



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Matt Drumheller, Pastor

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

December 27, 2020

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.

A paraphrase of John 1:14
from *The Message*
by Eugene Peterson

PRELUDE

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Bill Ingram

Handbell Ensemble:

Ann Crutchfield, Wiley Crutchfield, Martha Sue Hall,
Courtney Niederer, Natalie Niederer, and Beth Poolos

Piano: Frank Poolos

PEALING OF THE BELLS

OPENING SENTENCES

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations:

**I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them
gladness for sorrow.**

Jeremiah 31:10, 13

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise God in the heights!

Praise the Lord all you angels, praise God all the host!

Praise God, sun and moon, and all you shining stars!

Let us praise the name of the Lord, for God's name alone is exalted; his
glory is above earth and heaven.

Praise the Lord!

Psalm 148

HYMN 114

Away in a Manger

Cradle Song

First Presbyterian Church

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,

The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,

The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Worship Archive

December 24, 2019

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,

But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.

I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,

And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay

Close by me forever and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,

And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light
shining in the darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light,
or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our
midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, O Lord.**

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
December 24, 2018

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

At the conclusion of Faith Sharing with Children, children in grades K-2nd are encouraged to join Emily Andrew for Children's Church via Zoom. The link for the Zoom call can be found in yesterday's worship email.

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
December 18, 2016

ANTHEM

A Child Is Born in Bethlehem

Philip W.J. Stopford

A child is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia, Alleluia,
And joy is in Jerusalem, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Rejoice, rejoice, sing high, sing low, Alleluia, Alleluia.
Benedicamus Domino, Alleluia, Alleluia.

To Thee O Lord be glory paid, Alleluia,
Thou Son of Mary, Mother maid, Alleluia.

To Holy Trinity give praise, Alleluia.
With Deo gracias always, Alleluia.

Sermons are posted on the
church's website
(www.fpcalbemarle.org).
You can usually find the
previous Sunday's sermon
by Wednesday

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, by the gift of your Holy Spirit show us the Word made flesh: good news of great joy for all. May we sing with the angels: glory to God in the highest and peace on earth. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

[John 1:1-18](#)

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Word Made Flesh

Reverend Drumheller

John 1

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and with out him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. Amen.

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
December 18, 2016

HYMN 123

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Carol

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King:
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world:
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
Beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
And we at war on earth hear not the tidings that they bring;
O, hush the noise and cease the strife to hear the angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O, rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Away in a Manger

William J. Kirkpatrick

Handbell Ensemble:

Ann Crutchfield, Wiley Crutchfield, Martha Sue Hall,

Courtney Niederer, Natalie Niederer, and Beth Poolos

Piano: Frank Poolos

Prayer of Dedication

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

A Christmas Blessing

Philip W.J. Stopford

May the joy of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds,
The worship of the wisemen, and the peace of the Christ child
Be yours this Christmas.

May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one all things earthly,
Fill you with joy and peace.

And the blessing of God the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit
Be with you and remain with you always. Amen.

PERMISSIONS: *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*, Hymn tune: *Tempus adeste floridum*, Piae Cantoines, 1582. arr. Bill Ingram, © 2016, *Choristers \Guild*. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *Away in a Manger*, Text: Stanzas 1-2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, c.1885; stanza 3, *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs*, 1892. Hymn tune: *Cradle Song*. William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921) 1895. Public domain. *Angels We Have Heard on High*, Text: French Carol, trans. James Chadwick, 1860. Hymn tune: *Gloria*, French carol, arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937. Public domain. *A Child Is Born in Bethlehem*, Text: Fourteenth Century Latin Hymn. Music: Philip W. J. Stopford (b. 1977) © 2001, *Ecclesium*, published by Hal Leonard Publishing Corp. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*, Text: Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876) 1849, Hymn tune: *Carol*. Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900) 1850. Public domain. *Away in a Manger*, , Hymn tune: *Cradle Song*, William J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921) 1895. arr. by Bill Ingram, © 2016, *Choristers \Guild*. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *A Christmas Blessing*, Text: Church of Ireland, Book of Common Prayer, adapted by the composer. Music: Philip W. J. Stopford (b. 1977) © 2008, *Ecclesium*, published by Hal Leonard Publishing Corp. Used with permission under One License A-709512.

Thank you to Ken Knight and Andy McLeod for helping to create this morning's video

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Lindsey (Whitley) Harward (Myeloid Lukemia; admitted to Medical University of South Carolina-Charleston), Dick Liles, Bede Karr, Sandy Saunders, Ann Upchurch, Jean Rabe, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

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

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.

YEAR-END INFORMATION

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2021 are available for pick up in the common area right outside the church office. If your child would like envelopes, please let Kyle Know. NOTE: Envelope number change EVERY year. Remember...**DO NOT USE** these envelopes until January of 2021. If you have a bank draft and the bank has been instructed to put your envelope number on your check, be sure to update the new envelope number with your bank. If you have any questions, please contact Kyle at the church office (704-982-2722).

FINANCIAL YEAR END CLOSING

The church office will be closed through December 28. If you need any financial information, you can leave a message and name and number on the answering machine. The machine will be checked on Monday, Dec. 28 and someone will get back with you. There are four Sundays in December in which to pay up your 2020 pledge by December 31, 2020. The financial books will close on Thursday, December 31, 2020 at noon. Any contributions made after that time will be carried over to 2021.

PLEDGE CARDS

If you have not yet turned in your 2021 pledge card, please do so immediately. It is important that our Stewardship Committee has the latest updated financial information to finalize the 2021 budget. If you need a pledge card, please let Kyle know.

Gaither Endowment Grant Applications

The Endowment Committee will accept applications for grants from the Gaither Endowment until January 15. Applications are available in the church office. If you have questions, contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org).

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 27

11:00 am Online Worship

Monday, December 28

Church Office Closed

8:00 pm Monday Night Bible Study with Matt

Wednesday, December 30

No Youth Club

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast Zoom Meeting

Thursday, December 31

New Year's Eve

Church Office Closes at Noon

12:00 pm Financial Books Close

Friday, January 1

New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

Friday, January 1

New Year's Day

Sunday, January 3

Epiphany/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/

Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger

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

5:00 pm Youth Group Christmas Party

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).
Click on the GIVE button.**

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!

DECEMBER

27-Duncan Bryson

Claire George Drumheller

29-Campbell Bullard

30-Sally Grantier

John Montgomery

31-Mildred Andrew

Adrienne Robinson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

DECEMBER

27-Brad & Jane Boone

28-Ben & Shannon Lisk

29-Don & Nancy Joines

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JANUARY

03-Mike McLeod

Sandy Rogers