



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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March 8, 2020

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

The rhythm of the Christian life is grace and gratitude. We inhale the grace of God in Jesus Christ and exhale gratitude through faithful discipleship.

Based on the work
of
Karl Barth.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

OPENING SENTENCES

Show me your way, O Lord. That I may follow in your truth.

Give me an undivided heart that I may praise your name.

Psalm 86:11

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING SONG

Hymn 692

Spirit, Open My Heart

stanza 1

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

I will dwell in the Lord's house all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and inquire in the Lord's temple.

Wait for the Lord, be strong and let your heart take courage.

Wait for the Lord!

Based on
Psalms 22 & 27

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God our help, you have given your angels charge over us to guard us in all our ways. Make known your presence with us throughout these forty days that we may find, even in the wilderness, your springs of living water, your touch that makes us whole. Amen.

*HYMN 209

My Song Is Love Unknown

Love Unknown

*CALL TO CONFESSION

There Is a Balm in Gilead

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;

There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Glory to God
hymnal, page 792

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

Unison

Merciful God, we confess that we have not responded to your generosity. We withhold from others the grace you give us. We take for granted the bodies you created from dust. We destroy and corrupt the world you formed. We neglect our talents and waste the precious gift of time. We store up in silos the treasures you provide. We forsake valuable relationships and distance ourselves from your people. Forgive us, God, when we fall short of your call.

Glory to God hymnal,
page 832

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

The anthem is a movement from a cantata written for London's St. Marylebone Anglican Church. It was first sung during Lent of 1887 and remains today, 132 years later, the composer's most well-known and frequently performed anthem.

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

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS** *Here On Jesus Christ I Will Stand*
(The choir will lead the response, and the congregation will sing on cue.)

**It is not the work of my hands that has washed away all my sins.
I'm redeemed, and all of my days, Jesus Christ will be my heart's praise.**

**Here on Jesus Christ I will stand. He's the solid rock of my life.
He's the solid rock of my life. He's the solid rock of my life.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Reverend Drumheller

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

ANTHEM

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son.

That who so believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world,

But that the world through Him might be saved.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Merciful God, your Word is our way of truth and life. Create in us hearts that are clean and put your Holy Spirit within us, so that we may receive your grace and declare your praise forever. Amen.

PSALM READING

[Psalm 139](#)

Pew Bible, page 545

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Fearfully and Wonderfully

Reverend Ayscue

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Lord, When I Came into This Life* (sung)
**Lord, when I came into this life you called me by my name;
Today I come, commit myself, responding to your claim.**

Glory to God
hymnal, page 691

The Brief Statement of Faith was written following the reunification of the Presbyterian Church in 1983.

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.

*HYMN 27 *Sacred the Body* Tenderness

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A GIVING STORY Skeet Ayscue

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory *Ah, Holy Jesus* Dale Wood

Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* hymnal, page 60

**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

The Lord's table is open to all those who trust in Jesus Christ and to all those who want to trust him more.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*HYMN 515 *I Come with Joy* Dove of Peace

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Lord, When I Came into This Life

**In all the tensions of my life, between my faith and doubt,
Let your great Spirit give me hope, sustain me, lead me out.**

Glory to God
hymnal, page 691

*All who 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.

The acolyte today is Holden Taylor. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

Ushers: John Howell, captain; Duncan Bryson, Bill Hall, Jim Hesley, Ken Knight, Jeff Robertson, David Whitley **Outside Ushers:** Lee McManus; Ronnie Michael **Elder Greeters:** Gayle Russell; Rich Schaefer **Nursery:** Kate White **Kids Care Crew:** Penny & Jack Morton **Children's Church:** Katie Carpenter

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Lee Snuggs (shoulder replacement), Judy Portner (sister of Billie Jean Snuggs; stage 4 brain tumor), Jane Lisk, Gene Freshly (husband of Jill Freshly; recovering from mild stroke), Debbie Gabriel (sister of Gayle Russell; diagnosed with breast cancer), Frank Green, Carolyn Sharpe, Jean Rabe, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. **See newsletter for complete list.**



**LENT 2020
RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

Sunday, March 8 at 2:00 p.m.

It's a congregational gathering at Rock Creek Park for all ages.

Wear your play clothes and meet at the shelter. We'll enjoy the walking trail, a scavenger hunt for all ages, a cornhole tournament, and other lawn games. Bring a lawn chair and outdoor games to share.

Saturday, March 14

Join others to work on the Habitat House at 509 Jackson Street in Badin.

Let Ned Russell (704-438-2559 or Nedrussell36@gmail.com) know if you can help.

Working hours are 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Lunch providers are also needed.

Sunday, March 15

Enjoy God's creation at Morrow Mountain

- ❖ **Bring a lunch and gather at the shelter at the top of Morrow Mountain. We'll be joined by neighboring Presbyterians from Norwood.**
- ❖ **Mary Lane will share a creation care devotional at 1:30 p.m.**
- ❖ **Afternoon activities (choose which one or participate in all)**
 - **Trash pick-up (bring gloves)**
 - **A guided hike for all ages and abilities**
 - **A guided and challenging hike**
 - **Fun and games around the shelter**
 - **Conversation around the fire**
- ❖ **At about 4:00 p.m., we'll all gather again in the shelter for singing, prayer, and campfire snacks (think s'mores or dough boys).**



COMMUNITY
Lenten Services

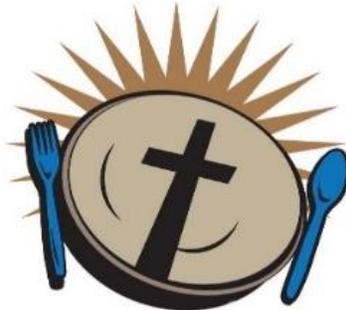
**COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES
AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ALBEMARLE
(202 NORTH 2ND STREET, ALBEMARLE)
WEDNESDAYS AT NOON**

LUNCH FOLLOWING IN THE GYM...COST: DONATION

The downtown churches will gather as a single worshipping community on Wednesday during Lent. Each worship service will focus on a Psalm and lunch will be provided following worship.

Wednesday, March 11 Preacher: Rev. Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Co-Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle

Liturgist: Rev. Ryan Clore, Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church, Albemarle



**Lenten Dinner & Table Talk
Wednesday, March 11**

Menu: Taco Bar & Homemade Desserts

Host: Softball Team for the Community Care Clinic Tournament

**PrimeTimers' Luncheon
Thursday, March 12**

Topic: Health Heroes of Stanly County (1850-1950)

Presented by:

Dr. Eric Johnsen & Dr. Steve Seltzer

Menu: Pizza, Salad, Fruit, & Dessert



Contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) by Monday, March 9.

Prayer Vigil

As part of our Lenten practice this year, the church will host a prayer vigil. Members of First Presbyterian Church will be present in the chapel of the church for 24 hours praying for our community and the world. We will begin at 12:00 p.m. on March 14, and we will conclude with corporate prayer in worship on March 15 at 11:00 a.m. You are welcome to sign up for as much time as you'd like for this prayer vigil and bring friends. A sign-up board can be found in the Pit Stop.



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 8

Second Sunday of Lent

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Daylight Saving Time

8:45 am Diaconate

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

2:00 pm Lent Opportunity:
Congregational Gathering at Rock Creek Park

Monday, March 9

8:00 pm Bible Study with Matt

Wednesday, March 11

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

12:00 pm Community Lent Worship at First Baptist Church
(202 North 2nd Street, Albemarle)

4:00 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club

6:00 pm Lent Dinner & Table Talk

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 12

12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Thai Spice
(1621 East Main Street, Albemarle)

12:00 pm PrimeTimers' Luncheon

Saturday, March 14

8:30 am-2:30 pm Lent Mission Opportunity:
Habitat House Workday (509 Jackson Street, Badin)

12:00 pm 24 Hour Prayer Vigil Begins (Chapel)

Sunday, March 15

Third Sunday of Lent

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

8:30 am Session

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am 24 Hour Prayer Vigil Ends (Chapel)

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Lent Opportunity:
Congregational Gathering at Morrow Mountain/Trash Pick-up at Morrow Mountain

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

*childcare provided

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH

09-Cidney Eudy

Ginny Marshall

David Whitley

10-Russ Carpenter

11-Jim Carter

Nancy Jolly

12-Morgan Kinley

14-Leah Kilde

Courtney Niederer

15-Kate Melone

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

MARCH

10-David & Carroll Holbrook

13-Bill & Ruth Ann Rogers

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR MARCH

Boxed Pasta Meals (Hamburger Helper),
Instant Potatoes, Stuffing Mix



First Presbyterian Church presents the
2020 Spring Art Gallery Exhibit
Central Elementary School Students' Art Collection