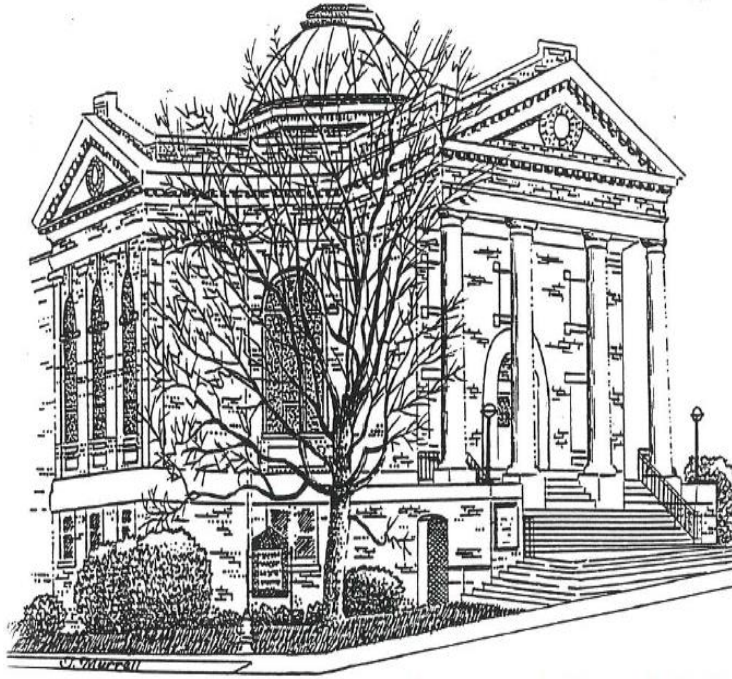


First Presbyterian Church *Albemarle, North Carolina*



April 30, 2023
4th Sunday of Easter

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Friendship Register

PRELUDE

“Fugue from Concerto for the Church”

Telemann/Walther

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Melanie Hendrix, acolyte

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 23

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Christ is the door by which we enter your new order, O God; he is the source of our comfort and the anchor of our faith. Through him, you have shown us the way into the land of your promise, where peace is eternal and grace has no bounds. As we enter the courts of your sanctuary, may we know you are with us, and give you all honor due your glorious name. Amen.

***HYMN 801**

“The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”

CRIMOND

*The Lord’s my shepherd; I’ll not want; he makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.*

*My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, e’en for his own name’s sake.*

*Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
For thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.*

*My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,
And in God’s house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.*

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Savior God, you beckon us, but we do not heed your call. You gather us, but we wander away, losing ourselves in false and superficial comforts. You speak truth, but we fail to hear and respond. Good Shepherd, do not give up on us. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for life in Christ.

Silent Confession and Reflection

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

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

***Response 394**
SQUARE

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

REGENT

(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

“This Is the Day”

John Rutter

This is the day which the Lord hath made:

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

O praise the Lord of heaven: praise him in the height.

Praise him, all ye angels of his: praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars and light.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord.

*For he shall give his angels charge over thee:
To keep thee in all thy ways.
The Lord himself is thy keeper:
The Lord is thy defense upon thy right hand;
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day:
Neither the moon by night.*

*The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil:
Yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in:
From this time forth for evermore.
He shall defend thee under his wings.
Be strong, and he shall comfort thine heart,
And put thou thy trust in the Lord.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Savior God, we're in awe of you and the way you guide us to the greater good. You've gifted us with the Holy Spirit as our advocate and guide. Open us to the Spirit's wisdom and truth. Open our ears, minds and hearts to your Word read and proclaimed this day. May we know your truth and respond in faith. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Psalm 23](#)

pew Bible, pages 474

SERMON

“Everybody Needs a Shepherd”

Rev. George

*HYMN 440

“Jesus, Lover of my Soul”

ABERYSTWYTH

*Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly, while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past; safe into the haven guide; o, receive my soul at last.*

*Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee; leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed; all my help from thee I bring; cover my defenseless head with the shadow of Thy wing.*

*Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find. Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name, I am all unrighteousness; false and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.*

*Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin. Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee. Spring thou up within my heart; rise to all eternity.*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

Offertory

“Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

J.S. Bach

*Response 697

“Take My Life”

HENDON

(stanza 6)

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever only all for thee.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Risen and redeeming God, you have given us more than we could ever give you in return. You meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as tokens of our gratitude and bless Christ's ministry with these offerings. Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN 187

“Shepherd, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

BRADBURY

*Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: yours we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: yours we are.*

*We are yours; in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
Keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.*

*You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.*

*Early let us seek your favor, early let us do your will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

Peter C. Lutkin

*POSTLUDE

“Allegro from Concerto for the Church”

Telemann/Walther

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Bold print indicates places where congregation reads or sings.

PERMISSIONS: *This Is the Day*, Text: Psalms 118, 148, 91, 121, and 27. John Rutter (b. 1945). © 2011, *Collegium Music Publications*, UK. Exclusively licensed in the USA to *Hinshaw Music Inc.*. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*, Text: Scottish Psalter, 1650; public domain. Hymn tune: *Crimond*, Jessie Seymour Irvine (1836-1887), 1872; public domain. Music harm. T. C. L. Pritchard (1885-1960), 1929; © 1929, *Oxford University Press*. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. Public domain. *Fugue from Concerto for the Church*, Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748). Georg Philip Telemann (1681-1767). Public domain. *Take My Life*, Text: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879), 1874. Hymn tune: Hendon. Henri Abraham César Malan (1787-1864), 1827. Public domain. *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*, Text: Thrupp's *Hymns for the Young*, 1836. Hymn tune: *Bradbury*, William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-1868), 1859. Public domain. *Allegro from Concerto for the Church*, Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748). Georg Philip Telemann (1681-1767). Public domain. *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*, Music: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1664; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Public domain. *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. *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*, Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), 1740. Hymn tune: *Aberystwyth*, Joseph Parry (1841-1903), 1876. Public domain. *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*, Text: Numbers 6:24, Music: Peter C. Lutkin (1858-1931). Public domain.

Thank you to Michael Rowland, Frank Poolos, and Chancel Choir for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Melanie Hendrix.

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

Outside Ushers for April 30: Jim Ivey, John Earnhardt

Elder Greeters: Heather Kilde, Bill Jolly

Streaming Coordinator: Evan Sanges

Film: James Cotton

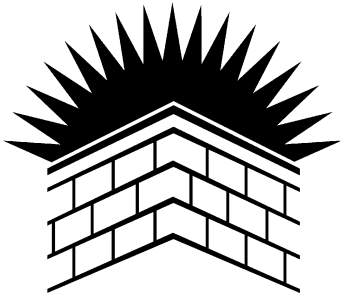
Nursery: Bailey Mitchell

Kids Crew: Angie Earnhardt

There will be no Children's Church or Faith Sharing 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, Tara Mackey (friend of Linda Anderson), Jason Miller (friend of the congregation), Laura Frazier, Debbie Hinson, Rita Morgan, Mike Jewell (brother-in-law of Linda Anderson), Marlene Sanges, Virgil Hinson, Melissa Eudy and family, sister Meredith Moses and family, Ronnie and Sarah Michael and family upon the loss of Harriet Lyles Watkins, Pam Knighten, the family of Don Joines. See newsletter for complete list.

IN MEMORIAM
Donald Jesse Joines
August 19, 1946 – April 23, 2023



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.



LETTER WRITING ON SUNDAY, MAY 7 IN THE PIT STOP

9:00 A.M.-11:00 A.M. AND 12:00 P.M.-1:00 P.M

OFFERING OF LETTERS ON SUNDAY, MAY 21 IN WORSHIP

Join Bread for the World in pursuing a world without hunger. Please take a few minutes to write to North Carolina's members of Congress ***“to urge them to support reauthorization of a farm bill that builds healthy, equitable and sustainable food systems.”*** The farm bill is our nation's most important national food system legislation. It is critical to the work of ending hunger at home and abroad. Indeed, the farm bill impacts each one of us. One of the specific requests included in the sample letter is to eliminate barriers to SNAP for marginalized populations; for example, eliminate the 20 hour/week work requirements for college students. **Letter writing packets will be available in the Pit Stop on May 7 and in the Church Office during regular hours.**



LAST FIRST FAMILY GATHERING

WEDNESDAY, May 3- 6:00 PM in Gym
RSVP BY NOON ON TUESDAY, MAY 2

This will be our last dine in meal until September. Let's enjoy some good eats together before heading out on summer adventures!

Menu: Boston Butt, Rice, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Green Salad and Assorted Dessert.

Contact the church office 704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org by noon on Tuesday, May 2 to say you're coming. Suggested Donation is \$6 per person. Maximum of \$20 per immediate family. We will have one more drive-thru on May 17.



Volunteer's Needed for FIRST FAMILY

Tuesday Morning Crew: May 2 @ 9:30 am

Wednesday Morning Crew: May 3 @ 9:30 am

Final Prep Crew: Wednesday, May 3 @ 5:00 pm

Clean-up Crew: Wednesday, May 3 @ 6:45 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☺



TESTING PROCTORS NEEDED AT CENTRAL SCHOOL

EOG testing is set for May 26, May 31 and June 1 at Central School. **Proctors are desperately needed!** Testing starts at 9:00 am and will last 2 to 3 hours at most. If you can help, contact Erik Johnson at Erik.Johnson@stanlycountyschools.org.

MOTHER'S DAY ARRANGEMENTS



On Mother's Day, the arrangements in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of mothers. Each name is \$2.00. Please mail, deliver, or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, MAY 7**. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and designate for *Mother's Day Arrangements*. The names of donors and those being honored/remembered will be listed on **Mother's Day, May 14**. Any money collected over the cost of the arrangements will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

MOTHER'S DAY ARRANGEMENTS

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

In memory
of _____

Given
by: _____

In honor
of: _____

Given
by: _____

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 30

4th Sunday of Easter/ Faith on the Fifth Offering

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

6:00 pm SNL (TBD if having)

Monday, May 1

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

8:30 pm High School Bible Study- home of Debby Johnson

Wednesday, May 3

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

1:30 pm Prayer Shawl in Parlor

6:00 pm Last First Family Gathering

6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 4

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

Sunday, May 7

5th Sunday of Easter/ Ten Cents a Meal Offering

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

6:00 pm SNL (TBD if having)

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

May

04- Brad Boone

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

02- Bob & Donna Gaither

03- Kyle & Taylor Barbee

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.