

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 24, 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 Peacemaking

Laura Armstrong

**PRELUDE**

*Have Mercy on Us, O Lord God*

J. S. Bach

**INTROIT**

*Sing Praise to the Lord!*

C. H. H. Parry

*Sing praise to the Lord! Praise God upon earth,  
In tuneful accord, all you of new birth;  
Praise him who has brought you his grace from above,  
Praise him who has taught you to sing of his love.*

*Sing praise to the Lord! Thanksgiving and song  
To him be outpoured all ages along;  
For love in creation, for heaven restored,  
For grace of salvation, sing praise to the Lord!*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 145:1-3)**

Joseph Ngumi

Leader: I will extol you, my God, and King, and bless your name forever and ever.  
People: **Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.**  
Leader: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; God's greatness is unsearchable.  
All: **Let us worship God.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 270**

*O Lord, You Are My God and King*

*Jerusalem*

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN (remain standing)**

Sarah Finbow

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**O God, we are people of the flesh more than people of the spirit. Our lives are not worthy of the gospel of Christ. We admit our resentment when some people we deem unworthy benefit from your generosity. We confess our lack of attention to your living Word and your prompting Spirit. You alone are our salvation, our healing, our high opportunity to serve. Because you have chosen us, we choose to walk in your ways. Accept and change us, we pray.**

Silent Confession

*Kyrie eleison* (sung by the choir)

*Plain Song, Mode 1*

*Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.*

Declaration of Pardon

\* Those who are able, please stand.

**COLLECT FOR THE DAY**

Mercy Ndambiri

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Gracious God, whose attention to all your people amazes and surprises us, help us this day to hear your call to us, to accept direction, and to follow your commands that the world may become more faithfully your realm, a place acknowledging your rule, a home for those who have been intimidated and afraid, a community in which all are valued and welcomed, whatever their contribution. Amen.**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 20:1-15

*The Message*

God's kingdom is like an estate manager who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. They agreed on a wage of a dollar a day, and went to work. Later, about nine o'clock, the manager saw some other men hanging around the town square unemployed. He told them to go to work in his vineyard and he would pay them a fair wage. They went. He did the same thing at noon, and again at three o'clock. At five o'clock he went back and found still others standing around. He said, 'Why are you standing around all day doing nothing?' They said, 'Because no one hired us.' He told them to go to work in his vineyard. When the day's work was over, the owner of the vineyard instructed his foreman, 'Call the workers in and pay them their wages. Start with the last hired and go on to the first.' Those hired at five o'clock came up and were each given a dollar. When those who were hired first saw that, they assumed they would get far more. But they got the same, each of them one dollar. Taking the dollar, they groused angrily to the manager, 'These last workers put in only one easy hour, and you just made them equal to us, who slaved all day under a scorching sun.' He replied to the one speaking for the rest, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair. We agreed on the wage of a dollar, didn't we? So take it and go. I decided to give to the one who came last the same as you. Can't I do what I want with my own money? Are you going to get stingy because I am generous?'

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!****OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Jonah 3:10 - 4:11

(Pew Bible, OT Page 861)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!****SERMON***"Jonah's Hissy Fit / No Mercy for You"*

Marilyn Hedgpeth

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH***Confession of 1967 (9.15, 9.16)*

Cheryl Henry

**God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love. God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God's dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.**

**\*HYMN (see page 4)***We Thank You, Lord, For You Are Good**Was Gott Tut***\*THE PEACE (Children through 1<sup>st</sup> grade enter worship during "The Peace.")**

Cheryl Henry

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Marilyn Hedgpeth

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

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

Mindy Douglas

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Leader        The Lord is gracious and merciful,

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

Leader:       Let us pray.

(Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession)

**... 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

*Loving Hands*

Cary Ratcliff

Mary Kay Robinson, violin

*Loving hands, we all need loving hands, for the sea and the sands cannot hold  
All the rain, all the tears and the pain. Where is God’s loving hand?  
Where is God’s loving hand?*

*Loving hands left a sign in the sand; strong his call: Jesus’ hands reach to all,  
Reaching out, teaching all, looking up to see God’s loving hand,  
To be God’s loving hand.*

*Giving hands, will there be giving hands? Healing hands, when we’re hungry or cold,  
People sick, people old can all hold onto God’s loving hand.  
Come be God’s loving hand.*

(The *Hunger for Change Offering* will be received following the Offertory Anthem.)

\*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:           **Help us, O God, to be obedient to your call to love all your children, to do justice and show mercy, and to live in peace with your whole creation. Guide us through the desert of life, quench our thirst with the living waters, satisfy our hunger with the bread of heaven. Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when with the redeemed of all the ages we will feast with you at your table in glory. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN NO. 619

*Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

*Lauda Anima*

\*BENEDICTION

Marilyn Hedgpeth

\*POSTLUDE

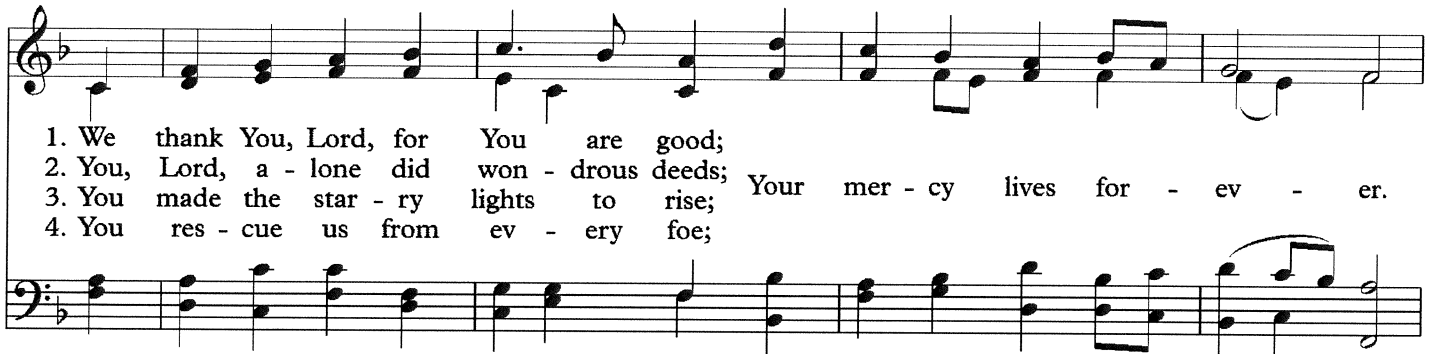
*Trumpet Tune*

C. S. Lang

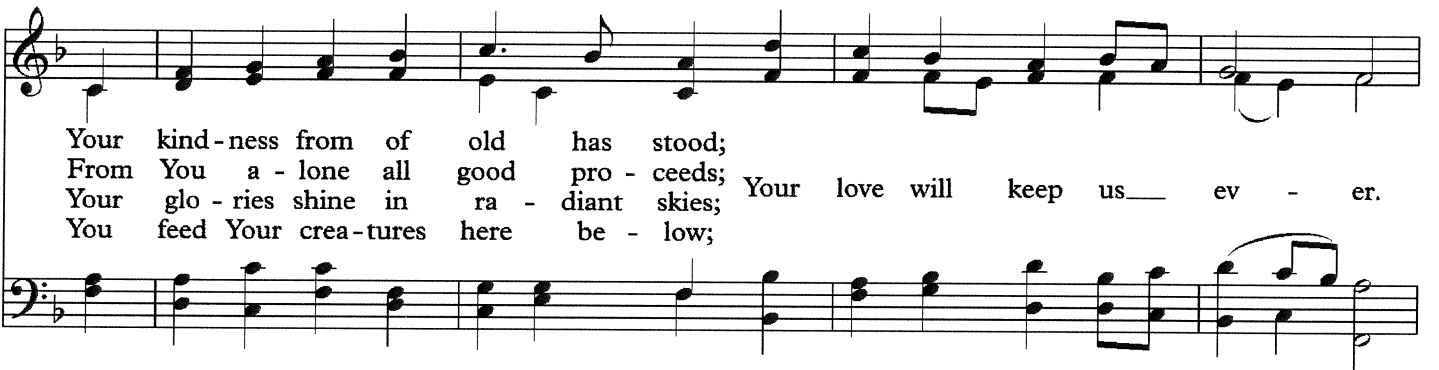
# We Thank You, Lord, for You Are Good

John G. Dunn

Severus Gastorius  
WAS GOTT TUT



1. We thank You, Lord, for You are good;  
2. You, Lord, a - lone did won - drous deeds; Your mer - cy lives for - ev - er.  
3. You made the star - ry lights to rise;  
4. You res - cue us from ev - ery foe;



Your kind - ness from of old has stood;  
From You a - lone all good pro - ceeds; Your love will keep us ev - er.  
Your glo - ries shine in ra - diant skies;  
You feed Your crea - tures here be - low;



O God of gods, O sov - ereign Lord, We bless You  
Your wis - dom made the heavens to be; You formed the  
Your glow - ing moon en - hanc - es night. Your sun brings  
We give You thanks, Cre - a - tor, Lord; We sing the



now with one ac - cord:  
earth a - bove the sea: Your love is ev - er - last - ing.  
forth each morn - ing's light:  
glo - ries of Your Word:

*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 26 visitors to worship on Sunday, September 17.

*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. **Please do not take your name tag home.** 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.

The *flowers* in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of *E. S. (Scotty) and Marion Harrar* by their daughters, *Joanne Harrar* and *Carolyn Wolfe*.

*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. Childcare for infants–2 years continues in the nursery. There is an *infant changing table* in the narthex, located to the left as you exit the rear of the sanctuary. *Worship bags and activity bulletins* are available in the foyer for children. Books are in the narthex which young children can read and enjoy if they need to take a break from the worship service.

*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.

Portions of *today's worship texts* were reprinted from *Book of Common Worship*.

Copies of the *These Days* devotional book for October - December 2017 are available from the tables in the foyer and narthex. Pick up a regular or large print version today, while supplies last.

*Members and friends are invited to the*  
**All-Church Gathering today (3:00–8:00 PM) at the**  
**New Hope Camp and Conference Center**  
*located at 4805 Hwy 86, Chapel Hill.*  
*Remember to bring a dish to share for the potluck, favorite games, and a lawn chair.*

### **Stewardship Season begins next Sunday, 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.

### **Membership Inquiry Classes in progress**

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<sup>th</sup>. 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 Saturday, September 30 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!

### **Fundraiser for Iglesia Emanuel**

**Iglesia Emanuel**, 2504 N. Roxboro St., Durham will be holding a **Pupusa Sale fund-raiser on Saturday, September 30 from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m.** Please come out and enjoy some delicious pupusas and help to support their many programs, which provide healthy food to families in need, as well as music, art, and athletic programs for low-income children and youth. Iglesia Emanuel appreciates our on-going support of their ministry!

### **Peace Volunteers Needed at NC State Fair**

In keeping with FPC's Season of Peace, FPC has been invited to help at the Peace Booth at this year's State Fair. Volunteers are needed **Sunday, October 15, Tuesday, October 17, and Thursday, October 19 for half a day.** A sign in the Booth will include the names of each group working that day's shifts. **All volunteers will receive a free ticket into the Fair** (a \$10 savings). The orientation /training for all volunteers are Monday, October 9 or Tuesday, October 10 at 7-8:30 p.m. at Community United Church of Christ, 814 Dixie Trail, Raleigh. **Brianna Honea Bennett** has agreed to coordinate for FPC. If interested, email Brianna: [briannahonea@gmail.com](mailto:briannahonea@gmail.com).

### **~ OUR CONCERNS ~**

Please continue to pray for individuals and families impacted by recent hurricanes and earthquakes.

**Added this week:** *Carl Anglin*, a patient at Duke Hospital

*Lynn Everett*, recovering at home after a brief hospital stay

*Fran Alwood*, mother of Jennie Alwood, hospitalized in Suffolk, VA.

*Charles and Mary Skinner*, former members of FPC

*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

**Members recovering at home:** *Adrienne Allison, 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

*Claiborne Clark*, son of Arthur and Mary Clark

*Louise Dykes*, aunt of Will Chambliss

*Ken Chambliss*, father of Will Chambliss

*Kim Cummings*, father of Drew Cummings

*Kendra Harrington*, friend of Jeremy Tucker

*Dell McMillian*, brother-in-law of Valerie McMillian

*(Rev.) Allan Poole*, minister at Blacknall Presbyterian Church

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

*Christina Z.*, mother of Franzi Rokoske



From the Stewardship Committee . . .

We have long been proud of our church which is downtown by history and by choice. We invite you to join us in a luncheon sponsored by the Stewardship Committee to launch this year's campaign.

**Theme:** Love in the Heart of Durham: *Seek the welfare of the city  
... for in its welfare you will find your welfare (Jeremiah 29:7)*

Our theme celebrates our traditions of beautiful worship and music, inclusion, service and mission and community.

**As a departure from our past campaigns which were held as dinner events on a weekday evening, we are providing a FREE LUNCH for all of our church members in Watts-Hill Hall on Sunday, October 1 immediately following the worship service.** We have planned a wonderful lunch of roasted pork loin, glazed salmon, rice and vegetables, salad, macaroni and cheese and dessert ((NOTE: special dietary requests always welcome ([mcrisrivera@gmail.com](mailto:mcrisrivera@gmail.com)))). Childcare will be available during the lunch.

***Please RSVP*** via your Evite or use the reservation card in today's church bulletin. One response per household is appreciated. If you come to church that morning but can't stay for luncheon, please pick up your stewardship materials in the lobby. Can't come to church that morning? No worries! We plan to come by for a visit in the weeks to follow.

Dedication Sunday is October 29. Hope you can join us as we seek the welfare of our church and community!

**~ SERVING TODAY ~**

Liturgist: *Joseph Ngumi, Mercy Ndambiri*

Narthex Greeter: *Elizabeth High*

After Worship Greeters: *Barbara Buckley* (narthex/rear); *Al Arrowood* (side/font)

Ushers: *Stephen Berry* (head), *Michael Honeycutt* (flowers), *Mickey Velkey, Amy Sanchez, Laurie Williamson*

**The Week at a Glance!**

<p><b>Later Today</b>  <b>3:00 – 8:00 PM</b>                  All-Church Gathering (Potluck) at the New Hope Camp and Conference Center (All ages welcome)                  NOTE: Youth Groups will attend the All-Church Gathering</p>	<p><b>Monday, September 25</b>  <b>6:00 PM</b>                  Diaconate  <b>6:30 PM</b>                  Joint Officers' Supper  <b>7:00 PM</b>                  Session</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, September 26</b>  <b>11:30 AM</b>                  Daytimers' Luncheon at Bullock's Barbecue  <b>1:30 PM</b>                  Worship Planning  <b>2:30 PM</b>                  Program Staff  <i>Newsletter today!</i></p>	<p><b>Wednesday, September 27</b>  <b>5:00 PM</b>                  Handbell Choir  <b>6:00 PM</b>                  Cherrie Henry "Pilgrimage to Spain" Presentation  <b>7:00 PM</b>                  Chancel Choir</p>
<p><b>Thursday, September 28</b></p>	<p><b>Friday, September 29</b>  <b>7:00 – 9:00 AM / 9:30 – 11:30 AM</b>                  FPC serving breakfast / preparing lunch bags at Urban Ministries  <b>8:00 AM</b>                  FPC Men of Faith Breakfast at Nosh's Café  <b>10:30 AM – Noon</b>  <i>"Cultivating Christian Character"</i>                  Book &amp; Bible Study</p>	<p><b>Saturday, September 30</b>  <b>8:00 – 11:00 AM</b>                  Landscaping &amp; Grounds Workday at FPC  <b>3:00 – 8:00 PM</b>                  Pupusa Sale (<i>fundraiser at Iglesia Emanuel</i>)  <b>4:00 PM until...</b>                  Durham Pride Event</p>	<p><b>Sunday, October 1</b>  <i>Stewardship Season Begins 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>  <b>9:45 AM</b>                  Sunday School / Membership Inquiry Class  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>After Worship:</b>                  Stewardship Kickoff Luncheon  <b>5:00 – 8:00 PM</b>                  Youth Groups (Service project)</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 (on sabbatical)  
*Valerie McMillian*, Parish Administrator  
*Sam Miglarese*, Associate Pastor  
*Kathy Parkins*, Minister of Music