



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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April 5, 2020

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Merciful God, as we enter Holy Week and gather at our homes to pray, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. United with Christ and all the faithful, may we one day enter in triumph the new Jerusalem, eternal and holy. Amen.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

OPENING SENTENCES

This is the day that the Lord has made,
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
People: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Leader: Lo, your king comes to you;
People: Triumphant and victorious is he,
Leader: Humble and riding on a donkey,
People: On a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Zechariah 9:9

ANTHEM

Hosanna to the King

Lloyd Larson

Recorded
April 14, 2019

(Adult and Children's Choirs)

Hosanna to the King of Kings. Hosanna, let the praises ring.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna to the King of Kings.

(Congregation and Choirs: Hymn # 197)

Hosanna, loud hosanna the little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang;
To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to His breast,
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.
From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
Nor scorned that little children should on His bidding wait.
Hosanna in the highest, that ancient song we sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice.

(Adult and Children's Choirs)

Hosanna to the King of Kings,
Hosanna to the King!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Great God, you take us by the hand and write your word on our hearts. Teach us obedience that we may see Jesus, who heals all people by his perfect love. In the name of the One who was lifted up. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Mark 11:1-11

*PRAYER OF THE DAY AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

God, we gather on this day to begin a week of contrasts. From hope to despair, to hope again. As the story unfolds, open us to both the joy and the pain. Prepare us to celebrate, to weep, and to wait. In the name of the one who taught us to pray: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 OF CONFESSION

Silence

Unison

Holy God, on this day we welcome your servant only to reject him when he picks up a cross instead of a crown. Like cloaks laid on the ground before Jesus, we pick up our faith, dust it off, and put it back in the closet until we need it. Save us, redeeming God. May we lay our doubts, our fears, and our worries at your feet, trusting and believing that you will forgive what is sinful, make whole our brokenness, and welcome us as siblings of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*MUSICAL RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM

Hosanna to the King

Dan Forrest

Hosanna to the King! Hosanna!

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna!

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 2:1-5

HOMILY

Taking Care

Reverend Ayscue

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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. Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Recorded
April 14, 2019

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

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Georg F. Kaufmann

Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation and Prayer

Words of Institution

Sharing the Meal

Let Us Break Bread Together

Dale Wood

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Valet dir ich vergeben

In these extraordinary times, the Presbyterian Church (USA) has made it possible for churches to observe the Lord's Supper *virtually*. Our Session has approved the Celebration of the Lord's Supper for our *virtual* worshipping community on this Sunday, April 5. Please prepare your hearts and minds to feast at the table of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Before worship begins, you are encouraged to gather bread (or crackers) and juice or water (from your kitchen or as delivered to your home) to use as we share the Lord's Supper together. You may also want to bring a lighted candle into your worshipping space.

Thanks to worship participants this morning. Readers are David Kilde, Marlene Sanges, and Nathan Sanges. Preparers of the way are Leah Kilde and Thora Kilde.

We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering today (April 5). 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. This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

This week's worship video will become available at 11:00 a.m. 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.

On Mondays and Wednesdays, Matt and Elizabeth will 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.

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: The family of Carolyn Sharpe, The family of Jane Lisk, Frank Green, Burn Morehead, III (diagnosed with brain tumor; son of Sally Pleasant & Dr. Bernard "Bernie" Morehead), Herb Smith (cousin of Nancy Lowder), Judy Portner (sister of Billie Jean Snuggs; stage 4 brain tumor), Jean Rabe, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

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!

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

IN MEMORIAM
Carolyn Kukel Sharpe
September 13, 1946 – March 27, 2020

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; mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org). If no answer, please leave a voicemail for Elizabeth or Matt.

With the governor's stay at home order in place, 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.

URGENT NEEDS FOR SCCM
CHECK THE STANLY COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN MINISTRY FACEBOOK PAGE
FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION
Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Pasta Meals, Canned Meats, Canned Veggies,
Canned Fruit, Boxed Mac n Cheese

Who is Bread for the World? What do they do?
Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

First Presbyterian Church has joined this work of advocacy for a number of years through letter writing. Bread for the World letter writing packets are available for pick-up at the church office. Please stop by during the hours when the office is open this month and participate in the Offering of Letters. The packet contains information about this year's focus, paper, addressed envelopes to our Congressional Leaders, and a sample letter. Hunger and Poverty issues are getting the attention of many people in this election year and our letters help to build relationships with Congressional Leaders and staff. **If you have not participated before, this is an important year to start!**

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
APRIL
05-Steve Blalock 08-Joyce Lambert 10-Murphy Hall 11- Maddie Averette 12-Laura Blalock
07-Angie Earnhardt 09-Ashley Maust Holden Taylor Marlene Mittendorf Jake Davis
Russell Karr Holly Norwood