First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church
Durham, North Carolina

First Sunday in Lent — February 22, 2015

A Service for the Worship of God

(In preparation for worship, please silence all mobile devices.)

Welcome and Announcements — Mark E. Diehl
Ritual of Friendship

Prelude — *Marche for Trumpet and Organ* — J.S. Bach, arr. John Head
Alex Fioto, trumpet

Introit — *Show Me Your Ways, O Lord* — Carl Schalk

Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths.
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God.
Do not let me be put to shame. Show me your ways, O Lord. --Psalm 25

Invitation to Observance of the Lenten Discipline — Mark E. Diehl

Brothers and sisters in Christ: every year Christians celebrate our redemption through the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. Lent is a time when the church prepares for this celebration and seeks to renew its life in the paschal mystery given in Christ. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. You are invited in the name of Christ to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by reading and meditating on Scripture, by acts of mercy and love and obedience.

***Call to Worship** — Mark E. Diehl

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
People: **In him is life, and that life is the light of all.**
Leader: The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.
(One candle is extinguished.)
People: **In him is life, and that life is the light of all.**
All: **Let us worship God.**

***Processional Hymn No. 166** — *Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days* — *St. Flavian*

***Confession of Sin** (remain standing) — Mark E. Diehl

Call to Prayer
Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Silent Confession

* Those who are able, please stand.

Response (Hymn No. 430 verse 1) *Southwell*

Remember not, O God, the sins of long ago;
In tender mercy visit us, distressed and humbled low.

Declaration of Pardon

Response (Hymn No. 430, verse 3) *Southwell*

Then, safe within your fold, we will exalt your name;
Our thankful hearts with songs of joy your goodness will proclaim.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY Sam R. Miglarese

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray.
All: **Almighty God, your Son fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are but did not sin. You know our weakness. Give us grace to direct our lives in obedience to your Spirit so we may know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 9:8-17 (Pew Bible, OT Page 7)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Peter 3:18-22 (Pew Bible, NT Page 234)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 1:9-15 (Pew Bible, NT Page 34)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON *"Awakening to Creation"* Ron Cole-Turner

(A moment for meditation.)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** adapted from the *Heidelberg Catechism*

Leader: What is our only comfort in life and in death?
People: **That we belong – body and soul, in life and in death – not to ourselves but to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all our sins and has completely freed us from the dominion of the devil; that God protects us so well that without the will of our Father in heaven not a hair can fall from our head; indeed that everything must fit God's purpose for our salvation. Therefore, by the Holy Spirit, God also assures us of eternal life, and makes us wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for God.**

HYMN NO. 24 *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* *Holy Manna*

(Children through 1st grade enter worship during the hymn.)

***THE PEACE** Marilyn T. Hedgpeth

(As we pass the peace, please be mindful that it is flu season and we want to protect susceptible members of our community. Signs of hospitality and reconciliation may be expressed verbally, if desired.)

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Marilyn T. Hedgpeth

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH Marilyn T. Hedgpeth

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
People: **For they have been from of old.** *(Psalm 25:6)*
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

Offertory Anthem *All the Day Long* (Psalm 25) K. Lee Scott

Show me your ways; teach me your paths; guide me in truth; instruct my heart.
You are my God and Savior strong; for you my soul waits all the day long.
Remember, O Lord, your loving kindness and tender mercy, for they are ever of old.
Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions;
According to your mercy, Lord, remember me.
Show me your ways; teach me your paths.....

(The Hunger for Change offering will be received following the anthem.)

*Doxology *Old Hundredth*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**
All: **God Most high, by your Word you created a wondrous universe, and through your Spirit you breathed into it the breath of life. Accept creation's hymn of praise from our lips and let the praise that is sung in heaven resound in the heart of every creature on earth, to the glory of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

***HYMN NO. 275** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* *Ein' Feste Burg*

LITANY OF FAREWELL FOR MARK DIEHL Marilyn T. Hedgpeth

Leader: We send you forth as a disciple of Jesus Christ and as an ambassador of friendship, spreading the good news of God's love in your new surroundings.
Go in the spirit of Christ. Be steadfast in your devotion to him.
People: **Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.**
Leader: Know that your ministry with us has served the cause of Christ in this community.
Well done, good and faithful servant!
People: **Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.**

Leader: May your commitment to Christ grow as you enter another community and another congregation.

People: **Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.**

Leader: Remember that even though we will be separated in space, our shared faith in Jesus Christ will keep us connected.

People: **Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.**

Unison Prayer of the People:

Gracious God, a wandering Aramean is our ancestor and you have been with us every step of the way on the long journey of faith. Go now with Mark, we pray. Keep him faithful to you, in prayer, worship, service, and in the new relationships he will make. Give him traveling mercies and a new community of faith through which he may continue to serve you. Bless his family in Tarboro. May our friendship with him continue, and may we ever be one in Christ. Amen.

***BENEDICTION** Ron Cole-Turner

***POSTLUDE** *Variations on "Westminster Abbey"* Henry Purcell, arr. John Head

Reminder to Worshippers: Please assist the staff in keeping the sanctuary neat by recycling your bulletins and picking up any inserts, children's drawings, etc. as you exit your pews. Returning hymnals and Bibles to the pew racks is also very helpful this week as we have a concert here later today. Thank you.

The Children's Choir and Youth handbells will rehearse today following worship. Parents, please remind your children to come to the Bell and Choir rooms for practice.

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. We welcomed 22 visitors and their children to worship on Sunday, February 15.

The ***special trumpet music*** this morning provided by ***Alex Fioto*** is offered to the glory of God and is made possible through a gift from the McPherson family.

The ***flowers*** in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of ***Dr. and Mrs. S. D. McPherson, Sr.*** and ***Dr. Samuel D. McPherson, Jr.*** by the family.

Nursery care for children 3-6 years of age is provided during worship on the second floor of the Education Building. After the sermon is delivered, these children join worship for the remainder of service. Childcare for infants – 2 years continues in the nursery. There is a changing table in the narthex, located to the left as you exit the rear of the sanctuary.

Worship bags and activity bulletins are available in the foyer for children and youth. Books are on the pews in the narthex which young children can read and enjoy if they need to take a break from the worship service.

Hearing Assistance Receivers are available from the ushers. Before you leave the sanctuary, please turn off the receiver and place it in the specially marked receptacle or return to an usher.

Portions of ***today's worship texts*** were reprinted from *Book of Common Worship* and *Glory to God.*

Copies of recently transcribed ***sermons*** are available from the table in the foyer.

The McPherson Lectureship

February 22- 23, 2015

We welcome to the pulpit today our 2015 McPherson Lecturer, the ***Rev. Dr. Ron Cole-Turner,*** who teaches on the faculty of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, where he holds the H. Parker Sharp Professorship of Theology and Ethics, a position relating theology and ethics to developments in science and technology. He is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ, a founding member of the International Society for Science and Religion (currently serving as vice president), and has served on the advisory board of the John Templeton Foundation and the Metanexus Institute. Ron is the author of *The New Genesis: Theology and the Genetic Revolution*, co-author (with Brent Waters) of *Pastoral Genetics: Theology and Care at the Beginning of Life*, and the editor of several books, most recently including *Transhumanism and Transcendence: Christian Hope in an Age of Technological Enhancement*. He is also the author of the popular baptism hymn, "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise." His wife, Rebecca, is a spiritual director and retreat leader. They have two daughters, Sarah and Rachel.

The ***McPherson Lectureship*** was inaugurated in the year 1999 and is dedicated to enriching the faith and life of the First Presbyterian Church and the Durham community. Former lecturers have been: ***John Kuykendall*** (1999), ***J. Barrie Shepherd*** (2001), ***Beverly Gaventa*** (2002), ***Tom Long*** (2003), ***Joanna Adams*** (2004), ***Charles Kimball*** (2005), ***Nicholas Wolterstorff*** (2006), ***Joseph L. Roberts, Jr.*** (2007), ***Richard A. Lischer*** (2008), ***Stephen A. Hayner*** (2009), ***Barbara Brown Taylor*** (2010), ***Leighton Ford*** (2011), ***Martha Moore-Keish*** (2012), ***Samuel L. Adams*** (2013), and ***Emilie M. Townes*** (2014).

The Lectureship is made possible through an endowment given by the McPherson family in memory of ***Dr. and Mrs. S. D. McPherson, Sr. and Dr. S.D. McPherson, Jr.***

This Evening at Duke Divinity School

7:00 p.m. Presentation in the Alumni Memorial Commons Room

"Enhancing Ourselves through Technology and Why It Matters for Christians"

New technologies offer to modify human beings in profound ways. Transhumanists welcome the idea that human beings will set themselves free from biological limits, perhaps even to the point of making themselves no longer exactly human. Applied to the individual, technology might extend the lifespan and change the person so much that personal authenticity and continuity are called into question. Applied to the human species, some wonder whether humanity could possibly diverge into two or more species as a result of technological enhancement. Even if these claims are overstated, the question of a plastic and enhanceable humanity presents a new kind of challenge to Christianity today. What vision does Christianity offer for the future of the individual and the species?

Monday, February 23

11:00 a.m. Clergy Seminar

First Presbyterian Church – Watts-Hill Hall

Lunch provided; donations accepted.

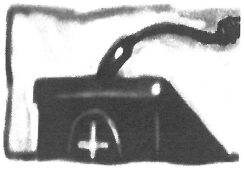
"Human Enhancement—Transhumanist Dreams and Christian Hopes"

From athletic performance to cognitive ability to healthy lifespan and even to mystical experience, everything about us seems pliable and open to modification. After a quick review of new and emerging technologies, our discussion will turn to some of the ways in which technology is changing not just our bodies but our minds, including our expectations of ourselves. Living in such a culture, today's Christians need to rediscover their roots in authentic Christian hope for life transformed by grace in Christ. And then they need to ask: how do we live in this world?

♫ ♫ Music on Main Concert ♫ ♫

This Afternoon at 3:00 p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

Mallarmé Chamber Players and the **Choral Society of Durham Chamber Choir** will present "*Drama in the French Baroque*" performed on period instruments.



We are forming a scripture readers' group representative of the congregation, young, old and in-between. Readers will be trained volunteers scheduled to read the scripture for the Sunday worship services. The first training classes will meet at 9:45 a.m. in the Wilson Parlor on March 8th and 15th. For more information, contact Steve Rimmer.

~ Our Concerns ~

We extend our sympathies to ***Wendy and Mac McCorkle, Chip and Lewis*** on the death of Wendy's mother, ***Sally Johnson*** on February 16th in Pennsylvania, and to ***Mike Ricardo*** (frequent visitor and fiancé of Brianna Honea) on the death of his father, ***Ken Teachout,*** on February 17th in Syracuse, NY.

Glen Gabriel, brother of Paul Gabriel
Jacque Robins, recovering at home
Dewey Lawson, in rehab at Duke Regional Hospital

Nowell Creadick ***Edward Kwon*** ***Ann Prospero***

Carolina House (Durham): ***Julian Boswell***

Clare Bridge (Chapel Hill): ***Helen Garrison***

Croasdaile Village:
Pavilion: ***Bob Rankin, Jerry Tyren***
Friendship Hall: ***Bob Keever, Anne Davis***

Hillcrest: ***Randall McLeod, Barbara Patton Davis***

The Forest at Duke: ***Fran Bryant*** ***Joan Englund*** ***Ken Goldner*** ***Peaches McPherson***

Treyburn (Peak Resources):
Sara Anne Martin, sister of Beth Neece

- ***Stuart Bethune***, father of Alec Bethune
- ***Ruby Brown***, mother of Eugene Brown
- ***Norma Cardoni***, mother of Sheila Breitweiser
- ***Ching-Chang Chin***, father of Li-Chen Chin
- ***Gino England***, nephew of Larry Reed
- ***Gera Fleming***, mother of Christyn Klinck
- ***Rosalie Hagge***, friend of Lyn Francisco
- ***Dorothy Jennette,*** mother of Katharine Smith
- ***Anne Lawson***, mother of Dewey Lawson
- ***Neal Lawson Family***, Arlington, VA
- ***Lindsay Morris***, sister of Emily McClure
- ***Tshiek family***, friends of the Fricks

~ Serving Today ~

Acolytes: ***Ben Maxwell, Nathan Creadick*** Crucifer: ***Peter Compton***
Croasdaile Driver: ***Paul Cornsweet***
Narthex Greeters: ***Linn Lopez, Elizabeth High***
After Worship Greeters: ***Wes Carson*** (rear/narthex), ***Peter Compton*** (side/font)
Ushers: ***Susan Seahorn*** (head), ***Kit Law*** (flowers), ***Delia Kwon, Keith Merritt, Mary Ann Compton***

THE HUNGER FOR CHANGE OFFERING

Hunger has become more prevalent, particularly since the recession. First Presbyterian Church of Durham has a long history of involvement in hunger-related mission, most notably Pennies for Hunger and the CROP Walk. In addition, we coordinate volunteers for the Community Kitchen at Urban Ministries of Durham, collect food for the members at Iglesia Emanuel Presbyterian Fellowship, and the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. Our youth sponsor the annual Souper Bowl of Caring to raise money for hunger-related missions. We also encourage giving to the One Great Hour of Sharing Hunger Offering which funds mission activities related to disaster assistance and hunger programs locally and around the world.

The funds received from our Hunger for Change Offering go to the New Hope Presbytery for the Presbyterian Hunger Relief Program and are divided as follows:

50% - International Hunger Relief Programs
40% - Local Hunger Programs
10% - Administration.

These funds are dispersed through local grants to hunger relief programs based on a grant application process. Urban Ministries of Durham, Presbyterian Urban Ministries and Iglesia Emmanuel have been frequent recipients.

If your family committed to saving a **Penny**/day each month, you'd be donating about $0.30 per month or $3.65 for the entire year. That's not much in the face of the rising need. Save a **Nickel**/day, and you can contribute $1.50 per month. A **Dime**/day will generate $3.00 and a **Quarter**/a day will generate $7.50 per month.

The fourth Sunday of each month is designated to receive the Hunger for Change Offering. Please consider supporting this hunger relief effort with a generous offering each month.

Please give generously!

The Week at a Glance!

After Worship: Youth Handbells Children's Choir **3:00 PM** Mallarme Chamber Players and Choral Society of Durham Concert **3:00 – 4:30 PM** Lenten Book Study at Croasdaile Village **5:15 PM** Youth Presentation by John Collins **7:00 PM** McPherson Lectureship Presentation at Duke Divinity School	**Monday, February 23** **11:00 AM** McPherson Lectureship Seminar (Lunch provided) **5:00 PM** Bell Choir **6:00 PM** Diaconate **6:45 PM** Joint Officers' Supper **7:00 PM** Session **7:00 PM / 8:00 PM** FPC teams play in Church League semifinal games at Hope Valley BC gym	**Tuesday, February 24** **11:30 AM** Daytimers' Luncheon at Croasdaile Village **12:45 PM** Worship Planning **2:00 PM** FPC Program Staff	**Wednesday, February 25** **7:00 PM** Chancel Choir
Thursday, February 26 **9:30 AM – 12:30 PM** FPC preparing lunch bags at Urban Ministries **7:00 PM** Church League Championship Game at Hope Valley BC gym	**Friday, February 27** **8:00 – 9:00 AM** FPC Men of Faith Breakfast at Nosh's Café **10:30 AM – 12 Noon** Lenten Book Study	**Saturday, February 28**	**Sunday, March 1** Second Sunday in Lent **9:45 AM** Sunday School **11:00 AM** Worship and Holy Communion **After Worship:** Children's Choir / Youth Handbells **2:00 PM** Extended Communion at The Forest at Duke **3:00 – 4:30 PM** Lenten Book Study at Croasdaile Village **5:00 – 8:00 PM** Youth Groups

The ***bulletin cover image*** was created by Mark Simon of The Catholic Community of St.Thomas More, Chapel Hill and has been reprinted with permission.

FLORENCE FORTH

The Florence Forth road race is coming up quickly on **Saturday March 7** on 9th Street in Durham. Please consider participating by running/walking or volunteering. ***Will, Leslie, and Laura Mishler McDow*** are so grateful for your support. You can find more information for registration and volunteering at the Florence Forth website: http://florenceforth.org.