

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 11, 2020

## A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

(Click [here](#) to connect to today's live worship.)

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**GATHERING MUSIC** Be Thou My Vision Irish tune, "Slane"

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** John Weicher

**MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP** Bob Pleasants

**PRELUDE** Fugue in e minor Nicholas Bruhns

**CALL TO WORSHIP** PSALM 106: 1-3 Mindy Douglas

Leader: Hallelujah! Gives thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,  
for God's mercy endures forever

All: **Who can declare the mighty acts of the LORD or proclaim in full God's praise?**

Leader: Happy are those who act with justice and always do what is right.

All: **I will give thanks to you, O LORD, among the peoples,  
and I will sing praises to you among the nations.  
For your steadfast love is higher than the heavens,  
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

**HYMN** No. 450, verses 1 & 2 *Be Thou My Vision* Slane

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;  
raise thou me heaven ward, O Power of my power.*

**CONFESSION OF SIN** Susan Dunlap

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**It doesn't take long, O God of the mountain-top places, for us to become impatient.**

**In our impatience, we stop waiting on you.**

**In our impatience, we let our loyalties wander.**

**In our impatience, we attach them to lesser entities,**

**like economic security, cultural success, or political self-righteousness.**

**We are surprisingly quick to make an idol out of anything that shines in our lives,**

and just as quick to desert you up on the mountain in the meantime.  
Forgive us for our impatience, idolatry, and desertion.  
Forgive us for wandering away from you when we need you the most.  
Give us the faith to wait,  
and the insight to discern between what glitters, and what is holy.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Jennie Alwood

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God,  
and prepare our hearts to accept your word.  
Silence in us any voice but your own,  
that, hearing, we may also obey your will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**EPISTLE SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Philippians 4: 1-9

Jennie Alwood

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Exodus 32: 1-14

John Weicher

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*“The Waiting Is the Hardest Part”*

John Weicher

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Heidelberg Catechism (1563)*

Mindy Douglas

Leader: What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

People: **That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death—  
not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ,  
who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins  
and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil;  
that he protects me so well  
that without the will of my Creator in heaven  
not a hair can fall from my head;  
indeed, that everything must fit God’s purpose for my salvation.**

**Therefore, by the Holy Spirit,**

**God also assures me of eternal life,**

**and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for God.**

**HYMN**

*O God of Earth and Altar*

*Sung to Llangloffan*

*O God of earth and altar, bow down and hear our cry;  
Our earthly rulers falter, our people drift and die;  
The walls of gold entomb us, the swords of scorn divide,  
Take not Your thunder from us, but take away our pride.  
  
From all that terror teaches, from lies of pen and voice,  
From all the easy speeches that make our hearts rejoice,  
From sale and profanation of honor and the sword,  
From sleep and from damnation, deliver us, good Lord!  
  
Awaken us to action and forge us into one,  
Defying sect and faction; O God, Your will be done!  
Oppressive systems snare us; Our apathies increase.  
Great God, in mercy spare us For justice and for peace!*

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Mindy Douglas

**INVITATION TO GIVE AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING**

Susan Dunlap

**Teacher Dedication (video)**

**CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS**

Susan Dunlap

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Susan Dunlap

**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.**

**HYMN No. 450, verses 3-4**

*Be Thou My Vision*

*Slane*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

## CLOSING PRAYER

John Weicher

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

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

Leader: Let us pray.

I bind unto myself today  
the power of God to hold and lead,

All: **God's eye to watch, God's might to stay,  
God's ear to hearken to my need,**

Leader: the wisdom of my God to teach,  
God's hand to guide, God's shield to ward,

All: **the word of God to give me speech,  
God's heavenly host to be my guard.**

Leader: Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ before me,

All: **Christ beside me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me,**

Leader: Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,

All: **Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

John Weicher

## POSTLUDE

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Jamaican tune, arr. Kerr

### **TODAY after worship . . .**

Do you miss seeing those familiar faces in the pews next to you?

Do you miss making connections with others on Sunday?

Here is your chance to meet up with some friendly faces for **30 minutes of fellowship!**

Join us immediately following worship using this Zoom link: <https://unc.zoom.us/my/bpleas>.

Bob Pleasants, FPC deacon, will be waiting to greet you and send you to a breakout room!

**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 October 4th, 93 households tuned in to the 11:00 a.m. live-streamed broadcast of worship.

Portions of **today's worship text** are taken from *Book of Common Worship* (2018). **Hymn texts** are reprinted from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* and *Glory to God* under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

**Many thanks** to **Jody Maxwell**, **Pat Dillon**, and **Jay Klinck** for their "behind the scenes" technical assistance with our virtual worship live broadcasts each Sunday morning. We are also grateful to **Jennie Alwood** for the powerful images she finds to accompany our online worship.

Free copies of the **These Days** devotional booklet are now available at the church for the fourth quarter (October – December 2020) in regular and large print. Contact the church office

(919-682-5511 or s.king@firstpres-durham.org) if you would like to pick up a copy or have one mailed to you.



## Donors Needed for Sanctuary Flowers

Now that worship is being led more regularly from the sanctuary, fresh flowers are needed to enliven the space. The following dates are open for donors:

**October 25, November 8, and November 15.**

To reserve a Sunday, please call the church office (919-682-5511). Floral arrangements are currently \$40 and you can mail a check (payable to FPC) to the church or pay online at “FPC's” website. The florist will take care of the rest.



**Sunday, October 18**

## National Children's Sabbath

*Mindy Douglas*, preaching

The **Sacrament of Baptism** will be celebrated for *Miles James*, and his parents, *Chris and Emily James*, will be received into membership by the Session and welcomed during worship.



## Need Childcare?

Are you or someone you know looking for childcare? First Presbyterian Day School has openings! FPDS is a five-star program offering full- and part-time care to children ages six weeks to six years. Beginning this month, FPDS is expanding its offering to care for kindergarteners attending school virtually, which includes breakfast, lunch, and snack, as well as creative and recreational activities. FPDS is carefully following COVID-19 safety protocols for childcare centers. Subsidy vouchers are accepted for both programs. To learn more, email [admin@fpdayschool.org](mailto:admin@fpdayschool.org), or call 919-688-8685.

First Presbyterian  
Adult Faith  
Formation



As the election approaches, how does our faith inform our politics? Joe Harvard & Mac McCorkle will use the work of theologian Reinhold Niebuhr to explore the challenges and nuances of this political moment. Note: this class will occur at 4 pm on Sunday afternoons.

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**When Faith & Politics Meet: Niebuhr**  
Sundays, Oct. 11 – Nov. 8, 4 pm – Mac McCorkle & Joe Harvard

Love in the Heart of Durham

## Faith and Politics Class

Weekly on Sunday's  
4pm to 6pm

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88479583043?pwd=bUduSXNCYk1aeVVPcXZURDJHNIozQT09>

## ~ Our Celebrations and Concerns ~

**SYMPATHIES:** The love and concern of the congregation are extended to the following:

- **Jane Rourk & Caroline Rourk** on the death of Jane's brother, **Jay Davis**, and the death of Jane's aunt, **Barbara Smith** ;
- **Esther Pardue and family** on the death of her husband (*and former FPC member*), **Leonard (Len) Pardue**;
- **Pam and Wilson Gunn, Jr.** on the death of Wilson's father, **the Rev. George Wilson Gunn, Sr.** who died recently in Black Mountain NC;
- **Sarah Hubbard** (*regular attendee*), on the death of her boyfriend, **Corey McCraw**, on August 23.

### **CONCERNS:**

**Karl Hanson**, father of Laura Hanson, back in the hospital.

**Jane Rourk**

**Margaret Sims**, recovering at Hillcrest Convalescent Center.

**Richard Sims**, father of Chris Sims

**Carol Wills**, recovering at home.

All those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

Those displaced in California, Oregon, and Washington because of wild fires

### **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**

Rose Vista Village /Kinston Assisted Living, Kinston NC: **Phillip Herndon**

The Forest at Duke: **Fran Bryant**

### **Family and Friends of the Congregation:**

**Brendan Bequette**, family friend of Margaret & Miguel Rubiera

**Peggy Boulden**, mother of Dick Boulden

**Becky Evans**, sister of Vernon Neece

**Phil Goss**, friend of the congregation

**Peggy Mordecai**, mother of Beth Eisenson

**Shannon Putman**, daughter of Mary Putman

**Robert Reaves**, husband of Floalice Reaves, friend of the congregation

**Jerry Walter**, friend of FPC, following a heart transplant at Duke

## **KEEP YOUR DONATIONS COMING!**

Durham Congregations in Action (DCIA) has launched a hygiene drive to keep our partner pantries fully stocked with the supplies Durhamites need. They are seeking the following items:

- CDC-approved disinfectant wipes or sprays (Lysol, Scrubbing Bubbles, Clorox)
- hand sanitizer
- empty spray bottles
- paper towels
- toilet paper
- feminine hygiene products
- hand and body soap

Donations can be dropped off at any of these partner congregations:

- **First Presbyterian** - Mondays and Fridays, 9:00am-1:00pm - 305 E. Main St
- **Cole Mill Road Church of Christ** - Monday through Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm - 1617 Cole Mill Rd
- **Antioch Baptist** - Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00am-12:00pm - 1415 Holloway St
- **Pilgrim United Church of Christ** - Tuesday through Friday, 8:00am-12:00pm - 3011 Academy Rd
- **Christus Victor Lutheran** - Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9:00am–2:00pm - 1615 E. NC 54 Hwy

## **HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS . . . from the comfort of your own home —**

### **Bag Rice and Beans for the Food Pantry at Iglesia Emanuel:**

- Divide large bags of beans — black, pinto or red — or white rice into **quart-size, freezer strength Ziplock baggies**.
- Fill the bags until almost full, leaving just enough room to close securely.
- Large bags of beans or rice can be purchased at Costco, Sam's Club, or El Camino, a Mexican food distributor located at 2314 Reichard St, Durham 27705.
- Deliver the bags to Iglesia Emanuel on Monday afternoons between 3:00pm and 5:00pm, or contact [Margaret Rubiera](#) for other options
- Sign up at this [link](#).

### **Do a little cooking for Urban Ministries:**

- **Casseroles** for **breakfast, lunch or dinner** (baked ziti, tuna, mac n cheese, etc.)
- **Sandwiches** in individual Zip-lock bags — **no condiments**, so they keep fresh longer. If able, please label bags according to ingredients, such as "turkey & cheese, or T & C."
- **Cookies or brownies** in individual baggies, to go in the lunch bags. Everyone loves a touch of sweetness!
- Encourage neighbors or friends to join your efforts and deliver all the food at one time
- Deliver to the main door of Urban Ministries, 410 Liberty St, between 9:30am - 5:30pm, Monday – Friday

## Make phone calls to Meals on Wheels clients:

- Give a quick call to home-bound senior citizens or disabled adults on Wednesday or Friday mornings to check on them and offer a much needed warm, human connection
- Contact [Britt Barnes](#) to sign up

## **You can safely lend a hand in person —**

### Food Pantry at Iglesia Emanuel:

- Sign up for a 2-hour shift on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday sorting and bagging food, unloading deliveries, loading boxes of food into cars
- Find your spot on the [SignUp Genius](#) and know you are making a huge difference in the lives of struggling families

### Urban Ministries:

- FPC provides volunteers multiple times a month to help prepare and serve breakfast or prepare lunch bags for hungry members of our community
- Breakfast shifts are the 3rd and 5th Fridays of every month, from 7:00-9:00am
- Lunch bag shifts are every 3rd Monday and 4th Thursday, 9:30-10:30am
- Enjoy fellowship with your church friends while you serve our neighbors!
- Contact [Jen McGonigle](#) to sign up.

### Deliver Meals on Wheels:

- Deliver boxes of nutritious frozen meals to home-bound seniors and handicapped adults every Monday
- Offer a friendly smile from behind your mask and encouraging words to brighten someone's day!
- Contact [Britt Barnes](#) to sign up

## CHURCH STAFF

*Tom Bloom*, Business Administrator  
*Lenore Champion*, Children's Ministry Director  
*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](mailto:info@firstpres-durham.org) or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.

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