

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

CALL TO WORSHIP

Susan Dunlap

Leader: The God of the ages has always been faithful to God's people.

People: **God gives comfort and courage to those who are suffering.**

Leader: God gives strength and skill to those working to save and to heal.

People: **God gives peace that passes all understanding in these moments of fear and sorrow.**

Leader: Let us open our eyes, hearts, and hands to the movement of the Spirit,

People: **That we might be comforted and comfort others.**

All: **Let us worship God together.**

CONFESSION OF SIN (remain standing)

Susan Dunlap

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Everything is so broken,

O Creator of all things,

so cancelled,

so paused.

We think we can fix it, of course.

We are smart.

We are competent.

We are American.

Forgive us for such pride and denial.

Forgive us for playing the Lone Ranger,

when now, more than ever,

living in the world is a team sport.

Teach us to rest, to be gentle, and to yield.

Turn our drive to fix into a resolve to flatten.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Susan Dunlap

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Guide us, O God,**

by your Word and Spirit,

that in your light we may see light,

in your truth find freedom,

and in your will discover your peace;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PSALM LESSON (in unison)

Psalm 23

Susan Dunlap

Leader: Let us read the Psalm 23 together, using the King James Version.

All: **The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 16:1-13

John Weicher

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

John Weicher

(silent reflection)

SOLO

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

Margaret Bonds

Lesley Curtis, soloist

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Mindy Douglas

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.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

John Weicher

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Therefore it says, "Sleepers, awake!"

People: **"Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."**

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

Mindy Douglas

CLOSING PRAYER *(from Sarum Primer)*

Mindy Douglas

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

John Weicher

POSTLUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy

John Dykes

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. More than 100 households tuned in to the March 15, 2020 live-stream broadcast of worship.

Special thanks to *Lesley Curtis* for sharing her vocal gift with us in worship today.

Portions of *today's worship texts* were reprinted from *Book of Common Worship* (2018).

E V E N T / SCHEDULE CHANGES

Until further notice, the **pastoral staff** (Susan, John, Kathy, and Mindy) will be working remotely from their homes. You can reach them by email, mobile phone, or texting. **Administrative staff** (Valerie, Tom, Sybil, and Robert) will continue to serve, working at FPC on Mondays and Fridays, and available by email or phone/text on other days of the week, as needed. **Office volunteers** are not needed at the church at this time. The **Walk-in Ministry** will interview clients between 9:00 a.m. -12 noon, only on Mondays, and only by telephone. We will not be handing out blessing bags.

The **Daytimers' Luncheon** (March 24) and **Seniors' Spring Luncheon** (April 22) have been canceled.

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

Lenten Book Study

Until further notice, the Lenten Book Study, led by Mindy Douglas, will continue and meet online on Tuesdays from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. using Zoom. If you wish to join this online Lenten discussion group, please contact Mindy at m.douglas@firstpres-durham.org so you can receive the unique connection ID and password.

Iglesia Emanuel's Annual Ministry Celebration

Unfortunately, the **Iglesia Emanuel Dinner Celebration** scheduled to take place on March 28 has been **postponed** out of respect for the current widespread health concerns over the coronavirus. The event will be rescheduled, possibly for early fall. Please keep in mind the needs of many of the most vulnerable members of our community during this challenging time. If you have further questions, or would like to find tangible ways to provide additional support to our immigrant families, contact Margaret Rubiera at margaretmr29@gmail.com.

The **46th Durham CROP Walk** has not been cancelled but is now considered a "virtual walk." We will continue to raise money to support CROP walk; the easiest way to support at this time is to make a donation through our team page (<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/durhamnc/Team/View/127294/First-Presbyterian-Church>). For more information on other ways to support this virtual walk, contact Jody Maxwell by email: jodymaxwell3@hotmail.com.

~ **Our Concerns** ~

Tony Brown, recovering from surgery

Jaxon Buck, son of Susan Buck and Lenore Champion, returning home from the Peace Corps

Conrad Carter, recovering from surgery

Brent Curtis, recovering from knee surgery

Becky Evans, sister of Vernon Neece

Dolores Ewald, mother-in-law of Susan Ewald

Kristin Meade

Margaret Mubanga

Whitney S., friend of Chris and Meredith Brown

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, 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:

Jennie Bodkin, sister of Mindy Douglas

Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss

Camilla Crampton, companion of Mal King

Chris Kovach, friend of Jeanne Hervey

Doug Neece, brother of Vernon Neece

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Judy Wood, mother of Sharon Hirsch

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

305 EAST MAIN STREET

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701

919.682.5511

ORGANIZED 1871