



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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August 23, 2020

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

We're spending our whole lives together, so we need to be really gentle.

PRELUDE

Andante Cantabile

Alexandre Guilmant

PEALING OF THE BELLS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Merrin Kinley

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Psalm 103:8

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Ayscue

Psalm 138

We gather to give thanks to you, O Lord,

With all our heart!

We will sing your praises before all creation,

And rejoice in your steadfast love!

You have created us O Lord, and made us for yourself.

In you we become everything you have made us to be!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Romans 12:1-2

Lord God, maker of heaven and earth, we gather together in your name.

We come as living sacrifices, to offer you our worship and thanksgiving, our praise and our prayers. Come among us, living Lord. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, transform our hearts and minds so that we may recognize your presence, hear your voice, know your will, and walk in your way. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

Holy One, there is much we have to confess. When we discount another's pain or overlook neighbors in distress, forgive us. When we choose callous words over compassionate impulses, forgive us. When we think others less deserving of grace and ration kindness as if it could be exhausted, forgive us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Gloria Patri

Meineke

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
May 17, 2015

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Presentation and Questions

*Profession 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.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Baptism

Introduction to the Congregation

Anthem

Children of the Heavenly Father

Dan Forrest

Ann Crutchfield, Soprano Frank Poolos, Oboe Beth Poolos, Handbells

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN AND BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Unison Prayer

Holy God, we celebrate this time of new beginnings. As children and youth return to school, we ask you to bless their backpacks which hold their books, notebooks, markers, pens, pencils, hopes, and fears. We ask your blessing upon teachers, assistants, and administrators as they navigate difficult learning circumstances. Guide them towards compassion and grace. We pray, loving God, that you will bless our cherished children whom we have promised to love and nurture since their baptism. Give them energy and encouragement, keep them safe, and remind them every day that you are with them.

Amen.

SOLO

It Is Well with My Soul

John Ness Beck

Andy Cotton, Baritone

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

(Refrain)

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin oh, the joy of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *(Refrain)*

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so, it is well with my soul.

(Refrain)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy, Holy, Holy One, guide us by the Spirit of truth to hear the Word of life you speak, and to give all glory, honor, and praise to you. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

[Romans 12:1-8](#)

Lachlann Currie, reader

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Community of Grace

Reverend Drumheller

HYMN 353

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

(Refrain)

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

(Refrain)

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

(Refrain)

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

(Refrain)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Shall We Gather at the River

Michael Burkhardt

Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Hymn 507

Come to the Table of Grace

Table of Grace

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

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

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
January 15, 2017

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
March 4, 2018

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
November 15, 2015

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *A Clare Benediction* John Rutter

May the Lord show his mercy upon you;
May the light of his presence be your guide:
May he guard you and uphold you;
May his spirit be ever by your side.

When you sleep, may his angels watch over you;
When you wake, may he fill you with his grace:
May you love him and serve him all your days,
Then in heaven may you see his face.

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Thank you to Skeet Ayscue and Andy McLeod for helping to create this morning's video. Thank you to Andy Cotton, Ann Crutchfield, Lachlann Currie, Frank Poolos, and Beth Poolos for helping with worship.

The acolyte today is Merrin Kinley.

Claire Elizabeth Coman, daughter of Brittany and Ryan Coman, will receive the Sacrament of Baptism this morning. The elder participating in the baptism is Lynn White.

Worship continues to take place at 10:00 a.m. during the summer months.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: The family of Timothy Abernathy (brother of Don Abernathy), Banks Garrison, Yoder Whitley, Linda Richards, Jean Rabe, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

If you have not already done so, please stop by the church to sign a hymnal for Kim and Jeff Robertson & Taylor and Lisa Johnston. Call before you to come to make sure someone is in the building (704-982-2722).

This week's worship video will become available at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. To access the worship video, go to the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and click on the worship banner or search for the church on *YouTube* and click on the appropriate video.

**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Sunday, August 23**

On Sunday, August 23, we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in worship. Please plan to join us in taking this sacrament in our separate homes.



**Back-to-School Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday, August 23 during worship
AND**

Drive-thru on Sunday, August 23 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The Blessing of the Backpacks will take place in worship on Sunday, August 23. Students of all ages are invited to bring their backpack to online worship and participate in this ritual as they return to school. Then drive-thru the parking lot at church on Sunday, August 23 (same day) from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to receive a special gift and to see and speak with Matt and Elizabeth.



**EDUCATION & CONVERSATION ON THE DOCUMENTARY
RACE: THE POWER OF AN ILLUSION
AVAILABLE FOR \$5.00 THROUGH VIMEO
ZOOM DISCUSSION ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 25 AT 7:00 P.M.**

Our congregation, along with many others, is continuing a challenging journey of educating ourselves about systemic racism in America. Members of the church have been gathering on Zoom to explore how we benefit from or are affected by systems of privilege, and how we might bring about a kingdom-oriented world in which, *we are all one in Christ* (Galatians 3:28).

In August, we will be watching a documentary called *Race: The Power of an Illusion*. This documentary consists of three hour-long segments examining the biological and social realities of race. You can watch this series for \$5.00 through Vimeo (an online video streaming service). Go to <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/race> to stream the documentary. Please join us via Zoom on August 25 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss this documentary. Contact the church office (704-982-2722 or mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org) for the Zoom information.

On Mondays and Wednesdays, Matt and Elizabeth lead Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom. To access the meeting, go to the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and click on the *Morning Prayer* banner. You can also find the link through the Facebook event.



**FIRST FAMILY MEAL
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.
RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, AUGUST 31
PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL**

First Family Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesday, September 2! Unfortunately, we are still unable to gather together for First Family in September. If you would like a First Family meal, please RSVP by Monday, August 31 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Wednesday, September 2 between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

Menu:

**Boston Butt, Macaroni and Cheese, Green Beans, Fruit Kabob,
Homemade Rolls, Sweet Potato Cake, Pound Cake and Brownies**

**Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per family.
Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church.**

All we need you to do is:

**call Anne Montgomery at 704-982-7823 or email Anne at johnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com
and let her know how many plates you need,
if you would like sweet potato cake, pound cake or brownies for each meal
and
if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).**

Though we will not share the meal at the same table, we will delight in the opportunity to share the same meal at our own tables. A prayer and table ritual will be included for each household. Sharing the meal and the ritual will bind us together as the one body of Christ.

**Faith on the Fifth Offering on Sunday, August 30
for SCCM Cooling Assistance Fund**



In the hot months of summer, it is important to remember neighbors in our community who struggle to keep the AC running. It is a particularly difficult time with the negative economic impact of COVID-19. For the August Faith on the Fifth offering, we will be collecting funds to support SCCM's mission to those in need in our community. Your donation will be greatly appreciated.



**First Presbyterian Church Storytime for Children
Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. for PreK -Kindergarten via YouTube livestream video**

Matt or Elizabeth will livestream a video reading a children's book.

To access the video, go to the First Presbyterian Church website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and click on the Storytime banner.

**Bible Study and Conversation with Catherine & Matt Moeller
Thursdays from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Join Catherine and Matt Moeller for fellowship and biblical reflection. Each Monday, you will receive an email with the selected devotional for the week. Discussion will focus on the significance and application of the scripture. If you need help with Zoom, contact the church office (704-982-2722). Please email Matt Drumheller (m drumheller@fpcalbemarle.org) or Catherine Moeller (mattandcatherine@hotmail.com) to say you are interested or need more information. Please join us!



RALLY DAY 2020

CHURCH PARKING LOT DRIVE-THRU EVENT

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 AT 9:30 A.M.

The Christian Education Committee would love you to join us for a drive-thru event in the parking lot for a morning of food, fun, and fellowship as we kick-off the new year in Christian Education. This is an intergenerational event and all ages are invited! Come to the drive-thru event, and we will send you home with food, activities, and information! We will post videos for you to watch at home about all the classes available this year as we move ONWARD WITH FAITH AND HOPE!

Would You Like To Be A Silent Partner?

First Presbyterian Church college students have been begun the 2020-2021 school year. We need you to serve as a Silent Partner to these college students. The Silent Partner remains anonymous to the student and maintains contact by sending cards, and/or small packages of helpful college items such as favorite snacks, small school supplies, or gift cards for fast food or coffee, etc. The feedback each year from the college students is very positive. Won't you support one of our students in this way? Contact the church office at 704-982-2722 to sign-up to be a Silent Partner.



THANKS FOR YOUR HELP

The Central School lunch went very well. We arrived in time to set up the boxes and have everything ready for 12:00 noon. Ruth Cotton and Jane Snyder would like to thank everyone who brought food for the box lunches: Mildred Andrew, Elizabeth Ayscue, Gloria Bryson, Andy Cotton, Ann Crutchfield, Ann Duckwall, Joan Eudy, Peggy Finley, Mary Green, Martha Sue Hall, Margret Ivey, Mary Kesselman, Lynn Poplin, Sandy Rogers, Gayle Russell, Marlene Sanges, Martha White, and Martha Wolfe.

Ruth Cotton wants to thank everyone who brought school supplies this year. There was a great amount of supplies. Thanks to Andy Cotton and James Cotton for helping to deliver those school supplies to Central School.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 23

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/The Sacrament of Baptism

Blessing of the Backpacks

Virtual Youth Kickoff

10:00 am Online Worship followed by Lemonade on the Lawn via Zoom

11:30 am-12:30 pm Drive-thru Back-to-School Blessing of the Backpacks

Monday, August 24

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

7:00 pm Book Conversation via Zoom

Tuesday, August 25

1:00 pm Online Story Time (Preschoolers)

7:00 pm Education & Conversation Discussion via Zoom

Wednesday, August 26

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast Zoom Meeting

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

Thursday, August 27

4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

Sunday, August 30

Faith on the Fifth Offering for SCCM Cooling Assistance Fund

Virtual Youth Group

10:00 am Online Worship followed by Lemonade on the Lawn via Zoom

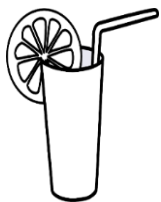
Your on-going support of First Presbyterian Church is essential to the mission and ministry of the church and to the well-being of our ministry partners, locally and globally.

Thank you for your generosity.

**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.**

All staff members are working at home whenever possible, and the church building is closed most of the time. The church's answering machine is being checked periodically; however, in case of an emergency, please contact Elizabeth (704.985.2945) or Matt (540.449.5319) directly.



Lemonade on the Lawn via Zoom

Join your friends in the summer tradition of Lemonade on the Lawn (online) immediately following worship. You are invited to bring your own lemonade or beverage of your choice and join others for conversation. Gathering will be simple. Along with the information regarding access to Sunday worship, you will receive the zoom link to gain entry to Lemonade on the Lawn. We hope to see you following worship on Sundays.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
AUGUST**

24-Adrienne Averette

29-Bede Karr

Melissa Lemons

30-Myra Land

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
AUGUST**

23-Ben & Liz Jolly

Bill & Jane Pickler

25-John & Robin Howell

26-John & Angie Earnhardt

28-Stephan & Leslie Kinley