



**We exalt our possessions and power,  
when you alone are to be exalted.  
We let conflicts prevail over grace  
and divisions over harmony.  
Have mercy upon us, we pray.  
Forgive and transform us,  
that we may be holy and acceptable to you,  
discerning and doing your will.  
Through Jesus Christ we pray.**

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Michael Honeycutt

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Lord our God,  
your name and your word  
are exalted above everything.  
We are listening for your word;  
we are looking for your light.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
renew our minds and hearts  
so we may discern your will  
and respond in faith.**

**We pray in the name of your Son, our Savior. Amen.**

**EPISTLE LESSON**

Romans 12:1-8

Michael Honeycutt

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 16:13-20

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*"Who Is Jesus and Why Does It Matter?"*

Mindy Douglas

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(in unison)* *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

*Susan Dunlap*

**We trust in Jesus Christ, 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, 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 Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.

**HYMN NO. 766** (verses 1,4)      *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound*  
(Music can be found on page 11.)

*McKee*

*The church of Christ cannot be bound  
by walls of wood or stone.  
Where charity and love are found  
there can the church be known.  
If what we have we freely share  
to meet our neighbor's need,  
then we extend the Spirit's care  
through every selfless deed.*

**INVITATION TO GIVE AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING**  
(*The Hunger for Change Offering is received today.*)

John Weicher

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Mindy Douglas

**CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS**

John Weicher

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

John Weicher

(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 NO. 766** (verses 2,3,5)      *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound*  
(Music can be found on page 11.)

*McKee*

*True faith will open up the door  
and step into the street.*

*True service will seek out the poor  
and ask to wash their feet.*

*True love will not sit idly by  
when justice is denied.*

*True mercy hears the homeless cry  
and welcomes them inside.*

*The church of Christ cannot be bound  
by walls of wood or stone.*

*Where charity and love are found,  
there can the church be known.*

#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Mindy Douglas

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

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

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Holy God, each new day begins with such promise.**

**Help us to enter into each day  
with joy and confidence  
in your power and goodness.**

**Whatever challenge we may face,  
help us to trust in your presence,  
remembering that you are stronger  
than any difficulty or threat.**

**Surround us in the embrace and affection  
of steadfast love and faithfulness,  
of righteousness and peace.**

**Then lift us up and strengthen us to follow you.**

**In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

#### **BENEDICTION**

Mindy Douglas

#### **POSTLUDE**

*Once More My Soul*

George Shearing

**Parents and children, join us TODAY between 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
for our virtual Sunday School kickoff!**

Come to the church and drive through the parking lot . . .  
where you will see teachers, get a popsicle,  
and receive a goodie bag filled with supplies for virtual Sunday School.

**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 August 16, 103 households tuned in to the 11:00 a.m. live-streamed broadcast of worship.

Special thanks to **Gordon Campbell** for providing the organ gathering music, Prelude, and Postlude for today's worship.

Portions of **today's worship text** are taken from *Feasting on the Word* (Year A, volume 2). **Music and hymn texts** are reprinted from *Glory to God* (PCUSA hymnal) under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

The fourth Sunday of each month is designated to receive the **Hunger for Change Offering**. These funds are sent to the Presbytery of New Hope to combat hunger locally. The Presbytery disperses the funds to hunger relief programs based on a grant application process. Urban Ministries of Durham, Presbyterian Urban Ministries, and Iglesia Emanuel are frequent recipients. FPC's Walk-in Ministry received a grant for purchasing blessing bag supplies in 2019. Thank you for your offering today.

**Many thanks** to **Jody Maxwell, Pat Dillon, Jay Klinck, and John Weicher** for their "behind the scenes" technical assistance with our virtual worship live broadcasts each Sunday morning. We are also grateful to **Jennie Alwood** for the beautiful images she finds for our online worship.

### ~ Celebrations and Concerns ~

**SYMPATHY:** The love and concern of the congregation are extended to **Susan Buck, Lenore Champion, and family** on the death of Susan's mother, **Ruth Buck** on August 17<sup>th</sup> in Durham after a long illness and decline. We also extend our love and concern to **Parker and BJ Morton** on the sudden death of their son, **Peter Morton**, on August 20.

#### **CONCERNS:**

**Linda Barenchi**, tested positive for COVID-19 virus

**Joe Harvard**, recovering after a toe amputation

**Dan Hudgins**, preparing for surgery

**Wil James**, recovering from surgery

**Jane & Henderson Rourk**

**Carol Wills**, recovering after a time in the Emergency Department

All those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

School administrators, teachers, parents, and students as the new school year begins

#### **Care Communities:**

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

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Bob Rankin**

Dubose Center at The Cedars, Chapel Hill: **Arthur Clark**

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

Emerald Pond: **Paul Cornsweet**

Hillcrest Convalescent Center: **Mickey Velkey; Peggy Mordecai**, mother of Beth Eisenson

Rose Vista Village /Kinston Assisted Living, Kinston NC: **Phillip Herndon**

The Forest at Duke: **Fran Bryant**

#### **Family and Friends of the Congregation:**

**Brendan Bequette**, family friend of Margaret & Miguel Rubiera

**Jennie Bodkin**, sister of Mindy Douglas

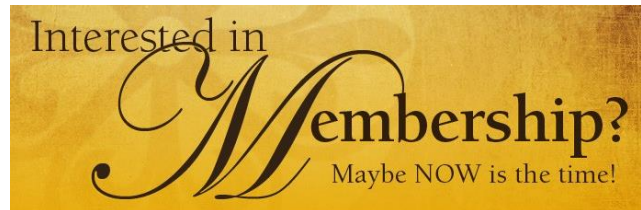
**Peggy Boulden**, mother of Dick Boulden

**Becky Evans**, sister of Vernon Neece

**Phil Goss**, friend of the congregation

**Shannon Johnson**, daughter of Mary Putman

**Robert Reaves**, husband of Floalice Reaves, an active friend of the congregation



*Interested in joining FPC?*

*Tired of waiting until we can be in person again?*

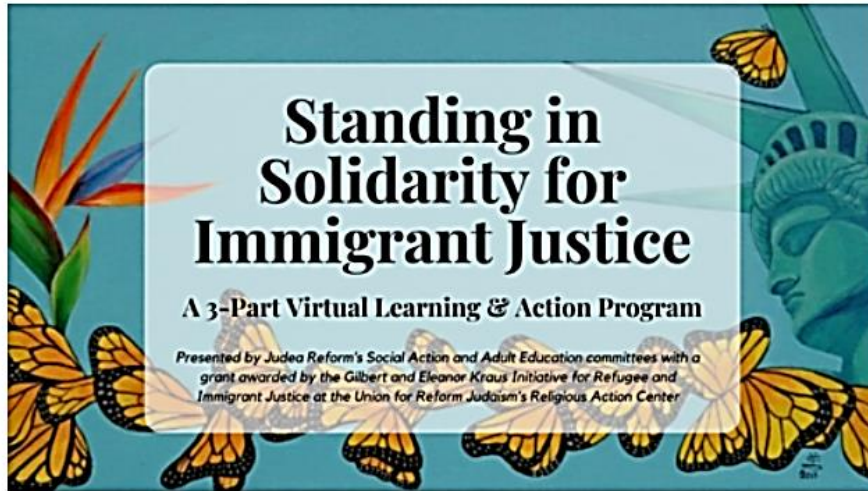
*Ready to find more ways to be connected to the FPC Community?*

**We will welcome new members during our live-stream worship on next Sunday, August 30.**

If you are interested in joining FPC and making this your church home, contact [Mindy Douglas](#).



We want to especially thank the current Walk-in Ministry volunteers (**Judy Arrowood, Mary-Jo Keenan, John Mozart, Marie Sappenfield, and Jane Williams**) for the many hours they are spending each week interviewing and assisting our Durham neighbors in financial distress as a result of the pandemic. In coming weeks these volunteers hope to share stories of some of the challenges these recipients are facing. Please know your donations are very much needed and appreciated at this time. Thank you for your very generous giving.



## Standing in Solidarity for Immigrant Justice A 3-Part Virtual Learning & Action Program

*Presented by Judea Reform's Social Action and Adult Education committees  
with a grant awarded by the Gilbert and Eleanor Kraus Initiative for Refugee and  
Immigrant Justice at the Union for Reform Judaism's Religious Action Center*

**Wednesday, August 26 at 8:00pm**

Click **[Panel 3. Organizing for Dignity and a Fair Wage](#)**  
to register and receive access to the panel discussion.

For more information, email: **[socialaction@judeareform.org](mailto:socialaction@judeareform.org)**



**Sign up to volunteer at Iglesia Emanuel's Food Bank**

**[Iglesia Emanuel COVID-19 Food Bank Signup Genius](#)**

Since the outbreak of COVID in March, volunteers from FPC and other churches have joined forces with Iglesia Emanuel to pack and distribute large boxes of fresh and staple food every week to families in need of assistance. Thank you to all who have responded with love!

The needs continue, and we welcome your ongoing support. For questions, contact **[Margaret Rubiera](#)**.

**KEEP THESE DONATIONS COMING!**

Our local food pantries have been flooded with requests for basic sanitation items that have become hard to come by in the pandemic, but they have not had enough to meet the demand. To answer this urgent need, Durham Congregations in Action (DCIA) has launched a hygiene drive to keep our partner pantries fully stocked with the supplies Durhamites need.

They are seeking the following items:

- CDC-approved disinfectant wipes or sprays (Lysol, Scrubbing Bubbles, Clorox)
- hand sanitizer
- empty spray bottles
- paper towels
- toilet paper
- feminine hygiene products
- hand and body soap

If you can donate any of these, they can be dropped off at any of these partner congregations, from which the supplies will be delivered to area food pantries for distribution to our Durham neighbors!

• **First Presbyterian Church**

Mondays and Fridays, 9:00am-1:00pm.  
305 E. Main Street

• **Cole Mill Road Church of Christ**

Monday through Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm.  
1617 Cole Mill Road

• **Antioch Baptist Church**

Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00am-12:00pm.  
1415 Holloway Street

• **Pilgrim United Church of Christ**

Tuesday through Friday, 8:00am-12:00pm.  
3011 Academy Road

• **Christus Victor Lutheran Church**

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9:00am–2:00pm  
1615 E. NC 54 Hwy

***Thank you in advance for your support of this project!***





First Presbyterian Church Children's Ministries

## REAL stories - REAL people

During the 20-21 year, *REAL* will be our process and our theme



### R=Remember and retrieval

Remember and retrieval: What do we know about this story or person in the Bible? Possible activities: drawing, writing, use of whiteboards for brainstorming, talking, etc.



### E=Explore/Explain the particulars of the person or story

Read the text from various sources, watch a video, look at artwork



### A=Access and Elaborate

Allow and encourage students to find out more about the context, person or story. Use technology tools to get more information, record and share back to larger group



### L=Learn/Leave

Encourage and allow for each person to say something that they learned or appreciated during the lesson. Encourage and allow students to talk about their upcoming week or day, or say something they are looking forward to.



### FAITH FORMATION

Faith formation is essential to the church's mission and needs to be flexible but consistent in this time of major upheaval and loss of familiar routines. A structured lesson plan will provide familiarity to students, and ease of planning for teachers, whether there is a curriculum or not.

## Sunday School Classes Schedule

Beginning August 30, each class will meet via Zoom on Sundays at the times indicated below.

**9:00-9:30 a.m.**  
2's, 3's, and 4's

**9:30-10:15 a.m.**  
Younger elementary class

**10:15-11:00 a.m.**  
Older elementary class

**10:00-10:45 a.m.**  
Middle School Youth  
High School Youth

**10:00-10:50 a.m.**  
Faith & Community  
Journeys  
Lectionary  
Women's Spirituality

**Scratch class at 8:00 p.m.  
on Sunday evenings**

## 175

## Seek Ye First

*Descant*

Al - le - lu - ia,

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God  
 2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;  
 3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

al - le - lu - ia,

and its righ - teous - ness,  
 seek, and you shall find;  
 but by ev - ery word

al - le - lu - ia,

and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you.  
 knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you.  
 that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.

al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

766

# The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound



1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by  
 2 True faith will o - pen up the door and  
 3 True love will not sit i - dly by when  
 4 If what we have we free - ly share to  
 5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by



walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and  
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek  
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the  
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the  
 walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and



love are found, there can the church be known.  
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.  
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.  
 Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.  
 love are found, there can the church be known.

## CHURCH STAFF

*Tom Bloom*, Business Administrator  
*Lenore Champion*, Children's Ministry Director  
*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](mailto:info@firstpres-durham.org) or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.

305 EAST MAIN STREET

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701

919.682.5511