

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

Idyll for Cello and Piano
Elliot Anderson, cello

Edward Elgar

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 133)

Mindy Douglas

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

People: **It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.**

Leader: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

People: **For there the Lord ordained this blessing, life forevermore.**

*HYMN NO. 238

Thine Is the Glory

Judas Maccabeus

*CONFESSION OF SIN

Lenore Champion

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**We use a lot of words, gracious God,
but do little to turn them into deeds.
Instead of being of one heart and soul,
we choose sides and form groups of folks just like us.
Blessed with great grace,
we have trouble sharing it with those who need it the most.
Forgive us, God of love.
Forgive us, as we step out of our shadows into your light.
Restore us, as we reveal our brokenness.
Hear us, as we proclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and our God.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*THE PEACE

Lenore Champion

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jean Cary

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

** Those who are able, please stand.*

Leader: Let us pray.

People: **Living God,**
with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word.
Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim
the good news of eternal and abundant life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LESSON FROM ACTS OF THE APOSTLES Acts 4:32-35 (Pew Bible, NT Page 122)
Leader: The Word of the Lord. Jean Cary

People: **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL LESSON John 20:19-31 (Pew Bible, NT Page 115)
Leader: The Word of the Lord. John Weicher

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON “*Blessed Are You . . .*” John Weicher
(*silent reflection*)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (From Hebrews 11:1-3) Mindy Douglas
Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.
By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God,
so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

***HYMN NO. 684** *Faith Begins by Letting Go* *Lux Prima*

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN John Weicher

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS
Invitation to Give Mindy Douglas

Offertory Music *Panis Angelicus* (arranged for cello) César Franck

*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!

JOYS AND CONCERNS Mindy Douglas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER Mindy Douglas
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. 254** *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright* *Puer Nobis Nascitur*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

John Weicher

***POSTLUDE**

Prelude and Fugue in B flat

J.S. Bach

Later today: A Service of Ordination

Today at 4:00 p.m. a Service of Ordination for Heidi Biermann will be held in the sanctuary. In preparation for this service, we ask that you return hymnals and Bibles to the book racks as you exit your pew. Please also collect any trash, children's drawings, and worship bulletins/inserts from today's worship and take these with you. Thank you for your cooperation.



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.



Sign in

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.

Special thanks to *Elliot Anderson* (cello) for providing music for today's worship.

The *flowers* in the sanctuary are given by *Al and Judy Arrowood*, to the glory of God and in thanks for the church staff.

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

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 by the door or return it to the audio/visual console. Receivers are sanitized after each use.

Restroom locations: To the left and right as you exit the rear of the sanctuary; on the second floor 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.

Portions of today's *worship texts* were reprinted from *Lectionary Liturgies, Book of Common Worship* (2018), *Book of Confessions*, and *Glory to God (The Presbyterian Hymnal)*. Music is reprinted under Onelicense.net A.713926.

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

Childcare is now available at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

If you know of/or are a family with children younger than preschool age who need care during the faith formation hour, we are now providing childcare during that time frame! Inquire at the nursery room, second floor of the education building.

May 4, 2024

Red Cross Community Blood Drive

1:00-6:00 p.m. at FPC in Watts-Hill Hall

Sign up to donate blood to help save someone's life.

Go to *RedCrossBlood.org* and enter code: *firstpres*.

Joys and Concerns

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Congratulations to *Kathy Conner* on the birth of her first grandchild. *Robin Flora* was born March 31st to *Krishna Bugajski-Sharp and Benjamin Conner*.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: The family of *Jim Seitzer*, FPC member who died March 20th, will hold a Service of Witness to the Resurrection at Carolina Meadows retirement community in Chapel Hill on Saturday, May 25 at 11:00 a.m.

CONDOLENCES: The love and concern of the congregation are extended to *Chris and Madeline Anglin* on the recent death of *Carl Anglin*, Chris' husband and Madeline's father. The Anglins live in Graham.



Kayla Champion is expecting. Her labor will be induced on April 10th.

Bill Hendrickson is home following a brief hospitalization.

Kerry Holbrook is preparing for surgery (April 10).

Jennie Bodkin, sister of Mindy Douglas, is preparing for surgery (April 11).

Francisca Cristobal, relative of Al and Judy Arrowwood, requests prayers.

Spencer Reeves, friend of FPC, is hospitalized at UNC-Hospitals.

Individuals and families impacted by the recent earthquake in Taiwan.

Tony Chavez

Paul Cornsweet

Susan Cyr

Lee House

Jenni James

Mal King

Mitzi Lesher-Thomas

Franzi Rokoske

Alfred Tisdale

Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Dub Gulley*

Durham Ridge: *Phillip Herndon*

Hillcrest Convalescent: *Julian Boswell, Maxie Honeycutt, Carol Wills, Jim Wolfe*

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Tim Boyer, cousin of Fred Moore

Jasper Gunn, child of Wilson Gunn

Ford Holbrook, brother Kerry Holbrook

Gabe Lamazares, assoc. rector, St. Philip's EC

Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James

Joe Robinson, former member of FPC

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Denisha Williams, daughter of Sybil King

Emily Wilson, wife of Mike Wilson and daughter-in-law of Jean and Chuck Wilson.

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Andrew Holbrook, nephew of Kerry Holbrook

John Keller, son of Tom & Margaret Keller

Michele Miller-Cox, First Presbyterian Day School

Doug Rimmer, brother of Steve Rimmer

Calvin Rogers, friend of Steve Rimmer

John C. Weicher, father of John Weicher

Spring is the perfect time for a Pop-up fellowship event.

Check out these opportunities and sign up to join us!

More information can be found on the signup page or contact the host(s):

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EA4AD2DA46-48937424-2024>

Hosting	Name of Event	Date	Time
B J Morton	Make greeting cards	April 13	10:00 a.m.-12 noon
Ellie Meade	Tour of Duke Gardens	April 20	9:00-11:00 a.m.
Catherine Dumas	Occoneechee Mountain hike	April 27	10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Brianna Honea Bennett	Yoga	May 19	1:30 p.m.
David and Judy Smith	Bird watching	May 25	7:30 a.m.
Jon Abels	Make sour dough bread	June 1	10:00 a.m.

Additional Fellowship Opportunities Exact times and locations to be announced.

Sunday, May 5
Potluck for Mindy's Sabbatical Send-off and Spring Fling

Sunday, August 11
Summer Sizzle

Saturday, November 16
Awesome Autumn

Sunday, December 15
Christmas potluck and Sing-Along

Thine Is the Glory

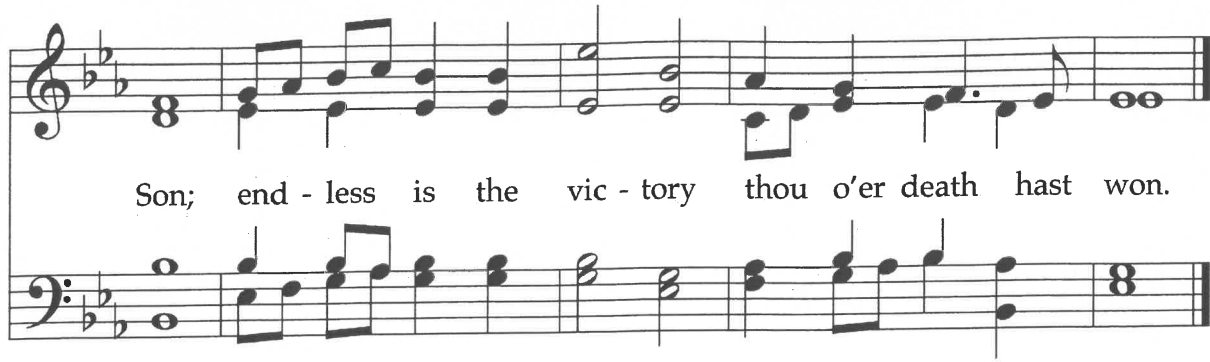
1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con- quering Son; end - less is
 2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught

the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
 he greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad - ness
 with - out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con - querors

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

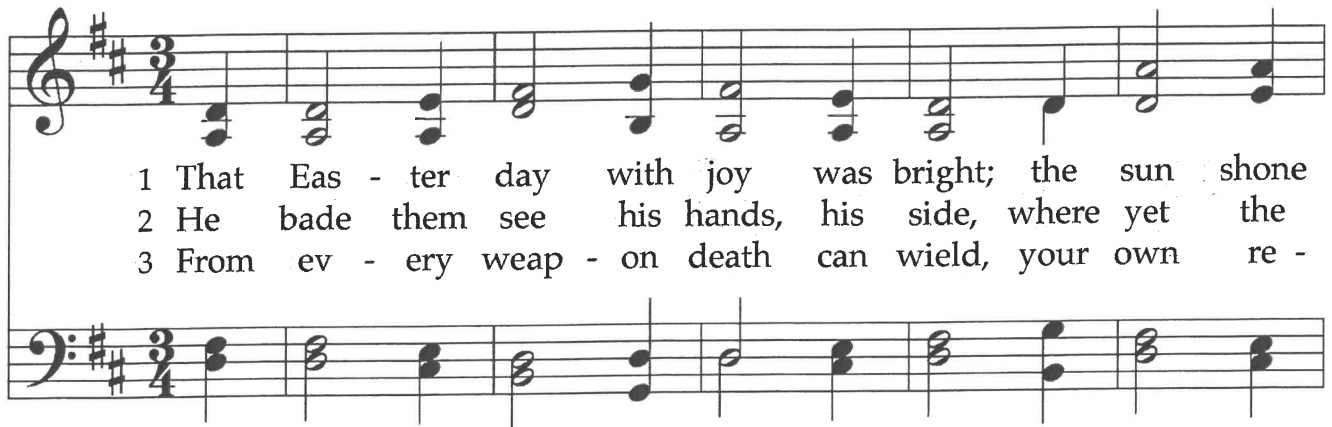
Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering
 to thy home a - bove.

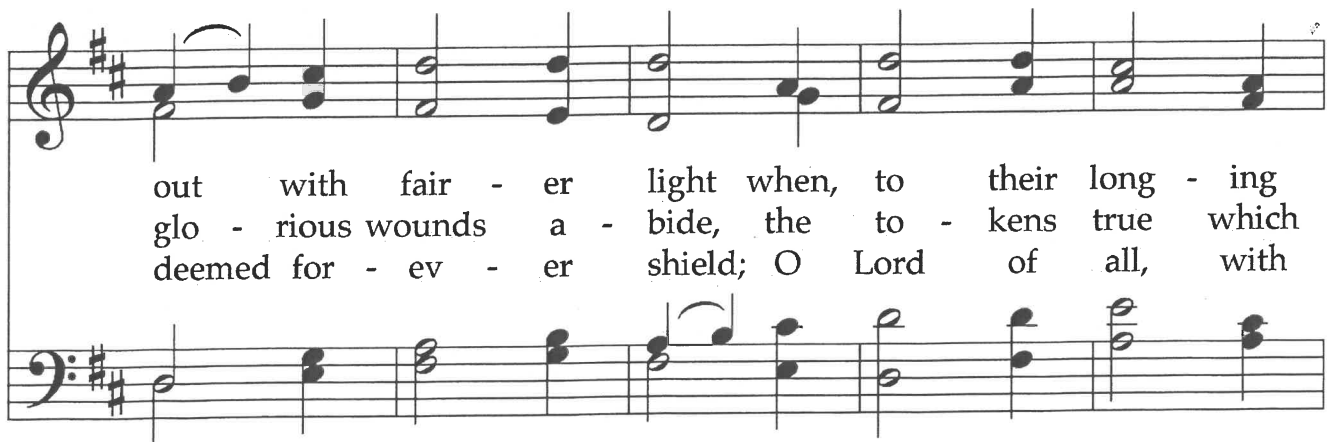


Son; end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

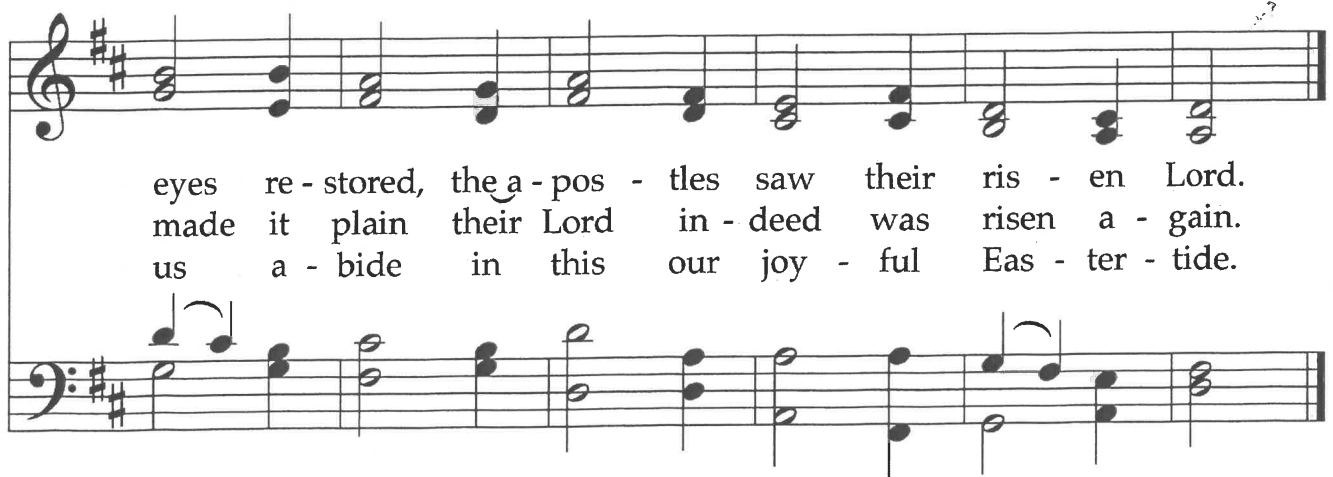
254 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the sun shone
 2 He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the
 3 From ev - ery weap - on death can wield, your own re -



out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
 glo - rious wounds a - bide, the to - kens true which
 deemed for - ev - er shield; O Lord of all, with



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
 made it plain their Lord in - deed was risen a - gain.
 us a - bide in this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide.

Faith Begins by Letting Go

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1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what
 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - ory's
 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en -

had seemed sure, tak - ing risks and press - ing on,
 roots a - live so that hope may bear its fruit;
 larg - ing hearts, shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer,

though the way feels less se - cure: pil - grim - age both
 prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive, not through mer - it
 bind - ing up the bro - ken parts; till we find the

right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
 we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
 com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

The Week at a Glance!

<p style="text-align: center;">Later Today</p> <p>After Worship: Racial Equity Task Force (Wilson Parlor) New Officers' Training (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p>4:00 PM Heidi Biermann Ordination (sanctuary) All are invited – Youth Group attending</p> <p>8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, April 8</p> <p>9:00 AM-12 Noon Walk-In Ministry Interviews</p> <p>10:30 AM Presbyterian Women Circle and Bible Study (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p>1:30 PM Worship Planning</p> <p>6:00 PM Christian Education Committee (via Zoom) Property Committee (Room 205)</p> <p>6:30 PM Service & Mission Committee (via Zoom)</p> <p>7:00 PM Worship & the Arts Committee (via Zoom) Youth Ministry Committee</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, April 9</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Newsletter today</i></p> <p>6:30 PM Personnel Committee (Daye Meeting Room)</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, April 10</p> <p>1:00 PM All Staff</p> <p>6:00 PM Stewardship Committee (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, April 11</p> <p>9:00 AM-12 Noon Walk-In Ministry Interviews</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday, April 12</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, April 13</p> <p>9:00 AM-12 Noon Landscaping and Grounds Workday</p> <p>10:00 AM-12 Noon Spring Pop-Up: Make Greeting cards with BJ Morton (Daye Meeting Room)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, April 14 <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i></p> <p>9:45 AM Faith Formation Classes for all ages</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship</p> <p>After Worship: New Officers' Training – elders (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p>12:15 PM Ushering Interest Meeting (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 PM Youth Group at Farm Church</p> <p>8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>

CHURCH STAFF

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
Mitzi Leshner-Thomas, Associate Pastor (Medical Leave)
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 or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.