

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

6th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

Hymn to Joy

Beethoven

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Weicher

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Bless our God, O peoples,

People: **Let the sound of God's praise be heard,**

Leader: Who has kept us among the living,

People: **And has not let our feet slip.**

Leader: Truly God has listened;

People: **Our God has given heed to the words of my prayer.**

Leader: Blessed be God, because the Almighty has not rejected my prayer

People: **Or removed God's steadfast love from me.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

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 hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder 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 hymn of grateful praise.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**You are all around us, O Creator of everything,
but we do not notice.**

Or we notice,

and we feel helpless to change much of anything,

like the way we treat the natural world,

as consumers and not caretakers,

or like the way we treat each other,

as competitors and not caregivers,

or the way we treat you,

as a therapist or a set of rules to follow,

and not the source of our life

and the home to which we will return.

Forgive us for our self-centric ways.

**Teach us again to love you,
and your world,
and everyone made in your image.**

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon

RESPONSE (Sung)

Dix

***For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
For that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.***

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Jennie Alwood

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray.
All: **O God, you have been with us since the womb,
but so often we pray as if we barely know you.
It's like we met at a party once,
but we cannot remember your name,
or what you do for a living.
Send your Spirit now into these old words,
so that we may never forget them,
or you. Amen.**

A READING FROM JOHN'S GOSPEL John 14:15-21

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

A READING FROM ACTS OF THE APOSTLES Acts 17:22-31

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

MEDITATION *"Not Far from Each One of Us"*

John Weicher

SOLO *This Is My Father's World*

Sam Henry

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(in unison)*

We trust in Jesus Christ, (from A Brief Statement of Faith)
fully human, fully God.

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

John Weicher

INVITATION TO GIVE AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

Mindy Douglas

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

*For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful 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 hymn of grateful praise.*

CLOSING PRAYER

John Weicher

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Christ be with me, Christ within me,
People: **Christ behind me, Christ before me,**
Leader: Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
People: **Christ to comfort and restore me,**
Leader: Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
People: **Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,**
Leader: Christ in hearts of all that love me,
People: **Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

John Weicher

POSTLUDE

Be Still, My Soul

Finlandia

First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. 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. On May 10, 107 households tuned in to the 11:00 a.m. streamed broadcast of worship.

Special thanks to **Sam Henry** for sharing his vocal gift with us during worship today. Sam is the son of **Andy and Cherrie Henry**, a life-long member of FPC, and will be a sophomore at UNC-Chapel Hill this fall where he is majoring in theater art.

Many thanks to **Jody Maxwell, Pat Dillon, and John Weicher** for their “behind the scenes” technical assistance, making our virtual worship broadcasts possible and accessible to us each Sunday.

Portions of **today’s worship texts** were taken from *Glory to God* Presbyterian hymnal and reprinted under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

The **images** included in today’s online worship are from the following sources:

- Mindy Douglas, *Robins*, Durham, NC
- Paul Stankard, *Flowers and Fruit with Insect and Earth Spirits*, Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass, Neenah, WI
- Brabazon, Hercules Brabazon, 1821-1906. *Mountain Landscape*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN
- NASA/JPL-Caltech/University of Wisconsin, *Life and Death Intermingled*.

Church staff are working from their homes under the Stay-at-home Order for the state of North Carolina. If you need assistance, you may call the church office (919-682-5511) and leave a message, or email a specific staff person. Thank you for your patience as we respond to your calls and emails. Please read church emails and check our social media to stay up-to-date.

Children and Youth – Are you Connected? If you are not receiving a separate weekly email connecting you to FPC online activities and events for children and youth, contact John Weicher to be added to the list.

Schedule Change for Officer Meetings

FPC Officers (current and newly elected) will meet via Zoom on tomorrow,
Monday, May 18, due to the Memorial Day holiday, Monday, May 25.

Diaconate (deacons) 6:00 p.m. – Will Chambliss will send the link for the meeting
Session (ruling elders) 7:00 p.m. – Christyn Klinck will send the link for the meeting.

~ Celebrations and Concerns ~

FPC’s Legacy Society was featured in the PCUSA Mission Yearbook for the month of May in an article written by FPC’s retired associate pastor **Sam Miglarese**. Check out the article at this link: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/yearbook/May-3-2020/>.

Condolences: The love and concern of the congregation are extended to **Hendrika Vande Kemp** on the sudden death of her nephew’s wife. **Maryellen**, wife of Hendrika’s nephew **Craig Jansen**, died May 15th from kidney cancer.

Concerns:

- **Susan B.**, friend of Emily Wilkins
- **Camilla Crampton**, companion of Mal King, in hospice care
- **Dan Hudgins**, recovering from outpatient surgery
- **John Kerr**, in failing health
- **Margaret Mubanga**
- **Mercy Ndambiri**
- All who have been impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic

Care Communities:

Brookdale Durham: **Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett**

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Bob Rankin, Henderson Rourk**

Dubose Center at The Cedars (Chapel Hill): **Arthur Clark**

Durham Regent: **Ann Prospero, John Kerr**

Emerald Pond: **Paul Cornsweet**

Hillcrest Convalescent Center, Durham: **Jean Lazarides**

Southern Living for Seniors, Louisburg: **Phillip Herndon**

The Forest at Duke: **Fran Bryant**

Family and Friends of the Congregation:

Tiffany Barber, niece of Christyn Klinck

Peggy Boulden, mother of Dick Boulden

Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss

Paula Cope, sister of Sam Miglarese

Becky Evans, sister of Vernon Neece

Dolores Ewald, mother-in-law of Susan Ewald

Shannon Johnson, daughter of Mary Putman

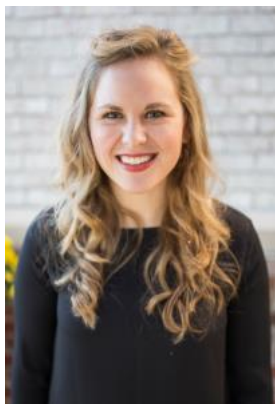
Chris Kovach, friend of Jeanne Hervey

Doug Neece, brother of Vernon Neece

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Lee Tubbs, mother of Nora Tisdale

Asher Wilson, son of Mike and Emily Wilson and grandson of Chuck and Jean Wilson



**Presbyterian Campus Minister,
Rev. Libby Boehne Sapp,
will be our guest on Sunday, May 24, 2020.**

Libby is the campus minister to the Presbyterian students at Duke University. As campus minister she serves as pastor to Duke students and the Duke community at large. She worked with Presbyterian Campus Ministry for two years prior to taking on this role as campus minister. Libby graduated from Duke Divinity School in 2014, and while a graduate student, worked in the Few Quad living community as a Graduate Resident.

Weekday Book Studies

The study of ***Call It Grace*** by Serene Jones and led by Mindy Douglas is meeting online on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. using Zoom. If you wish to join this discussion group, contact Mindy Douglas.

All are welcome to join the Women's Spirituality Group in a study of ***Helpmates, Harlots and Heroes*** by Alice Bellis, via Zoom on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:15 p.m. If you wish to join this discussion group, contact Deborah Momsen-Hudson.

Iglesia Emanuel Food Pantry

Our FPC congregation is earning gold stars for your wonderful, generous response to the call for support of the Food Pantry at Iglesia Emanuel! They continue to provide ample boxes of fresh and staple food for over 350 struggling families every week. This is a huge undertaking, and the needs for ongoing support are not likely to diminish in the near future.

If you would like to help, know that your contribution will be greatly appreciated. Here are current options:

- Make a financial donation by going to emanueldurham.org, and click on "Donate"
- Mail a check to Iglesia Presbyteriana Emanuel, 2504 N Roxboro St, Durham 27704
- Purchase food items, preferably in bulk. Most helpful are:
 - ✓ Cereal (cold or hot, preferably multiple regular-size boxes rather than extra-large ones)
 - ✓ Granola bars and cereal bars (preferably large boxes like sold at Sam's or Costco)
 - ✓ Fruit cups (large boxes)
 - ✓ Peanut butter (small jars, preferably whole flats)
 - ✓ Macaroni and cheese
 - ✓ Cup a noodles/ramen noodles (preferably large packages like sold at Sam's)
 - ✓ Spaghetti or any kind of pasta (preferably multiple small boxes)
 - ✓ Canned vegetables (preferably whole flats of small cans, green beans and corn)
 - ✓ Canned soup, tuna, Spaghetti-Os or other protein or whole meal item

You may deliver food items to Iglesia Emanuel on Monday afternoons, from 3 - 5, on Tuesdays, or drop them off at Margaret and Miguel Rubiera's home, 3108 Chelmsford Dr. Contact us with any questions: [Miguel Rubiera](#) or [Margaret Rubiera](#). Thank you again for your loving commitment to help others.

Ways to Give to First Presbyterian Church

- Check made payable to First Presbyterian Church and mailed to the church
- Bill Pay initiated by you through your bank
- Direct Debit (monthly) from a checking account (contact Tom Bloom for required form)
- Text Giving (Contact Tom Bloom if you need instructions)
- Appreciated Stock (Contact Tom Bloom before initiating a stock transfer)
- Credit or Debit Card (Click DONATE on the church's website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>)
- Charitable Distribution from an IRA (For persons aged 70½; contact your IRA administrator)

EVENING PRAYERS



Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray
TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS, 8 PM
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTPRESDURHAM/](https://www.facebook.com/firstpresdurham/)

You do not need to have a Facebook account to participate. Simply go online to: <https://www.facebook.com/Firstpresdurham/> each Tuesday and Thursday at 8 p.m. If you are asked to create an account, just ignore and click on the video.

CHURCH STAFF

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



Sybil King, Administrative Assistant
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator
Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music
John Weicher, Associate Pastor

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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