



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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March 17, 2019

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

Forty days, Lord. Forty days we seek to follow you closely, serve you humbly, praise you fully. Take what we bring, bless our gifts, break our expectations, use our discipline, and remake us in ways that show your glory to the world. Send your Spirit so that when we come to Jerusalem, we are still with you, knowing that in the end is our beginning. Amen.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

Hymn 401 *Here in This Place* stanza 1

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jacob Palmer

Psalm 103:8

In the midst of our wilderness journey, proclaim,
Praise the Lord, who gives life to the dead.
The Lord is merciful and gracious,
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

***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 209 *My Song Is Love Unknown* Love Unknown

*CALL TO CONFESSION *Lord, Have Mercy* hymnal, page 551

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Merciful God, you fill us with your Holy Spirit, and prepare us for the wilderness. Yet we become famished in search of worldly satisfaction. You strengthen us for the journey, but we succumb to the temptations whirling around us. Forgive us Lord, for we are broken.

Jill Duffield, editor,
Presbyterian
Outlook

Kyrie eleison is a Greek phrase from Scripture which translates to *Lord, have mercy upon me.* This is a prayer that has been used in the church for many centuries.

Glory to God hymnal
page 447

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**

We are for-giv-en. We are for-giv-en. Thanks be to God. — Thanks be to God.

We are for-giv-en. We are for-giv-en. Thanks be to God. — Thanks be to God.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Melissa Eudy

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of 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.

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, our way in the wilderness, guide us by your Word through these forty days. Minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

[Luke 19:1-10](#)

Pew Bible, page 77

Jesus: Ella Cumming

Zacchaeus: Grant Lisk

Anthem

Zacchaeus Was a Wee Little Man

Traditional

Trusty Travelers

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Wilderness

Reverend Ayscue

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

Today's anthem was composed by a college classmate of the Scheers who took his inspiration from the way that Alexander McCurdy accompanied the singing of this hymn in chapel services at Westminster Choir College. Dr. McCurdy was Head of the Organ Department at Westminster, organist at First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, and one of Mr. Scheer's teachers.

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

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God; preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. 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.

A Brief Statement of Faith, written to be used in worship, speaks much more about the life and earthly ministry of Jesus than many earlier confessions.

*HYMN 720

Jesus Calls Us

Galilee

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley

Dale Wood

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

hymnal, page 606

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

*Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation

Words of Institution

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*HYMN 761

Called as Partners in Christ’s Service

Beecher

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Hymn 546

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

stanza 1

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace; Let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace. O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling in this wilderness.

We will use the ancient practice of intinction for communion by dipping the bread in the cup. A common response, upon receiving the gifts of bread and cup is, *Thanks be to God*

*All that are able may stand.

We are grateful for your presence with us today. If you are a member of this church, please seek out those who are visiting and welcome them to this family of faith. If you are visiting and would like to know more about the church and membership here, please speak with one of the ministers following worship.

After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

Thanks to the Trusty Travelers for their musical participation in worship today.

Thanks to Jacob Palmer for serving as liturgist today. Jacob is the son of John and Jessica Palmer and is a junior at Gray Stone Day School. He is currently serving on Session.

The Lord’s Table is open to all who trust in Jesus Christ and those who want to trust him more. Gluten-free elements will be available at the serving stations at the front of the sanctuary.

Matt Drumheller is serving the larger church today at Star Presbyterian Church. In addition to leading worship, Matt will preside at the Lord's Table, ordain officers, and moderate the Session meeting following worship.

Ushers: Brett Richards, captain; Mark Donham, Judy Kilgore, Ethan Richards, Grace Richards, Danny Saltzman **Outside Ushers:** Mark Andrew; Jack Morton **Elder Greeters:** Jacob Palmer; Gayle Russell **Nursery:** Cortney Brown **Kids Care Crew:** Gayle & Ned Russell **Children's Church:** Lynn Poplin

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Marshall Rogers (back surgery), James Nunn (19 year old nephew of Billie Jean Snuggs; hospitalized following surgery on optic nerve). **See newsletter for complete list.**



**Habitat for Humanity
Home Dedication Ceremony
for the Johnson Family
Sunday, March 17 at 1:30 p.m.
410 Jackson Street
Badin, North Carolina**



FOOD FOR BODY & SOUL

Wednesdays in Lent

Evening Prayer at 5:45 p.m. in the Chapel Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Gym

Come for fellowship, meaningful conversation, and a simple mid-week meal together. Different groups in the church will provide meals. (If you're asked to help, please say YES!) Suggested donations per person is \$5.00.

Wednesday, March 20

Meal Host: Living the Faith Class Menu: Lasagna, Salad, Bread, and Dessert

**The 52nd Annual Youth Breakfast
March 18-22 from 6:30 a.m.-7:15 a.m.
at First Presbyterian Church (Gym)**

The Stanly County Youth Breakfast will be held here at the church the week of March 18-22. All middle and high school students are welcome! The theme is *Mirroring God's Image*. FPC's day to provide food will be Thursday morning. We need contributions of muffins (any flavor) which can be delivered on Wednesday, March 20.



OPIOID LUNCH & LEARN

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

FROM NOON-1:00 P.M.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE PIT STOP
(126 WEST NORTH STREET, ALBEMARLE)**

Topic: The Relationship Between Trauma & Addiction

Speaker:

Delton Russell, Director of Development & Community Programs at Will's Place
Lunch will be provided by Gateway to Hope.

Questions? Call the church office (704-982-2722).





**Community Lent Services on Wednesdays, March 20, 27 & April 3, 10 at Noon
First Lutheran Church (230 South 2nd Street, Albemarle)**

March 20 Preacher: Rev. Bob Gruver, Pastor at First Assembly Church
Liturgist: Rev. Paul Jenkins, Pastor at The Gathering

Lunch provided. Donation proceeds will benefit Will's Place, a recovery resource center located in downtown Albemarle.

**Property Committee Sponsored Workday on
Saturday, March 23 from 9:00 a.m.-Noon**

Come join members of the Property Committee to clean the kitchen and spread mulch around the property. Breakfast will be served. Contact David Whitley (704-982-1837 or davidwhitley1955@yahoo.com) or Debbie Wainwright (980-581-7500 or dwainwright@carolina.rr.com) for questions or to say you can help.





From the Scholarship Committee...Scholarship applications are available on the counter in the church office. **The deadline to return completed applications is Monday, April 8.** If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a scholarship committee member. Committee members for 2019 are: Jim Marshall, Chair; Al Andrew, Steve Coats, Debby Johnston, Lee McLaurin, Penny Morton, and Jeff Robertson.

First Presbyterian Church will prepare and serve lunch on April 3 at First Lutheran Church. If you would like to help and/or contribute desserts, contact Jane Snyder (jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-438-3358) or Ann Duckwall (704-983-3498).

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

Next Backpacking Date: Wednesday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m.

Easter Lilies...Deadline: Sunday, April 14



If you would like to contribute to the purchase of Easter Lilies as an Easter Memorial or Honorarium, please fill out the form below exactly as you wish the memorial or honorarium to read, **attach a check in the amount of \$15.00**, and place in the offering plate or leave in the church office no later than **Sunday, April 14.** Checks should be payable to "First Presbyterian Church" and designated "Easter Lilies." All memorials/honorariums received by April 14 will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 21.

Easter Lilies

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____

I plan to take my lily after worship on Easter.

I will leave my lily for delivery to a homebound member.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 17 *Second Sunday of Lent*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Saint Patrick's Day

- 8:30 am *Session
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 9:45 am *Lent Discussion Group led by Skeet Ayscue (Media Room)
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 3:00 pm Lent Hiking Posse led by Connie Wallace & Ken Knight (Morrow Mountain State Park)
- 4:00 pm Lent Discussion Group led by Kim Marshall at her home (1203 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, March 18

- 6:30 am-7:15 am Stanly County Youth Breakfast
- 8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt

Tuesday, March 19

- 6:30 am-7:15 am Stanly County Youth Breakfast
- 9:30 am Lent Kitchen Crusaders led by Gayle Russell & Jane Snyder (church kitchen)
- 12:00 pm Opioid Lunch & Learn
- 12:00 pm April Newsletter Deadline
- 6:00 pm Lent Discussion Group led by Greg & Dona Lisk (church kitchen-dinner included)

Wednesday, March 20

- 6:00 am Lent Discussion Group led by Elizabeth (church parlor-breakfast included)
- 6:30 am-7:15 am Stanly County Youth Breakfast
- 12:00 pm Community Lent Service at First Lutheran Church (230 South 2nd Street, Albemarle)
- 3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 4:30 pm Discussion Group with a playful twist led by Lillie Hancock (Teen Room)
- 5:45 pm Food for Body & Soul Evening Prayer (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm Food for Body & Soul Dinner (Gym)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00 pm-9:30 pm Confirmation Class

Thursday, March 21

- 6:30 am-7:15 am Stanly County Youth Breakfast
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting
- 2:00 pm Lent Discussion Group led by Matt Drumheller at GloryBeans (134 West Main St., Albemarle)

Friday, March 22

- 6:30 am-7:15 am Stanly County Youth Breakfast

Saturday, March 23

- 9:00 am-12:00 pm Property Committee Sponsored Church Workday

Sunday, March 24 *Third Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 9:45 am *Lent Discussion Group led by Skeet Ayscue (Media Room)
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 1:30 pm Habitat for Humanity Home Dedication Ceremony (410 Jackson Street, Badin)
- 3:00 pm Lent Hiking Posse led by Connie Wallace & Ken Knight (Morrow Mountain State Park)
- 4:00 pm Lent Discussion Group led by Kim Marshall at her home (1203 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH

- 17-Bob Gaither
Frank Green
Eric Niederer
- 19-Catherine McIntyre
Chris Whitley
- 20-Bo Andrew
Lee McLaurin
- 21-Sherrie Richards
- 22-Jane Hartsell
Maggie Melone
- 24-Sam Holshouser

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

MARCH

- 19-Eric & Courtney Niederer
- 24-Nathan & Marlene Sanges

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR MARCH

Rice, Macaroni & Cheese, Pasta, Instant Potatoes

*childcare provided