

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 17, 2017

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

(In preparation for worship, please silence all mobile devices.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

Ritual of Friendship

Minute for Peace

Tom Bacon

PRELUDE

Prelude in G

William H. Harris

INTROIT

The Lord's My Shepherd

Scottish Psalter, Crimond

*The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me;
And in God's house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 103:1-4)

Sam Miglarese

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

People: **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits –**

Leader: Who forgives all your iniquity; who heals all your diseases,

People: **Who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 439 *O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer*

Stuttgart

*CONFESSION OF SIN (remain standing)

Sam Miglarese

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and loving God, you live for us – we do not live for you. You forgive us – we do not forgive others. You love us – we do not love ourselves nor do we love one another in the way you would have us love. Take pity on us and forgive us, God. Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you. Help us to love through Christ our Lord.

Silent Confession

Response (Hymn No. 444, verses 1-2)

Detroit



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray,
2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?

* Those who are able, please stand.

Declaration of Pardon

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Vernon Neece

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

All: **Almighty Triune God, touch our hearts. Undaunted, you seek the lost; exultant, you bring home the found. Touch our hearts with grateful wonder at the tenderness of your forbearing love. Grant us delight in the mercy that has found us, and bring us all to rejoice at the feast of forgiveness. Amen.**

PSALM LESSON

Psalm 103:8-13

(Pew Bible, OT Page 554)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 14:1-12

(Pew Bible, NT Page 163)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:21-35

(Pew Bible, NT Page 20)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Forgiveness Unlimited"

Mindy Douglas

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Declaration of Faith (adapted)

Sam Miglarese

We believe that in the death of Jesus on the cross God achieved and demonstrated once for all the costly forgiveness of our sins. Jesus Christ is the Reconciler between God and the world. He acted on behalf of sinners as one of us, fulfilling the obedience God demands of us, accepting God's condemnation of our sinfulness. In his lonely agony on the cross Jesus felt forsaken by God and thus experienced hell itself for us. Yet the Son was never more in accord with the Parent's will. He was acting on behalf of God, manifesting the Parent's love that takes on itself the loneliness, pain, and death that result from our waywardness. In Christ, God was reconciling the world to God's self, not holding our sins against us. Each of us beholds on the cross the Savior who died in our place, so that we may no longer live for ourselves, but for him.

*HYMN NO. 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

In Babilone

*THE PEACE

Marilyn Hedgpeth

(Children through 1st grade enter worship during "The Peace.")

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Mindy Douglas

(Children who participate in Children's Choir should go to the choir room for rehearsal following "A Time with the Children." Parents will pick up their children from the choir room following worship.)

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Marilyn Hedgpeth

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious,

People: **Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

(Psalm 103:8)

Leader: Let us pray.

(Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession)

All: **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.**

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem

Psalm 23 "The Lord Is My Shepherd"

Heinz Werner Zimmermann

Sam Henry, Double Bass

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want! He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness For his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I fear no evil for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows! Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life! And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord!

*Doxology with Alleluias

Lasst uns erfreuen

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

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

All: **God of grace, you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son to be our Savior. Help us to rejoice in your redeeming grace by showing mercy, and by walking in the way of justice and peace, for the sake of Jesus Christ, redeemer of the world. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 753

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis

*BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

*POSTLUDE

Oh! Had I Jubal's Lyre

G. F. Handel, arr. Robert Powell

Following worship today, everyone is invited to Watts-Hill Hall for lunch. A donation will be received to offset the cost of the meal (\$8 per person; \$24 max for a family).

Remember to sign up in the foyer to attend the All-Church Gathering being held next Sunday, September 24 at the New Hope Camp and Conference Center near Hillsborough.

First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship here. We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in Christ. We welcome individuals of every age, race, nationality, gender, ability, sexual orientation, and economic circumstance to participate fully in the life of the church. So that we may better know each other, please sign the *Ritual of Friendship pad*, pass it along the center pew across to the shorter side pew, and then return it to the starting point, noting the names of those sitting near you. We welcomed 21 visitors to worship on Sunday, September 10, 2017.

The *flowers* in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of *Margaret Smith Davis* and *J. Van Davis*; *Marie Foscue Rourk* and *M. Henderson Rourk* by *Henderson and Jane Davis Rourk* and *Caroline Davis Rourk*.

Hearing Assistance Receivers are available from the ushers. Before you leave the sanctuary, please turn off the receiver and place it in the specially marked receptacle or return to an usher.

Worship bags and activity bulletins are available for children. Books are in the narthex which younger children can read and enjoy if they need to take a break from the worship service.

Nursery care for infants–children 6 years of age is provided during worship on the second floor of the Christian Education Building. After the sermon is delivered, the 3–6 year old children join worship for the remainder of service. There is an *infant changing table* in the narthex, located to the left as you exit the rear of the sanctuary.

Portions of *today's worship texts* were reprinted from *Feasting on the Word* and *Book of Common Worship*.

SAVE THE DATE: Stewardship Season begins October 1

Come enjoy a delicious meal in Watts-Hill Hall and hear about how FPC seeks the welfare of Durham. Childcare will be available. Please respond to the EVITE or complete the enclosed meal reservation card and place it in the offering plate during worship. One response per household is appreciated. Thank you.

Name Tags now available!

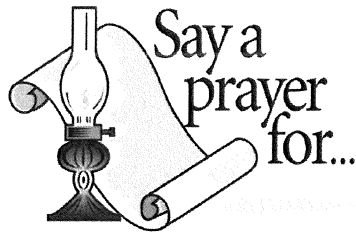
Member name tags are now available on a table in the foyer as you enter from the back parking lot. Please wear your name tag while attending Sunday School and the worship service. As you leave the sanctuary, there will be baskets at the Main Street doors and in the foyer to deposit your name tag for availability on the next Sunday. Single use name tags will still be available at each entrance for first-time visitors.

Membership Inquiry Classes

A new series of classes has begun and will continue through Sunday, October 15. The class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45 in the Wilson Parlor. All ages are welcome to attend. New members will be received October 15. If you wish to join sooner, please talk with one of the pastors.

Let's show our Pride!

The **Scratch/Young Adult group** invites all FPC members to join them as they hand out welcome snacks at the Durham Gay Pride Event, September 30th. We will meet in the FPC parking lot on September 30th at 5:30 p.m. to walk over to Geer St. where we will hand out snacks with labels that welcome all to FPC. It won't take a lot of time to spread some FPC love to all around. Sign up after worship if you can be a part of the fun!



Added this week:

Adrienne Allison, recovering from back surgery at Duke Raleigh Hospital
Rev. Allan Poole, minister at Blacknall Presbyterian Church

Individuals and families impacted by recent hurricanes and tropical storms

Grace Abels (Peru) and *Carter Momsen-Hudson* (Ecuador), studying abroad

George Bernhardt III, son of George & Jo Bernhardt and U.S. soldier stationed in South Korea

Bob Breitweiser

Paul Cornsweet

Bill Lorimer

Julie Maxwell

Atria Senior Living: *Peggy Mordecai*, mother of **Beth Eisenson**

Brookdale Senior Living (Durham): *Julian Boswell*

Croasdaile Village: *Bette Conroy, Bob Keever, Bob Rankin, Florence Shackelford*

Pruitt Health at Carolina Point (Durham): *Helen Garrison*

The Forest at Duke: *Fran Bryant, Peaches McPherson*

Family and Friends of FPC Members and Staff:

Tom Bowen, friend of Al and Judy Arrowood

Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss

Claiborne Clark, son of Arthur and Mary Clark

Barbara Cooper, friend of FPC

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Louise Dykes, aunt of Will Chambliss

Kendra Harrington, friend of Jeremy Tucker

Dell McMillian, brother-in-law of Valerie McMillian

Vickie Tobey, niece of Mickey Velkey and cousin of Beth Brockman

Christina Z., mother of Franzi Rokoske

Hurricane Disaster Assistance

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) continues to be in touch with presbytery leadership in the areas affected by recent hurricanes and tropical storms. National response teams have been deployed into these regions. You can support these efforts with gifts for disaster assistance via the PDA website (<https://pda.pcusa.org>) or give through this congregation by making checks payable to FPC, memo: "PDA."

First Presbyterian All Church GATHERING



*Like a shepherd he will gather the lambs
in his arms. Isaiah 40.11*

Sunday, September 24, 2017

3 p.m. til 8 p.m.

**New Hope Camp and Conference Center
4805 Hwy 86 – Chapel Hill, NC 27514**

3-5 p.m.

Time to hang out, play games, hike, walk labyrinth,
Gaga ball, volleyball, hand crafts.
Bring chairs and any games you'd like to play.

5 p.m.

Vespers Worship

5:45 p.m.

Potluck Supper (Main dish provided. Bring sides.)

7 p.m.

Campfire with s'mores, skits, poems, jokes, music and more!

"Love in the heart of Durham



Seeking the Welfare of the City"

- Jeremiah 28:7

STEWARDSHIP SEASON KICKOFF OCTOBER 1

The Stewardship Committee of First Presbyterian Church would like for you to join them on **Sunday, October 1** at a **KICKOFF LUNCHEON in Watts-Hill Hall following worship**. This noontime luncheon replaces the traditional nighttime Fellowship Dinner normally held during Stewardship season in order to include more of our members.

Come enjoy a delicious meal in Watts-Hill Hall and hear how our inclusive and welcoming community of faith seeks the welfare of our city, Durham. Childcare will be available.

There is no cost for the meal. Reservations are requested to ensure we have enough food for all who attend. Complete the enclosed meal reservation card and place it in the offering plate during worship, or reply to the EVITE. Remember to let us know if you will need childcare.

~ SERVING TODAY ~

Liturgist: *Vernon Neece*

Narthex Greeter: *Alice Raney*

After Worship Greeters: *Eric Wiebe* (narthex/rear); *Gray Wilson* (side/font)

Ushers: *Jennie Alwood* (head), *Mary-Jo Keenan* (flowers), *Dale Gaddis*,
Jane Williams, *Carolyn Merritt*, *Amy Sanchez*

The Week at a Glance!

<p>Later Today</p> <p>After Worship: Congregational Fellowship Lunch Youth Parents' Meeting Stewardship Home Visit Training</p>	<p>Monday, September 18</p> <p>6:00 PM Christian Education Committee</p> <p><i>Wheels4Hope Fundraiser</i> at City Barbeque locations in the Triangle</p>	<p>Tuesday, September 19</p> <p>1:30 PM Plan Worship</p> <p>2:30 PM All Staff</p>	<p>Wednesday, September 20</p> <p>5:00 PM Handbell Choir</p> <p>6:00 – 7:00 PM Stewardship Home Visit Training</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir (rehearsal)</p>
<p>Thursday, September 21</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30 AM FPC prepares lunch bags at Urban Ministries Café</p>	<p>Friday, September 22</p> <p>10:30 AM – Noon "Cultivating Christian Character" Book & Bible Study</p>	<p>Saturday, September 23</p>	<p>Sunday, September 24 <i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i></p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School / Membership Inquiry class</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship and Baptism (Hunger for Change Offering received)</p> <p>3:00 – 8:00 PM All- Church Gathering at the New Hope Camp and Conference Center, Hillsborough</p>

CHURCH STAFF

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator
Robert Daye, Sexton
Mindy Douglas, Pastor/Head of Staff
Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate
Sarah Finbow, Youth Minister



Marilyn Hedgpeth, Associate Pastor
Cheryl Henry, Parish Associate
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator
Sam Miglarese, Associate Pastor
Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, email the church office:
info@firstpres-durham.org or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>

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