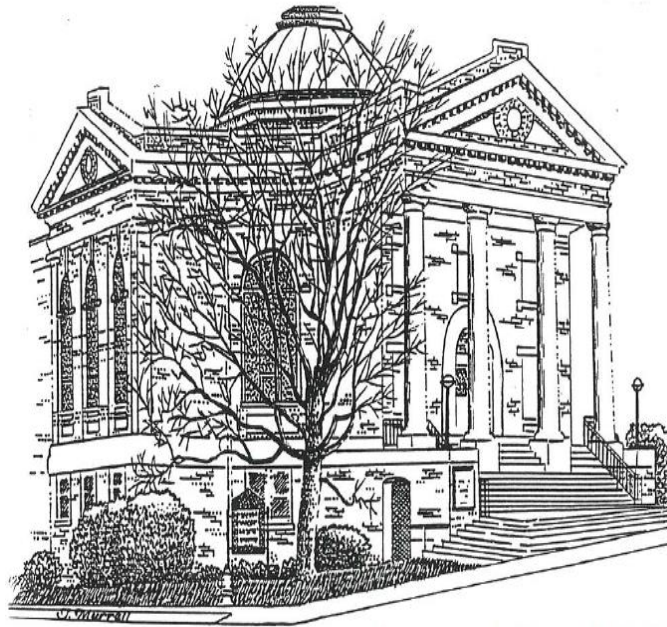


First Presbyterian Church *Albemarle, North Carolina*



April 7, 2024
2nd Sunday of Easter

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Friendship Register

PRELUDE

“Now With Singing and Praise”

Dale Wood

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Jordan Hesley, acolyte

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 133

Connie Wallace, liturgist

Behold, how good it is when brothers and sisters live together in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down over the collar of Aaron's robes.

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the Lord ordained God's blessing, life forevermore.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Breathe in this place, O Lord, by the power of your Holy Spirit, to open our minds, unlock our hearts, and enliven our faith so that we may welcome the risen one among us. Amen.

***HYMN 245**

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

LANFAIR

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! All creation, join to say Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!*

*Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!*

*Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia! Risen Christ triumphant now. Alleluia!*

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O Lord our God, we think our best should happen when we're in control. Forgive us for not expecting the risen Christ to show up when we're anxious, content to lock the doors of your house for fear of all that's outside. Forgive us for thinking that church mainly happens inside these walls and not into the world you so love and into which we are sent. Forgive us for looking for your power in all the conventional places but never in places of brokenness, crisis and defeat. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, repair what we are, and by the power of Christ's resurrection, raise us up to serve others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Confession and Reflection

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Those coming forward for Faith Sharing should make their way to the front during the response.

***Response 394**

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

REGENT SQUARE

(stanza 4)

*Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one:
One in might and one in glory while unending ages run.*

THE WORD

HISTORY SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Kristie Bryson

ANTHEM

"This Joyful Eastertide"

Vernon Hoyle

*This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow! My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three day prison, Our faith had been in vain; but now hath Christ arisen.*

*My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber, till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three day prison, Our faith had been in vain; but now hath Christ arisen.*

*Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river: Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three day prison, Our faith had been in vain; but now hath Christ arisen.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of all who doubt and believe, by the gift of your Spirit, enable us to hear with our ears, to see with our eyes, and to touch with our hands your Word of life – Jesus Christ – our Lord and our God. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[John 20:19-31](#)

pew Bible, page 108

SERMON

“Ants in the Pants of Faith”

Rev. George

*HYMN 817

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

DUNLAP’S CREEK

*We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke, “My peace be with you here.”*

*We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
But in your promise we rejoice and cry, “My Lord and God!”*

*Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
To call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.*

*That, when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light,
May we behold you as you are with full and endless sight.*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From *The Study Catechism*, Questions 43 and 46

What do you affirm when you say that he was “crucified, dead, and buried”? **That when our Lord passed through the door of real human death, he showed us that there is no sorrow that he has not known, no grief he has not borne, and no price he was unwilling to pay in order to reconcile us to God.** What do you affirm when you say that ‘on the third day he rose again from the dead’? **That our Lord could not be held by the power of death. Having died on the cross, he appeared to his followers, triumphant from the grave, in a new, exalted kind of life. In showing them his hands and his feet, the one who was crucified revealed himself to them as the Lord and Savior of the world. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Offertory

“Aria”

Flor Peeters

*Response 606

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, we give you thanks and praise for light and life and love, and – above all – the presence of the living Lord among us. By your Spirit who breathes within us, strengthen our faith, use our gifts, and work in our lives to bear witness to the resurrection of Christ our Lord. In whose name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN 238

“Thine Is the Glory”

JUDAS MACCABEUS

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.*

Refrain:

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory Thou o’er death hast won.

*Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]*

*No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. [Refrain]*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

“Fourfold Amen”

John Stainer

*POSTLUDE

”Praise To The Lord”

J.G. Walther

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Bold print indicates places where congregation reads or sings.

PERMISSIONS: *Now With Singing and Praise*. Hymn tune: Middlebury. Arranged for organ by Dale Wood (1934-2008) © 1986, *The Sacred Music Press*. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *Aria Op 51*. composer. Flor Peeters (1903-1986) © 1946, *Heuwekemeijer Publishing*. *Praise To The Lord*, Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748). Public domain. *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*, Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), 1739. Hymn tune: *Llanfair*. Robert Williams (1782-1821), 1817. Public domain. Harm. David Evans (1874-1948), © 1927, *Oxford University Press* from *The English Hymnal*. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*, Text: Henry Alford (1810-1871), 1844. Hymn tune: *Dunlap's Creek*, Samuel McFarland, c. 1814, public domain. Harm. by Richard Proulx (1937-2010), © 1986, *GIA Publications, Inc.* All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *Thine Is the Glory*, Text: Edmond Louis Budry (1854-1932), 1923. Hymn tune: *Judas Maccabeus*, George Frederick Handel (1685-1759), 1748. Public domain. *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*, Text: Latin, 7th century, trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), 1851. Hymn tune: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879), 1866. Public domain. *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*, Text: Thomas Ken (1637-1711), 1674. Hymn tune: *Old Hundredth*, Genevan Psalter, 1551. Public domain. *This Joyful Eastertide*, Text: George Ratcliff Woodward (1848-1934), 1894. Music: Vernon Hoyle (b. 1948). © 2009, *St. James Music Press*. Used with permission ID 1291. *Fourfold Amen*, Music: John Stainer (1840-1901). Public domain.

Thank you to the Frank Poolos, Michael Rowland, Chancel Choir and Connie Wallace for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Jordan Hesley.

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God and from the celebration of the marriage of Mackenzie Smet and Taylor Miller.

Ushers for April: Lee Snuggs (captain), Josh Davis (JD), Ken Knight, Jack Morton, Leo McLeod, Liz Bryson, Ella Cumming, Nathaniel Eudy.

Outside Ushers for April 7: Wes Eudy, John Howell

Elder Greeters: Elizabeth Bryson, Bill Jolly

Streaming Coordinator: Evan Sanges

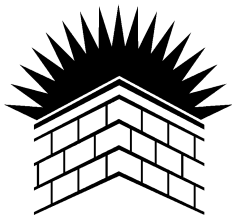
Film: Jackson Palmer

Nursery: Bailey Mitchell

There will be History Sharing today with Kristie Bryson.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Karlyn Cox, Claude Harwood, Penny Welling (friend of the congregation), Tim Rodgers, Doris Forte-Spring Arbor, Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Jane Scheer, Jason Miller (friend of the congregation), Laura Frazier, Rita Morgan, Marlene Sanges, Vicky Huneycutt (sister of Angie Earnhardt), Amy Jung (friend of congregation), Shannon Newport, (health concerns), Patsy McLaurin (mother of Lee McLaurin), Thomas Wilson (nephew of Elizabeth Wilson), Dr. Mike Dearstyne (brother of Holly Norwood), Pat Davis (cousin of John Earnhardt), Glenda Moser (mother of Anissa Chapman), Elizabeth Cox (niece of Elizabeth Wilson). See newsletter for complete list.





We encourage children to remain in worship!
There are worship bags available for them in
the lobby closest to the pit stop of the church.
Feel free to pick these up anytime
before, during or after worship.

The Christian Education Corner

Monday Night Bible Study 9th-12th graders at the home of Debby Johnston
(1212 Heritage Dr.) **We will not meet tomorrow night,** April 8. We will meet again on
Monday, April. 15.



PLEASE REMEMBER TO SIGN THE REGISTER



The Membership Care Committee encourages you to be faithful in signing the
Friendship Register in worship on Sundays and to register online if you worship there.
It helps us know when you are not here, which is very important.

The youth are in need of old magazines for a youth event
they are having on April 21.

Please see Kristie Bryson if you having any you would like to donate.



The deadline for the scholarship package, both application and letters
of reference have to be submitted by April 8. Applications may be
dropped off at the church, mailed to the church, or emailed. If you
have any questions, please contact Catherine Moeller, chairperson of
the scholarship committee, at 509-539-9482.



New Adult Sunday School Class!

We welcome a new Sunday School class, Feasting on the Word. The class
meets in the old session room each Sunday from 9:30-10:20. The Class is
following a PCUSA curriculum studying the Bible as we try to interpret it
for our contemporary daily life. All are welcome!

**The congregation of First Presbyterian Church
is invited to meet the Central Elementary artists
at the Art Gallery Reception
on Wednesday, April 17 from 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
in the church common area.**



Drop in Wedding Reception for
James and Sarah Cotton
Saturday, April 27, 2024
1:00 – 4:00 at FPC Church Parlor
All are invited!



MIDWEEK MEAL
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10
RSVP BY NOON ON TUESDAY, April 9
Menu: Pizza and Salad.

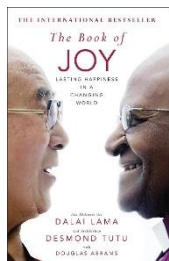
Assorted Desserts, Tea, Coffee, Water &

Lemonade. Contact the church office 704-982-2722 or jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org by noon on Tuesday, April 9 to say you're coming. You may also indicate in the Friendship Register how many will be attending. Please call Jane Snyder at 704-438-3358 or email her at jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org if you would like to help.



On April 21st the 11:00 morning worship service will be dedicated to celebrating music. We are asking you to call the church or email Beth Poolos, by April 15 with requests for hymns and favorite anthems, preludes and or postludes that you would like to be a part of this service. bpoolos@fpcalbemarle.org

FINDING JOY



ALL ARE WELCOME! JOIN ANYTIME! In this class we will be using The Book of Joy with His Holiness Dalai Lama and Archbishop Esmond Tutu, which can be purchased on Amazon. It is not necessary to purchase or read this book to get the benefit of the class and the fellowship. FINDING JOY will be a class focused on ways we can search for and find true joy. Joy brings meaning and purpose to our lives. Join us as we read, discuss and develop the deep meaning of true joy. Please join Debby Johnston on

Mondays at church at NOON - 1:15 in the Session Room across from the office **starting on Monday, April 8 and ending on Monday, May 20.** This class will last 7 weeks. We will provide mixed greens and drinks. All you need to bring is a salad topping. RSVP to Jane Snyder at jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-438-3358.



Today is Letter writing Sunday in the Pit Stop
from 9:00 am – 11:00 am and 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

You may also pick up a writing packet, write your letters at home, and bring them back for the Offering of letters on Sunday, April 14.

Place your letters in the basket at the door when you enter the sanctuary.

Members of Congress have the power to impact the policies and programs that can end hunger when they work together to renew the Farm Bill.

They need to hear from people of faith that suffering from hunger is unacceptable.

Together and through God's loving mercy, we have the power to help.

When we turn our faith inaction God uses our voices.

Speak the truth in a million voices. It is silence that kills.

Catherine of Siena (14th Century)

LUNCH OUT

Friday, April 19 at **THE TABLE** in Asheboro. We will meet at the church at 10:15 am to carpool over to Asheboro.

Let Jane know if you can join us by texting or calling her at 704-438-3358



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 7

***Childcare provided**

2nd Sunday of Easter

- 9:00 am - 11:00 am Letter writing in Pit Stop
- 9:30 am New Adult Sunday School Class- Old Session Room
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Letter writing in Pit Stop
- NO SNL

Monday, April 8

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- Noon – 1:15 pm Finding Joy
- 4:00 pm Walkers Group @ Rock Creek Park
- NO - Youth Bible Study- home of Debby Johnston will not meet

Wednesday, April 10

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 1:00 pm Circle Five in Pit Stop
- 5:30 pm Midweek Meal
- 6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 11

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

Sunday, April 14

3rd Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 am Session
- 8:45 am Diaconate in Old Session Room
- 9:30 am New Adult Sunday School Class- Old Session Room
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Following Worship a reception for Pastor Cathy in Pit Stop

Church Staff

Transitional Pastor, Rev Catherine George
Director of Music, Dr. Frank Poolos
Organist, Michael Rowland
Dir Fellowship/Congregational Care, Jane Snyder
Office Manager, Kyle Lambert
Secretary, Beth Poolos
Facilities Manager, Shawn Graeff

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

- 08- Joyce Lambert
- 10- Murphy Hall
Grayson Jones
Holden Taylor
- 11- Maddie Averette
- 12- Laura Blalock
Jake Davis
- 13- Matt Moeller
- 14- Anissa Chapman

Elders

Elizabeth Bryson, Ann Crutchfield,
Steve Cumming, Peggy Finley,
Kate Gibson Bill Jolly,
Mary Kesselman, Heather Kilde,
Jim Marshall, Lee McLaurin,
Ronnie Michael, Catherine Moeller,
Chris Whitley

Deacons

Shannon Bullard, Anissa Chapman,
Wes Eudy, Jim Hesley, Liz Jolly,
Myron Lowder, John Palmer,
Frank Poolos, Brett Richards,
Carol Sasser, Billie Jean Snuggs,
Debbie Wainwright

The offering as part of our worship is a response to God's grace. The ushers will pass the plates or you may make your gift by scanning the QR Code here. Thank you for your generosity.