

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

First Sunday After Christmas

146<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of First Presbyterian Church

December 31, 2017

## A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*(As we prepare to worship, please silence all mobile devices.)*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

Ritual of Friendship

### PRELUDE

*Christmas Day*

Gustav Holst

### CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 148:1-2)

Sarah Finbow

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

People: **Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**

All: **Let us worship God.**

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 134

*Joy to the World*

*Antioch*

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

Sarah Finbow

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**God our Savior, we confess that we fail to live in your light. You reveal your saving love, but we hide your love from others. You claim us as your children, but we do not claim you as our God. Forgive us, God of grace. Let your will be done in our lives so that we may live in peace according to your word; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

### COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Vern and Beth Neece

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Saving God, the prophet Anna and righteous Simeon sang your praise and proclaimed Jesus our Lord to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. Let us, who seek redemption in this day, prepare our hearts, that we may believe the good news of Jesus, receive the light of salvation, and live according to your word. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3

(Pew Bible, OT page 692)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

### \*PSALM 148 (HYMN NO. 679)

*Let the Whole Creation Cry*

*Salzburg*

### EPISTLE LESSON

Galatians 4:4-7

(Pew Bible, NT Page 189)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

\* Those who are able, please stand.

**GOSPEL LESSON**

Luke 2:22-40

(Pew Bible, NT Page 59)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*"Promises that Sound Like Lies"*

Robert Brawley

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Creed of the United Church of Canada

Sam Miglarese

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,**

**to reconcile and make new,**

**who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,**

**to live with respect in Creation,**

**to love and serve others,**

**to seek justice and resist evil,**

**to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*HYMN NO. 293**

*Loving Spirit*

*Omni Die (Corner)*

(Children through 1<sup>st</sup> grade enter worship during "The Peace.")

**\*THE PEACE**

Sam Miglarese

Let us pause and pray that there may be peace not only in our church but in the whole world.

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Mindy Douglas

*The children may return to the nursery or join their parents in the pews for the remainder of the service.*

**LITANY OF CELEBRATION FOR THE 146<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF FPC**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

*(silence)*

Leader: For the church universal, and for this congregation of your people,

People: **We give you thanks, O God.**

Leader: For this place in which we gather for praise and prayer, witness and service, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord,

People: **We give you thanks, O God.**

Leader: For your presence among us whenever your Word has been proclaimed, your sacramental gifts of bread and wine shared,

People: **We give you thanks, O God.**

Leader: For those who have been made your children by adoption and grace, who in this place were cleansed of sin, buried with Christ in the waters of baptism, and raised to new and eternal life,

People: **We give you thanks, O God.**

Leader: For disciples young and old who have been nurtured here in faith,

People: **We give you thanks, O God.**

Leader: For all who have come here asking your blessing in marriage, seeking to love with your love,  
 People: **We give you thanks, O God.**  
 Leader: For deacons, elders, and pastors who have led and loved us, and by the offering of their gifts,  
 equipped us for the work of ministry,  
 People: **We give you thanks, O God.**  
 Leader: For faithful stewards among us who have lived for others, serving you by loving neighbors,  
 People: **We give you thanks, O God.**  
 Leader: For all the saints who have stood among us, whose memory still enlivens our faith and  
 emboldens our witness,  
 People: **We give you thanks, O God.**  
 All: **Receive our gratitude, Holy God, for the years through which you have led us, and open  
 to us the future you promise. In the years that lie ahead, grant us your encouragement in  
 the work of ministry, your consolation in our defeats, and your challenge to our  
 complacency. Give us such trust in your abiding Holy Spirit, that we may find joy and  
 peace in our common life, strength and courage to live in the world for your reign, and  
 hope in the gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Offertory (Wind Ensemble) *Joy to the World* *arr. by David Bussick*  
 \*Doxology *Divinum Mysterium*

*Christ, to Thee with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
 Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving And unwearied praises be:  
 Honor, glory, and dominion, And eternal victory, Evermore and evermore!*

### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
 People: **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**  
 All: **O Eternal Lord Christ, the First and the Last, and the Living One, and who in your  
 mercy has brought us safely to the beginning of another year. Accept our thanksgiving  
 for the blessings of the past, renew our strength and courage in the present, and direct  
 all our way in the future; for your honour and glory, who is the same yesterday, to-day  
 and for ever. Amen.** - Frank Colquhoun, *Parish Prayers*

\*HYMN NO. 110 *Love Has Come* *Bring a Torch*

\*BENEDICTION Robert Brawley

\*POSTLUDE *All Glory Be to God on High* J. Walther

The *poinsettias* in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and are a gift to the congregation from *Arthur and Mary Clark*. Following worship today, please feel free to carry a poinsettia home or take one to give to someone who will enjoy it.

*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.

**Music notes:** The **Prelude** is a 1910 arrangement by English composer Gustav Holst, originally for choir and organ, that combines four old carols: *Good Christian Men, Rejoice* (#132 in the hymnal); *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*; *The First Nowell* (#147); and *Come Ye Lofty, Come Ye Lowly*. The **Offertory** is based on the familiar melody of *Joy to the World* (#134), which is traditionally attributed to George Frederick Handel, mingled with several fragments from that other piece of Handel's, *Messiah*. Thanks to the **First Presbyterian Wind Ensemble** (*Christyn Klinck, Valerie von Isenburg, Li-Chen Chin, Aurelia Klinck, Brent Curtis, and David Smith*) for their musical contribution to today's service.

**Large print worship bulletins** along with **youth and children's worship / activity bulletins** are available from the ushers. You are invited and encouraged to use these during worship.

**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 near the baptism font.

Portions of **today's texts** were reprinted from *Book of Common Worship, Call to Worship, Daily Prayer, and Feasting on the Word*.

**A Call for Nominations:** It is time to nominate persons to serve as ruling elders and deacons for the Class of 2021. Nomination forms are available from the tables in the foyer and narthex through January 7th. You may also use this form to nominate persons to serve on next year's Nominating Committee.

**These Days** devotional books for the first quarter 2018 have arrived. Pick up a copy (regular or large print) from the table in the church foyer or narthex while supplies last.

### ~ Serving Today ~

Narthex Greeter: **Debbie Hamlin-Aggrey**

After Worship Greeters: **Libby Gulley** (side/font): **Carol Carson** (rear/narthex)

### ~ Our Concerns ~

**The Lorimer family**

**Julie Maxwell**

**Ruth and Russell Roberson**

**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 Church Members and Staff:**

**Claiborne Clark**, son of Arthur and Mary Clark

**Marc Crawford**, friend of Brianna and Ricky Bennett

**Kim Cummings**, father of Drew Cummings

**Lindsay Efland**, friend of Cherrie Henry

**Heath, Rebecca and Julia Huberg**, family from Iowa (Heath is receiving care at Duke.)

**Rev. Ben Johnston-Krase**, pastor of Durham's Farm Church

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

**Wagner family**, friends of Kerry Holbrook

**Jerry Walter**, friend of Brian and Jeanette Castle

**Wintermute/Littles families**, friends of Kerry Holbrook

**Christina Z.**, mother of Franz Rokoske



**Saturday, January 6**

**SONAM presents a Winter Concert**  
**“Music of gifts and light for Epiphany”**

7:00 pm in the sanctuary of FPC

Singers of New and Ancient Music (SONAM) is a local chorus committed to creating high-quality sacred and secular music and giving back to the community. The concert includes music in celebration of Epiphany and the end of the Christmas season, featuring works by Whitaker, Victoria, Poulenc, Sametz, and more. **A suggested \$10 donation will benefit Gigi's Playhouse of Raleigh**, an achievement center for individuals with Down Syndrome that offers education, therapeutic, and career-building programs.



**Thursday, January 11 at 12 Noon**

**Durham City/County Employees Annual Civic Celebration**  
(FPC sanctuary)

**Sunday, January 14 – MLK Sunday at FPC**

**11:00 a.m. Worship**

*The Reverend Jimmie Hawkins*, preaching

Hawkins, who served as pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Durham (1996- 2016), is the new director of the PC (USA)'s Office of Public Witness in Washington, D.C. He has a background in the area of youth ministry and has been a public advocate for social-justice issues with the Moral Monday Movement and the NC NAACP. He will also teach the Faith and Community Class at 9:45.

**Monday, January 15**

**Annual MLK March and Commemorative Worship**

Gather at 10:30 a.m. at N.C. Mutual Life Insurance Company, 411 W. Chapel Hill Street, then march to First Presbyterian Church for worship, which will feature The Durham Children's Choir.






**“Winter Concert”**

**Sunday, January 21 at 3:00 p.m.**

All are welcome. (FPC sanctuary)

For this hour-long concert, the men's chorus explores the commonalities of musical expression across the globe with “*The Universal Language of Arts.*” In a world that too often sees unfamiliar groups of people as the “other” or the “enemy,” we forget that different nations, religions, races, and even genders do not conform to one way of thinking. Free admission: \$10 suggested donation. For more information, go to their website: <http://www.trianglesings.org/vox-virorum-mens-chorus-2/>

## The Week at a Glance!

<p><b>Later Today</b></p> <p>No evening Youth Groups</p>	<p><b>Monday, January 1 New Year's Day</b></p>  <p><b>The Church Office and Day School are closed</b></p> <p><b>5:00 PM</b> Time Out Radio Show (listen live on FM103.5 or via wcomfm.org) Bill Hendrickson talks with Connell Fullenkamp about the economy</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, January 2</b></p> <p><b>11:30 AM</b> FPC Staff Potluck Lunch at the home of Mindy Douglas</p> <p><b>1:30 PM</b> Plan Worship</p> <p><b>2:30 PM</b> FPC Staff</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Vox Chorus rehearsal</p> <p><b>The Day School is closed</b></p>	<p><b>Wednesday, January 3</b></p> <p><b>No Bell Choir</b></p> <p><b>No Chancel Choir</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> McPherson Lectureship Sub-Committee</p>
<p><b>Thursday, January 4</b></p>	<p><b>Friday, January 5</b></p> <p><b>10:30 AM – 12 Noon</b> “Cultivating Christian Character” Book and Bible Study</p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> First Friends and Families Game Night with Potluck (at FPC) with the Emily Wilkins family hosting</p>	<p><b>Saturday, January 6</b></p>  <p><b>7:00 PM</b> SONAM in concert / fundraiser for Gigi's Playhouse of Raleigh</p>	<p><b>Sunday, January 7</b></p>  <p>Baptism of the Lord Sunday</p> <p><b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> Worship &amp; Communion</p> <p><b>After Worship:</b> Nominating Committee</p> <p><b>12:30 – 3:00 PM</b> Young Adults/Scratch Planning Retreat (lunch provided)</p> <p>Evening Youth Groups “Fun Night Out”</p>

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

### 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

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