

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

Gaudete

Medieval carol, arr. by David Smith

INTROIT

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Mark Hayes

Alleluia Children's Choir; Brennetta Simpson, director

O come, O come, Emmanuel, come to our hearts and in our presence dwell. We wait in hope for peace, once again. Return to us the joy of Bethlehem. Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come in love our darkness to dispel.

*CALL TO WORSHIP and Lighting of the Advent Candles

High School Seniors

Leaders:

In Isaiah, the prophet declares they will not hurt or destroy on God's holy mountain;

for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God, as the waters cover the sea. We light this candle as a sign of hope that truth will prevail, and justice be done. for all people. As we pray and work for truth, compassion, and justice, near and far:

People:

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

All Hail to God's Anointed

Sung to Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

*CONFESSION OF SIN

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Litany of Confession (in unison)

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 149

Leader:

With John the Baptist and all your saints, we ask this grace:

People: That we may know repentance for our sins that is true and heartfelt:

Leader: Let us prepare a way for the Lord People: And make his paths straight.

Leader: With John the Baptist and all your saints, we ask this grace:

That our nation may be turned around to the values of God's Kingdom; People:

Leader: Let us prepare a way for the Lord People: And make his paths straight.

With John the Baptist and all your saints, we ask this grace: Leader:

People: That your church may be renewed by the fire of your Spirit;

Leader: Let us prepare a way for the Lord People: And make his paths straight.

Silent Confession Declaration of Pardon

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Jean Cary

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

Leader: Let us pray. Root of Jesse, rising as a sign for all the peoples, before you earthly rulers will

keep silent, and nations give you honor: come quickly to deliver us.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

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

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 3:1-12

(Pew Bible, NT Page 2)

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

ANTHEM

The Kingdom of Love

David Ashley White

Taylor Eppinger, violin; Jody Maxwell, drum

Make straight in the desert a highway; prepare the way of the Lord:

Let mountains and hills bow in reverence and valleys rise up for their king; In joy shall the wilderness blossom, and streams through the desert be poured; The eyes of the blind shall be opened and tongues that were silent shall sing.

Break forth into singing, O Zion, your King is coming to you.

Jerusalem, shout with rejoicing, he comes to redeem you from fear.

For God shall bring peace and abundance, your praise and renown to renew;

Prepare to receive your salvation: the promised Redeemer is near.

The reign of the Lord will be gracious, its blessings ever will last; For then will God bring to fulfillment the promise of peace from above. All creatures will prosper together, to plowshares all swords will be cast: Earth's people will find their true freedom in God's perfect Kingdom of Love.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

(Pew Bible, OT Page 640)

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

SERMON

"God Things Come"

Marilyn Hedgpeth

(Silent reflection)

*HYMN No. 378

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

Merle's Tune

*THE PEACE John Weicher

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" and the baptism.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Lenore Champion

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR CLARK STEPHEN BASS

Mindy Douglas and Sam Miglarese

Words of Scripture

Elder: On behalf of the Session, I present Clark Stephen Bass to receive the Sacrament of

Baptism.

Questions to the Parents:

Sam Miglarese

Pastor: Elizabeth and Dustin, do you desire that your child be baptized?

Do you reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Do you renounce evil and affirm your reliance on God's grace?

Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith

and to teach that faith to your child?

Parents:

We do.

Questions to the gathered Children:

Pastor:

Do you promise to be a friend to Clark?

If he gets lost will you help him find the way? If he falls down, will you help pick him up? Will you share with him the stories of Jesus?

Children:

Yes.

Question to the Congregation:

Elder:

Do you, as members of the Church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Clark by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ

and to be a faithful member of Christ's church?

Congregation: We do.

(As you are able, please stand.)

*Affirmation of Faith (in unison)

The 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.

(You may be seated.)

Thanksgiving over the Water

Mindy Douglas

Leader: People:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Leader:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People:

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader:

O Lord our God, we give you thanks for the hope and longing you instill in us through the promise of our baptism – a voice crying out in the wilderness, a messenger to prepare the way, the day of redemption drawing near. By the power of your Holy Spirit, poured out upon us in baptism, keep us awake and make us ready for the coming of your glorious realm of righteousness, justice, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All:

Amen.

Baptism

Sam Miglarese Mindy Douglas

Anointing

Mindy Douglas

Introduction

Milidy Douglas

Jay Althouse

ANTHEM (Alleluia Children's Choir)

Sing Alleluia

Sing alleluia. We sing in celebration, our voice rising in song.

With melodious praises we sing out loud and strong. Sing with a voice unending, ever strong and true.

Sing with a firm conviction and praises ever new. Sing Alleluia.

(Following the baptism, children may return to the playroom or remain with their parents or siblings.)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Hold fast to your hope without wavering,

People: For God who has promised is faithful. (From Hebrews 10:23)

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

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory In Dulci Jubilo
First Presbyterian Wind Ensemble

Mindy Douglas

Medieval carol,
arr. by Jim O'Briantt

*Doxology (Hymn No 108, verse 6)

Lasst uns erfreuen

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. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Ever-living God, before the earth was formed and even after it shall cease to be, you

are God. Break into our short span of life and show us those things that are eternal, that we may serve your purpose in all we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LITANY OF FAREWELL TO MARILYN HEDGPETH

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: 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.

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 Marilyn Hedgpeth, for her faithful proclamation of your word, her administration of the holy sacraments of Jesus Christ, and her pastoral care and leadership in the church. Grant to Marilyn 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.

(Visitors, feel free to excuse yourselves from worship during this hymn if you do not wish to remain for the meeting.)

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Mindy Douglas

(Vote to elect members to the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee)

*BENEDICTION

Marilyn Hedgpeth

*POSTLUDE

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

D. Buxtehude

Everyone is invited to Watts-Hill Hall after worship today to participate in the **Advent Festival and Alternative Giving Fair**. Refreshments provided. As you exit the sanctuary, pick up a copy of the brochure for a list of community partners.

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 1, we welcomed 15 visitors to worship.

The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated today for Clark Stephen Bass, son of Elizabeth and Dustin Bass and sibling to older sister, Bennett. Clark is also the grandson of FPC members Edward and Caroline Pritchett.

Thanks to the Alleluia Children's Choir for singing today. The choir is directed by Brennetta Simpson and accompanied by Suzanne Crabtree. The choir is a joint venture of Covenant Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church.

Music Notes: Today's Prelude is an arrangement of the Christmas carol Gaudete, which was first published (with Latin lyrics) in 1581 in Piae Cantiones, a collection of Finnish and Swedish sacred songs. The lyrics are "Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary. Rejoice!" The Offertory is even older: In Dulci Jubilo was written in the 14th century with a mixture of Latin and Medieval German lyrics. We know the tune as Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (#132 in our hymnal). We are grateful to the First Presbyterian Wind Ensemble (Christyn Klinck, Li-Chen Chin, Brent Curtis, and David Smith) for their musical contribution to today's service.

The *sanctuary table* upon which the Advent Wreath sits was made by *George Danser* and is given to the church by him and his wife, *Jean Cary*. George drew design features from our communion table and used oak removed from the sanctuary during our renovation and from a tree in their backyard that Jean saw get hit by lightning some years ago.

Advent paraments: FPC commissioned Laurie Wohl, an internationally known fiber-artist, to design and create two paraments for the pulpit and lectern for Lent and Advent. The text on the Advent parament hanging from the pulpit, in Hebrew and English, is from Isaiah 12:3: "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation." The text on the lectern parament is from Luke 1:78-79: "The dawn from on high will break upon us to give light to guide our feet into the way of peace." We are grateful that the bequest of Anne 'St. Clair' Williams made it possible to enhance our sanctuary with these beautiful works of art.

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).

About the bulletin cover: Peaceable Kingdom by American artist John August Swanson (born 1938) from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. Retrieved December 4, 2019 from the following site: http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56556.

FPC is seeking to fill the following ministry staff positions. The job descriptions can be found on the church's website. Qualified candidates should apply by email.

Director of Children's Ministry: Interested persons should send their info to: j.weicher@firstpres-durham.org. Questions may be directed to co-chairs Kathy Conner (kwc.enoriver@yahoo.com) and Laura Kelley (lkelley601@gmail.com). Other members of this committee are Tom Admay, Leah Graves, Amy Sanchez, and Katharine Whitmore.

Administrative Assistant: Interested persons should send their info to: admin-position@firstpres-durham.org. Questions may be directed to co-chairs El Hess (elinor.hess@gmail.com) and Jerry Postema (gpostema244@gmail.com). Additional members of the Administrative Assistant Search Committee are Christy Gudaitis, George Danser, and Marie Sappenfield. FPC members, family members of FPC members and regular non-member attendees are not eligible to apply for these ministry positions.

<u>Memorial Service</u>: A memorial service will be held for *Elinor Weathersby McCorkle*, mother of Mac McCorkle, today at 2:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Springmoor Retirement Community in Raleigh.

<u>Condolences</u> to *Steve and Martha Rimmer* on the recent death of Steve's uncle, *Franklin Rimmer*, in Statesville NC.

<u>Concerns</u>: *Isabel Brown*, a patient at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill <u>Danny Parker</u>, father-in-law of Al and Judy Arrowood's son, Jon <u>Jimmy Levy</u>, grandson of Cheryl McDonald

<u>Home</u>: Margaret Mubanga Mercy Ndambiri-Curlett Joseph Ngumi Carolyn and Jim Wolfe Care Communities:

Brookdale: Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett Croasdaile Pavilion: Bob Rankin

Durham Regent: *John Kerr, Ann Prospero* Emerald Pond, Durham: *Paul Cornsweet*

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 Pruitt Health at Carolina Point, Durham: Helen Garrison Southern Living for Seniors, Louisburg: Phillip Herndon

The Forest at Duke: Fran Bryant

Doug Neece, brother of Vern Neece **Jim Vacca**, father of Jamie Chambliss **Bob Warren**, father of Dawn Carsey

Advent Midweek Worship

Wednesday, December 11 - meditation by Lenore Champion Wednesday, December 18 - meditation by David Smith

Join us in the sanctuary at 6:00 p.m. for worship, candle lighting, and communion. Worship will be followed by a light supper in Watts-Hill Hall. Donations will be received to offset the cost of the meal.

Durham Holiday Parade Saturday, December 14 – 10:00 a.m.

This year we are marching with Laura McDow and *March for our Lives*, a youth organization seeking to harness the power of young people across the country to fight for sensible gun violence prevention policies that save lives. Parade participants from FPC can park at the church. Stay tuned for details.

Third Sunday of Advent - December 15

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - A Service of Lessons and Carols 5:30 p.m. - Potluck Supper and Carols Sing-Along

Bring a dish to share. If you play an instrument, bring it along (with a music stand) and join the improvised orchestra that accompanies singing of carols around the Christian symbols tree.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 22

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - Worship with Holy Communion followed by a farewell reception for Sam Miglarese

The *Hunger for Change Offering* (last one for 2019) for hunger relief programs locally and around the world, will be received during worship. The PC(USA) *Joy Gift Offering* will be received, which supports financial assistance programs of the Board of Pensions and PC(USA) racial ethnic schools and colleges. The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God is with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us -- retired, present, and future -- who have pointed us to God. Online via the church's website and text-giving are new ways to give to the Joy Gift Offering.

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24

3:00 p.m. - Communion and Candlelight Service (in the sanctuary) A family-friendly 45-minute service featuring a 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 by candlelight.

An offering will be received at each service to support CWS and their work with refugee resettlement.

Church Office Holiday Schedule

Wednesday, December 25 – Closed Thursday, December 26 – Closed Friday, December 27 – Closed Monday, December 30 - Open 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 31 - Open 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 1, 2020 – Closed

Deadlines for Newsletter articles

Issue date: December 20 (Special Holiday edition)

Deadline for news: December 17

Issue date: December 31
Deadline for news: December 29

All Hail to God's Anointed



Of the Father's Love Begotten 108



We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom 378



- 1 We wait the peace ful king dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
- 2 Where is the peace-ful king-dom? When will this new day start?
- 3 When wars of des o la tion and hate come to an end,
- 4 That lit tle child shall lead us to walk the cho sen way,



in gen - tle - ness and friend - ship with - out a fear or sigh, We long for peace and com - fort to reign with - in each heart. when na - tion meets with na - tion and calls the oth - er "friend," to share the peace - ful king - dom, to greet God's new - born day.



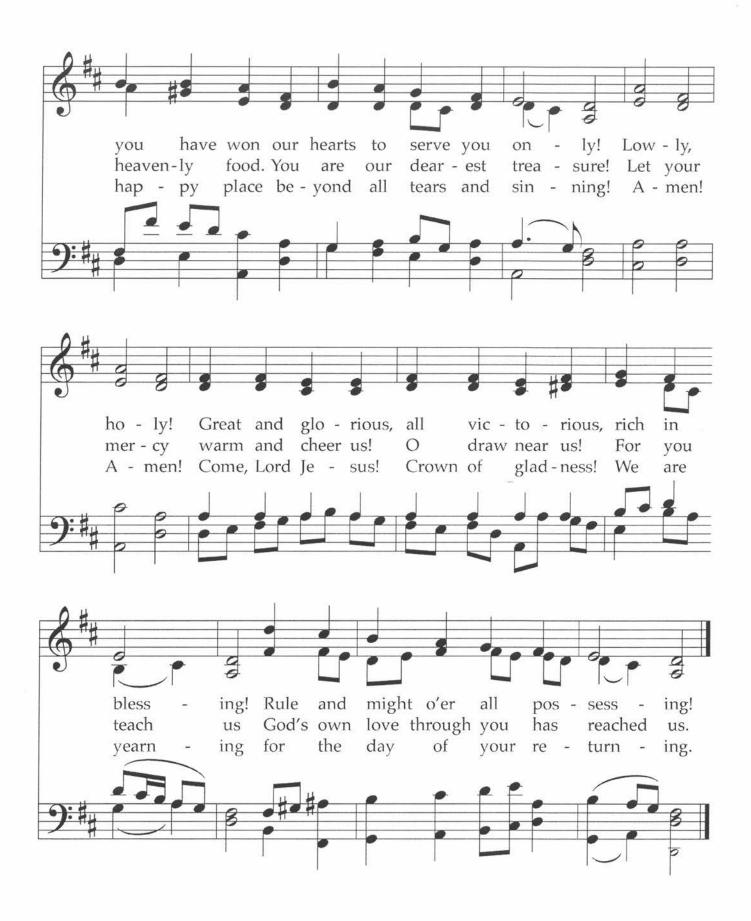
graz - ing, when snake shall nev - er when li - on shall be strike; in on - ly, nor sim - ply in our home: not our lives still peace in all its full - ness will on - ly have be - gun: The child born in sta - ble is sent to break our chains, a



a lit - tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a - like. we pray that all cre - a - tion will one day find sha - lom. sha - lom for all cre - a - tion be - gins with jus - tice done. to bring through word and ta - ble the day when jus - tice reigns.

827 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright





This Week at a Glance!			
After Worship: Advent Festival / Alternative Giving	Monday, December 9	Tuesday, December 10	Wednesday, December 11
Fair 2:00 PM Caregiver Support Group 2:00 – 4:00 PM Shape Note Choir 4:30 – 6:30 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 – 8:00 PM Senior High Youth	9:00 AM - 12 Noon Walk-in Ministry 5:00 - 7:00 PM Youth Study Break at Duke PCM 6:00 PM Property Committee 6:30 PM Service & Mission Committee 7:00 PM Worship & Arts Committee	8:00 - 8:45 AM High School Midweek Morning Meal at Coffee World 1:30 PM Plan Worship 2:30 PM Program Staff 7:00 PM Vox Men's Chorus Newsletter today	5:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM Advent Communion Service\ Stewardship Committee 6:30 PM Advent Supper 7:00 PM Chancel Choir
Thursday, December 12 9:00 AM – 12 Noon Walk-in Ministry	Friday, December 13 10:00 AM Day School Winter Pageant	Saturday, December 14 10:00 AM Durham Holiday Parade (FPC is marching with Laura McDow and Durham's March for Our Lives organization) 1:00 PM Alleluia Children's Choir rehearsal at Covenant PC 6:30 PM Scratch Christmas Potluck at the home of Matt Cline and Chris Williams First Friends (adults only) Christmas Potluck at the home of Melinda Ruley and Stewart Fisher	Sunday, December 15 3rd Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM DCM Search Committee 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Alleluia Children's Choir sings at Covenant Presbyterian 11:00 AM A SERVICE OF ESSONS CAROLS 4:30 PM Youth Christmas Party 5:30 PM All-Church Christmas Potluck

~ Serving Today ~

Liturgist: Jean Cary

Baptism Elder: Amy Wilson

Narthex Greeter: Maxie Honeycutt, El Hess

After Worship Greeters: Andy Henry (font/side door); Amy Wilson (rear/narthex)

Ushers: Stephen Berry (head), Katy Barron, Julie Whiddon (counter), Bob Pleasants, John Mozart, El Hess

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

CHURCH STAFF



Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator Sam Miglarese, Associate Pastor 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: https://firstpres-durham.org.