



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Matt Drumheller, Pastor

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

November 22, 2020

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

What if, today, we were just grateful for everything?

Charlie Brown

PRELUDE

All Things Bright and Beautiful

arr. Sandra Ethun

Handbell Ensemble:

Ann Crutchfield, Wiley Crutchfield, Martha Sue Hall,
Courtney Niederer, Natalie Niederer, and Beth Poolos

Piano: Frank Poolos

PEALING OF THE BELLS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Nathaniel Eudy

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord is God; we are God's people.

We are the sheep of God's pasture.

Psalm 100:3

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dorothy Hart, liturgist

Psalm 100

Shout with joy to God, all the earth!

God made us, God sustains us, God's Spirit lives among us.

Let us enter God's house with thanksgiving;

And come into God's presence with praise.

For God is good, with unfailing love that lasts forever,

And faithfulness that extends to all generations.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We sing a song of thanksgiving today, dear God. We pause in the midst of all that is unholy, unthinkable, and undeniable, to look within, and offer our gratitude for a day that has dawned anew, and for the breath that gives us life. We celebrate the abundance in our lives, and the chance to share it with the world. With joy, we offer ourselves, and all that we are and have to be your justice and peace. Amen.

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
November 20, 2016

HYMN 336

We Gather Together

Kremser

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens his will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!
We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Matthew 25:14-30

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

Lord, you have made us stewards of your creation and commissioned us to carry out your work to the best of our ability. But, we have not served you with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love. We withhold our gifts and live in fear. Have mercy upon us, we pray.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
May 17, 2015

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.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

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janrichardson.com

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

At the conclusion of Faith Sharing with Children, children in grades K-2nd are encouraged to join Duncan Bryson, Elizabeth Bryson, and Kristie Bryson for Children's Church via Zoom. The link for the Zoom call can be found in yesterday's worship email.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sovereign God, let your word rule in our hearts and your spirit govern our lives until at last we see the fulfillment of your realm of justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalms 100

ANTHEM

Praise
Ann Crutchfield, Soprano

Alec Rowley

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
October 25, 2015

To the Master of music and loveliness,
Praise, power, dominion forever.
To the Lord of the Word of Creation
Be praise, power, dominion forever.

To the Maker of movement, color and light:
Praise, power, dominion forever.
To the Builder, Designer, Creator
Be praise, power, dominion forever.

To the Theme of all song, Inspiration of Love:
To the Artist of Life, To the Greatest and Least:
Praise, power, dominion forever.

For He is the greatest upon His high throne,
And He was the least as the child of a maiden:
Praise then to Jesus whose Mother was Mary,
And praise now to Christ who is God in the midst of us.

Lord of all beauty, adoring we come to Thee.
Give us Thyself both in time and eternity.
Lord of all beauty adoring we come to Thee,
Offering all that we are or can hope to be.
Praise, power dominion forever.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:31-46

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Living Like a King

Reverend Doctor Jan Edmiston

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as the heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

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

This affirmation comes to us from the Confession of 1967. It speaks particularly to the image of the kingdom of God and our role as participants in God's kingdom.

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
November 20, 2016

HYMN 263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* Coronation
All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory *Now Thank We All Our God* Georg Kaufmann

Prayer of Dedication

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

For the Fruit of All Creation Stanley R. Scheer

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts of every nation, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us.
Most of all that love has found us. Thanks be to God.

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
November 19, 2017

First Presbyterian Church
Worship Archive
November 20, 2016

POSTLUDE *My Spirit Be Joyful* Johann Sebastian Bach
for Two Trumpets and Organ
William Lawing and Nathan Rudman, Trumpeters

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Thank you to Jan Edmiston, General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Charlotte, for her leadership in worship this morning. Thank you to Bob Johnston and Leah Kilde for helping to create this morning's video. Thank you to the Handbell Ensemble, Dorothy Hart, William Lawing and Nathan Rudman for their participation in worship.

The acolyte today is Nathaniel Eudy.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Ann Hatcher (mother of Ann Snuggs; recovering from fall), Gus Feather, Judy Ross (diagnosis of pancreatic cancer; friend of Tom & Holly Norwood), Bede Karr, Sandy Saunders, Ann Upchurch, Yoder Whitley, Jean Rabe, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

Marlene and Bruce Mittendorf are moving to Cary. Since we will not be together in worship, you are encouraged to stop by the church and sign a hymnal for them. Call before you to come to make sure someone is in the building (704-982-2722).

In an effort to keep the newsletter prayer list updated, we would appreciate your help. Please notify the church office (704-982-2722 or pknighnten@fpcalbemarle.org) or Martha Sue Hall (704-985-5821 or hallmsh@hotmail.com) of changes. Thank you.

In lieu of poinsettias in the sanctuary this year due to COVID-19, please consider a memorial or honorarium contribution to the Alternative Gift program this season.



**2020 Thanksgiving Offering for
Children's Hope Alliance
Sunday, November 22
Hope. Health. Healing.**

Children's Hope Alliance is the combination of Barium Springs and Grandfather Home for Children joining forces to serve children and families throughout North Carolina. The mission is to provide hope, health, and healing for generations. Ways to give during COVID19:

1. Write a check (in the memo designate Children's Hope Alliance) and mail to:
First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1578
Albemarle, NC 28002
2. Donate online at childrenshopealliance.org and press the "DONATE" button.



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship

Sunday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. on YouTube

Pastors from the Albemarle area are joining to provide our annual Thanksgiving worship service. Ben Floyd, pastor of Main Street United Methodist Church, will be preaching. Because we cannot gather as we normally would, this service will be filmed at First Lutheran Church and premiered on our YouTube channel on Sunday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. We hope you will tune in for a community worship experience.

Faith on the Fifth Offering...Sunday, November 29

The Faith on the Fifth Offering will be received on Sunday, November 29 and will be donated to The Bridge to Recovery (BTR). BTR provides low cost and free assistance to women and men seeking treatment for addiction problems whether it be alcohol, drugs, or a combination of both. Funded by donations from churches, individuals, and foundations, the theme of BTR is to remove barriers and form a *bridge* to recovery for individuals who desperately want help. Please donate generously to this Faith on the Fifth Offering.



**FIRST FAMILY MEAL
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2
FROM 5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.**

RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

First Family Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesday, December 2! Unfortunately, we are still unable to gather for First Family in December. If you would like a First Family meal, please RSVP by Monday, November 30 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Wednesday, December 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:

**Hugh Wainwright's Chicken-n-Dumplings
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).**

*****PLEASE RETURN COLORED COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER CARDS*****

Angel Tree 2020

With Christmas right around the corner we will again be providing gifts for local children through the Angel Tree program.

This year the process will look a little different. On the following days this week, the angel tree will be placed outside the elevator under the vestibule in the side parking lot. You are invited to drive by the church and select an Angel from the Tree Instructions for buying and returning gifts will be with the Angel Tree.

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

If you would like to participate in the Angel Tree ministry but are not comfortable shopping for gifts this year, you may make a monetary donation and the shopping will be done for you. Just drop by the church or mail in your contribution. Please make a notation that your gift is for the Angel Tree.

Angel Tree gifts are due back to the church by Sunday, December 6. Please help make this Christmas special for our community.





DRIVE-THRU COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (202 N. 2ND STREET, ALBEMARLE) FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25 FROM 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. OR UNTIL ALL BOXED MEALS ARE GONE

For a successful Community Christmas Dinner to happen, each downtown church is responsible for \$450.00 and Christmas Cards. Please help us meet this goal by:

- ❖ Giving Generously to the Community Christmas Dinner
(in the memo of your check designate "Community Christmas Dinner")
&
- ❖ Returning colored Christmas Cards at the First Family Drive-Thru on Wednesday, December 2

UPDATE

The Albemarle Sweet Shop is donating all cakes needed for the Community Christmas Dinner, therefore, we are not requesting cakes from the downtown church community.

**CONTACT MARTHA SUE HALL FOR MORE INFORMATION
(704-985-5821 OR HALLMSH@HOTMAIL.COM)**

Christmas Kitchen Drive-Thru Event Sunday, December 13 following worship

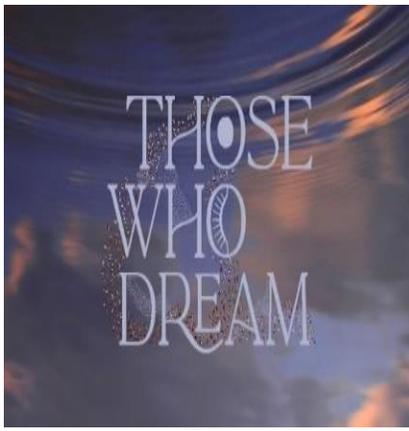


There are several important dates for this year's Christmas Kitchen event. If you will be contributing an item, such as casseroles, soups, cookies, cakes, pies, and other sweets, let Dorothy know what you will be making by **Sunday, December 6.** You can do that by filling out this google form: <https://tinyurl.com/y2nhb3p7>

On Wednesday, **December 9 at 5:00 p.m.**, we will open up the selection process for those who would like to purchase items. A list of all items will be sent out in advance, and then at 5:00 p.m. on December 9, you may email Dorothy (dhart@fpcalbemarle.org) and let her know which items you would like to purchase. This will be done on a first come first serve basis, so be ready at 5:00 p.m.! Dorothy will send you a confirmation email.

Then on **Sunday, December 13 after worship**, you will be able to drive through the church parking lot and pick up your items. If there are any items left over at that point, those will be available for purchase as well. Please try to bring a check or correct change if possible.

Don't forget to mark these dates on your calendar. Proceeds from the Christmas Kitchen will go toward our youth program. Thank you for your support!



**First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 29**

As we begin the Advent season, there are several ways for you to be involved.

Advent Drive-Thru Sundays following Worship

Our *Advent for All* event this year will look very different since we are unable to gather. When you drive through after worship for your Cookies & Cocoa and Advent Devotional on the first Sunday of Advent on November 29, we will provide you with material to make an advent wreath at home, along with the devotions for each week in Advent. We hope you will make time to craft your wreath and gather for the devotions with your family every week.

Hanging of the Greenery

We will be unable to decorate the sanctuary and the church as we normally would this year, however we would love to have your help decorating the Chrismon Tree. In the week following the First Sunday of Advent, you are invited to sign- up to come hang some Chrismons.

**On Tuesday, December 1 and Thursday, December 3,
15 minute time slots will be available from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call the church office to sign-up to come into the sanctuary help decorate (wearing a mask and practicing social distancing). In this way, you can help create our Advent worship space.

Advent Music

You will have an opportunity to enjoy some of your favorite Advent music this season. On several days in December, Stan and some friends will be playing live music in the sanctuary. Contact the church office (704-982-2722) to sign-up for a 30 minute time slot. This will be a masked and socially distanced event with limited attendance. Dates/Times are: Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 p.m.; Tuesday, December 15 at 10:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.; Thursday, December 17 at 10:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Fellowship Drive-Thru

After worship each Sunday (whether online or in person) you are invited to hop in your car and come drive thru the parking lot. You'll receive sweet treats and a chance to see some familiar faces. Also, you will have the opportunity to participate in our Alternative Gifts program, our Christmas Kitchen, and more.



Alternative Christmas Gifts

Sunday, November 29 thru Sunday, December 20

Alternative Gifts will be available at the Advent for All Drive-Thru event on Sunday, November 29. After that day, you may purchase Alternative Gifts in the church office or on Sundays at Advent drive-thru. Sandy Rogers and Sandy Saunders are available to deliver your Alternative Gift order(s). A minimum donation of \$10.00 per card is requested. The charities benefitting are: The Community Care Clinic, Homes of Hope/The Community Inn, Stanly Community Christian Ministry (SCCM), and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA).

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 22

Christ the King Sunday

Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance

9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom

10:15 am Children & Youth Sunday School via Zoom

11:00 am Online Worship

5:00 pm Youth Group

7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Online Worship

Monday, November 23

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

8:00 pm Monday Night Bible Study with Matt

8:30 pm High School Bible Study with Debby Johnston & Jack Morton at the home of Debby & Bob Johnston (1212 Heritage Drive, Albemarle)

Wednesday, November 25

No Youth Club

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast Zoom Meeting

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10:30 am Staff Meeting

1:00 pm Online Story Time (Preschoolers)

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving Holiday

Church Office Closed

Friday, November 27

Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 29

First Sunday of Advent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Faith on the Fifth Offering for Bridge to Recovery/Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger/Alternative Gifts/Advent for All Drive-Thru Event

9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom

10:15 am Children & Youth Sunday School via Zoom

11:00 am Online Worship followed by Advent for All Drive-Thru Event

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 Matt (540.449.5319) directly.

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

NOVEMBER

23-Gayle Russell

Thomas Taylor

24-John Earnhardt

25-Shirley Hinson

26-Jennifer Hesley

29-Janice Abernathy

Matt Drumheller

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

NOVEMBER

29-Skeet & Elizabeth Ayscue

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

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.