

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(includes music)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

4th Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE (Bell Choir)

"Sing We Noel"

Kevin McChesney

INTROIT

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Piae Cantiones, 1582

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger; There he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger. Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Savior? Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favor.

*CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Nash Luffman and Julia Wigger

Leader:

The prophet Isaiah declares, "A young woman is with child, and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel, which means God-With-Us." The risen Christ declares, "I am with you always, to the end of the age." We light this candle as a sign of God's presence in Christ, now and always. (*The candle is lit.*) That we may trust that God is with us and live in the light of Christ's coming...

Congregation: Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives and shine among us now.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 88

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribe on Sinai's height In ancient times didst give the law In cloud and majesty and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*CONFESSION OF SIN

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

^{*} Those who are able, please stand.

Silent Confession
Declaration of Pardon

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Holly Shoaf-O'Kula

Leader: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: O Emmanuel, our Sovereign and lawgiver, desire of the nations and Savior of all:

Come and save us, O Lord our God. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSE HYMN No. 88 (verse 4)

Veni Emmanuel

O come, thou root of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny From depths of hell thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 1:18-25 (Pew Bible, NT Page 1)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. Reader: Holly Shoaf-O'Kula

People: Thanks be to God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 7:10-14 (Pew Bible, OT Page 636)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. Readers: Steve Rimmer, Sam Miglarese

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Read the Signs" Sam Miglarese

(Silent reflection)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison) from A Brief Statement of Faith Mindy Douglas

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!

*HYMN No. 97

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Aberystwyth

*THE PEACE Mindy Douglas

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Signs of hospitality and reconciliation may be expressed verbally, if desired. During the passing of the peace, children through first grade, along with their caregivers and older siblings, are invited to come to the front pews for "A Time with the Children."

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Sam Miglarese

(Following A Time with Children, children may join their parents/siblings in the pews or return to childcare.)

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to the Offering

Marilyn Hedgpeth

Offertory Anthem

Midnight Clear

Russell Schulz-Widmar

The lyrics to this anthem can be found in the Hymnal, No. 123, verses.1, 2, 3, 5.

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

*Doxology (Hymn No. 108, verse 6)

Divinum Mysterium

Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be. Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Mindy Douglas

Sam Miglarese

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: How can we thank you, O God, for sun and moon and stars; for breath and life and all

things good; for your steadfast promise and your faithful love; for the day that is surely coming when all things will be made new? With saints, with angels, and with the whole

creation, we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

All (sung):

Leader:

People:

Leader:



Leader:

We give you thanks, Holy God, for Jesus, who came to be your living Word, to baptize us with Spirit and fire, to feed the hungry, to humble the mighty, and to announce the good news of your coming realm. With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you, sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ's dying and rising, and praying; Come, Lord Jesus!

All (sung):

Hymn No. 573



Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

Leader:

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us – this bread, this cup, these people – Christ's body and blood, given in love for the world. Make us one in the Spirit, one in the church, and one with Christ our Lord. Make us gentle, joyful, thankful people, serving our neighbors, worshiping you alone. Keep us in the peace of Christ until you gather us at your table in glory. Even now, a voice is crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord! Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

All (sung):



All:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Marilyn Hedgpeth, Sam Miglarese

We celebrate communion by intinction, coming forward to dip the bread into the cup. Ushers will direct you to stations at the front of the sanctuary. Take the bread, dip it into the cup, and remember God's greatest gift as you return by the side aisles to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, please raise your hand, and an elder will bring the elements to you in the pew. As you come forward to receive the elements, please bring your blessing bags/supplies and place them in the baskets. Gluten/peanut-free bread is served at the station to the right, in front of the lectern.

Communion Hymns (all sing)

Hymn (see music, page 6)

Wait for the Lord (Psalm 27)
Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

Wait for the Lord

Hymn No. 527

Eat This Bread

Taizé Community

Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to me and never be hungry. Eat this bread; drink this cup; trust in me and you will not thirst.

Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to Christ and never be hungry. Eat this bread; drink this cup; trust in Christ and you will not thirst. Hymn No 129

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Es Ist Ein' Ros'

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung. It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.

To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere. Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us and lightens every load.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Marilyn Hedgpeth

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All: God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice,

righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm. Lead us to live in joyful

expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LITANY OF FAREWELL TO SAM MIGLARESE

Mindy Douglas

Leader: We praise God for the grace that has filled your ministry, we give thanks for your faithful

service to Christ's church, and we rejoice at the work of the Holy Spirit in you.

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 God continue to bring joy and peace to your life, just as you have blessed

the church with your ministry and proclaimed the good news of Jesus Christ.

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

Leader: Eternal God, through all the years of our lives your love protects and guides us.

By your Spirit you call us to varied ministries in the service of Jesus Christ. We praise you for your gifts to your servant Sam Miglarese, for his faithful proclamation of your word, his administration of the holy sacraments of Jesus Christ, and his pastoral care and leadership in the church. Grant to Sam time for refreshment and rest, reflection and rejoicing, and the fullness of your peace. Through your Holy Spirit bless each of us that we may remember the love of Jesus

Christ, which unites us in the service of our Lord. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

*HYMN No. 105

People, Look East

Besançon

*BENEDICTION Sam Miglarese

*POSTLUDE People, Look East Kristina Langlois

Attention parents of children: Pageant rehearsal will take place in the sanctuary following worship today for those with speaking/singing parts. All pageant participants may pick up costumes following worship today from the basement costume area beneath the sanctuary.

Later today . . .



4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Join Lesley Curtis, soprano, Deborah Coclanis, piano, and Ann A. Harrison, reader, for a program of Christmas featuring poems by Dorothy Parker and Thomas Hardy and musical setting by Morten Lauridsen and Libby Larsen.

Wait for the Lord



Worship Notes and Parish Announcements

As you exit your pew, please kindly recycle your bulletin and pick up any inserts, children's drawings, personal trash, etc. and take these with you. Returning hymnals and Bibles to the pew racks is also very helpful. Thank you for leaving the sanctuary presentable for our guests who will come later today.

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. On December 15, we welcomed 24 visitors to worship.

We welcome to worship today the Rev. Holly Shoaf-O'Kula, Pastor for Compassionate Ministries at First Presbyterian Church in Aiken, SC.

The poinsettias are given to the glory of God and are a gift to the congregation from Arthur Clark.

Special thanks to Alice Raney, Dale Georgiade, Brent Curtis, Graham Curtis, and Robert Daye for decorating the sanctuary for the season.

The *Christmas Joy Offering* will be received today. Please use the specially marked envelopes enclosed in today's bulletin for this offering. This PC(USA) offering goes to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and also supports education programs at Presbyterian -related racial ethnic schools and colleges. See the insert for more information about this special offering.

The Lord's Prayer when Holy Communion is celebrated: From the beginning, one of the hallmarks of Reformed worship has been liturgy in the vernacular—in the common language of the people of God. Many, however, continue to use the language of another era (the Tudor dynasty) when praying the prayer Jesus taught. We hope that, by using this ecumenical version, new generations will learn and understand this prayer in a fresh way. Of course, you may always choose to pray in the words closest to your heart, be those words debts or trespasses.

Processional Cross: Christmas 2019 marks the 85th anniversary of the gift of our Processional Cross crafted by the Gorham Manufacturing Company of Providence, RI and given in memory of Wisconsin native Merle Theron Adkins (1872-1934), a professional baseball player, Durham physician, and tenor in FPC's choir.

Nursery care for infants to 6 years of age is provided during worship on the second floor of the Education Building. 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. Books are on the pews in the narthex for young children to read and enjoy should they need a break from the service.

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



Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24

3:00 p.m. - Worship with Children's Pageant, Communion, and Candles (in the sanctuary) A simple 45-minute, family-friendly service featuring "Bird Watchers" children's pageant.

5:00 p.m. - Communion and Candlelight Service (in the sanctuary)

The birth of the Christ Child is celebrated in word and song with Communion concluding with a candle lighting service. At both services on Christmas Eve, childcare will be provided for younger children and an offering will be received for CWS and their immigrant support programs.



Meal Reservation Requested

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE MARILYN HEDGPETH

HER 16 YEAR MINISTRY AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAS IMPACTED US ALL

CATERED LUNCH & CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020 12:15 PM WATTS-HILL HALL AT FPC

RSVP by January 2, 2020 to the paperless post invitation or call the church office: 919-682-5511.



~ Our Concerns ~

We extend our condolences to *Katy, Will, Dot, and Ruby Barron* on the death of Katy's father, *Chuck Saldarini*, who died December 15th in Charlotte, NC.

Added this week: *Ellen O'Brien*, Mindy Douglas' mother-in-law *Jean Lazarides* is now a resident of Hillcrest Convalescent Center, Durham

Margaret Mubanga Mercy Ndambiri-Curlett Carol McKnight Joseph Ngumi Carolyn Wolfe

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, Durham (Room 212): *Paul Cornsweet*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:

Fran Alwood, mother of Jennie Alwood

Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss

Camilla Crampton, companion of Mal King

Ralph Edwards, grandfather of Amy Wilson

Carley and Jon Meade, family of Bruce, Ellie, Kristin and Dayton Meade

Doug Neece, brother of Vern Neece

Larry Newark, brother-in-law of Jean Wilson

Danny Parker, father-in-law of Al and Judy Arrowood's son Jon

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night 97



Of the Father's Love Begotten 108



4 This is he whom seers in old time chant-ed of with one
5 O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him. An - gel hosts, his prais -

6 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost,



is Al - pha and be, he O - me he the to ga; was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean, u - ni -Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, the bore the ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets prom-ised sing. Powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex hymn and chant and high thanks-giv - ing to and un -



source, the end he, things that ing of the are, verse three in all that sees the moon's soft of one, Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's Re their faith ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex our God and King. Let no tongue on earth wea - ried prais be. Hon - or, glo - ry, and do es



shin all that breathes be - neath the ing, sun, re - vealed his deem first sa - cred er, face, ed. Let cre - a - tion praise its pect Lord, ery voice si lent; ev in con - cert min ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,

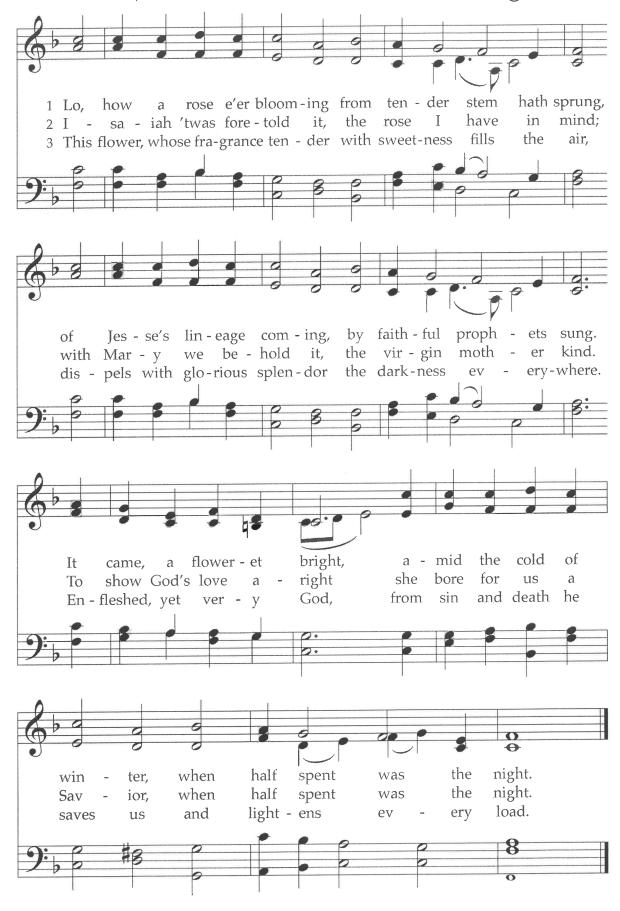




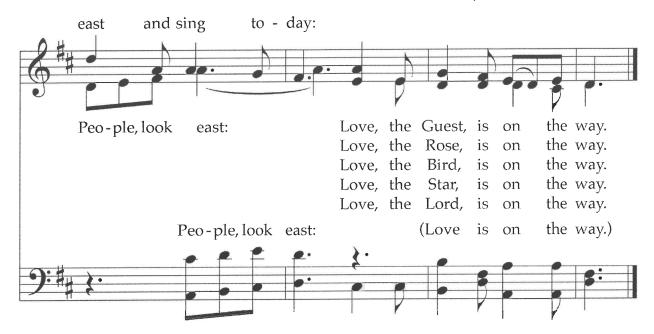
Eat This Bread



Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129



105 People, Look East 1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is of the near 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who the year. crown - ing of Make your house fair you plant - ed there. seed Give up your strength the seed to be filled. E - ven the that must hour when wings are nest the bowl shall brim, light shin - ing be - yond the frost - y brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley Peo-ple, look hearth and set - ble; trim the the ta - ble. nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish. fro - zen God fledg - ing time cho - sen. for has weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. hum - ming with the word, the Lord com - ing. is



This Week at a Glance!			
Later Today After Worship:	Monday, December 23	Tuesday, December 24	Wednesday, December 25
Retirement Celebration and Reception for Sam Miglarese 4:00 PM Lesley Curtis and Friends present Christmas Program featuring songs and	9:00 AM - 12 Noon Walk-in Ministry client interviews Curtis and ds present as Program g songs and of the season	3:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship with Pageant and Communion 5:00 PM Worship with Holy Communion and a Candle-lighting Service	Christmas Day
poetry of the season (in the sanctuary)			Church Office Closed (Staff on call) Day School Closed
Thursday, December 26 Church Office Closed	Friday, December 27 Church Office Closed	Saturday, December 28	Sunday, December 29 1st Sunday After Christmas
(Staff on call)	(Staff on call)		No Sunday School
Day School Closed			11:00 AM Worship
9:30 – 10:30 AM FPC preparing sandwiches for lunch bags at Urban Ministries of Durham			No Youth Groups No Children's Choir

The bulletin cover is of a stained glass window at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church located in Corona Del Mar, CA. Retrieved December 19, 2019 from https://www.stmikescdm.org/uploads/images/marystained-glass 448 medium.jpeg

~ Serving Today ~

Liturgist: *Holly Shoaf-O'Kula* Narthex Greeter: Chris Williams

After Worship Greeters: Wendy McCorkle (font/side door); Cris Rivera (rear/narthex)

Ushers: John Mozart (head), Michael Honeycutt Communion Head/Replenish Elements: Andy Henry

Bread: Alice Raney (B1, process), Sharon Hirsch (B2), Brent Curtis (B3), Amy Wilson (B4) Cup: Cris Rivera (C1), Tom Bacon (C2, process), Chris Brown (C3), Luke Everett (C4)

Shepherds: Raymond Mbah (pulpit aisle), Lenore Champion (center aisle), Leah Graves (font aisle)

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator Robert Daye, Sexton Mindy Douglas, Pastor/Head of Staff Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate *Marilyn Hedgpeth*, Associate Pastor



Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator Sam Miglarese, Associate Pastor Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music John Weicher, Associate Pastor

Email the church office: info@firstpres-durham.org or visit our website: https://firstpres-durham.org.







First Presbyterian Church, Durham /

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