



*A Service of Lessons and Carols*

*First Presbyterian Church  
Durham, North Carolina*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

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A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

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

**WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Mindy Douglas

Ritual of Friendship

**PRELUDE**

*Largo in d for two violins*

J.S. Bach

*Janet Barringer and Mary Kay Robinson, violins*

**INTROIT**

*A Carol*

Roland Martin

*Once for a shining hour, heav'n touched earth.  
Hope was born anew, and peace reigned in the world.*

**LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT WREATH CANDLE** John Mozart, Elinor Hess, Phillip Herndon

Leader: We light this candle for all God's messengers, preparing the way for change, signs pointing to a new age to come.

All: **God, as we wait for your promise, give light, give hope.**

*(Please stand.)*

**\*HYMN NO. 88**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*Veni Emmanuel*

*(Please be seated.)*

**THE BIDDING PRAYER**

Marilyn Hedgpeth

Beloved in Christ, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience to the glorious Redemption brought to us by this Holy Child. But first, let us pray for the world that God so loves, and especially for peace on earth and goodwill among all people. Let us remember, in His Name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the lonely and the unloved; all who have none to care for them; all those whose lives have been torn asunder by injustice, terror and war; the aged and little children; and all who know not the great loving-kindness of the Lord Jesus. Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this day, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous, guard the strong. We make our prayer in the words Christ himself has taught us:

**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.**

**BLESSING**

May Almighty God bless us with divine grace, may Christ give us the joy of everlasting life, and into the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

**VOLUNTARY**

*Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming*  
Joe Robinson, Oboe

J. Brahms

\*Those who are able, please stand.

LESSON

A Reading from Genesis  
"The first sin and its punishment"

Sam Miglarese

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Lord of grace and truth, your Son, our Savior, was born in poverty in a manger.  
 Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways. We have sinned:

People: **Forgive and heal us.**

Leader: The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.  
 Forgive our disobedience to your will. We have sinned:

People: **Forgive and heal us.**

Leader: The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.  
 Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision. We have sinned:

People: **Forgive and heal us. Have mercy on us according to your love.**

Leader: May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins,  
 time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CAROL

Hark the Herald Angels Sing Cookham, *Harmonia Sacra*, 1760  
*Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;  
 Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."*

*See he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die;  
 Born to raise the souls of earth; born to give them second birth.*

*Hail, the holy Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness;  
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.*

*Let us then with angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!  
 Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"*

LESSON

A Reading from Isaiah  
"Isaiah foretells the coming of the Messiah"

Isabel Brown, reader

\*HYMN NO. 373

O Day of Peace

Jerusalem

ANTHEM

The Lamb

Roland Martin

*Lesley Curtis and Amy Wilson, sopranos*

*Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?  
 Gave thee life, and bid thee feed by the stream and o'er the mead;  
 Gave thee clothing of delight, softest clothing, woolly, bright;  
 Gave thee such a tender voice making all the vales rejoice?  
 Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?*

*Little Lamb, I'll tell thee, Little Lamb, I'll tell thee:  
 He is called by thy name, for he calls himself a Lamb.  
 He is meek, and he is mild; he became a little child.  
 I, a child, and thou a lamb, we are called by his Name.  
 Little Lamb, God bless thee, Little Lamb, God bless thee!*

– William Blake

LESSON

A Reading from Luke's Gospel  
"The angel Gabriel appears to Mary"

Cris Rivera, reader

ANTHEM

Ave Maria

Sergei Rachmaninoff

*Ave Maria, Blessed Mother of God. Hail, thou Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee:  
 Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb;  
 For thou has brought forth the Savior, to redeem us all.*

**LESSON**

*A Reading from Luke's Gospel  
"The birth of Jesus"*

Carlo Diy, reader

**SOLO**

*Virgin's Slumber Song  
Lesley Curtis, soprano*

Max Reger

*Amid the roses Mary sits and rocks her Jesus child, while amid the treetops sighs the breeze so warm and mild.  
And soft and sweetly sings a bird upon a bough: Ah, Baby, dear one, slumber now!  
Happy is thy laughter, holy is thy silent rest, lay thy head in slumber, fondly on thy mother's breast!  
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!*

**LESSON**

*A Reading from Luke's Gospel  
"The shepherds come unto the manger"*

Tony Chavez, reader

**ANTHEM**

*Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow  
Kate Busa, soprano*

*Spiritual, arr. by Malcolm Archer*

*There's a star in the East on Christmas morn, rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
It will lead to the place where the Savior's born, rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
Leave your sheep and leave your lambs, rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
Leave your ewes and leave your rams, rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
If you take good heed of the angel's words, rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds, rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
Leave your sheep and leave your lambs, rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
Leave your ewes and leave your rams, rise up, shepherd, and follow.*

**LESSON**

*A Reading from Matthew's Gospel  
"The wise men are led by the star to Jesus"*

Cheryl Henry, reader

**\*HYMN NO. 145**

*What Child Is This*

*Greensleeves*

**\*COLLECT FOR THE DAY**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **God our Redeemer, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ: That, when he shall appear, we shall be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Midnight Clear*

*Russell Schulz-Widmar*

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's gracious king."  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.*

*Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;  
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;  
and warring humankind hears not the tidings which they bring;  
Oh, hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the angels sing.*

*For Lo! The days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold,  
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.*

**LESSON**

*A Reading from John's Gospel*

Mindy Douglas, reader

*"John unfolds the Great Mystery of the Incarnation"*

**SOLEMN BENEDICTION**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Son of God once came to us; may his coming bring us the light of his holiness.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: God sent heavenly angels to shepherds to herald the great joy of our Savior's birth.  
May God fill us with joy and make us heralds of the gospel.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: When the Word became Flesh, earth was joined to heaven.  
May God give us peace and good will, and brighten our hearts with holiness.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: May Almighty God, the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, bless us.

All: **Amen.**

**\*HYMN NO. 113**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Gloria*

**\*POSTLUDE**

*In Dulci Jubilo*

J.S. Bach

*An interment service will be held for William (Bill) V. Lorimer at 12:30 p.m. today in the FPC Memorial Garden. The family will receive friends at a reception in Watts-Hill Hall following the interment service.*

**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. On Sunday, December 10, we welcomed 28 visitors to worship.

**Today's worship** is patterned after the Lessons and Carols service at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England. The traditional service of Lessons and Carols dates from 1880, but the most famous tradition is that of the service at King's College, Cambridge which began in 1918. It is always held on Christmas Eve.

The **Christmas Joy Offering** will be received today. This offering is distributed to the PC(USA) Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and also supports education programs at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. See the insert for more information about this special offering.

The **poinsettias** are given to the glory of God and are a gift to the congregation from **Arthur and Mary Clark**. **Special thanks** to **Alice Raney** and **Dale Georgiade** for decorating the sanctuary for the season.

The striking **Advent paraments**, purchased with funds from the bequest of Anne St. Clair Williams, were designed and created in 2012 by Laurie Wohl, a fiber-artist internationally known for her "Unweavings." The pulpit hanging contains a text in Hebrew and English drawn from Isaiah 12: 3: "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation" while the text for the lectern hanging is from Luke 1:78-79: "The dawn from on high will break upon us to give light to guide our feet into the way of peace."

The **sanctuary table** upon which the Advent Wreath sits was made by **George Danser** and is given to us by him and his wife, **Jean Cary**. George has drawn design features from our communion table and used oak removed from the sanctuary during our renovation and from a tree in their backyard that Jean saw get hit by lightning some years ago.

**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.

**Nursery care** for infants to 6 years of age is provided during worship on the second floor of the Education Building. See an usher if you need childcare. There is a 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 and youth. Books are on the pews in the narthex for young children to read and enjoy should they need a break from the service.

**A Call for Nominations:** It is time to nominate persons to serve as ruling elders and deacons for the Class of 2021. The nominations form is available from the tables in the narthex and foyer. The deadline for nominations is January 7, 2018.

**Year-end Giving:** Please remember that the church must receive your charitable contributions by the end of the day (4:30 p.m.) Friday, December 22, 2017, or the gift must be postmarked by December 31, 2017, if mailed, to be deductible on your 2017 taxes. If you wish to make a contribution by credit card, this may be done through the parish website ([www.firstpres-durham.org](http://www.firstpres-durham.org)) at any time. To be deductible on your 2017 taxes, please initiate the gift before Friday, December 29. If you wish to make a donation through a gift of stock, please notify Tom Bloom, Business Administrator ([t.bloom@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:t.bloom@firstpres-durham.org)) as soon as possible. Members aged 70 ½ + who own an IRA may be able to make a tax-excludable gift directly to First Presbyterian and have that gift satisfy any required minimum distribution for this year. Please contact your IRA administrator ASAP if you wish to consider this giving option for tax year 2017.

**Final Call for Christmas Concerns:** As an alternative to sending Christmas cards to your First Presbyterian friends, we invite you to make a donation to our **Christmas Concerns** fund and then write your name(s) on the tree ornament and hang it on the Giving Tree in the foyer. Donations will be given to Meals on Wheels and Partners for Youth Opportunity. The names of those who share greetings in this way will be listed in the December 19th church newsletter.

Copies of the **These Days** devotional booklet for January – March 2018 have arrived. Pick up a regular or large print copy from the foyer or narthex while supplies last.

### ~ Our Concerns ~

*Julie Maxwell    The Lorimer Family    Ruth and Russell Roberson    Rosemary Seve (in Kenya)*

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

*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*

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

*Brooks Mikkelsen (and her family), sister of Lucie House*

*Wagner family and Wintermute/Littles families, friends of Kerry Holbrook*

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

*Jerry Walter, friend of Brian and Jeanette Castle*

*Christina Z., mother of Franzi Rokoske*

## The Week at a Glance!

*Church Office Holiday Schedule:* The church office will be closed Monday-Friday, December 25-29 for Christmas, and Monday, January 1 for the New Year's Day holiday. Church staff will be on-call to assist members during this time.

<p><b>Later Today</b> <b>5:30 – 8:00 PM</b> Youth groups Dinner and Christmas Party</p>	<p><b>Monday, December 18</b> No Handbell Choir <b>6:30 – 8:30 PM</b> Joint Officers &amp; Staff Christmas Potluck at the home of Mindy Douglas and Tim O'Brien</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, December 19</b> <b>1:30 PM</b> Worship Planning <b>2:30 PM</b> Program Staff <b>Newsletter today!</b></p>	<p><b>Wednesday, December 20</b> <b>5:45 PM</b> Candlelight Caroling <b>6:00 PM</b> Worship &amp; Communion (Mary Berry, preaching) <b>6:30 PM</b> Supper <b>7:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir</p>
<p><b>Thursday, December 21</b></p>	<p><b>Friday, December 22</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday, December 23</b></p>	<p><b>Sunday, December 24</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>No Sunday School</p> <p><b>11:00 AM Worship</b> Marilyn Hedgpeth, preaching The Hunger for Change offering will be received.</p> <p><b>5:00 PM</b> Christmas Eve Communion &amp; Candle Lighting Service Mindy Douglas, preaching</p> <p>No evening youth groups</p>

### Christmas Eve Worship

**5:00 p.m. - Sunday, December 24**

**Worship with Holy Communion and Candle Lighting Service**

(Childcare provided)

The recipients of the Christmas Eve offering will be *Welcome Baby*, the *Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina*, and *Senior PharmAssist*. Please give generously!



**Sunday, December 31, 2017**

**No Sunday School**

**11:00 a.m. – Worship**

**Robert Brawley, preaching**

(Childcare provided)

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The *bulletin cover*, “*The Concert of Angels*,” is by Gaudenzio Ferrari (1471-1546), a painter of the Italian High Renaissance. This work adorns the dome of the church of Santa Maria dei Miracoli. Image was retrieved December 7, 2017 from <https://todoelordelmundo.files.wordpress.com/2012/01/the-concert-of-angels-1534-36-xx-gaudenzio-ferrari1.jpg?w=500&h=333>



*Minister of Music, First Presbyterian Church  
Kathryn Cain Parkins*

**Sopranos**

*Samantha Arten  
Isabel Brown  
Kate Busa  
Kathy Conner  
Lesley Curtis  
Mindy Douglas  
Laura Kelley  
Anne Lazarides  
Wendy McCorkle  
Charlotte Nelson  
Sara Radtke  
Laurie Ray  
Cathy Snell  
Amy Wilson*

**Altos**

*Marsha Butler  
Cherrie Henry  
Katherine Higgins  
Hendrika Vande Kemp  
Christyn Klinck  
Katy Loeblich  
Mary Kay Robinson  
Leigh Wynkoop  
Diane Prosser*

**Tenors**

*George Bernhardt  
Bob Breitweiser  
Stephen Cole  
Brent Curtis  
Sam Henry  
Jerry Postema  
Joe Robinson  
Tom Juhnke*

**Basses**

*Doug Butler  
Drew Cummings  
Sebastian Green  
Jim Johnson  
Andrew Kim  
Mal King  
Parker Klinck  
Dewey Lawson  
David Smith  
David Verner*

**Special thanks to our instrumentalists:**

Violin I: *Mary Kay Robinson*  
Violin II: *Janet Barringer*  
Oboe: *Joe Robinson*

**~ Serving Today ~**

Acolytes: *Noah Rokoske, Matt Brockman*

Crucifer: *Graham Curtis*

Liturgists: *Isabel Brown, Tony Chavez, Carlo Diy, Cris Rivera*

Narthex Greeter: *Alice Raney*

After Worship Greeters: *Andy Henry* (narthex/rear); *Brent Curtis* (side/font)

Ushers: *Kathy Krahenbuhl* (head), *Amy Sanchez, Julie Whiddon, Jane Williams, Gray Wilson*

**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: <http://firstpres-durham.org>

**305 EAST MAIN STREET**

**DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701  
ORGANIZED 1871**

**919.682.5511**