

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Trinity Sunday

Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

May 31, 2026

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

Duet on "Wachet Auf"

Johann Sebastian Bach

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: We come to worship a creating God.

**People: A God who birthed us from nothing,
and declared us loved and good.**

Leader: We come to worship a liberating Savior.

**People: A Savior who showed us a world of freedom
and a promise of redemption.**

Leader: We come to worship an expansive Spirit.

People: A Spirit who invites us to dare dreams of curiosity and mystery.

All: Come, let us worship this Living God, our Triune Lord of all.

***HYMN NO. 4**

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Grosser Gott, Wir Loben Dich

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Eternal One,

**you are a God of mysteries,
who invites us to follow mysterious calls.**

Yet in our lives, we fail to explore the mysteries of you.

**When invited to openness and wonder,
we embrace self-certainty and surety.**

**When confronted with injustice and harm,
we welcome comfort and distance.**

**When commanded to love anew and explore change,
we follow idols of familiarity and complacency.**

**Forgive us, O Lord,
for failing to embrace the mystery of you.**

Lord in your mercy...

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**Those who are able, please stand.*

***REGATHERING HYMN NO. 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* *Glory to God*
(See Page 6)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Richard Anderson

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Thanks be to God!

**Triune God, ages ago you breathed your Spirit across the waters,
creating all that is.**

**In this hour, may we hear the breath of your Spirit
in the ancient words spoken today.**

**May we dare to imagine how you are creating within our hearts and beings,
and be transformed through the mystery of your boundless love. Amen.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 28:16-20

(Pew Bible, NT Page 34)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Richard Anderson

People: Thanks be to God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 6:1-8

(Pew Bible, OT Page 635)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Esther Hethcox

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

(silent reflection)

*“A Mysterious God,
A Mysterious Call”*

Esther Hethcox

***HYMN (SEE PAGE 7)**

O God Beyond All Praising

Thaxted

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Mindy Douglas

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give

John Weicher

Offertory Anthem

Kyrie (from “Mass in G”)

Franz Schubert

Lord, have mercy;

Christ, have mercy;

Lord, have mercy.

Lesley Curtis, soloist

*Doxology with Alleluias

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia; Alleluia;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Mindy Douglas & Esther Hethcox

Candidates for Office of Elder

Kati Ruark

Alice Raney

Adrienne Allison*

James Rogers

Morgan Markwood*

Mason Essif

Candidates for Office of Deacon

Eric Wiebe (2 year term)

Beth Eisenson*

Andy Henry
George Bruns*
Chris Uithoven

Brent Curtis
Sarah Cunningham*
Johanna Bernhardt

**Indicates officer is being ordained and installed. All others have been ordained previously and are now installed for a term of service. Terms are three years unless otherwise noted.*

Statement on Ordination

Presentation of Elder and Deacon Candidates

Profession of Faith - 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.

Constitutional Questions

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Welcome and Charge

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (*in unison*)

John Weicher

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with 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.

***HYMN NO. 749**

Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Esther Hethcox

***POSTLUDE**

Toccata on "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

Matthew H. Corl

Happening Today

TA-DA! And To Do!:

Join the Racial Equity Task Force immediately following worship in celebrating 10 years of active engagement. We'll meet in the lobby to look back at how the RETF has worked to create a world that works for everyone and to look forward at what work still needs to be done.

Diaconate will meet following worship in the fellowship hall.

Meaning in the Middle: Join us today for our May MnM After-Church lunch! This will be our LAST MnM lunch for the spring. We'll resume again in the fall. We'll be meeting in the Daye Meeting Room & Wilson Parlor on Sunday, May 31 at 12:15pm (directly after church)! We'll enjoy pizza together and drink good coffee (kids have the option to watch a movie in the adjacent room) while growing in faith and community. All are welcome—whether you're new to MnM or returning for another great conversation together!



Sign In

First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. Let us know you have joined us for worship by scanning the QR code to the left. For online giving, scan the QR code to the right.



Donate Online

We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in Jesus Christ. First Presbyterian welcomes individuals of every age, race, nationality, gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, and economic circumstance to participate fully in the life of the church. So that you may know who is sitting nearby, please sign the ***Friendship Pad***, pass it along the pew, and **then return it to the starting point**, noting the names of those sitting near you.

The ***flowers*** in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of ***Weldon Abels*** by Jon, Kim, Lily, and Grace Abels.

We thank ***Leigh Wynkoop*** for sharing her musical gifts with us on the prelude, ***Ann Huff*** for conducting the anthem, and ***Wilson Gunn*** for accompanying the regathering music.

Flower Donation Opportunities Available: There are open dates for worship flower donors in July. To sign up, visit bit.ly/FPCflowers26 or click on the flowers link in the bi-weekly newsletter.

Music is reprinted under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

These Days devotional books for April-June are available in the foyer.

Childcare: A staffed nursery and children's playroom are available on the second floor of the education building during worship. ***Activity bags and baskets*** are available in the foyer for children. Please return them to the foyer at the end of worship.

Restroom locations: To the left and right as you exit the rear of the sanctuary; on the first and second floors of the education building; and on the first and second floors of the church house. There is an infant changing table in the restroom area located to the left as you exit the rear of the sanctuary.

Upcoming Events

Many of our events are posted in the bi-weekly newsletter. You may read past newsletters and join our mailing list at <https://firstpres-durham.org/weekly-newsletter/>



New Summer Class: The Summer Book Class is back! Led by members of our Racial Equity Task Force, we are exploring afresh *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving. Join us at **9:45 am** in Watts-Hill Hall on Sundays, **May 31-June 28**. Books are available for purchase for \$15 - reach out to ***Kathy Krahenbuhl***, kat.krahenbuhl@gmail.com or pay via the church website.

Yoga is offered at FPC on Mondays at 4:30pm (vinyasa flow class), and Fridays at 10:30am (chair yoga class). Contact ***Jane Wettach*** for more information at jane_wettach@gmail.com.

Calling all graduates! We want to know about all of our FPC spring graduates – of high school, college, and graduate school. Please send 1) a current picture (in regalia is welcome!) and 2) a few words about where they/you are graduating from and what’s next for them/you. Please send this to **Brandi Kirkland**, at communications@firstpres-durham.org by Tuesday, **June 9**.

Celebrating Kathy Parkins: Join us following worship on **June 14** for a light lunch and program honoring the retirement of our beloved Organist, Choir Director, and Minister of Music, **Kathy Parkins** after 32 years. RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/celebrating-kathy>. Please send letters, cards, financial gifts in honor of Kathy, and paper photos (which will be returned) to the attention of Kathy Parkins Celebration at First Presbyterian Church, 305 East Main St., Durham, NC 27701.

Love Offerings & Retirement Celebrations: As we prepare for the retirements of three beloved staff members, the Session has approved love gift offerings for each of them. If you would like to contribute, please do so at bit.ly/FPCdonate by **June 15**. A celebration honoring **Kathy Parkins**, featuring a luncheon and program, will follow worship on Sunday, **June 14**. A celebration honoring **Tom Bloom** and **Sybil King** will follow worship on Sunday, **June 28**, featuring a reception and program. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend both of these important events.

~Celebrations and Concerns of the Congregation ~

We remember in prayer:

Dan Mapel who had eye surgery this week.

Tony Brown

Paul Cornsweet

Sam Crabtree

Susan Cyr

John Fricks

Sue Fricks

Elizabeth High

Kerry Holbrook

Lee House

Ann Huff

Elizabeth Manceras

Amy Mapel

Harriett Mitchell

Fred Moore

Lori Pistor

Franzi Rokoske

Care Communities:

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Dub Gulley, Alfred Tisdale**

Hillcrest Convalescent: **Carol Wills, Phyllis Supple**

Brookdale Senior Living: **Debbie Mathews**

Durham Ridge: **Phillip Herndon**

Pruitt Health - Durham: **Fred Callaway**

Southpoint Atria: **Madge McKeithen**

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Ashley Alvord, colleague of Sharon Hirsch

Francisca Cristobal, relative of Al and Judy Arrowood

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Sara Degand, cousin of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

Gera Fleming, mother of Christyn Klinck

Linda Foster-Momsen, mother of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

Cheryl Fowler, friend of Cheri Reece

Jennifer Hervey, daughter-in-law of Jeanne Hervey

Donna Holladay, friend of Jane & Robert Brawley

Katie Jackson, wife of Matthew Hirsch

Donna Johnson, mother of Ann Huff

Anthony Ketcham, brother of Wil James

Marcia Magee, aunt of Kathryn Muchison

Marie Maly, sister of Barbara Fish

Sandra Mikush, mother of Katie Fogleman

Ana Sofia Ochoa, family member of Becky Martin

Patrick O’Neill, father of Brianna Bennett

Rebecca Todd (“Toddie”) Peters, mother of Sophie Peters

Bill Prochaska, friend of Al and Judy Arrowood

Annie Reaves, great-niece of Floalice and Robert Reaves

Joe Quirk, stepfather of Tim O’Brien

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

O God Beyond All Praising

Thaxted



1 O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day
2 The flow'r of earth - ly splen - dor in time must sure - ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;
its frag - ile bloom sur - ren - der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
but hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is sown—
and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with - out num - ber and mer-cies with - out end:
though small in mor - tal stat - ure, to heav-en's gar - den grown:
we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav - en, from death has set us free,
to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,



we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
and we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

This Week at a Glance!

Sunday, May 31

Trinity Sunday

9:45 AM Faith Formation (Lectionary Class & Summer Book Class for adults. Children's resumes June 7)

11:00 AM Worship: Esther Hethcox, preaching

Following Worship

Diaconate Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Meaning in the Middle Lunch (Daye Meeting Room)

Racial Equity Task Force Anniversary Celebration (Lobby -- Upper)

Monday, June 1

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Walk-In Ministry

1:30 PM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)

4:30 PM Yoga (Watts-Hill Hall)

Wednesday, June 3

6:00 PM FPC Racial Equity Task Force (Zoom)

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, June 4

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Walk-in Ministry

Friday, June 5

10:30 AM Yoga (Room 201)

Sunday, June 7

Second Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 AM Faith Formation
(Lectionary Class & Summer Book Class for adults. Children's Class resumes.)

10:15 AM Youth Blessing of Brent Curtis & T-Shirt Handout (Wilson Parlor)

11:00 AM Worship with Communion; Mission Commissioning

1:30 PM ASP Training (1339 Holden Roberts Farm Road)

CHURCH STAFF

Janet Askew, Business Administrator
Tom Bloom, Business Administrator
Lenore Champion, Children's Ministry Director
Vernon Cooper, Sexton
Mindy Douglas, Pastor/Head of Staff
Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate
Omar Guess, Sr., Sunday Morning Sexton



Joseph Harvard, Pastor Emeritus
Esther Hethcox, Associate Pastor
Sybil King, Administrative Assistant
Brandi Kirkland, Communications Associate
Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music
John Weicher, Associate Pastor

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, email the church office:
office@firstpres-durham.org or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.