

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 5, 2020

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 118:26; Zechariah 9:9)

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Hosanna in the highest!**

Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

People: **Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!**

Leader: Lo, your king comes to you;

People: **Triumphant and victorious is he,**

Leader: Humble and riding on a donkey,

People: **On a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PROCLAMATION OF THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

Matthew 21:1-11

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Eternal God, whose word silences the shouts of the mighty:**

Quiet within us every voice but your own.

Speak to us through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ

that by the power of your Holy Spirit

we may receive the grace to show Christ's love

in lives given to your service. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-11

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Love that Will Not Let Us Go"

HYMN

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Closer Walk

Refrain: ***Just a closer walk with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee:
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.***

***I am weak, but thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
as I walk, let me walk close to thee.*** (Refrain)

***Through this world of toil and snares,
if I falter, Lord who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.*** (Refrain)

***When my feeble life is o'er,
time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.*** (Refrain)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*in unison*)

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God."

People: **Let your face shine upon your servants;
save us in your steadfast love.**

(from Psalm 31)

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

CLOSING PRAYER *(from Sarum Primer)*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at my end, and at my departing. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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 March 29, 148 households tuned in to the 11:00 a.m. streamed broadcast of worship.

Until further notice, church activities, including Sunday School and worship, are meeting online. Church staff are working from home under the Stay-at-home Order for the state of North Carolina. The church's voicemail and staff emails are being monitored. If you need assistance, you may call the church office (919-682-5511) and leave a message, or email a staff person. Thank you for your patience as we respond to your calls and emails. You will be notified when we are allowed to resume gathering at the church. Please read church emails and check our social media to stay up-to-date.

Presbyterian Women will not meet for Circle and Bible study on Monday, April 6.

These Days: For month of April, the publisher of the *These Days* devotional has prepared an online daily devotional. Use this link to download:
<https://tinyurl.com/TheseDaysDevotional>.

Lenten Book Studies

Until further notice, 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 online discussion group, please contact Mindy at m.douglas@firstpres-durham.org so you can receive the unique Zoom ID and password.

All are welcome to join the Women's Spirituality Group in this study of ***Helpmates, Harlots and Heroes*** by Alice Bellis. We meet via Zoom on Wednesdays, 7:30-8:15 p.m. Meeting ID: 100 747 699. Connect via this link: <https://renci.zoom.us/j/100747699> or call 877 853 5257 US Toll-free and use Meeting ID: 100 747 699.

Winesdays on Wednesdays Fellowship goes Virtual

This First Presbyterian Wednesday fellowship group has decided to start doing weekly Virtual Winesday Happy Hours at 5:30 p.m. Join in with your beverage of choice! Attendees to past gatherings at the Co-op have been sent a link to participate using Google Hangouts Meet. You can join the virtual gathering using this link: meet.google.com/rce-oymm-hfe. You can also join by phone: +1 319-449-2941 (PIN: 283670966). Contact Laurie Williamson by email at laurie@laurieandmatt.com to be added to the group's listserv.

~ Our Celebrations and Concerns ~

Sympathies: The love and concern of the congregation are extended to the families of ***Helen Garrison*** and ***J. René Herlong***. Helen died peacefully in her sleep on March 31st at her assisted living community in Durham. René died March 25th in Rock Hill, SC.

Birth Announcement: Congratulations to ***Mary and Stephen Berry*** on the birth of their first child. ***August Graham Berry*** was born March 28th. Mom and baby are doing well and the family is home, self-isolating, and learning how to be a family of three.

Concerns:

All who have been impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic

Peggy Boulden, mother of Dick Boulden, at Brookshire Nursing Home, Hillsborough

Paula Cope, sister of Sam Miglarese, recovering from heart surgery

Brent Curtis, recovering from knee surgery

Sharon Hirsch's sister and her family, infected with COVID-19 virus

Shannon Putman, daughter of Mary Putman

Julio Manceras

Margaret Mubanga

Care Communities:

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

Coasdaile 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, Durham: ***Jean Lazarides***

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

The Forest at Duke: ***Fran Bryant***

Family and Friends of the Congregation:

Jennie Bodkin, sister of Mindy Douglas

Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss

Camilla Crampton, companion of Mal King

Becky Evans, sister of Vernon Neece

Dolores Ewald, mother-in-law of Susan Ewald

Chris Kovach, friend of Jeanne Hervey

Doug Neece, brother of Vernon Neece

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Judy Wood, mother of Sharon Hirsch

Iglesia Emanuel needs our help!

Iglesia Emanuel is receiving more people in need of food assistance, with more needs than we are able to meet with our current level of resources. In addition, as this crisis deepens, many of our usually self-sufficient members will undoubtedly lose their jobs, be ineligible for any type of government assistance, and be in desperate need of emergency food assistance. If you would like to contribute to this effort to assist our vulnerable community members, we would be grateful for any and all donations. The safest and most helpful way to contribute is by making a financial contribution at our website: <https://emanueldurham.org/>. If you prefer, you can notify us if you would like to drop off non-perishable food on the front steps of the church for us to collect. The most needed items are: rice, beans, pasta (including macaroni & cheese), canned food (soup, beans, fruit, salmon, tomato sauce) and snacks for kids. Thank you very much for your generosity and concern in this time of need. Also, please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Rev. Julio Ramirez-Eve, pastor, Iglesia Presbiteriana Emanuel
2504 N. Roxboro Street, Durham, NC 27704
919-672-4333; jre0412@gmail.com

Director of Children's Ministries Position open at FPC



Do you love children, in all their glory? Our congregation is seeking a Director of Children's Ministries, and we have officially opened the position to candidates from within the congregation – members and friends. We are seeking someone who loves children, loves Jesus, and is interested in introducing the one to the others. Might that be you?

In partnership with our Christian Education committee, this person will coordinate and implement Sunday School and our other ministries of faith formation with our younger members and friends (birth-5th grade). We are looking for someone with knowledge of the Bible, experience with faith formation and a passion for children. The job description and overview are available on the church's website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>. This is a 12-hour-a-week position. Please email your resume and cover letter to John Weicher at j.weicher@firstpres-durham.org.

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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ORGANIZED 1871