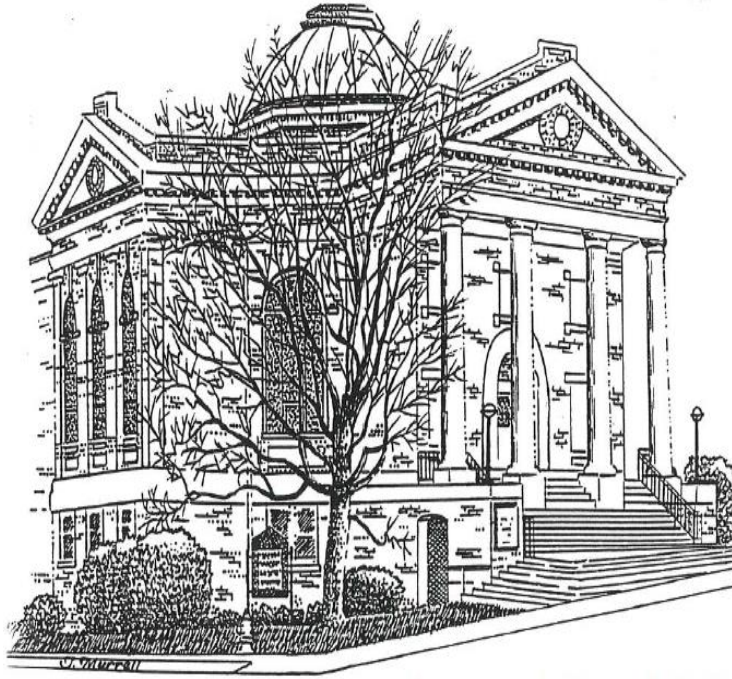


First Presbyterian Church Albemarle, North Carolina



He is not here. He's risen and he's gone ahead of us to Galilee. And chances are, he's not doing the things we expect or is even in a form we would immediately recognize. Even Jesus' closest disciples had trouble recognizing Jesus after the resurrection. The news of Easter morning is grand and glorious news. But it's unsettling news, because with Jesus now alive, we never know where he's going to pop up or what he's going to be doing next.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 9, 2023

Resurrection of the Lord/ Easter

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Friendship Register

PRELUDE

“Resurrection Fanfare”
*Alleluia, the Lord has risen, He has arisen.
He’s alive, Alleluia!*

John E. Carlson

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Madelyn Taylor, acolyte

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

This is the day that the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy and Living God, like a tomb’s darkness that gives way to light, open us this day to newness of life; open us to your love, to your acceptance, to your forgiveness, to your peace; open us to one another, and to the possibilities you have in store for us. Give us hope for the future and a passion for life here and now. We pray in the name of the One who destroyed death, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*HYMN 232

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*

*But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky he’s king, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!*

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God’s love; Alleluia!
Praise God, all you heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

Silent Confession and Reflection

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*Response 394

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

REGENT SQUARE

(stanza 4)

*Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one: One in might and one in glory while unending ages run!*

THE WORD

ANTHEM

“Now, O Death Where Is Thy Sting?
*Now, O Death, where is thy sting? Where, O Death, thy victory?
The Son is risen and Death is driven away. Death is swallowed up today in victory!
This, this is our God, in Him we trusted
And in love He saved us; give glory to His name.
From this day praise Him forever: Jesus Christ is risen today!
Now, O Death, where is thy plague? Your destruction now, O Grave?
For God who ransoms, redeem His captive today.
Every tear He wipes away: all disgrace He takes away from this day!
This, this is our Lord, God's faithful witness,
He is first born from the dead who rules the kings of earth,
He who loves, He who has freed us: Jesus Christ is risen today!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Christ is our victory!*

Russell Nagy

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit, so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Matthew 28:1-10](#)

pew Bible, pages 32

SERMON

“What’s the Big Deal?”

Rev. George

*HYMN 250

“Hymn of Promise”

PROMISE

*In the bulb, there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be unrevealed until its season something God alone can see.*

*There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see*

*In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt, there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; and at the last, a victory Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From *The Book of Common Worship*

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

EUCCHARIST

RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Offertory

“All Glory be to God on High”

Wilbur Held

*Response 609

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessing flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives in union with our risen Lord who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Great Thanksgiving and The Lord’s Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** In every age...and join their unending hymn, saying: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.** Blessed are you...we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.** Blessed are you...Now hear us as we are bold to pray together the prayer taught to us by our Lord, saying, **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.**

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

Gracious God, we give you thanks that by the witness of your word and the sharing of this meal, you have opened our hearts and eyes to the presence of Christ among us. Now send us forth from this place by the power of your Spirit, to tell this good news to the world: The Lord has risen indeed! **Amen.**

SENDING

*HYMN 246

“Christ Is Alive!”

TRURO

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
But saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.*

*In every insult, rift and war, where color, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.*

*Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
And find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love and praise.*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Christ The Lord Is Risen Again”

Philip Stopford

*Christ the Lord is risen again, Christ hath broken every chain.
Hark, angelic voices cry, singing evermore on high, Alleluia!
He who gave for us his life, who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today; we too sing for joy, and say Alleluia!
He who bore all pain and loss comfortless upon the cross,
Lives in glory now on high, pleads for us, and hears our cry.
He who slumbered in the grave is exalted now to save;
Now through Christendom it rings that the Lamb is King of kings. Alleluia!
Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed, Christ, thy ransomed people feed:
Take our sins and guilt away: let us sing by night and day Alleluia!*

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Bold print indicates places where congregation reads or sings.

PERMISSIONS: *Resurrection Fanfare*, Text and music: John E. Carlson. © 1991, *A.M.S.I.* All rights reserved. Used with permission through CCLI Copyright License # 21200031, and Streaming License # 21200048. *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*, Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), 1740. Hymn tune: *Easter Hymn*. pub. *Lyra Davidica*, 1708. Public domain. *In the Bulb There Is a Flower*, Text and Hymn tune: *Promise*, Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992), © 1986, *Hope Publishing Company*. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*, Text: Latin, 7th century, trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), 1851. Hymn tune: *Westminster Abbey*, Henry Purcell (1659-1695), c. 1680. Public domain. *Now O Death Where Is Thy Sting*, Text and music: Joel Nagy. © 1991, *High Street Music/Beckenhorst Press*. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *All Glory Be To God on High*, Wibur Held (1914-2015), © 1995 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *Christ Is Alive*, Text: Brian Wren (b. 1936), 1968, rev. 1995. © 1975, ren. 1995, *Hope Publishing Company*. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. Hymn tune: *Truro*, Pub. *Musica Sacra*, 1778. Public domain. *Christ the Lord Is Risen Again*, Text: Michael Weisse (1480-1534). Music: Philip W. J. Stopford (b. 1977), © 2013, Birnamwood Publications, a division of *MorningStar Music Publishers*. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512

Thank you to the guest musicians (Miccah Wynn, Trumpet; Beth Poolos, Trumpet; Alexis Poolos, Trombone; Chris Wilson, Trombone; and Kurt Varney, Timpani), Michael Rowland, Frank Poolos, and Chancel Choir for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Madelyn Taylor.

Ushers for April: Lee Snuggs (captain), Jim Hesley, John Howell, Nathaniel Eudy, Cidney Eudy, Seth Richards

Outside Ushers for April 9: Steve Cumming, Wes Eudy

Elder Greeters: Heather Kilde, Bill Jolly

Streaming Coordinator: Evan Sanges **Film:** Elizabeth Bryson **Nursery:** Bailey Mitchell
Kids Crew: TBD

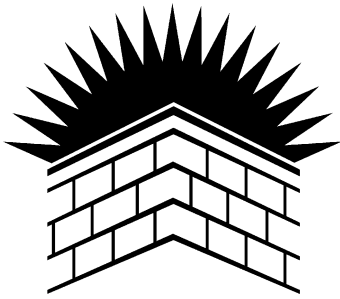
There will be no Children’s Church today.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Claude Harwood, Penny Welling (friend of the congregation), Gloria Bryson (Trinity Place), Ann Byrd (Home), Tim Rodgers, Doris Forte-Spring Arbor, Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Nancy Jolly, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Elizabeth Wilson, Jason Miller (friend of the congregation), Laura Frazier, Debbie Hinson, Rita Morgan, Harriet Watkins (friend of the congregation), Mike Jewell (brother-in-law of Linda Anderson), Marlene Sanges. See newsletter for complete list.

Easter Sunday April 9

- 7:00 am-** Gather at the shelter at the top of Morrow Mt. to celebrate the risen Christ.
- 9:45 am** –Sunday School for all ages.
- 11:00 am-** Worship will include seasonal music with brass and the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.





The Christian Education Corner

We encourage children to remain in worship!
There are worship bags available for them in both lobbies of the church.
Feel free to pick these up anytime before, during or after worship.

If you are not on the Middle School & High School SPOND app please download it. That is the easiest way for all youth to keep in touch. Here is the link to join <https://group.spond.com/LTOXZ>

Monday Night Bible Study 9th-12th graders at the home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr.) Mondays at 8:30 pm.



PLEASE REMEMBER TO SIGN THE REGISTER



The Membership Care Committee encourages you to be faithful in signing the Friendship Register in worship on Sundays and to register online if you worship there. It helps us know when you are not here, which is very important.



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

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Next Packing Date: Wednesday, May 24 at 10:30 a.m.



Pantry needs



- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Salad Dressings | Mustard |
| Mayo | Canned Chicken |
| Boxed Potatoes | Canned Pasta |
| Hamburger Helper | Ketchup |
| Sugar/Flour(2 lb bags) | Deodorant |
| Canned Fruits | Paper Towels |
| Cake Mix | Toothbrushes |
| Cookie Mix | Toothpaste |
| Rice Side Dishes | (small sizes) |
| Muffin Mix | Laundry detergent |
| Jelly | Shampoo |
| Grits | Dish Soap |
| Gravy | Cleaning Supplies |





JOIN US FRIDAY, APRIL 14
 5:30 TO 9:00 PM
 CITY LAKE PARK
 For Music
 LISTEN, DANCE AND FELLOWSHIP
 Bring your chair and a friend!



Different Food Trucks
 EAT, DRINK AND FELLOWSHIP
 Bring more chairs and more friends!

We'll be under our Pop Up tent
 FPC Banner flying high!

This will be on the following Fridays: May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4, Sept 8 and Oct 6.



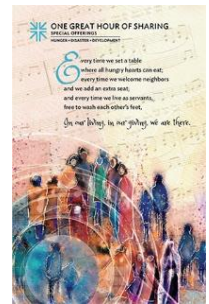
DRIVE-THRU MEAL
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19- FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.
RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, APRIL 17
PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL
Menu: Barbeque Chicken Taco, Rice, Black Beans and Pound Cake
 call Anne Montgomery at 704-796-5841 or email Anne at
johnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com



Volunteer's Needed for DRIVE-THRU
 Tuesday Morning Crew: April 18 @ 9:30 am
 Wednesday Morning Crew: April 19 @ 9:30 am
 Plating Crew: Wednesday, April 19 @ 4:00 pm
 Drive-Thru crew: Wednesday, April 19 @ 5:00 pm
 Please call Jane Snyder at the church 704-982-2722 or on her phone 704-438-3358
 or email her at jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org if you would like to help☺



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
Sunday, April 9
We will receive offerings during offertory
 The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is the single largest way
 Presbyterians come together every year to share God's love with our
 neighbors in need around the world.



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 9

Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Day/The Sacrament of the Lord's

Supper/One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

The Wired Word Class
will not meet on Easter
Sunday morning.

Monday, April 10

Easter Monday

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, April 12

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

No Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 13

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

Friday, April 14

Food Truck Friday City Lake Park

5:30 pm- 9:00 pm FPC Fellowship at the Park

Sunday, April 16

2nd Sunday of Easter

8:30 am Session

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

6:00 pm SNL (TBD if having)

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
April
10- Murphy Hall
Grayson Jones
Holden Taylor
11- Maddie Averette
12- Laura Blalock
Jake Davis
Holly Norwood
13- Matt Moeller
14- Anissa Chapman

Church Staff
Transitional Pastor, Rev Catherine George
Transitional Director of Christian Ed, Melissa Eudy
Dir Fellowship/Congregational Care, Jane Snyder
Director of Music, Dr. Frank Poolos
Organist, Interim, Michael Rowland
Office Manager, Kyle Lambert
Secretary, Beth Poolos
Facilities Manager, Shawn Graeff

Elders
Al Andrew, Ann Crutchfield, Bill Jolly,
Mary Kesselman, Heather Kilde,
Mike King, Lee McLaurin, Kim Marshall,
Ronnie Michael, Catherine Moeller, Jackson Palmer
Chris Whitley, Ellen Whitley
Deacons
Keith Bryson, Shannon Bullard, Michelle Cumming,
Wes Eudy, Jim Hesley, Liz Jolly, Myron Lowder,
Laura McLeod, Frank Poolos. Brett Richards,
Carol Sasser, Billie Jean Snuggs

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.

The offering as part of our worship is a response to God's grace. The plates will be passed by the ushers or you may make your gift by scanning the QR Code here. Thank you for your generosity