



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

October 24, 2021

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE *Aria* Noel Rawsthorne

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Madelyn Taylor

PEALING OF THE CHIMES

OPENING SENTENCES

Make a joyful noise to the Lord,
Come into God's presence with singing.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH Martha Sue Hall

*CALL TO WORSHIP

I will sing of your steadfast love, O God, forever.
With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,
Your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.
Let us worship God!

Psalm 89

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

(Refrain)

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
(Refrain)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Holy and merciful God, in your presence, we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE**

Glory to God

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me
**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Ann Crutchfield

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the 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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us this day. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT PASSAGE

Joshua 4:1-7

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies.
Lord of all to Thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,
Lord of all to Thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child;
Friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild.
Lord of all to Thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given;
Graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven:
Lord of all to Thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

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

*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. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, *Come, Lord Jesus!* With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN 692

Spirit, Open My Heart

Wild Mountain Thyme

(Refrain)

*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.*

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender. (Refrain)

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory. (Refrain)

May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another. (Refrain)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Jim Sawyer and Mike King

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.

*HYMN 691

Lord, When I Came into This Life

Land of Rest

Lord, when I came into this life you called me by my name;
Today I come, commit myself, responding to your claim.

Within the circle of the faith, as member of your cast,
I take my place with all the saints of future, present, past.

In all the tensions of my life, between my faith and doubt,
Let your great Spirit give me hope, sustain me, lead me out.

So help me in my unbelief and let my life be true:
Feet firmly planted on the earth, my sights set high on you.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Peace, God's Wonderful Peace* William Runyan
Peace, God's wonderful peace be with you now and evermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Voluntary in G Major* William Walond

*All that are able may stand.

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Thank you to the Chancel Choir, Frank Poolos, Stan Scheer, Ann Crutchfield, Martha Sue Hall, Mike King, and Jim Sawyer for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Madelyn Taylor.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of Anna, Dave, Mason, and Addie Feezor by Dr. & Mrs. Tom Norwood.

Ushers for October: Melissa Eudy (captain), Campbell Bullard, Desmond Bullard, Scott Bullard, Shannon Bullard, Walker Bullard, Ella Cumming, Steve Cumming, Cidney Eudy, Julian Eudy, Nathaniel Eudy, and Wes Eudy

Outside Ushers for October 24: TBD; Lee Snuggs
Sound: Evan Sanges; Bob Johnston **Film:** Leah Kilde
Nursery: Kate White

Kids Care Crew: Gayle & Ned Russell
Children's Church: Billie Jean & Lee Snuggs

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: The family of Edwin Cruz, Russell Forte (son of Doris Forte; Atrium Northeast), Lindsey Clark (wife of Marty Clark, friend of Debbie Hahn; metastatic breast cancer), Banks Garrison, Debbie Gabriel (sister of Gayle Russell; steadily improving with COVID treatment), Brad Slusher (half-brother of Martha White; pancreatic cancer & COPD), Robin Howell (chemotherapy for return of lymphoma), Don Abernathy (multiple myeloma), Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Gloria Bryson, Ann Snuggs, Nancy Jolly (Trinity Place), Claude Harwood, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.



NAME TAG ALERT!

Upon entering the sanctuary, we are requesting that everyone make a name tag. These name tags will be beneficial during COVID-10 as we wear masks. Stick-on name tags are available at both entrances to the sanctuary. Thank you!



SCCM Thanksgiving Food Items Needed

Cranberries, Fruit in Light Syrup, Dried Potatoes, Gravy, Stuffing, Rice, Pie Filling, Canned Vegetables
Other Items Needed: Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Hand Soap

SERRV 2021...CATALOG SALE ONLY



This year's SERRV sale will be a *catalog sale only*. There will be no food, coffee, or tea items for sale in the Pit Stop as we have had in the past. Catalogs are available in the church office during the week and in the pit stop on Sunday mornings, for you to review and fill out an order form. We plan to place the combined order on Thursday, November 4. We will contact you when your order is ready for pick-up.

VETERANS DAY FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS



On Veterans Day, the flowers in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of veterans. **Each name is \$2.00.** Please mail, deliver or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **no later than Sunday, November 7.** Please make your check payable to *First Presbyterian Church* and designate for Veterans Day Arrangements. The names of donors and those being remembered/honored will be listed on Sunday, November 14.

VETERANS DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Please print below the information exactly as it is to appear in the bulletin.

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



Not all who wander are lost...some are just hungry!! If you're wondering what to do during Sunday School time, join us for a new Sunday School class on the go!

We will gather at restaurants around town to eat, fellowship, and chat. There is no required reading or preparation to join. On Sunday, October 24, we will meet at Biscuitville. On Sunday, October 31, we will meet at Glory Beans. Future locations will be announced as we go. We will gather at 9:30 a.m., but feel free to arrive when you are able. Please contact Michelle Cumming (michellecumming85@yahoo.com 704-984-0435) or Melissa Eudy (the5eudys@gmail.com 704-439-6747) for questions or to say you will attend!

Book Conversation

Monday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor

Book: *Burial Rites* by Hannah Kent

Please wear a mask if you are planning to attend.





SNL Upcoming Activities

October 24

Parent/Youth Meeting in the Pit Stop at 5:30 pm.

Youth depart at 6:00 p.m. for the Thomas Family Corn Maze.

Return to church at 8:30 p.m.

Admission for youth is covered. Bring money for extras!

Call/text Melissa Eudy for more information (704-439-6747)

October 31

Trick-or-Treating...in REVERSE!

We're giving out the treats! Meet in the church parking lot at 5:00 p.m.

We will deliver treats, then all meet up for dinner at Jalapenos!

Pick-up from the restaurant at 7:00 p.m.

Bring money for dinner. Costumes optional.

New Youth App

Please sign-up for the SPOND App to keep up with the events we have coming up!

<https://group.spond.com/LTOXZ>

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY



The green and red shoeboxes are available for pick-up on the pew in front of Jane's office. A brochure is included in the box with the most recent information about packing a box.

Please read what gifts can be included in the box. Boxes need to be returned to the church by Sunday, November 14. Remember that shoeboxes are distributed by churches in over 100 countries who will nurture the child in their faith. As you pack your box, pray for the child who will receive it along with the gospel printed in their own language. It has been estimated that thirty or more family members and friends will also read and receive the good news through the booklet. It will be the greatest GIFT they ever receive! (And we ever share!)

Central Elementary School Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:

Oatmeal Packets, Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish,

Large Cans of Soup, Saltine Crackers, Tuna Helper, Cans of Tuna,

Chicken Helper, Cans of Chicken, Snack Crackers, Pineapple, or Fruit Cocktail Cups

Donations may be dropped off in the Pit Stop at the church.



Reformation Sunday & Kirkin' o' the Tartans October 31

Through familiar words and sounds, we will celebrate both our denominational Scottish heritage and the history of the Protestant Reformation. We will include the tartans that we use every year, and we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. **If you would like to be part of this day by baking shortbread, please contact the church office. Please take your shortbread to the kitchen no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 28.** We will plan to have shortbread individually packaged for pick-up in the Pit Stop. Keep your eyes open for more information.

Faith on the Fifth Offering...Sunday, October 31

Our Faith on the Fifth offering will benefit Esther House. Esther House provides shelter and services to women and children who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Please consider giving to this organization.

Community Table on Saturday, November 6 from 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

On Saturday, November 6, FPC will be providing lunch for the guests at the Community Table. Recently they have been serving anywhere from 80-100 people on Saturdays. Our menu will be sloppy joes, marinated beans, fruit, chips, and dessert. We will need donations of the following items for this lunch.

- Sloppy joes (enough to serve 20)
- Individual bags of chips
- Individual fruit cups
- Hamburger buns
- Homemade or bought cakes, brownies, or cookies (no icing)
- Money to be used to help buy whatever is not donated (money may be given to Kyle in the church office).

If you wish to donate any food items, please contact Linda Anderson in order to avoid too much of any one item. If you plan to donate money, please let Linda know that as well. All donations need to be in the church kitchen by Thursday afternoon, November 4. Please label your donation with a CT sign. When dropping off donations, call the church office to be sure someone will be there to let you in. We will need 5 people to help on that Saturday. If you are able to help us assemble the takeout containers and hand them out on that Saturday, please call Linda Anderson at 704-982-3723.



TOGETHER, CALLED TO DISCIPLESHIP



Consecration Sunday on November 7.

Plan to return your pledge card.

**First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle
2021 Stewardship Campaign**

TOGETHER, CALLED TO DISCIPLESHIP



Over the last several weeks, the Stewardship Committee invited you to think about how you are called to help fund our Church by making an annual pledge. As we shared with you in previous communications, we are made stronger by the fact that we are disciples of Christ **TOGETHER**, supporting and loving each other, and striving to live God’s word. This is what discipleship is about.

In a recent letter, Reverend George shared with us that *stewardship is giving a portion of one’s income in thanksgiving for all that God has given us. It’s a perspective on life, one that views all of life as a gift entrusted to our care. Our time, talents, and treasure are all given to us to use as we choose. We can keep it all to ourselves, leave nothing for others, or increase the bounty and share what we have so that no one need be in need.* While we have provided information about our church’s income and expenses, pledging should be about one’s ability to give.

Sunday, November 7 is Consecration Sunday...a time when we will bring forth our gifts and ask God’s blessing. In preparation for that time, Stewardship thought it to be helpful to provide an additional piece of information so that, as you prayerfully consider your gift to God, you can consider what our current pledging looks like. The attached chart that outlines how many pledging *units* we have in our church and at what dollar level those units’ pledge.

Your pledge helps us to plan and carry out the ministries and mission of First Presbyterian Albemarle. Please consider this information, along with the other pieces of information provided, and be as generous and faithful in your response as possible with all that God has entrusted to you.

First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle 2021 Pledge Information					
	<u># of giving units</u>	<u>% pledging units</u>	<u>Total pledged</u>	<u>Avg. pledged per unit</u>	<u>% of pledged \$</u>
up to \$100	2	1.8%	\$ 110	\$ 55	0.02%
\$101-200	1	0.9%	\$ 200	\$ 200	0.04%
\$201 - \$300	0	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
\$301 - \$400	1	0.9%	\$ 360	\$ 360	0.07%
\$401 - \$500	1	0.9%	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.10%
\$500 - \$750	2	1.8%	\$ 1,350	\$ 675	0.27%
\$751 - \$1,000	4	3.7%	\$ 3,800	\$ 950	0.76%
\$1,001 - \$1,500	19	17.4%	\$ 23,760	\$ 1,251	4.73%
\$1,501 - \$2,500	22	20.2%	\$ 46,668	\$ 2,121	9.28%
\$2,501- \$5,000	24	22.0%	\$ 90,528	\$ 3,772	18.01%
\$5,001 - \$10,000	20	18.3%	\$ 137,230	\$ 6,862	27.30%
\$10,001 - \$15,000	3	2.8%	\$ 35,000	\$ 11,667	6.96%
\$15,001 - \$20,000	9	8.3%	\$ 143,220	\$ 15,913	28.49%
\$20,001 - \$25,000	1	0.9%	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	3.98%
Total	109	100.0%	\$ 502,726	\$ 4,612	100.00%

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 24

- 9:30 am The Wired Word Sunday School Class via Zoom
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 5:30 pm SNL Youth Parent Meeting in the Pit Stop
- 6:00 pm Youth depart for the Thomas Family Corn Maze
(return to the church at 8:30 p.m.)

Monday, October 25

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 7:00 pm Book Conversation in the Parlor
- 8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations at the home of
Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)

Wednesday, October 27

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 3:30 pm-5:30 pm Youth Club (K-5th Graders)
- 5:30 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club Handbells with Frank Poolos
- 6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, October 28

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

Sunday, October 31

Reformation Sunday & Kirkin' o' the Tartans

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Faith on the Fifth Offering

- 9:30 am The Wired Word Sunday School Class via Zoom
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 5:00 pm-7:00 pm SNL Reverse Trick or Treating
(meet in church parking lot for drop-off; pick-up at 7:00 p.m. at Jalapenos)

***childcare provided**

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.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

OCTOBER

- 24-Danny Saltzman
Martha White
- 26-Luke Marshall
- 27-Elizabeth Ayscue
- 28-Judson Bullard
- 29-Lillie Hancock
- 30-Teresa Taylor
- 31-Ruth Cotton

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

OCTOBER

- 24-Keith & Christine Andrew
- 25-Mark & Chris Mabry
- 31-Taylor & Lisa Johnston



**You're Invited to View the
First Presbyterian Church Fall Art Gallery Exhibit
Featuring the artwork of John Williams, Jack Williams, and Eli Williams
Located in the Basement Office Hallway**