, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Elizabeth Wilson, Jason Miller (friend of the congregation), Laura Frazier, Debbie Hinson, Rita Morgan, Harriet Watkins (friend of the congregation), Mike Jewell (brother-in-law of Linda Anderson), Marlene Sanges, Virgil Hinson, Melissa Eudy and family, sister Meredith Moses and family, Don Joines. The family of Robert Carpenter, nephew of Kyle Carpenter and cousin to Courtney Neiderer. See newsletter for complete list.

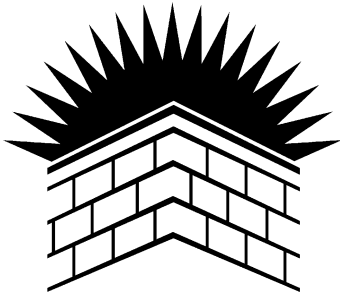


TUNES FOR TIMPANI DOLLAR\$ FOR DRUM\$!

FPC music department is seeking financial help to buy a “like new” set of

4 timpani drums. They are in pristine condition and if we are blessed to acquire this set, we would no longer have to borrow and transport each time we used them! Prayerfully consider if this need is calling you! Our Easter Celebration showcased how timpani and other instruments can enhance our musical worship!

Contact the church office for info on donating.



The Christian Education Corner

We encourage children to remain in worship!
There are worship bags available for them in
both lobbies of the church.
Feel free to pick these up anytime
before, during or after worship.

If you are not on the Middle School & High School SPOND app please download it. That is the easiest way for all youth to keep in touch. Here is the link to join <https://group.spond.com/LTOXZ>

Monday Night Bible Study 9th-12th graders at the home of Debby Johnston
(1212 Heritage Dr.) Mondays at 8:30 pm.





PLEASE REMEMBER TO SIGN THE REGISTER

The Membership Care Committee encourages you to be faithful in signing the Friendship Register in worship on Sundays and to register online if you worship there.

It helps us know when you are not here, which is very important.

Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:



Oatmeal Packets, Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup, Saltine Crackers, Tuna Helper, Cans of Tuna, Chicken Helper, Cans of Chicken, Snack Crackers, Pineapple, or Fruit Cocktail Cups
A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Next Packing Date: Wednesday, May 24 at 10:30 a.m.



LETTER WRITING ON SUNDAY, MAY 7 IN THE PIT STOP

9:00 A.M.-11:00 A.M. AND 12:00 P.M.-1:00 P.M

OFFERING OF LETTERS ON SUNDAY, MAY 21 IN WORSHIP

Congress reauthorizes the farm bill every five years. Later this year Congress will need to reauthorize this bill. The impact of the farm bill is significant. It not only affects the agriculture and food sectors--it can play a huge role in ending food insecurity and hunger in the U.S. and save the lives of millions abroad As people of faith, Proverbs 31:8-9 speaks plainly about our responsibility to advocate for those who are hungry. "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."
Sunday, May 7, will be Letter Writing day to urge our Congressmen to "support the reauthorization of the Farm Bill in order to build healthy, equitable and sustainable food systems". Writing packets will be available in the Pit Stop from 9 am until after worship. Packets contain a sample letter and writing supplies. The Offering of Letters (dedication) will take place during Worship on May 21. The letters will be mailed from the church during the following week.

There is a place for you at our table...



LAST FIRST FAMILY GATHERING

WEDNESDAY, May 3- 6:00 PM in Gym

RSVP BY NOON ON TUESDAY, MAY 2

This will be our last dine in meal until September. Let's enjoy some good eats together before heading out on summer adventures!

Menu: Boston Butt, Rice, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Green Salad and Assorted Dessert.

Contact the church office 704-982-2722 or

klambert@fpcalbemarle.org by noon on Tuesday, May 2 to say you're coming. Suggested Donation is \$6 per person. Maximum of \$20 per immediate family. We will have one more drive-thru on May 17.



Volunteer's Needed for FIRST FAMILY

Tuesday Morning Crew: May 2 @ 9:30 am

Wednesday Morning Crew: May 3 @ 9:30 am

Final Prep Crew: Wednesday, May 3 @ 5:00 pm

Clean-up Crew: Wednesday, May 3 @ 6:45 pm

Please call Jane Snyder at the church 704-982-2722 or on her phone 704-438-3358 or email her at jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org if you would like to help 😊



Frozen Food Items For Sale

1 Quart Brunswick Stew (Youth Retreat) \$ 8 each

1 Quart Marinara (Youth Retreat) \$ 8 each

1 Quart White Chili (Boy Scout's Fundraiser) \$ 4 each

FOR SALE IN PIT STOP FREEZER Help yourself! Just make sure you put the money for the Boy Scouts in the envelope with their name on it.

These items are in the chest freezer located in the Pit Stop (inside storage room)

MOTHER'S DAY ARRANGEMENTS



On Mother's Day, the arrangements in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of mothers. Each name is \$2.00. Please mail, deliver, or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, MAY 7.** Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian

Church and designate for *Mother's Day Arrangements*. The names of donors and those being honored/remembered will be listed on **Mother's Day, May 14**. Any money collected over the cost of the arrangements will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

MOTHER'S DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Please print below the information exactly as it is to appear in the bulletin.

In memory of _____

Given by: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 23

3rd Sunday of Easter

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

6:00 pm SNL (TBD if having)

Monday, April 24

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

8:30 pm High School Bible Study- home of Debby Johnson

Wednesday, April 26

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

6:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 27

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

Sunday, April 30

4th Sunday of Easter/ Faith on the Fifth Offering

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

6:00 pm SNL (TBD if having)

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

April

23- Emma Gibson
Polly Moose

24- Liz Davis
Anita Gower
Alexis Poolos
Jacqueline Poolos Hart
Nicole Poolos

25- Emma Grace Lemons
Tommy Murrell

26- Ella Averette
John Kilde

27- Ethan Richards

28- Aaron Whisnant

29- Harold Sharpe

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

24- Robin & Melissa Lemons

25- Steve & Kate Melone

28- Kevin & Adrienne Averette

29- Steve & Elaine Coats

Church Staff

Transitional Pastor, Rev Catherine George
Transitional Director of Christian Ed, Melissa Eudy
Dir Fellowship/Congregational Care, Jane Snyder
Director of Music, Dr. Frank Poolos
Organist, Interim, Michael Rowland
Office Manager, Kyle Lambert
Secretary, Beth Poolos
Facilities Manager, Shawn Graeff

Elders

Al Andrew, Ann Crutchfield, Bill Jolly,
Mary Kesselman, Heather Kilde,
Mike King, Lee McLaurin, Kim Marshall,
Ronnie Michael, Catherine Moeller,
Jackson Palmer
Chris Whitley, Ellen Whitley

Deacons

Keith Bryson, Shannon Bullard,
Michelle Cumming, Wes Eudy, Jim Hesley,
Liz Jolly, Myron Lowder,
Laura McLeod, Frank Poolos. Brett Richards,
Carol Sasser, Billie Jean Snuggs

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).
Click on the GIVE button.

The offering as part of our worship is a response to God's grace. The plates will be passed by the ushers or you may make your gift by scanning the QR Code here. Thank you for your generosity.