

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

1st Sunday after Christmas

December 29, 2019

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

Adeste Fideles

Jeanne Demessieux

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: In this Christmas season of great joy, we praise the Lord; for in mercy and abundant steadfast love, God has become our Savior.

People: **Even in times of danger and threat, we praise God, who has set us free from fear and death through Jesus Christ, the pioneer of our salvation.**

All: **With all creation, in the midst of the congregation, we praise and put our trust in God alone.**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 147**

The First Nowell

The First Nowell

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

Merciful God, in great love you have claimed us as your children. We confess that we have not loved you as we should. We have not loved our brothers and sisters as you intend. Complacent in the presence of injustice and violence, we fail to recognize our own complicity. Forgive our misuse of power against people, and against your creation. Help us to praise you by living in harmony and peace, fully trusting in you in all things.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Response (Hymn No.132, verse 2)

In Dulci Jubilo

***Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jean Cary

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray

All: **Holy One, your word comes to us: Jesus Christ, Immanuel. Holy Word, you cross every border meant to shut you out. Holy Wisdom, speak to us in the word read and proclaimed. Hearing, may we dream your dreams and faithfully follow wherever you lead. In your triune name we pray. Amen.**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 63:7-9

(Pew Bible, OT Page 693)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

* Those who are able, please stand.

EPISTLE LESSON

Hebrews 2:10-18

(Pew Bible, NT Page 219)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!****GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 2:13-23

(Pew Bible, NT Page 2)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!****SERMON***“Which King Will It Be?”*

G. Wilson Gunn, Jr.

*(Silent reflection)****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(in unison)**(From A Declaration of Faith)*

John Weicher

God sent the promised Deliverer to his people. Jesus, the long expected Savior, came into the world as a child, descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin. He lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to his people the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child, yet born of God's power as was no other child. In the person and work of Jesus, God himself and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule. Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection, he brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended.

HYMN NO. 154Jesus Entered Egypt**King's Weston****THE PEACE**

John Weicher

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Signs of hospitality and reconciliation may be expressed verbally, if desired. During the passing of the peace, children through first grade, along with their caregivers and older siblings, are invited to come to the front pews for “A Time with the Children” and the baptism.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

John Weicher

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

People: **Whose hope is in the Lord their God.**

(Psalm 146:5)

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.

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to the Offering

Mindy Douglas

Offertory Anthem

Love Came Down at Christmas

Malcolm Archer

*Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;**Love was born at Christmas, stars and angels gave the sign.**Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine;**Worship we our Jesus—but wherewith for sacred sign?**Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine,**Love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign. -- Christina Rossetti*

*Doxology (Hymn No 113, Refrain only)

Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Leader: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; (Psalm 146:2)

People: **I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**

All: **In this gifting season, O God, we are grateful for the gift of your dear Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Receive, we pray, these offerings we bring. May they be used in the service of your grace and truth dwelling among us. In Christ's holy name we pray. Amen.**

***HYMN NO. 136**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go Tell It

***BENEDICTION**

G. Wilson Gunn, Jr.

***POSTLUDE**

Beside Thy Cradle, Here I Stand

J. L. Krebs

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 December 22, we welcomed 50 visitors to worship.

We welcome to the pulpit today *G. Wilson Gunn, Jr.*, who grew up in Arkansas, matriculated at Davidson College (BA), Duke University (M.Div. and Th.M.) and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (PhD). He served pastorates in North Carolina and Virginia (including two new church developments) for 20 years before entering executive service in Grace Presbytery (NE Texas area). From March, 2004 until October 2018 he served National Capital Presbytery as General Presbyter. Presently he serves as the Coordinator of the Presbytery Leader Formation Program, is an International Coaching Federation Certified coach, and consults with Church Judicatories. He and his wife Pam have four children (Lisa, Daniel, Ben and Jasper) and three grandsons (Jacob, Josh and JJ).

We thank *Gordon Campbell* who is sharing his talent on the organ with us this morning while *Kathy Parkins* has a day off.

Nursery care for infants to 6 years of age is provided during worship on the second floor of the Education Building. There is a changing table in the narthex, located to the left as you exit the rear of the sanctuary.

Portions of *today's worship texts* were reprinted from *Feasting on the Word* and *A Declaration of Faith*.

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.

Year-End Giving: Timely payment of 2019 pledges by December 31 will allow First Presbyterian to pay its end-of-year bills promptly and to meet its benevolence obligations for 2019. **Please remember that the church must receive your charitable contributions by 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31, 2019 or the gift must be postmarked by December 31, 2019, if mailed, to be deductible on your 2019 taxes.** If you wish to make a contribution by credit card, this may be done through the church's website (www.firstpres-durham.org) at any time. If you wish to make a donation through a gift of stock, please notify Tom Bloom, Business Administrator (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 2019.

**The Church Office will be closed Wednesday, January 1, 2020
in observance of the New Year's Day holiday.**

The church's newsletter deadline is today for the December 31, 2019 issue.

~ Our Concerns ~

Home:

Isabel Brown Margaret Mubanga Mercy Ndambiri-Curlett Joseph Ngumi Carolyn Wolfe

Care Communities:

Brookdale: *Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett*

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Bob Rankin*

Durham Regent: *John Kerr, Ann Prospero*

Emerald Pond, Durham: *Paul Cornsweet*

Hillcrest Convalescent Center, Durham: *Jean Lazarides*

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

Southern Living for Seniors, Louisburg: *Phillip Herndon*

The Forest at Duke: *Fran Bryant*

Family and Friends of the Congregation:

Fran Alwood, mother of Jennie Alwood

Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss

Camilla Crampton, companion of Mal King

Ralph Edwards, grandfather of Amy Wilson

Jimmy Levy, grandson of Cheryl McDonald

Carley and Jon Meade, family of Bruce, Ellie, Kristin and Dayton Meade

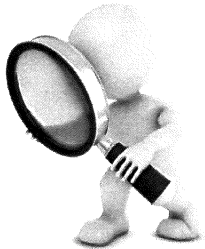
Doug Neece, brother of Vern Neece

Larry Newark, brother-in-law of Jean Wilson

Ellen O'Brien, mother-in-law of Mindy Douglas

Danny Parker, father-in-law of Al & Judy Arrowood's son Jon

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss



Our next segment of Inquirers' Classes will be offered **Sundays, January 5, 12, and 19 in the Wilson Parlor**. If you are curious about our beliefs and life at FPC, please join us for these classes, which meet from 9:45 – 10:45 on these three Sundays in January. You do not have to attend these classes to join First Presbyterian Church. New members will be received again on Sunday, January 26, 2020. Contact *Mindy Douglas* (m.douglas@firstpres-durham.org) for more information about these classes and how to become a member of FPC.

**JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
MARILYN HEDGPETH**

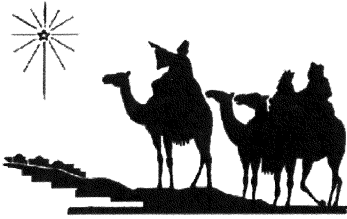
**HER 16 YEAR MINISTRY
AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HAS IMPACTED US ALL**

CATERED LUNCH & CELEBRATION

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020
12:15 PM in WATTS-HILL HALL AT FPC**

Meal reservation required.

Please respond to the paperless post invitation
or call the church office at 919-682-5511
if you plan to join us for the meal.



Epiphany of the Lord - Sunday, January 5

9:45 a.m. – Sunday School/ Inquirers' Class

11:00 a.m. – Worship and Communion

Monthly Potluck for Women

Women of FPC, we are trying something new in 2020: a monthly potluck on the first Tuesday of each month just for women. Our first one will be held **Tuesday, January 7, at Jancy Johnstone's house**, 4730 Old Lake Trail, Hillsborough at 6:30 p.m. Join us and bring a dish to pass. These gatherings grew out of the Women's Spiritual Formation class, and we would like to invite all First Pres women to join us! Please email *Deborah Momsen-Hudson* at dmomsenhudson@gmail.com or call 919-417-8664 to be added to the email distribution list for logistics and meal planning.



Sunday, January 12

9:45 A.M. – Sunday School/ Inquirers' Class

11:00 a.m. – Worship

12:15 p.m. – Retirement Celebration for Marilyn Hedgpeth in Watts-Hill Hall

COMMUNITY EVENTS AT FPC – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

CONCERT – 3:00 p.m. in the FPC sanctuary

A Winter Concert by SONAM (Singers of New and Ancient Music)

benefitting the East Durham Children's Initiative

Featuring music of light and gifts from contemporary female composers, as well as portions of Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil*. For more information go to: <https://sites.google.com/site/sonamchorus/upcoming-concerts>



**Martin
Luther
King, Jr.**
remembered

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

Durham City/County Employees' MLK Civic Celebration

12 noon, FPC sanctuary

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

Annual MLK Unity March and Community Worship

The March begins at 10:30 a.m. from N.C. Mutual Life Insurance Company (411 W. Chapel Hill Street) and ends around 11:45 a.m. in the sanctuary of FPC, followed by a community worship which begins around 12 noon. All are welcome to participate in the march and attend the worship.

The Durham Children's Choir will provide music for the service.

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o'er Beth - le -

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing
 east be - yond them far; and to the earth it gave
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop

their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

Refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The image shows a musical score for a vocal line. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is not explicitly shown but appears to be common time. The lyrics 'born is the King of Is - ra - el.' are written below the treble staff. The melody is simple, with a range of approximately an octave. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

5 Then entered in those wise men three,
 full reverently upon their knee,
 and offered there in his presence
 their gold, and myrrh, and
 frankincense.

Refrain

6 Then let us all with one accord
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Jesus Entered Egypt

154

Capo 5: (Am)

(G) (Am) (C) (Am)

(Dm) (Am)

Dm

C Dm

F Dm

Gm Dm



1 Je - sus en - tered E - gypt flee - ing Her - od's hand,
 2 Je - sus was a mi - grant liv - ing as a guest
 3 Je - sus cross - es bor - ders with the wan - dering poor,

(C)

(G)

(Am)

(C)

(Dm)

F

C

Dm

F

Gm



liv - ing as an a - lien in a for - eign land.
 with the friends and strang - ers who could of - fer rest.
 search - ing for a ref - uge, for an o - pen door.

(G)

(Em)

(Am)

(G)

(D)

(G)

C

Am

Dm

C

G

C



Far from home and coun - try with his fam - i - ly,
 Do we hold wealth light - ly so that we can share
 Do our words and ac - tions an - swer Je - sus' plea:

(Am)

(G)

(Em)

(Dm)

(C)

(G)

(Am)

Dm

C

Am

Gm

F


C


Dm



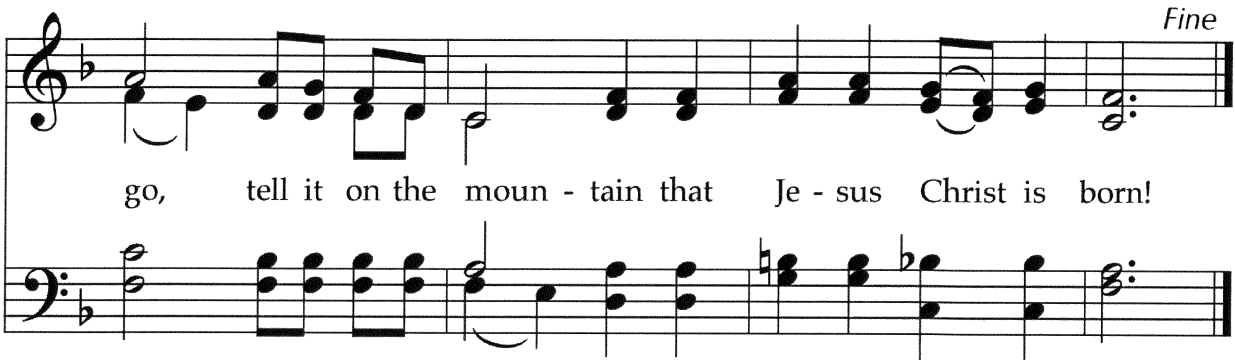
was there room and wel - come for this ref - u - gee?
 shel - ter with the home - less, and a - bun - dant care?
 "Give the low - ly wel - come, and you wel - come me"?

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

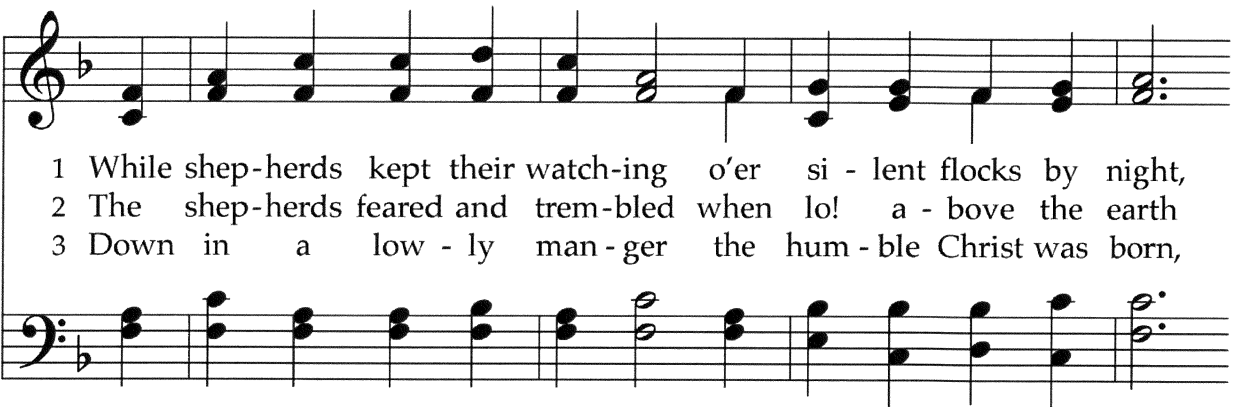
Refrain 



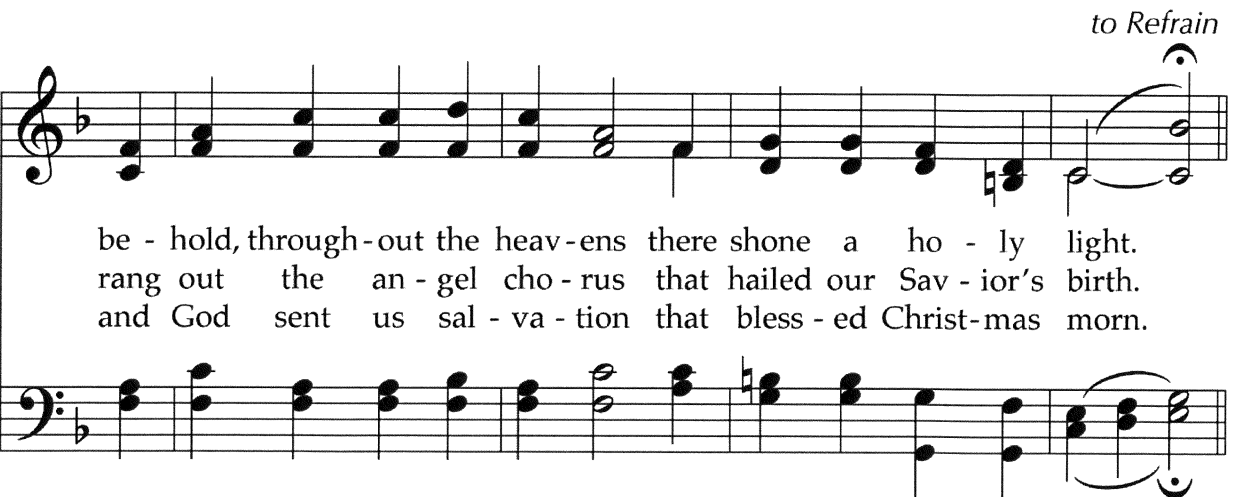
Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!





1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



to Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

This Week at a Glance!

<p>After Worship: No Youth Groups No Children's Choir</p>	<p>Monday, December 30 9:00 AM – 12 Noon Walk-in Ministry</p>	<p>Tuesday, December 31 Happy 148th Birthday to FPC! 1:30 PM Plan Worship 2:30 PM Program Staff <i>Newsletter today</i></p>	<p>Wednesday, January 1</p>  <p>Office Closed Day School Closed No choir rehearsals</p>
<p>Thursday, January 2 9:00 AM – 12 Noon Walk-in Ministry</p>	<p>Friday, January 3</p>	<p>Saturday, January 4 6:00 PM First Friends and Families Potluck and Game Night at FPC</p>	<p>Sunday, January 5</p>  <p>9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Inquirers' Class 11:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 5:00 PM Alleluia Children's Choir No Youth Groups</p>

~ Serving Today ~

Liturgist: *Jean Cary*

Narthex Greeter: *Debbie Hamlin-Aggrey*

After Worship Greeters: *Raymond Mbah* (font/side door); *Tom Bacon* (rear/narthex)

Ushers: *Julie Whiddon* (head), *Christy Gudaitis*

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

CHURCH STAFF



Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator
Sam Miglarese, Associate Pastor
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>.

305 EAST MAIN STREET DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701 919.682.5511 ORGANIZED 1871