



*Hagar*, by Edmonia Lewis

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

June 21, 2026

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Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 21, 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

**PRELUDE**

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

*Eurydice V. Osterman*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: O God who called life into being

**All: The earth, sea, and sky are yours.**

Leader: Your presence is all around us,

**All: Every atom is full of your energy.**

Leader: Your Spirit enlivens all who walk on earth;

**All: With her we yearn for justice to be done,**

Leader: For creation to be freed from bondage,

**All: For the hungry to be fed,**

Leader: For captives to be released,

**All: For your Kingdom of peace to come on earth.**

**\*HYMN NO. 35**

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

*Lobe Den Herren*

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN**

Sam Miglarese

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**Again and again, we have worshiped at the feet of false gods,  
enabling power and money  
to accumulate in the hands of a few.**

**We have honored and enthroned particular races, religions, and nations  
as if they were God's favored ones, chosen for privilege,  
while we have ignored, persecuted, and brutalized neighbors in need.  
We have not loved our God, our neighbors, or ourselves.**

**Hurting one another and God's creation  
and wounding the heart of God,  
we lament and confess our sin,  
crying out in repentance: "Forgive us, God, Holy One, Holy Three."**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

**\*REGATHERING HYMN NO. 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* *Glory to God*  
(See Page 8)

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Michael Roane

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Holy God,**

**you are the one who speaks**

**through history, story and experience.**

**As we listen to your Word in this morning,**

**may our hearts and minds be open**

**to hearing your eternal call made new. Amen.**

**PSALM READING**

Psalm 27:5-7, 10-14

(Pew Bible, OT Page 503)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Michael Roane

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING**

Genesis 21:8-21

(Pew Bible, OT Page 17)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Esther Hethcox

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*"Claiming Freedom"*

Esther Hethcox

*(silent reflection)*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

From the Iona Community

Mindy Douglas

**We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn,**

**in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,**

**conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over the barbed wire.**

**We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.**

**We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place into action,**

**into vulnerability, and into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change, and put ourselves on the line,**

**to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;**

**to stand with those on the edge,**

**to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.**

**\*HYMN NO. 773**

*Heaven Shall Not Wait*

*Heaven Shall Not Wait*

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Lenore Champion

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

Sam Miglarese

Offertory

*Jacob's Ladder*

*arr. Eugene Hancock*

\*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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (IN UNISON)

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

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. 757**

*Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

*Kingsfold*

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Mindy Douglas

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Esther Hethcox

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Fanfare*

*William Mathias*

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## *Happening Today*

**Congregational Meeting:** The Session has called a Congregational Meeting following worship on **June 21**. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear a report from the Nominating Committee. They are bringing three additional officer nominees for the congregation to consider: **Sibu Admay**, 3-year term as deacon in the class of 2029, **Rory Dillon**, 3-year term as elder in the class of 2029, and **Rachel Bethune**, 1-year term as a deacon in class of 2027 (to fill an unexpired term).



Sign In

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.



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 to the glory of God in the loving memory of **Helen Hart Barber** by her granddaughter, **Meredith Brown**.

**Flower Donation Opportunities Available:** There are open dates for worship flower donors in September. To sign up, visit [bit.ly/FPCflowers26](https://bit.ly/FPCflowers26) or click on the flowers link in the bi-weekly newsletter.

**A special thanks** to our guest organist today, **Fred Mason**, from St. Joseph AME Church.

**Portions of today's worship resources** were reprinted from the Iona Community Worship Book and the proposed new PC(USA) confession of faith. **Music** is reprinted under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

**This week's cover: "Hagar"** (1875) by Edmonia Lewis, the first sculptor of African American and Native American descent to gain international recognition. Lewis depicts the biblical Hagar praying for survival in the wilderness, a sculpture that draws a powerful parallel to the suffering of 19th-century African American women.

**These Days** devotional books for April-June are available in the foyer.

**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.

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## Upcoming 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/>



**The Daytimers Group:** The Daytimers Group will meet at the Thai Café on **June 23** at **11:30**; the address is 2501 University Drive, Durham.

**First Friends Summer and Fall Gatherings:** Mark your calendars now for First Friends gatherings this summer and fall!

- July 18, hosted by Franzi Rokoske and Catherine Dumas
- August 1, hosted by Deborah and Tyler Momsen-Hudson
- September 11-13, Annual First Friends Beach Trip
- October 17, hosted by Lea Bingham and Rob Dilworth

All gatherings will begin in the early evening. Stay tuned for more details closer to the events.

**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 [janezettach@gmail.com](mailto:janezettach@gmail.com).

**Love Offerings & Retirement Celebrations:** A celebration honoring **Tom Bloom** and **Sybil King** will follow worship on Sunday, **June 28**, featuring a reception and program. Please mark your calendars.

**FPC Blood Drive:** Save the date and give the gift of life! FPC Durham is hosting a blood drive Thursday, **July 23** from **1:00–6:00 PM** and we'd love your help. More info on how to sign up is coming soon. For now, mark your calendars and stay hydrated!

**Urban Ministries of Durham:** We need volunteers to help us make and serve breakfast and lunch at Urban Ministries of Durham. We make bag lunches twice a month from 9:30 to 10:30, and we make and serve breakfast once or twice a month from 7:00 to 9:00. We will team you with a seasoned volunteer who will guide you through. If you are interested in being on the sign-up list, please contact **Jancy Johnstone**, 919.824.6489 or [jancyjohnstone@gmail.com](mailto:jancyjohnstone@gmail.com).

~Celebrations and Concerns of the Congregation ~

**We offer our condolences to:**

*Paul Lee* on the death of his brother, *Jasper Lee*.

The *Supple family* on the death of *Phyllis Supple*.

**We remember in prayer:**

*John Fricks* who has been moved to Chatham Ridge in Chapel Hill.

*George Kirschmann* in hospice care.

*Bob Pleasants's* uncle, *Joe Pleasants*, who has cancer and has moved to hospice.

*Minnie Sue Douglas*, mother of Pastor *Mindy Douglas*.

*Tony Brown*

*Sue Fricks*

*Ann Huff*

*Harriett Mitchell*

*Paul Cornsweet*

*Elizabeth High*

*Elizabeth Manceras*

*Fred Moore*

*Sam Crabtree*

*Kerry Holbrook*

*Amy Mapel*

*Franzi Rokoske*

*Susan Cyr*

*Lee House*

*Dan Mapel*

**Care Communities:**

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Dub Gulley, Alfred Tisdale*

Hillcrest Convalescent: *Carol Wills*

Brookdale Senior Living: *Debbie Mathews*

Durham Ridge: *Phillip Herndon*

Pruitt Health - Durham: *Fred Callaway*

Southpoint Atria: *Madge McKeithen*

**Family and Friends of the Congregation**

*Ashley Alvord*, colleague of Sharon Hirsch

*Francisca Cristobal*, relative of Al and Judy Arrowood

*Kim Cummings*, father of Drew Cummings

*Sara Degand*, cousin of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

*Linda Foster-Momsen*, mother of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

*Cheryl Fowler*, friend of Cheri Reece

*Jennifer Hervey*, daughter-in-law of Jeanne Hervey

*Donna Holladay*, friend of Jane & Robert Brawley

*Katie Jackson*, wife of Matthew Hirsch

*Donna Johnson*, mother of Ann Huff

*Edward & Meryl Keenan*, brother and sister-in-law of Mary-Jo Keenan.

*Anthony Ketcham*, brother of Wil James

*Marcia Magee*, aunt of Kathryn Muchison

*Sandra Mikush*, mother of Katie Fogleman

*Ana Sofia Ochoa*, family member of Becky Martin

*Patrick O'Neill*, father of Brianna Bennett

*Rebecca Todd ("Toddie") Peters*, mother of Sophie Peters

*Bill Prochaska*, friend of Al and Judy Arrowood

*Annie Reaves*, great-niece of Floalice and Robert Reaves

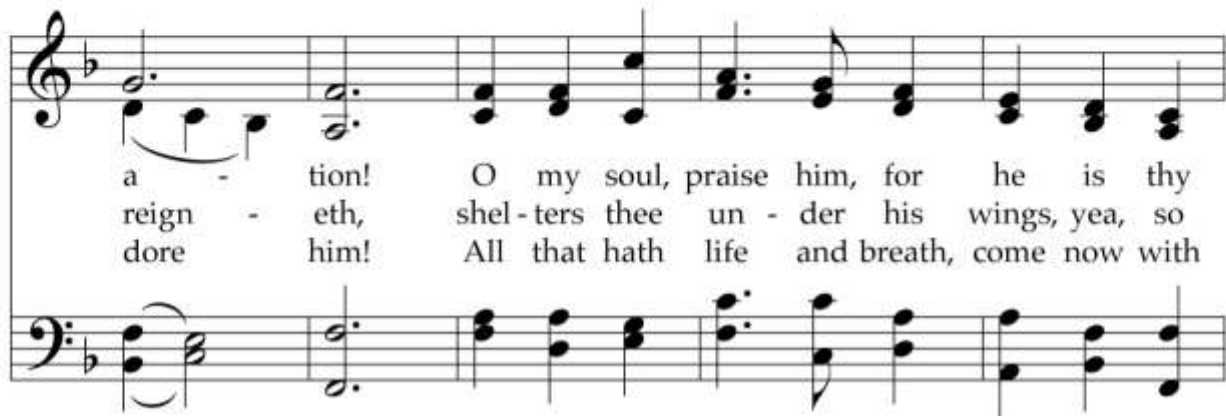
*Joe Quirk*, stepfather of Tim O'Brien

*Jim Vacca*, father of Jamie Chambliss

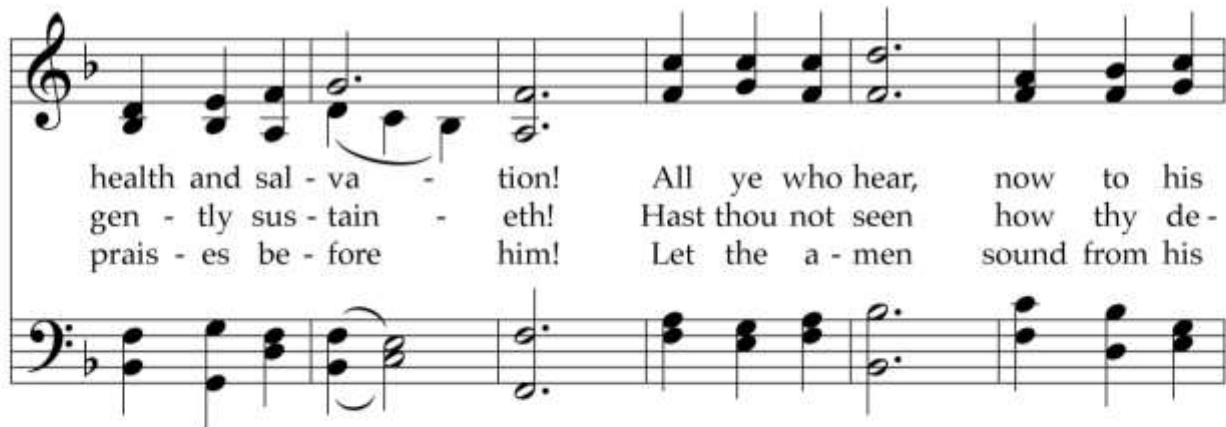
*Newton Wong*, nephew of Paul Lee



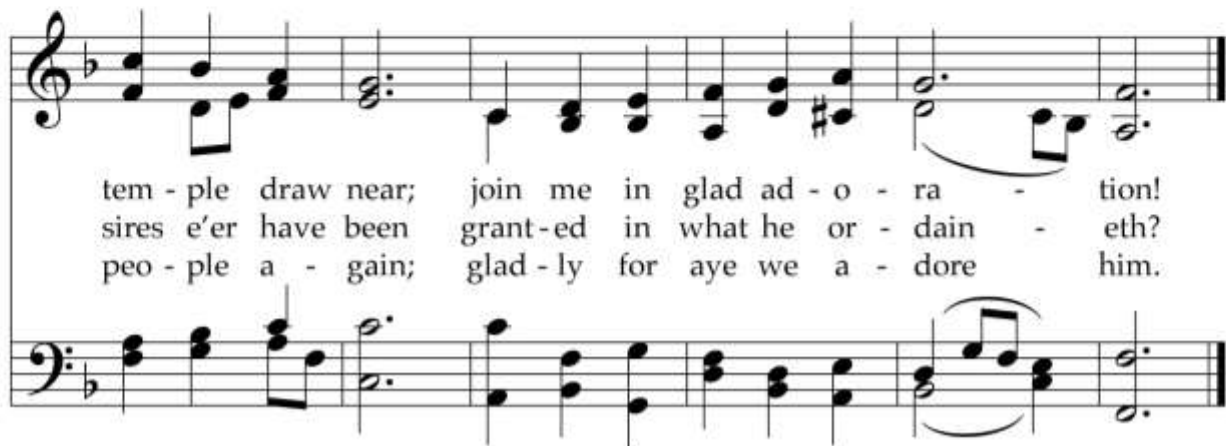
1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly  
3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy  
reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so  
dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his  
gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -  
prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his



tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?  
peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*      *Glory to God*



1 Glo - ry to God,      whose good - ness shines on me,  
2 World with - out end,      7 with - out end. A - men.



and to the Son,      whose grace has par - doned me,  
World with - out end,      7 with - out end. A - men.



and to the Spir - it,      whose love has set me free.  
World with - out end,      7 with - out end. A - men.



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Heaven Shall Not Wait

Heaven Shall  
Not Wait



1 Heaven shall not wait for the poor to lose their pa-tience,  
 2 Heaven shall not wait for the rich to share their for-tunes,  
 3 Heaven shall not wait for the dawn of great i - de - as,  
 4 Heaven shall not wait for tri - um - phant Hal - le - lu - jahs,



the scorned to smile, the de-spised to find a friend:  
 the proud to fall, the e - lite to tend the least:  
 thoughts of com - pas - sion di - vorced from cries of pain:  
 when earth has passed and we reach an - oth - er shore:



Je - sus is Lord; he has cham - pioned the un - want - ed;  
 Je - sus is Lord; he has shown the mas - ter's priv - ilege:  
 Je - sus is Lord; he has mar - ried word and ac - tion;  
 Je - sus is Lord in our pres - ent im - per - fec - tion;



in him in - jus - tice con - fronts its time - ly  
 to kneel and wash ser - vants' feet be - fore they  
 his cross and com - pa - ny make his pur - pose  
 his power and love are for now and then for



end. ev - er - more.  
 feast.  
 plain.

1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the  
2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man  
3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y  
4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing

Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make  
race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -  
stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to  
word, and walk the road the saints have trod till

plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their  
spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly  
cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -  
all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the  
 proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord  
 store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that  
 we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.  
 spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.  
 was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.  
 calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.

## This Week at a Glance!

**Sunday, June 21**

*Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

**9:45 AM** Adult Faith Formation (Lectionary Class & Summer Book Class for adults.)

**9:45 AM** Children's Summer Faith Formation

**11:00 AM** Worship: Esther Hethcox, preaching

**All Day** Appalachia Service Project Departs

**Following Worship**

**12:15 PM** Called Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)

**Monday, June 22**

**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM** Walk-In Ministry

**1:30 PM** Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)

**4:30 PM** Yoga (Watts-Hill Hall)

**7:00 PM** Session (Watts-Hill Hall)

**All Day** Appalachia Service Project

**Wednesday, June 24**

**1:00 PM** FPC Staff Meeting (Daye Meeting Room)

**All Day** Appalachia Service Project

**Thursday, June 25**

**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM** Walk-in Ministry

**7:00 PM** Somethings Summer Book Group

**All Day** Appalachia Service Project

**Tuesday, June 23**

**11:30 AM** Daytimers' Luncheon

**All Day** Appalachia Service Project

**Friday, June 26**

**10:30 AM** Yoga (Room 201)

**All Day** Appalachia Service Project

**Sunday, June 28**

*Pride Sunday & Hunger for Change*

**9:45 AM** Faith Formation  
(Lectionary Class & Summer Book Class for adults. Children's Class.)

**11:00 AM** Worship: Mindy Douglas, preaching

**Immediately Following Worship** Tom and Sybil Retirement Celebration (Watts-Hill Hall)

### CHURCH STAFF

*Janet Askew*, Business 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  
*Brandi Kirkland*, Communications Associate  
*Kathy Parkins*, Minister of Music  
*John Weicher*, Associate Pastor

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, email the church office:  
[office@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:office@firstpres-durham.org) or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>

**305 EAST MAIN STREET    DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701    919.682.5511    ORGANIZED 1871**