



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Co-Pastor
Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Matt Drumheller, Co-Pastor
Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

March 22, 2020

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

Eternal God, sustainer, provider, God of all wisdom and knowledge...Our spirits are weary, our faith quivers, our minds are clouded by news of sickness and death. You know our thoughts before we express them; even the fears we dismiss, you know them. We cannot hide our feelings and worries from you. So, as we are, we come to you, O God, asking for wisdom, for clear minds and open hearts, for calm and assurance that, through the crisis, you are present. Amen.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

OPENING SENTENCES

Let all who thirst come to the waters;
Let all who are hungry come and eat.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.

**Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and
great power to redeem.**

The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

***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.**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Prayer written by the
Co-Modertors of the
General Assembly of
the PCUSA.

Isaiah 55:1

Psalm 130 and
Psalm 126

*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.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Barbara McManus

SOLO

Ah, Holy Jesus
Andy Cotton, Baritone

Dale Wood

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

[1 Peter 4:7-11](#)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Sharing Our Gifts

Reverend Ayscue

*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.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

GATHERING AT THE TABLE

Sermons are posted on the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org).

You can usually find the previous Sunday's sermon by Wednesday.

The Apostles' Creed is one of the earliest ecumenical creeds.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER 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.

A GIVING STORY

Barbara McManus

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

*BENEDICTION

*All who are able may stand.

We will continue to livestream worship on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. To access the service, go to the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and click on the worship banner. If you are unable to watch it live, it will still be available through the church's *YouTube* page.

Thanks to Andy Cotton and Barbara McManus for sharing their gifts in worship today.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Matt and Elizabeth will livestream a brief devotional at 12:15 p.m. To access the devotional, go to the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and click on the *Digital Devotional* banner. If you are unable to watch it live, it will still be available through the church's *YouTube* page.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Burn Morehead, III (diagnosed with brain tumor; son of Sally Pleasant & Dr. Bernard "Bernie" Morehead), Herb Smith (cousin of Nancy Lowder), Cathy King (recovering from fractured femur), 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.**

A team of folks is available to grocery shop and run errands for those who are unable to go out in this season. Please contact the church for more information (704-982-2722; eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org; mrdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org). If no answer, please leave a voicemail for Elizabeth or Matt.

How have you responded to God's grace? On the first Sunday of Lent, everyone in worship received \$20 to benefit someone else. We would love to hear the stories of how you have used your gift. Contact Elizabeth or Matt to share your story!

The Faith on the Fifth offering on Sunday, March 29 will benefit The Community Care Clinic which provides free healthcare for uninsured adults in Stanly County.

**Some of you have expressed concern for the church budget in this season
when regular giving patterns are interrupted.**

Thanks to several pre-paid pledges and slightly lower expenses, we are holding our own.
However, many of our expenses are fixed, so we urge faithful stewardship.

**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.**

You may also drop your contribution in the birdhouse that is located to the right of the back door (outside).
The birdhouse will be checked several times a day, but feel free to call and let us know you have put a contribution in it.

If you would like to be a shopper/errand runner, contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org).

The church staff continues to work with adapted schedules. The church building will be unlocked Monday-Thursday from 9:00 a.m.-Noon.

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR MARCH
Boxed Pasta Meals (Hamburger Helper), Instant Potatoes, Stuffing Mix

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
MARCH
22-Jane Hartsell
Maggie Melone
24-Sam Holshouser
27-Lachlann Currie
29-Claude Harwood

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
MARCH
24-Nathan & Marlene Sanges

Ages 3+

March 22, 2020 • Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Giving to God

Give thanks to the Lord for all He has given to you.

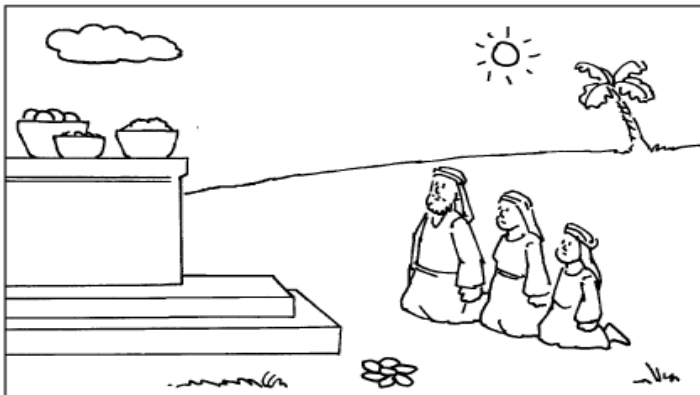
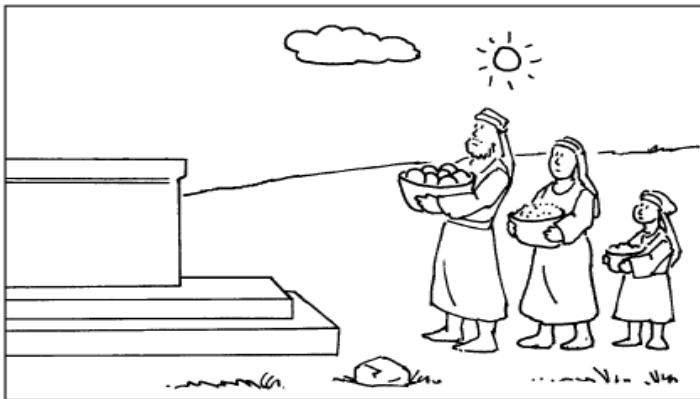
Find the hidden objects in the picture.



First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle
 Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Co-Pastor
 Matt Drumheller, Co-Pastor
 Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbell Music
 Stanley Scheer, Organist
 Jane Snyder, Director of Christian Education & Fellowship
 Dorothy Hart, Youth Director
 Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

Place the basket before the Lord and bow down before Him.

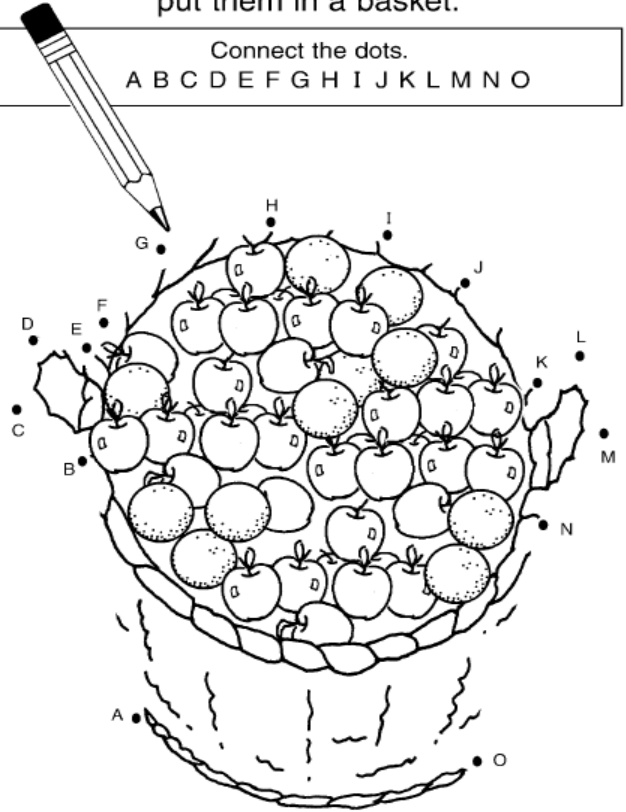
Circle the 5 differences in the 2nd picture.



Take of the first fruits of the land and put them in a basket.

Connect the dots.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O



Rejoice in all the good things the Lord has given to you.

Circle the 2 that match in each row.



Then the people were to go to the place the Lord chose and speak to the priest.

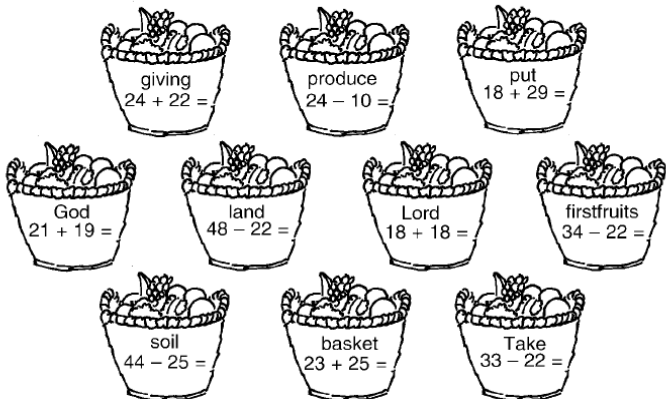
Ages 7+

March 22, 2020 • Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Giving to God

When the Israelites entered the land God was giving to them, what were they supposed to do?

Do the math problems. Fill in the blanks with the words from the smallest number to the biggest.



"_____ some of the _____ of all that you _____ from the _____ of the _____ the _____ your _____ is _____ you and _____ them in a _____."

- First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle
- Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Co-Pastor
- Matt Drumheller, Co-Pastor
- Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbell Music
- Stanley Scheer, Organist
- Jane Snyder, Director of Christian Education & Fellowship
- Dorothy Hart, Youth Director
- Kyle Lambert, Office Manager
- Pam Knighten, Secretary
- John Hahn, Facilities Maintenance Coordinator

What would happen next?

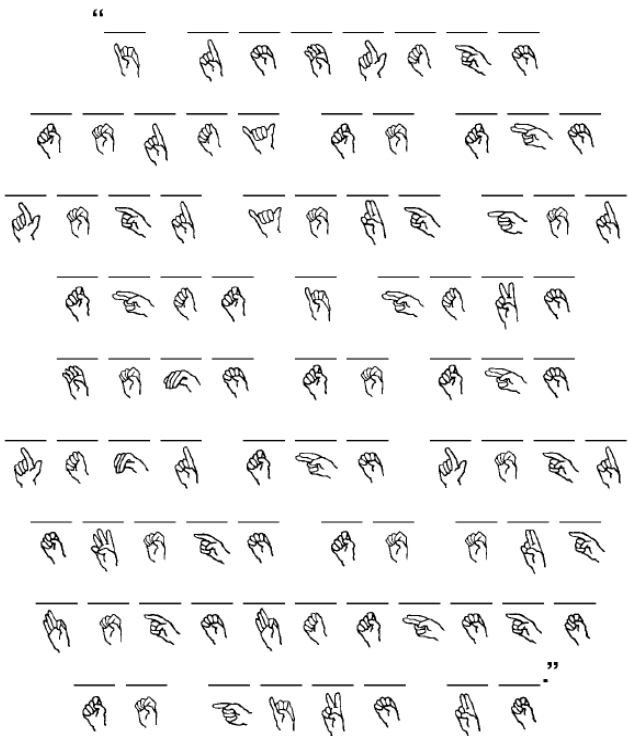
Fill in the missing vowels.

e i e a a e e e a e o o u a a e i o i
 o o e a a e e o o u o e o u a e
 a e e e e e o o u e e o o u u
 o u o E i a i a a a o u e e a

Th__ pr__st sh__ll t__k__ th__
 b__sk__t fr__m y__r h__nds
 __nd s__t __t d__wn __n fr__nt
 __f th__ __lt__r __f th__ L__rd
 y__r G__d. Th__n y__ sh__ll
 d__cl__r__ b__f__r__ th__ L__rd
 y__r G__d, "Th__ L__rd
 br__ght __s __t __f __gypt
 w__th __ m__ghty h__nd __nd
 __n __str__ch__d __rm."

What were they supposed to say?
 Use this sign-language code to find out.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
 N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



What else did they declare?

Finish constructing the letters.

"I've brought us to
 this place and
 gave us this land,
 a land flowing with
 milk and honey."

