

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 23, 2018

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Minute” for Mission

Marilyn Hedgpeth
Tyler Momsen-Hudson

PRELUDE

Toccata on “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

Matthew Corl

INTROIT

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

*Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.*

*Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Revelation 22)*

Jennie Alwood

Leader: The angel showed me the river of the water of life,
flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb;

People: **Flowing as clear as crystal down the middle of the great street of the city.**

Leader: On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit,
yielding its fruit every month,

People: **And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.**

Leader: No longer will there be any curse.

People: **For the throne of God and the Lamb will be in the city,
with all people serving God.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Unser Herrscher

*CONFESSION OF SIN

Mindy Douglas

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Merciful God, we come to you as a people in need of your healing. We have gathered comfortably for one of the most segregated hours of our week to submit to your guidance. Fling wide the prison doors of our separation and isolation, and rekindle your unitive spirit within us. Soften our hearts and remold us in your image as we confess our sin before you and one another. Let us pray:
For “the appalling silence of the good people,”

People: **Forgive us, O God.**

* Those who are able, please stand.

Leader: For the pain, suffering, and death that many have endured because of the hardness of our hearts,

People: **Forgive us, O God.**

Leader: For failing to “respect the dignity and worth of all persons,”

People: **Forgive us, O God.**

Leader: For failing to understand that you require justice, mercy and humility,

People: **Forgive us, O God.**

Leader: For failing to hear the cries of our neighbors, who continue to hurt,

People: **Forgive us, O God, and free us from the benign indifference and from “the dark depths of prejudice and racism” that prevent persons in our city from living fully. Through the guidance of your spirit, help us to learn to live as members of the family of God, in loving community, one with another.**

(quotes from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s *Letter from a Birmingham Jail*)

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Response (No. 93, verse 2)

Truro

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart

From earthly use for heaven’s employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Tim Woolin (*StepUp*)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations, through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE (read responsively)

Psalm 1

Iris Arnette (*StepUp*)

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers.

People: **But their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.**

Leader: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

People: **The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

Leader: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous:

People: **For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

EPISTLE LESSON

Revelation 22:1-5

Jeffrey Young (*StepUp*)
(Pew Bible, NT Page 260)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 9:30-37

Jonathan Osei (*StepUp*)
(Pew Bible, NT Page 45)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

INTRODUCTIONS

Syretta Hill

TESTIMONIES

Peggie English (*StepUp*)

Marilyn Peace (*StepUp*)

MEDITATION

The Hidden Life of Trees

Marilyn Hedgpeth

(*Silent reflection*)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(from *A Declaration of Faith*)

Mindy Douglas

All things will be renewed in Christ. In Christ God gave us a glimpse of the new creation he has already begun and will surely finish. We do not know when the final day will come. In our time we see only broken and scattered signs that the renewal of all things is under way. We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering in the world, the church, or our own lives. But we see Jesus as Lord. As he stands at the center of our history, we are confident he will stand at its end. He will judge all people and nations. Evil will be condemned and rooted out of God's good creation. There will be no more tears or pain. All things will be made new. The fellowship of human beings with God and each other will be perfected.

***HYMN**

For the Healing of Nations

Sung to *Regent Square*

For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;

for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;

to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release,

that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.

Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned:

pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.

In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;

for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind,

that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

John Weicher

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Come near to God;

People: **And God will come near to you.**

Leader: Humble yourselves before the Lord,

People: **And God will lift you up.**

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.

***THE PEACE**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(Children through 1st grade enter during The Peace.)

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Marilyn Hedgpeth

(Following "A Time with Children," children may join their parents in the pews or return to the nursery.)

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to the Offering

Mindy Douglas

Offertory Anthem

The Beauty of this Sacred Place

Prospect, Southern Harmony

(arr. J. Biery)

*The beauty of this sacred place inspires our hearts and minds to grow.
We sing with love, bestowed by grace; from God all richest blessings flow.*

*The meal, the word, the art, the song, are but a glimmer of the whole;
With joyful hearts sing all day long, God's blessings satisfy the soul.*

*We look into each person's eyes and see such longing hunger there.
Respond with love to others' cries; our neighbors' burdens gladly bear.*

*So many struggle and despair, we hear their silent voices plead,
Our actions show how much we care, extending help to those in need.*

Doxology (Hymn No. 608)

Praise God (Hopson)



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all



peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -



more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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

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

All: **God, who labored creation into being, we give thanks for this day and the opportunity to work in your world. Grant us the strength to labor for what is right, just, and fair. Grant us the wisdom to speak out for those who are enslaved, oppressed, and exploited. Grant us the ability to break the chains of injustice and hear the voices of people long silenced. As we seek to work in your world this day, help us make it a better place for all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

***HYMN NO.744**

Arise, Your Light Is Come

Festal Song

***BENEDICTION**

Marilyn Hedgpeth

***POSTLUDE**

Voluntary in D

James Hook

Children's Choir rehearses immediately following worship in the choir room.

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 September 16, we welcomed 16 visitors in worship.

We *welcome* our guests from *StepUp Durham* and thank them for providing worship leadership.

The *flowers* are given to the glory of God by *Carolyn Harrar Wolfe* in memory of her parents, *E. S. (Scotty) and Marion Harrar*, and her sister, *Joanne Harrar*.

Nursery care for infants to 6 years of age is provided during worship on the second floor of the Education Building. A changing table is in the narthex (go left as you exit the rear of the sanctuary).

Worship bags and activity bulletins are available in the foyer for children. Books are on the pews in the narthex for young children to read and enjoy should they need a break from the service.

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

These Days devotional books for October-December 2018 are now available from the tables in the foyer and narthex. Pick up a free copy, regular or large print, while supplies last.

A Day of Service - Saturday, October 6

FPC supports a number of ministries through its budget and through the work of individual members. The Service and Mission Committee is offering volunteer opportunities at several ministries on October 6th. Possible sites include the Food Bank of NC, Habitat for Humanity, Gleaning, Families Moving Forward and others. Volunteers of all ages will have opportunities to serve. Signup information and waiver forms are now available. To suggest additional organizations or to help lead a worksite, please contact Tyler Momsen-Hudson at tylermmh@embarqmail.com.

~ **Serving Today** ~

Liturgist: *Jennie Alwood*

Greeter: *Chris Williams*

After Worship Greeters: *Carol Carson* (side/front); *Kathy Conner* (rear/narthex)

Ushers: *Emily Wilkins* (head), *Dale Gaddis*, *John Mozart*, *Amy Dillon*

SYMPATHIES: We extend sympathies to *Elizabeth High* on the death of *Bill Godwin*, her niece's husband, who died this week, and to *Hendrika Vande Kemp*, whose sister, *Grace Fox*, died this week in Kansas. .

Added this week:



Beth Livingston - friend of Carol Wills

Hayden Williams - family member of Carol Wills

Families and individuals impacted and displaced by Hurricane Florence

Franzi Rokoske

Carolyn Wolfe

Brookdale Senior Living, Durham: *Julian Boswell*

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Bette Conroy*, *Bob Rankin*

Dubose Center, Chapel Hill: *Mary Clark*

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

Pruitt Health at Carolina Point, Durham: *Helen Garrison*

The Forest at Duke: *Fran Bryant*, *Peaches McPherson*

Family and Friends of Church Members and Staff

Fran Alwood, mother of Jennie Alwood

Brent Barber, brother-in-law of Christyn Klinck

Robert Bloom, father of Tom Bloom

Demario Brooks, friend of the Walk-in Ministry

Marc and Holly Crawford, friends of Brianna Bennett

John Hendrickson, cousin of Bill Hendrickson

Marsha Hussung, sister of Brent Curtis

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

Kathy Johnston, niece of Jeanne Hervey

John Morey, father of Robin Morey

Ryan Washington, infant friend of Adrienne Allison and Bob Pleasants

Growing Through Grief

A six-week "Introduction to Grief" series

Tuesdays, September 25 – October 30

St. Paul's Lutheran Church located at 1200 W. Cornwallis Rd, Durham

Gather at 4:00 p.m. for conversation and refreshments

Program runs from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

All are welcome!

PRIDE



DURHAM ★ NC

LET'S SHOW OUR PRIDE!

Saturday, September 29, 2018

The festival is being held on Duke University's East Campus and begins at 11:00 a.m. The parade starts at 12:30 p.m. FPC is signed up to march. We will also have space at a table with local sister churches, including Pilgrim UCC and Watts Street Baptist. Come join us for the march or help staff the booth (we're giving out fruit snacks). Contact Mindy at m.douglas@firstpres-durham.org or 919-682-5511, ext. 211 if you plan to participate.



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: Doing Justice, Loving Kindness, Walking Humbly*

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. Building on the success of last year's campaign, we are asking for your help to complete our goals for staff pay equity and restoring historic benevolences, and to enhance our ministries for children, youth, and their families.

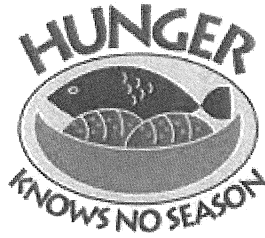
As a departure from past campaigns which were held as dinner events on a weekday evening, we are providing a **FREE LUNCH** for all of our church members in Watts-Hill Hall on next Sunday, September 30 immediately following the worship service. We have planned a wonderful lunch of roasted pork loin, poached salmon, rice and vegetables, salad, macaroni and cheese and dessert ((NOTE: special dietary requests always welcome (mcgrisrivera@gmail.com))). Childcare will be available during the lunch. **Please RSVP** via 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 the luncheon, please pick up your stewardship materials in the foyer. 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 28. Hope you can join us as we seek the welfare of our church and community!



Plan for our celebration on World Communion Sunday, Oct. 7:

- Wear something that comes from another country
- Give generously to the 2018 Peace and Global Witness Offering remembering that FPC has designated our 25% to the support of RECONCILE in South Sudan for their peacemaker training work. You can give online through the church's website: <https://tinyurl.com/Peacemaking-Offering>.
- Pray always for God's Peace on, in, and above this beautiful world.



THE HUNGER FOR CHANGE OFFERING

Hunger has become more prevalent, particularly since the recession. First Presbyterian Church of Durham has a long history of involvement in hunger-related mission, most notably Pennies for Hunger (now Hunger for Change) and the Durham CROP Walk. In addition, we coordinate volunteers for the Community Kitchen at Urban Ministries of Durham, collect food for the members at Iglesia Emanuel Presbyterian Fellowship, and the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. Our youth sponsor the annual Souper Bowl of Caring to raise money for hunger-related missions. We also encourage giving to the One Great Hour of Sharing Hunger Offering on Easter Sunday which funds mission activities related to disaster assistance and hunger programs locally and around the world.

The funds received from our Hunger for Change Offering go to the New Hope Presbytery for the Presbyterian Hunger Relief Program and are divided as follows:

50% - International Hunger Relief Programs

40% - Local Hunger Programs

10% - Administration.

These funds are dispersed through local grants to hunger relief programs based on a grant application process. Urban Ministries of Durham, Presbyterian Urban Ministries and Iglesia Emanuel have been frequent recipients.

If your family committed to saving a **penny**/day each month, you'd be donating about \$0.30 per month or \$3.65 for the entire year. That's not much in the face of the rising need. Save a **nickel**/day, and you can contribute \$1.50 per month. A **dime**/day will generate \$3.00 and a **quarter**/a day will generate \$7.50 per month.

The fourth Sunday of each month is designated to receive the Hunger for Change Offering. Please consider supporting this hunger relief effort with a generous offering today.

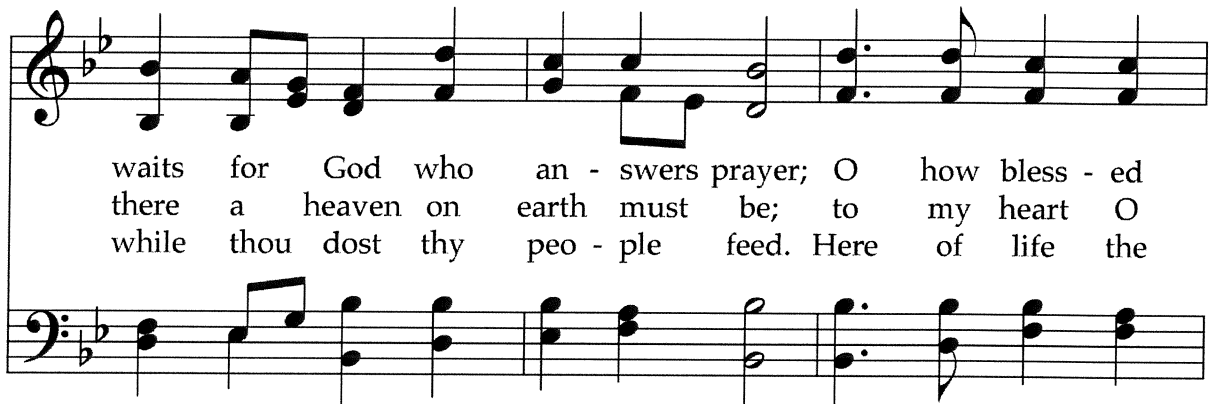
Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty 403



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so
3 Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be



en - ter there, where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
un - to me; where we find thee and a - dore thee,
done in - deed; may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee,



waits for God who an - swers prayer; O how bless - ed
there a heaven on earth must be; to my heart O
while thou dost thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the



is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace.
en - ter thou; let it be thy tem - ple now.
foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!



1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken-heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.



The Week at a Glance!

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| <p>Later Today</p> <p>After Worship Children's Choir (Choir room)</p> <p>Stewardship Visit Training (East Parlor)</p> <p>Scratch AfterChurch (Basement Parlor)</p> <p>4:45 – 6:15 PM Parent's Night Out</p> <p>4:30 – 6:30 PM Middle School Youth</p> <p>6:00 – 8:00 PM High School Youth</p> | <p>Monday, September 24</p> <p>6:00 PM Deacons</p> <p>6:30 PM Officers' Supper</p> <p>7:00 PM Session</p> | <p>Tuesday, September 25</p> <p>11:30 AM Daytimers' Luncheon at Neo China</p> <p>1:30 PM Worship Planning</p> <p>2:30 PM All Staff Meeting</p> <p>6:00 – 7:00 PM Church World Service Prayer Vigil on Immigration Issues (sanctuary)</p> | <p>Wednesday, September 26</p> <p>5:00 PM Bell Choir</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p> |
| <p>Thursday, September 27</p> <p>9:30 – 11:00 AM FPC preparing lunch bags at Urban Ministries</p> | <p>Friday, September 28</p> <p>8:00 AM Men of Faith Breakfast at Nosh's Cafe</p> <p>Noon – 1:00 PM Isaiah Bible Study (room 205)</p> | <p>Saturday, September 29</p> <p>11:00 AM Pride: Durham Festival and Parade (Duke University's East Campus)</p> | <p>Sunday, September 30 <i>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Stewardship Campaign Kickoff</p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Multi-Sensory Worship</p> <p>After Worship Stewardship Kick-off Luncheon</p> <p>4:30 – 6:30 PM Middle School Youth Group</p> <p>6:00 – 8:00 PM High School Youth Group</p> |

CHURCH STAFF

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



Cheryl Henry, Parish Associate
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator
Sam Miglarese, Associate Pastor
Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music
John Weicher, Associate Pastor

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, check out the information tables in the foyer and narthex, email the church office at: info@firstpres-durham.org or visit our media platforms:

Website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/firstpresdurham>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/firstpresdurham/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/firstpresdurham/>

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