



The Weekly Bulletin  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

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

November 21, 2021

**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

MORNING MEDIATION

*Insofar as here and there, and now and then, God's kingly will is being done in various odd ways among us even at this moment, the kingdom has already come.* – Frederick Beuchner

PRELUDE

*Now Thank We All Our God*  
Frank Poolos, Oboe

Johann Sebastian Bach

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Hugh Carpenter

PEALING OF THE CHIMES

OPENING SENTENCES

Jesus Christ is coming to reign.

**To God be glory forever and ever!**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Jim Sawyer

*Please sign and pass the Register of Friendship during this time.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace to you and peace from the one who is and who was and who is to come.

**And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.**

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

**The whole earth is full of God's glory.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Eternal God, you set Jesus Christ to rule over all things, and made us servants in your kingdom. By your Spirit, empower us to love the unloved, and to minister to all in need. Then at the last, bring us into your eternal realm, where we may worship and adore you and be welcomed into your everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

\*HYMN 268

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Diademata

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

**Almighty God, you brought forth the world for the love of Christ, yet we have lived in rebellion and turned away from our created purpose. We have acknowledged the Lordship of Christ with our lips, but we have not honored him with our lives. We have served the idols of wealth and privilege; we have sought the protection of violence to oppose violence; we have lived in fear of death and loss; we have not loved our neighbors, nor sought reconciliation with our enemies. Therefore, we pray: Break our rebellious will. Instruct our hearts in the ways of peace. Give us integrity in our quest for truth. Grant us courage in the face of evil. Free us for joyful service in Christ our Lord. Empower us to live as citizens of your kingdom. For the sake of the word, in the name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

\*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

*How Shall I Sing that Majesty*

Kenneth Naylor

How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire?  
Let dust in dust and silence lie; sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.  
Thousands of thousands stand around Thy throne, O God most high;  
Ten thousand times ten thousand sound Thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears, whilst I Thy footsteps trace;  
A sound of God comes to my ears, but they behold Thy face.  
They sing because Thou art their Sun; Lord, send a beam on me;  
For where heaven is but once begun there alleluias be.

Enlighten with faith's light my heart, inflame it with love's fire;  
Then shall I sing and bear a part with that celestial choir.  
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold, with all my fire and light;  
Yet when Thou dost accept their gold, Lord, treasure up my mite.

How great a being, Lord, is Thine, which doth all beings keep!  
Thy knowledge is the only line to sound so vast a deep.  
Thou art a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere;  
Thy time is now and evermore, Thy place is everywhere.

The congregation is encouraged to participate in the prayer with the children.

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Melissa Eudy

*Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the Faith Sharing with Children, parents may take preschool children to the nursery. Children in grades K-2 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Sovereign God, let your Word rule in our hearts and your Spirit govern our lives, until at last we see the fulfillment of your realm of justice and peace; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Luke 23:33-43](#)  
[Colossians 1:11-20](#)

Pew Bible, page 83  
Pew Bible, page 188

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*The Once and Future King*

Reverend Cathy George

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, a father's house, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents the triumph of God over all that resists his will and disrupts his creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in [women] and men 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. *Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.***

**\*HYMN 216**

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

St. Christopher

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**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 AND PLEDGE CARDS**

Offertory

*Now Thank We All Our God*

Georg Kauffmann

Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Almighty God, receive our offering for the sake of Christ our Lord. Make us worthy stewards of your gifts and generous citizens of the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

**\*HYMN 305**

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

Darwall's 148th

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

*For the Fruits of All Creation*

Stanley R. Scheer

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For the gifts of every nation, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,

Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Postlude on Darwall's 148<sup>th</sup>*

Charles Callahan

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**\*All that are able may stand.**

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**Thank you** to the Chancel Choir, Frank Poolos, Stan Scheer, Melissa Eudy, and Jim Sawyer for their leadership in worship today.

PERMISSIONS: *Now Thank We All Our God*, Hymn tune: *Nun danket alle Gott* Tune. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750. Public domain. *Crown Him with Many Crowns*, Text: Matthew Bridges (1800-1894), 1851. Hymn tune: *Diademata*. George Job Elvey (1816-1893), 1868. Public domain. *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*, Traditional liturgical text, adapt. and music © 2008, Paul M. Vasile. All rights reserved. Used by permission of the composer. *How Shall I Sing that Majesty*, Text: John Mason (1645-1694), Music: *Coe Fen*, Kenneth Naylor (1931-1991) © 1984, *Oxford University Press*. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*, Text: Elizabeth Cecilia Douglas Clephane (1830-1869), 1868. Hymn Tune: *St. Christopher*. Frederick Charles Maker (1844-1927), 1881. Public domain. *Now Thank We All Our God*, Hymn tune: *Nun danket alle Gott*. Georg Friedrich Kaufmann (1679-1735). Public domain. *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*, Text: Thomas Ken (1637-1711), 1674. Hymn tune: *Old Hundredth*, Genevan Psalter, 1551. Public domain. *Come, Sing O Church, in Joy*, Text: Brian Dill (1949-2016), 1988 © 1989 Brian Dill. Used by permission. Hymn tune: *Darwall's 148th*. John Darwall (1732-1789), 1770. Public domain. *For the Fruit of All Creation*, Text: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), © 2000, *Hope Publishing Company*. Used with permission under One License A-709512. Hymn Tune: *East Acklam*. Francis Jackson (b. 1917), 1957, © 1960. *Postlude on Darwall's 148th*, Hymn tune: *Darwall's 148th*, John Darwall (1732-1789), 1770. Public domain. Set for organ by Charles Callahan (b. 1951), © 1992, *Birnamwood Publications* (a division of *MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.*). All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512.

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**The acolyte today is** Hugh Carpenter.

**Ushers for November:** John Earnhardt (captain), Bob Johnston, Jim Marshall, Kim Marshall, Jack Morton and Penny Morton

**Elder Greeters:** Mike King; Ellen Whitley

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**Outside Ushers for November 21:** TBD; Lee Snuggs

**Sound:** Evan Sanges; Leah Kilde **Film:** James Cotton

**Nursery:** Kate White

**Kids Care Crew:** Sarah Michael **Children's Church:** Kristie Bryson; Elizabeth Bryson

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**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** Richard Kimrey (father of Todd Kimrey; recovering from COVID & Pneumonia), Lindsey Clark (wife of Mark Clark, friend of Debbie Hahn; metastatic breast cancer), Robin Howell (chemotherapy for return of lymphoma), Don Abernathy (multiple myeloma), Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Gloria Bryson, Nancy Jolly (Trinity Place), Claude Harwood, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

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**NAME TAG ALERT!**

Upon entering the sanctuary, we are requesting that everyone make a name tag. Stick-on name tags are available at both entrances to the sanctuary. Thank you!

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**Please Return Your Pledge Card...**If you have not already returned your pledge card, you mail or drop them off at the church. Pledge cards are also available in the narthex to both entrances to the sanctuary.

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**Alternative Christmas Gifts Available in the Pit Stop**

**Sundays, November 21 & 28 and Sundays, December 5 & 12**

On Sundays, November 21 & 28, December 5 & 12, there will be opportunities to purchase alternative gifts in the Pit Stop. You will be able to select from among both local and international recipients. For each purchase, you will receive one of several holiday-themed acknowledgement cards. The charities are: John P. Murray Community Care Clinic, Mwandu Milk Formula, OASIS, and Will's Place.



**A Community Thanksgiving Service will be held  
Sunday, November 21 at 6:00 p.m. at Main Street United Methodist Church  
(1100 West Main Street, Albemarle)**

Reverend Phil Thorson, Pastor of St. Martin Lutheran Church will preach. The service will be live-streamed and held in-person, with masks strongly recommended for all participants. The offering will benefit SCCM. No food will be served following the service due to COVID.

**Link for the live-streamed service:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/2802399760050242/?ref=newsfeed>

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**Hanging of the Christmas Greenery on Saturday, November 27  
from 10:00 a.m.-Noon**

On Saturday, November 27, we will decorate the church for the season. Plan to spend the morning decorating the chrismon tree and other areas of our church. The church will look beautiful for the first Sunday of Advent (November 28)!



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**FIRST FAMILY MEAL ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1  
FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.**

**RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29  
PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL**



First Family Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesday, December 1! If you would like a First Family meal, please RSVP by Monday, November 29 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Wednesday, December 1 between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, the kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

Menu: Vegetable Soup, Salad, Oyster Crackers, Sweet Potato Cake, Pound Cake and Brownies

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:

call Anne Montgomery at 704-796 5841 or email Anne at [johnnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com) and let her know how many plates you need, if you would like sweet potato cake, pound cake or brownies for each meal, and if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).

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**SANCTUARY POINSETTIAS**



**If you would like to contribute to the purchase of 8 ten-inch poinsettias as a Christmas memorial/honorarium, please make a check for \$10.00 payable to *First Presbyterian Church* and designate for poinsettias. Please return the check along with the form below to the church office by Monday, December 13. A complete list will appear in the bulletin on Sunday, December 19. Following the Christmas Eve service on December 24, all 8 poinsettias will be delivered to the hospital and local nursing homes.**

**SANCTUARY POINSETTIAS & HOLIDAY GREENERY**

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

**In memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_



SNL Youth Group Friendsgiving  
Sunday, November 21  
6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.



Bring your favorite dish to share.  
Sign-up on SPOND to tell what you are bringing.



**Freezer Fest**  
**Saturday, December 4 at 9:30 a.m. in the church kitchen**

**Host: Kristie Bryson**

We will make Crustless Zucchini & Basil Mini-Quiches, Bacon-Wrapped Water Chestnuts with Sauce, and Spinach Balls that you can put in your freezer to get a jump-start on holiday treats.

Cost: \$20.00

Limit: 10 people

Masks optional.

Bring 3 large containers to transport your goodies home and into the freezer.

Or, you can donate some of your goodies to the Christmas Kitchen.

You must RSVP to Jane Snyder by Tuesday, November 30  
(jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-438-3358).

**!!! SNL's Christmas Kitchen is Back !!!**

This annual event will help you check off some of your final Christmas to-dos (or maybe help get you started).

On December 12, plan to shop the Christmas Kitchen in the Pit Stop before and after worship. There you'll find everything you need for your holiday season or just for general freezer filing. Soups, casseroles, cakes, pies, and more!

If you love cooking or baking and want to contribute, please let Rebekah Ayscue (704-985-2944) or Jane Boone (704-604-3836) know what you plan to make.



SERRV Catalogue Update: We had a good response with catalogue orders. SERRV has notified us that all in-stock items have been shipped. Thank you to all who looked at the catalogue, and to all who placed orders. We will contact you when your order is ready for pick-up.



**Central Elementary School 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





# Kayla's journey past trauma



The four children would often go without food and adequate clothing. Sometimes their mother would be so mad at the energy and unruly nature of the children that she didn't know what to do, so she hit them. It was a chaotic environment without much structure or support.

Kayla was one of the middle children. She didn't do well in school, and she didn't know how to handle any of the emotions she was feeling at 8 years old. Over time, neighbors noticed, teachers at school noticed, and social services noticed. All four children were removed from the home to keep them safe: one of Kayla's sisters moved to another state to live with relatives, her two other siblings went to live somewhere else, and Kayla found herself alone for the first time. That was five years ago.

After two years of living in different foster homes and even a pre-adoptive home, Kayla suffered another loss – the family who had said they were interested in adopting her decided they couldn't move forward with the adoption because they didn't have the skills needed to help Kayla regulate her emotions and find peace with her past.

Like so many other youth who enter "the system," Kayla needed help – real help to address a past filled with violence and neglect, help to address all of the emotions wrapped up inside her that she didn't know how to handle, help that allowed her to move forward.

Kayla found that help when she came to live with a therapeutic foster family at Children's Hope Alliance. It wasn't an easy transition, but Children's Hope Alliance staff members, including a well-trained therapist, and the CHA foster family were committed. In therapy, Kayla began to face her past trauma. At home, the foster parents helped her to experience life with a healthy family.

Kayla has made tremendous progress. Recently, she completed her stay with the therapeutic foster family and is now living in a forever home. She is thriving in her new community and learning to trust her new forever family, just as she trusted her previous foster family. And, most importantly, she's excited about what her future holds, thanks to caring, generous people like you.

*\*Child's name and photo have been changed for her protection, but her story is very real.*



#BETHEHOPE

[www.ChildrensHopeAlliance.org/donate](http://www.ChildrensHopeAlliance.org/donate)





# Thank you

for continuing to support  
our children and families



**you can  
make a  
difference**

One in seven NC children has a mental, behavioral, or developmental disorder. Last year, **less than 30 percent of NC children** with a mental health disorder received the treatment they needed. That means **NC ranked dead last nationwide**. Our goal at Children's Hope Alliance is to work toward closing this gap so that ALL children and families in North Carolina will receive the help they need.

Please consider making a gift today to show children that no matter what their individual circumstances are, that their Heavenly Father cares about them.

**Your continued support means the world to the children and families we serve.**

**... We will take  
your many gifts  
to the people  
who need them.  
And they will  
give thanks to God.**

— 2 Corinthians 9:11 NIRV

Children's Hope Alliance is the combination of **Barium Springs** and **Grandfather Home for Children** joining forces to serve children and families throughout North Carolina. Our comprehensive services and programs are designed to give hope to our clients by providing a safe home, healing their hurt and encouraging a healthy start.



[www.ChildrensHopeAlliance.org](http://www.ChildrensHopeAlliance.org)

Post Office Box 1  
Barium Springs, NC 28010

For more information:  
1-800-320-4157





**IMPORTANT COVID UPDATED INFORMATION**  
**as of November 7**

For the health and welfare of our members and our community, the COVID Task Force Committee has set the following guidelines with the following updates:

- ❖ **UPDATE:** Masks are **optional** for ALL FPC **indoor** functions/activities/SS/Worship, etc.
- ❖ **UPDATE:** Masks are **strongly encouraged** for unvaccinated individuals.
- ❖ Masks will always be provided at the church for adults and children in case they are needed.
- ❖ After worship, Rev. George will stand outside the door at the sanctuary so “crowding” will not take place.
- ❖ Hand sanitizer is available. Please use it.
- ❖ **UPDATE: Bibles, Hymnals, and Friendship Registers will be returned to pews.**
- ❖ Singing will continue.
- ❖ Communion will be given with prepackaged elements.
- ❖ **UPDATE: Elder greeters will resume.**
- ❖ **UPDATE: Ushers will resume passing offering plates during Worship.**
- ❖ All volunteers and paid employees involved in any children’s program(s) are required to be vaccinated.
- ❖ **UPDATE: Church building and GYM will be available for outside groups (meetings, rentals, pickleball, basketball, etc.).**
- ❖ **UPDATE: Meals may resume for SNL.**
- ❖ All toys, chairs, tables and bathrooms, (used that day) are to be wiped clean with a Clorox wipe or sprayed and wiped clean.
- ❖ First Family meals will be drive-thru.
- ❖ Church Committees, Community Committees/groups are welcome to use the main building for meetings. However, any child that might accompany a parent to a meeting must stay in the same room with the parent at all times.
- ❖ All surfaces (chairs and tables and bathrooms if used) have to be wiped clean (with spray or wipes) after any committee meets.

Your patience and flexibility are appreciated as we continue to deal with the pandemic.

**The COVID Task Force and Session continue to assess the COVID situation  
and return to church activities with the safety of the congregation in mind.**

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the church office (704-982-2722).  
COVID TASK FORCE: Ellen Snyder, Debbie Bennett, Ben Jolly, Bob Johnston

**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, November 21** *Christ the King Sunday/Thanksgiving Offering for Children’s Hope Alliance (formerly Barium Springs Home for Children)/Alternative Gifts/SNL Youth Friendsgiving*

- 8:30 am Session Meeting In-Person
- 9:30 am The Wired Word Sunday School Class via Zoom
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 6:30 p.m.-8:00 pm SNL Youth Group Friendsgiving

**Monday, November 22**

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations at the home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)

**Wednesday, November 24**

*No Youth Club/No Chancel Choir Rehearsal*

- 6:45 am Men’s Prayer Breakfast

**Thursday, November 25**

*Thanksgiving Day*

*Church Office Closed*

**Saturday, November 27**

- 10:00 am-12:00 pm Hanging of the Christmas Greenery

**Sunday, November 28**

*First Sunday of Advent/The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper/Alternative Gifts*

- 9:30 am The Wired Word Sunday School Class via Zoom
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship


**\*childcare provided**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**  
**NOVEMBER**

21-Debbie Wainwright  
23-Gayle Russell  
Thomas Taylor  
24-John Earnhardt  
25-Shirley Hinson  
26-Jennifer Hesley

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**  
**NOVEMBER**

22-Ned & Gayle Russell  
26-Mark & Kim Andrew



**You’re Invited**  
**to view the**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Fall Art Gallery Exhibit**  
**Featuring the artwork of**  
**John Williams,**  
**Jack Williams, and**  
**Eli Williams**  
**Located in the**  
**Basement Office Hallway**

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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.**