



The Weekly Bulletin  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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March 31, 2019

**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

**MORNING MEDITATION**

*Forty days, Lord. Forty days we seek to follow you closely, serve you humbly, praise you fully. Take what we bring, bless our gifts, break our expectations, use our discipline, and remake us in ways that show your glory to the world. Send your Spirit so that when we come to Jerusalem, we are still with you, knowing that in the end is our beginning. Amen.*

Jill Duffield,  
editor,  
Presbyterian  
Outlook

**PEALING OF THE BELLS**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

*Please sign and pass the Register of Friendship during this time.*

**CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT**

Hymn 401

*Here in This Place*

stanza 1

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

In the midst of our wilderness journey, proclaim,  
**Praise the Lord, who gives life to the dead.**  
The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
**Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

*Psalm 103:8*

**\*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.**

**\*HYMN 610**

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

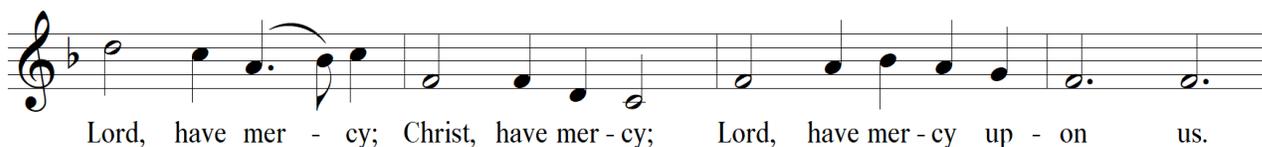
Azmon

*The Faith on the Fifth offering for Montaña de Luz travel  
may be brought forward at this time.*

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

*Lord, Have Mercy*

hymnal, page 551



**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

**Merciful God, you fill us with your Holy Spirit, and prepare us for the wilderness. Yet we become famished in search of worldly satisfaction. You strengthen us for the journey, but we succumb to the temptations whirling around us. Forgive us Lord, for we are broken.**

*Kyrie eleison*  
is a Greek  
phrase from  
Scripture  
which  
translates to  
*Lord, have  
mercy  
upon me.*  
This is a  
prayer that  
has been used  
in the church  
for many  
centuries.

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**



We are for-giv-en. We are for-giv-en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.



We are for-giv-en. We are for-giv-en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

The congregation is encouraged to participate in the prayer with the children.

**FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN**

Melissa Eudy

*Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of Faith Sharing with Children, parents may take preschool children to the nursery. Children in grades K-2 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.*

**ANTHEM**

*If Ye Love Me*

Philip Wilby

If ye love me, keep my commandments,  
And I will pray the Father and He shall give you another comforter.  
That he may abide with you forever, even the spirit of truth.  
And ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you and shall be in you.  
I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us by your Word through these forty days. Minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

**SCRIPTURE READING**

[Luke 8:26-39](#)

Pew Bible, page 63

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

**SERMON**

*Wilderness*

Reverend Ayscue

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. Amen.**

Excerpted from *A Brief Statement of Faith* which was created upon the reunification of the PC(USA) to be used in the context of worship.

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

*Wondrous Love*

David N. Johnson

Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

hymnal, page 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation

Words of Institution

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

A common response, upon receiving the gifts of bread and cup is, *Thanks be to God.*

\*HYMN 39

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Faithfulness

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

\*Hymn 546

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

stanza 1

**Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;**

**Let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.**

**O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling in this wilderness.**

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\*All that are able may stand.

**We are grateful for your presence with us today.** If you are a member of this church, please seek out those who are visiting and welcome them to this family of faith. If you are visiting and would like to know more about the church and membership here, please speak with one of the ministers following worship.

**The acolyte today is Danny Saltzman.** After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

**The Lord’s Table is open to all who trust in Jesus Christ** and those who want to trust him more. Gluten-free elements will be available at the serving stations at the front of the sanctuary.

**The Faith on the Fifth offering** will be received on Sunday, March 31. Proceeds will subsidize travel costs for the work team to go to Montaña de Luz.

**Ushers:** Brett Richards, captain; Mark Donham, Judy Kilgore, Ethan Richards, Grace Richards, Danny Saltzman **Outside Ushers:** John Howell; Greg Lisk **Elder Greeters:** Jacob Palmer; Gayle Russell **Nursery:** Emily Andrew **Kids Care Crew:** Laura & Mike McLeod **Children’s Church:** Lynn Poplin

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** Marshall Rogers (back surgery). **See newsletter for complete list.**



# FOOD FOR BODY & SOUL

Wednesdays in Lent

5:45 p.m. Evening Prayer in the Chapel

6:00 p.m. Dinner & Fellowship Around the Tables in the Gym

April 3 Menu

Baked Potato Bar & Salad Bar

(Suggested Donation: \$5.00 per person)

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## Community Lent Services on Wednesdays, April 3 & 10 at Noon

First Lutheran Church (230 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Albemarle)

April 3 Preacher: Rev. Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church

Liturgist: Rev. Ray Sipe, Chaplain at Trinity Place and Interim Pastor at Mt. Gilead L  
Lutheran Church and St. Martin Lutheran Church



Lunch provided. Donation proceeds will benefit Will's Place, a recovery resource center located in downtown Albemarle.

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**From the Scholarship Committee...**Scholarship applications are available on the counter in the church office. **The deadline to return completed applications is Monday, April 8.** If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a scholarship committee member. Committee members for 2019 are: Jim Marshall, Chair; Al Andrew, Steve Coats, Debby Johnston, Lee McLaurin, Penny Morton, and Jeff Robertson.

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## April Book Conversation

Monday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Parlor

Books available in the church office for \$12.00.

**The Book: *MOLOKA'I* by Alan Brennert**

Rachel Kalama is a 7 year old Hawaiian girl who dreams of traveling like her father. When a rose-colored spot appears on her skin, those dreams die. Taken from her home and family, Rachel finds herself in a quarantined leprosy settlement on the island of Moloka'i. There she joins others who live in the face of death. This novel brings 20<sup>th</sup> century Hawaii to life and raises questions of darkness and light...tragedy and triumph. Get your book and enjoy wide ranging conversation!

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## Easter Lilies...Deadline: Sunday, April 14



If you would like to contribute to the purchase of Easter Lilies as an Easter Memorial or Honorarium, please fill out the form below exactly as you wish the memorial or honorarium to read, **attach a check in the amount of \$15.00**, and place in the offering plate or leave in the church office no later than **Sunday, April 14**. Checks should be payable to "First Presbyterian Church" and designated "Easter Lilies." All memorials/honorariums received by April 14 will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 21.

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**Easter Lilies**

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to take my lily after worship on Easter.

I will leave my lily for delivery to a homebound member.

## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

### Sunday, March 31

*Fourth Sunday of Lent/The Lord's Supper/Faith on the Fifth Offering*

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 9:45 am \*Lent Discussion Group led by Skeet Ayscue (Media Room)
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 3:00 pm Lent Hiking Posse led by Connie Wallace & Ken Knight (Morrow Mountain State Park)
- 4:00 pm Lent Discussion Group led by Kim Marshall at her home

### Monday, April 1

- 7:00 pm Circle #5 meets at the home of Frankie Palmer (819 North 6<sup>th</sup> St., Albemarle)
- 8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

### Tuesday, April 2

- 9:30 am Lent Kitchen Crusaders led by Gayle Russell & Jane Snyder (church kitchen)
- 6:00 pm Lent Discussion Group led by Greg & Dona Lisk (church kitchen-dinner included)

### Wednesday, April 3

- 6:00 am Lent Discussion Group led by Elizabeth (church parlor-breakfast included)
- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 12:00 pm Community Lent Service at First Lutheran Church (230 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Albemarle)
- 12:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)
- 3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 4:30 pm Discussion Group led by Lillie Hancock (Teen Room)
- 5:45 pm Food for Body & Soul Evening Prayer (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm Food for Body & Soul Dinner (Gym)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00 pm-9:30 pm Confirmation Class

### Thursday, April 4

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Hwy 55 (750-A Leonard Ave., Suite E, Albemarle)
- 2:00 pm Lent Discussion Group led by Matt Drumheller at GloryBeans (134 West Main St., Albemarle)

### Sunday, April 7

*Fifth Sunday of Lent/Youth Sunday/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/*

*Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger*

- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School/Lent Discussion Group led by Skeet Ayscue (Media Room)
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm Mission Committee
- 12:00 pm Session Meeting
- 3:00 pm Lent Hiking Posse led by Connie Wallace & Ken Knight (Morrow Mountain State Park)
- 4:00 pm Lent Discussion Group led by Kim Marshall at her home
- 6:00 pm Youth Group Sponsored Trivia Night Fundraiser

\*childcare provided

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### APRIL

- 01-Leslie Kinley  
Kent Newport
- 04-Wes Eudy
- 05-Steve Blalock
- 07-Angie Earnhardt  
Russell Karr

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

### APRIL

- 02-Michael & Kristen Laton  
Lynn & Martha White
- 07-Thomas & Salem Taylor

## SCCM CHALLENGE FOR APRIL

Canned Meat  
Tuna, Chicken, Spam, Salmon