



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Matt Drumheller, Pastor

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

July 4, 2021

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Johann Gottfried Walther

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Holden Taylor

PEALING OF THE CHIMES

OPENING SENTENCES

I was glad when they said to me,

Let us go to the house of the Lord!

Psalm 122:1

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Billie Jean Snuggs, liturgist

Why do we come to worship God?

We come seeking a blessing from the Lord.

What is this blessing that we seek?

We seek an encounter with our God, who washes us in mercy, calls us to service, and fills us with love.

Let us worship God together.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in our baptism you called us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us courage so we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our redeemer.

Amen.

*HYMN 401

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger may be brought forward at this time.

Here in this place the new light is streaming; Now is the darkness vanished away;
See in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;

Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;

Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;

Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away:
Here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;

Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Merciful God, forgive us when we refuse to share your love with the world: when we choose selfishness over compassion; what feels comfortable rather than what is right; when we strive for success instead of faithfulness; when we value independence over community. Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short.

***RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE**

Glory to God

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me
**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

ANTHEM

Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing

Gordon Young

Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise,
That we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise.
Sing Alleluia, sing alleluia.

All ye servants of the Lord, praise Him forever,
Sing Jehovah's mighty power, praise Him forever.
Sing of His righteousness, praise Him forever.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, guide us by the Spirit of truth to hear the Word of life you speak, and to give all glory, honor, and praise to your threefold name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

[II Corinthians 12:5-10](#)

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Strength in Weakness

Reverend Drumheller

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

In life and in 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. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

This affirmation includes language from the beginning and end of the *Brief Statement of Faith.*

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
 Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
 Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known:
 Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
 Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
 Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
 Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
 Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
 And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
 Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
 In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PASTORAL PRAYER 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 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; There is no shadow of turning with thee.
 Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

(Refrain)

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
 Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
 All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
 Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
 Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
 (Refrain)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *God Be With You Till We Meet Again* Ralph Vaughn Williams

God be with you till we meet again; by his counsels guide uphold you,
 With his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Dale Wood

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Thank you to Duncan Bryson and Leah Kilde for helping with audio and visual worship production this morning. Thank you to Billie Jean Snuggs and members from the Chancel Choir for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Holden Taylor.

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger today.

Ushers for July: John Earnhardt (captain); Bob Johnston, Jim Marshall, Kim Marshall, Jack Morton, Penny Morton

Outside Usher for July 4: Steve Cumming; Ronnie Michael

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: The family of George C. McManus (father of Lee McManus), The family of Mary Kratz (friend of Linda Anderson), Ann Snuggs, Leslie Kinley, Mary Troutman, Nancy Jolly (Trinity Place), Claude Harwood, 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 pknighten@fpcalbeamarle.org) or Martha Sue Hall (704-985-5821 or hallmsh@hotmail.com) of changes.

Please stop by the Pit Stop and sign a hymnal for Mark & Paula Donham, Lee & Barbara McManus, and Sam Shepherd. Call the church office before you to come to make sure someone is in the building (704-982-2722).



Join us for *Lemonade on the Lawn* following 10:00 a.m. worship during the summer. We will meet outside under the tree on the corner of First & North Streets. Thank you to Martha Sue Hall & Dan Samples for hosting *Lemonade on the Lawn* today.



Sundays...July 11, 18, and 25

We will circle the sanctuary for the SCCM Food Pantry again this summer. You may bring non-perishable food items to the designated areas in the sanctuary during the weeks of July 11, 18, and 25. Thank you for thinking of our neighbors as you do your own shopping. Requested items are: Canned Fruit (in lite syrup), Canned Ham, Canned Chicken, Jelly/Jams, Spaghetti Sauce (no pasta), 2 lb. bags of Flour and Sugar, Cereal/Oatmeal/Grits, Toothpaste and Individually Wrapped Toothbrushes, Dishwashing Detergent, and Paper Towels.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE GRANTS

The Endowment Committee will accept applications for grants from the Gaither Endowment until July 12. Applications are available in the church office. If you have questions, contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org). Applications may be submitted by individual church members or committee chairpersons. Once funding requests are received, the Endowment Committee will review the applications and determine which requests will be funded. Personal interviews may be requested if further information is needed regarding a funding request. If you have questions about the application process, please contact the office. Endowment Committee members include: Debbie Bennett, Chair, Bob Gaither, ex-officio, Matt Drumheller, ex-officio, Al Andrew, John Earnhardt, and Nathan Sanges.

UPDATED PANTRY NEEDS FOR SCCM

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Saltine Crackers | Toothpaste & Toothbrushes |
| Instant Potatoes (small packages) | Bars of Soap |
| Ramen Noodle | Shampoo |
| Hamburger Helper | Deodorant |
| Sugar (1 & 2 pound bags) | Toilet Paper |
| Mayo (small jars) | |
| Jelly (small jars) | |
| Mustard (small container) | |
| Canned Chicken (small cans) | |
| Canned Pasta (Spaghettios, Chef Boyardee, etc.) | |



Items not needed:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Canned Corn or Canned Green Beans | Soups |
| Canned Sweet Peas | Dry Pasta |
| Pork & Beans | Baked Beans |

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 4

Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger

Lemonade on the Lawn

Independence Day

10:00 am Worship

Monday, July 5

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, July 7

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

Thursday, July 8

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

Sunday, July 11

Circle the Sanctuary

Lemonade on the Lawn

10:00 am Worship

2021 Flower Calendar

The 2021 flower calendar is posted in the pit stop. If you wish to put flowers in the church in honor or memory of someone or just to provide beauty to the service, please sign up on the calendar. **Flowers may be ordered from any local florist.** Contact Emily Andrew (704-322-5510 or em.andrew21@gmail.com) for more information.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship during July and August will take place at 10:00 a.m. There will be no Sunday School during the summer months.

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JULY

04-Don Abernathy

07-Barbara Lindley

Stella Marks

09-Shannon Bullard

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

JULY

10-Don & Janice Abernathy

11-Scott & Shannon Bullard

**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.**