

© KIRBEY BLACKWOOD, 10TH GRADER

First Presbyterian Church
Durham, North Carolina

February 15, 2026

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Transfiguration of the Lord

February 15, 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

Moment for Music Ministry

Lesley Curtis

Minister of Music Search Committee Chair

PRELUDE

Now Dance and Sing Ye Christian Throng

Johann Sebastian Bach

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Lord is king; let the people tremble.

The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

People: **The Lord, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.**

Leader: Let us confess God's name, which is great and awesome;

God is the Holy One.

People: **A mighty king, lover of justice,**

God has established equity and executed justice and righteousness in the land.

All: Let us worship God.

***HYMN NO. 12**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

***CONFESSON OF SIN**

Susan Dunlap

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God of Compassion,

in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory,
but we turn away, distracted by our own plans.

We confess that we speak when we should listen,
and act in ways that focus on ourselves rather than you.

Forgive our aimless enthusiasms.

Grant us wisdom to live in your light

and follow the way of your beloved Son

who calls us out of darkness and into the light of your glory and love.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**Those who are able, please stand.*

*REGATHERING HYMN NO. 492

You Belong to Christ

You Belong to Christ



You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.

al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Michael Honeycutt

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **God our Light, make us attentive to your Word
as to a lamp shining in a dark place,
that seeing your truth we may live faithful lives
until the great day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts. Amen.**

EPISTLE READING

2 Peter 1:16-21

(Pew Bible, NT Page 236)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Michael Honeycutt

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 17:1-9

(Pew Bible, NT Page 18)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Mindy Douglas

SERMON

"It's About Time"

Mindy Douglas

(silent reflection)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Susan Dunlap

**Our hope is God, our holy Parent,
who makes all things and from whom all blessings flow.**

God's faithfulness is the anchor of our hope.

Our trust is in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

More than a teacher,

his life, death, and resurrection give meaning to our existence.

Christ's faithfulness tethers us to holy mystery.

Our trust is in the Holy Spirit.

Blowing over and through creation, unexpected and untamed,

the Spirit stirs forgiveness, fruitfulness, and creates families.

The Spirit's faithfulness ties together past, present, and future.

Holy Trinity, One God, we believe you transfigure our faith. Amen.

***HYMN NO. 190**

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

Geneva

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

John Weicher

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give

John Weicher

Offertory Music

O Lux Beatissima (sung in Latin)

Howard Helvey

*O light most blessed
Fill the inmost heart
Of all thy faithful.
Without your grace,
there is nothing in us,
nothing that is not harmful.*

*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!***

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

John Weicher

Leader: In the face of Jesus Christ, the wondrous will of God is revealed. God of glory,

People: transform the world.

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. 156**

Sing of God Made Manifest

Salzburg

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Mindy Douglas

***POSTLUDE**

Festal Flourish

Gordon Jacob

Happening Today

Children's Choir will meet following worship in the Christian Education building.

Fellowship Committee will meet following worship in Wilson Parlor.

Youth Group will gather at Sky Zone, 1720 Guess Road, Suite 90, at 5pm, and stay until 7pm.



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.

The flowers are given by ***Christy Gudaitis*** to the glory of God and in loving memory of ***Jim Gudaitis***.

We thank ***Tom Bloom***, organist, and ***Dan Huff***, conductor, for sharing their musical gifts with us this morning.

Today's bulletin cover is from Kirby Blackwood, her very first for FPC. Her pencil drawing depicts Christ, not in his transfigured glory, but with a crown of thorns, reminding us that Lent is fast upon us and he is headed to the cross.

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.

Portions of today's worship resources were reprinted from *Book of Common Worship, Feasting on the Word*. The Affirmation of Faith was written by *Rev. Julia Seymour*, Lutheran Church of Hope, Anchorage, AK. Music is reprinted under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

Upcoming Community 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/>



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 janewettach@gmail.com.

Durham Women Unite: Gather with a local, interfaith, intergenerational, and culturally diverse group of powerful women to seek God's path of justice and repair for the female leadership in Durham. Please come and bring some good women with you to Re-City (112 Broadway St. Durham) on Saturday, February 21st from 1-3pm. If you have any questions, please call Laurie Ray, 919-636-1827.

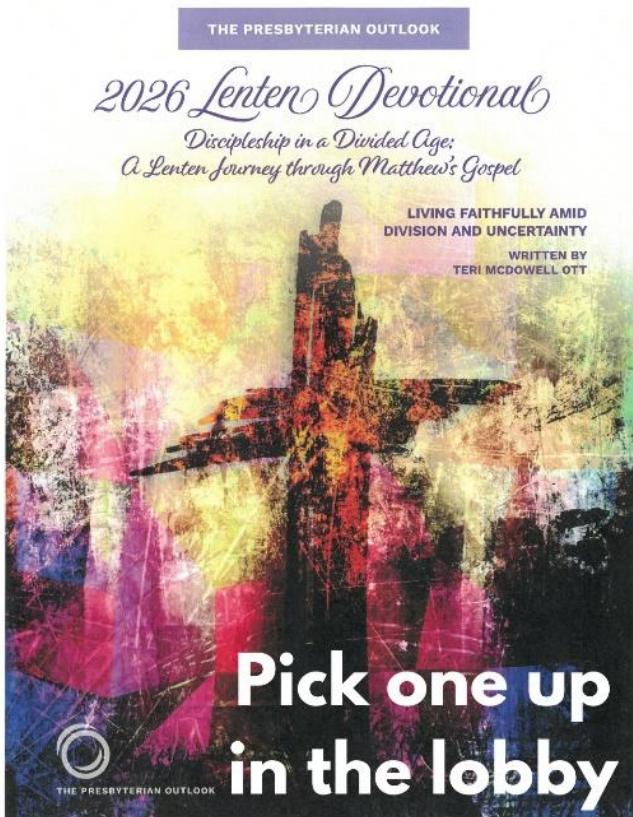
Minister of Music Search: As we begin our search for FPC's next Minister of Music, the search committee wants to hear from you! Please take a few minutes to complete the following survey (QR code) which invites you to reflect on your experience of music at First Pres and share your hopes for its future. Your responses will guide and inform our search, conversations, and decisions. Thanks in advance for your participation.



First Friends February Fest: First Friends is a community of 55+ individuals who gather monthly for fellowship. Join them on Saturday, February 21 at 6:00pm for chicken, black beans, and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided. Please bring sides, desserts, or alcoholic drinks to share. This gathering is hosted by Libby Gulley and Scottie Seawell, at Libby Gulley's home.



(\$20 suggested donation)



In a world marked by division, uncertainty and competing narratives, Matthew's Gospel speaks with striking relevance. Matthew's first audience — a young, fragile community navigating conflict, identity and fear — sounds a lot like the church today. Our Lenten devotional by The Presbyterian Outlook editor Teri McDowell Ott invites us to journey through Matthew's Gospel to discover how Jesus leads us toward humility, courage, compassion and faithful discipleship amid the fractures of our age. Pick up your copy (and/or one for a friend) in the church lobby, starting Feb. 15. Ash Wednesday is Feb. 18.

**RESCHEDULED:
2026 MCPHERSON
LECTURES**



**DONYELLE
MCCRAY**

Dr. McCray will speak about non-traditional & expansive forms of preaching, as well as Pauli Murray, Durham's Patron saint.

MARCH 8

- **CLASS - 9:45A**
- **WORSHIP - 11A**
- **LECTURE - 3P**

First Presbyterian Church - Love in the Heart of Durham

McPherson Schedule of Events

Sunday, March 8, 2026

9:45 AM ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS: "SERMON AT SUNSET"

How might nonhuman preachers expand and reframe our understandings of proclamation? With Psalm 19 as our center point, this session explores our preaching sky. Dr. McCray will begin with a reflection on preaching outside the pulpit and draw on specific examples that reveal the sky as a beloved preacher in African American religious imagination.

11:00 AM SERMON: "DEAR DREAMER"

This sermon will focus on the beatitudes. As an example of the fluidity of the sermon genre, the sermon will have an epistolary component.

3:00 PM COMMUNITY LECTURE: "AUNT PAULI"

Pauli Murray was affectionately known as "Aunt Pauli" to a host of nieces and nephews. This community lecture explores how Pauli approached this role, giving attention to (i) inherited models for aunts and unclehood, (ii) Pauli's role caring for aging aunts, (iii) the influence of gender identity, and (iv) the impact on Pauli's writing agenda.

Monday, March 9

9:00 AM CLERGY & SEMINARIAN BREAKFAST: "PRAYING WITH PAULI"

Shortly after ordination, Pauli prayed through a major dispute. Using this situation as a case study, we will explore the spiritual resources and dispositions that helped Pauli flourish as a priest.

McPherson Lecture

After losing out to the snow earlier this month, we are thrilled to announce that the **McPherson Lectures** have been rescheduled for March 8-9! Dr. Donyelle McCray of Yale Divinity School will join us to speak and preach about non-traditional, expansive forms of proclamation and about Pauli Murray, Durham's unofficial patron saint.

~Celebrations and Concerns of the Congregation~

Condolences:

We extend our love and concern to **Tim and Shelley Turkington** upon the death of Tim's 99-year-old mother **Mary Katherine (Mary K) Turkington**, on February 2.

Sympathy is extended to **Paul Pasquarella and Michael Honycutt** on the death of Paul's aunt, **Angie Leathers** of Schenectady, NY, who passed away on February 6th.

We extend our care to **Andy Henry** upon the death of his sister **Denise Duffy**.

We remember in prayer:

Joe Harvard, having foot surgery on February 18.

Kelli Hunnicut, recovering from surgery.

Linn Wakeford, recovering from knee surgery.

Tony Brown

John Fricks

Dan Hudgins

Franzi Rokoske

Paul Cornsweet

Sue Fricks

Ann Huff

Alfred Tisdale

Sam Crabtree

Kerry Holbrook

Harriett Mitchell

David Verner

Susan Cyr

Lee House

Fred Moore

Care Communities:

Croasdale Pavilion: **Dub Gulley**

Hillcrest Convalescent: **Carol Wills**

Brookdale Senior Living: **Debbie Mathews**

Durham Ridge: **Phillip Herndon**

Pruitt Health - Durham: **Fred Callaway**

Southpoint Atria: **Ginny Widmark**

Madge McKeithen

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Julia Allen, grandmother of Amy Wilson

Becky Birchfield, mother of Wil James

Amanda Briggs, friend of Mindy Douglas

John Carter, brother of Conrad Carter

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

Ana Sofia Ochoa, family member of Becky

Martin

Jennifer Hervey, daughter-in-law of Jeanne Hervey

Bill Prochaska, friend of Al and Judy Arrowood

Donna Holladay, friend of Jane & Robert Brawley

Wu-Chou Su, father of Claire Su

Katie Jackson, wife of Matthew Hirsch

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Donna Johnson, mother of Ann Huff

Tanya Watkins, friend of Leigh Wynkoop

Marie Maly, sister of Barbara Fish

Mary Lou Mikush, grandmother of Katie Fogleman

Sandra Mikush, mother of Katie Fogleman

Martha Neece, sister-in-law of Vernon & Beth Neece

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Sing of God Made Manifest 156

1 Sing of God made man - i-fest in a child ro - bust and blest,
 2 Sing of God made man - i-fest when at Jor - dan John con-fessed,
 3 Sing of God made man - i-fest when Christ came as wed - ding guest
 4 Sing of God made man - i-fest on the cloud-capped moun-tain's crest,

to whose home in Beth - le - hem where a star had guid-ed them,
 "I should be bap - tized by you, but your bid - ding I will do."
 and at Ca - na gave a sign, turn - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 where the law and proph - ets waned so that Christ a - lone re-mained:

ma - gi came and gifts un-bound, signs mys - te - rious and pro-found:
 Then from heaven a dou - ble sign—dove-like Spir - it, voice di - vine—
 fur - ther still was love re-vealed as he taught, for-gave, and healed,
 glimpse of glo - ry, pledge of grace, given as Je - sus set his face

myrrh and frank - in - cense and gold grave and God and king fore - told.
 hailed the true A - noint - ed One: "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
 bring - ing light and life to all who would lis-ten to God's call.
 towards the wait - ing cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

190 Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

Capo 3: (Dm) (Gm) (A7) (Dm)
Fm B♭m C7 Fm

1 Swift - ly pass the clouds of glo - ry, heav - en's voice, the
 2 Glimpsed and gone the rev - e - la - tion, they shall gain and
 3 Lord, trans - fig - ure our per - cep - tion with the pur - est

(Gm) (A7) (Dm) (Gm) (A7)
B♭m C7 Fm B♭m C7

daz - zling light; Mo - ses and E - li - jah van - ish;
 keep its truth, not by build - ing on the moun - tain
 light that shines, and re - cast our life's in - ten - tions

(Dm) (A7) (Dm) (D) (Bm)
Fm C7 Fm F Dm

Christ a - lone com - mands the height! Pe - ter, James, and
 an - y shrine or sa - cred booth, but by fol - low -
 to the shape of your de - signs, till we seek no

(Em) (A7) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A7) (D)
Gm C7 F Dm Gm C7 F

John fall si - lent, turn - ing from the sum - mit's rise down - ward
 ing the Sav - ior through the val - ley to the cross and by
 oth - er glo - ry than what lies past Cal - vary's hill and our

(Bm) (Em) (A7) (D) (Bm) (D) (A7) (D)
Dm Gm C7 F Dm F C7 F

toward the shad - owed val - ley where their Lord has fixed his eyes.
 test - ing faith's re - sil - ience through be - tray - al, pain, and loss.
 liv - ing and our dy - ing and our ris - ing by your will.

This Week at a Glance!

<p>Later Today</p> <p>Following Worship Fellowship Committee (Wilson Parlor) Children's Music: ages 3-5 (room 205), ages 6-11 (choir room)</p> <p>5:00 PM Youth Group (1720 Guess Rd.)</p>	<p>Monday, February 16</p> <p>11:30 AM Coalition for Affordable Housing (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p>1:30 PM Worship Planning (Pastor's Office)</p> <p>4:30 PM Yoga (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p>Tuesday, February 17</p> <p>5:00 PM Finance & Investment Committee (Daye Meeting Room)</p>
<p>Wednesday, February 18 <i>Ash Wednesday</i></p> <p>12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service (Memorial Garden)</p> <p>1:00 PM All Staff (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p>6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary) A simple supper to follow.</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir (choir room)</p>	<p>Thursday, February 19</p> <p>Friday, February 20</p> <p>10:30 AM Yoga (Room 201)</p> <p>4:30 PM High School Retreat (parking lot)</p> <p>7:00 PM Concert—Tamsin Simmill and friends (Sanctuary)</p> <p>Saturday, February 21</p> <p>8:00 AM Middle School Retreat (parking lot)</p> <p>9:00 AM Emergency Preparedness Meeting (room 205)</p> <p>6:00 PM First Friends February Fest (home of Lib Gulley)</p>
<p>Sunday, February 22 <i>First Sunday in Lent, Hunger for Change Offering, New Member Sunday, Newsletter Deadline</i></p> <p>9:45 AM Faith Formation (Classes available for adults, youth and children)</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship: Mindy Douglas, preaching Congregational Meeting to follow.</p> <p>12:15 PM Youth Return (parking lot)</p>	<p>Following Worship Diaconate (Watts-Hill Hall) Children's Music: ages 3-5 (room 205), ages 6-11 (choir room) Meaning in the Middle Lunch (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p>5:00 PM Somethings Lenten Kick-off (Watts-Hill Hall)</p>

CHURCH STAFF

Shakira Bethea, Church 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

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>.