A Service of Lessons and Carols

First Presbyterian Church
Durham, North Carolina
A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

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

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

Sonata in F for recorders and harpsichord - Affettuoso, Allegro

G. P. Telemann

INTROIT

Judah’s Land

Appalachian Carol

To thee with joy I sing, sweet child that heav’n did bring; Now Judah’s land shall ring with thy praises.

Gentle Stranger, in that manger, in Judah’s land we find thee, infant Savior.

I greet thee, Prince of Peace; from sin give thy release! Nor shall my tongue e’er cease from thy praises.

Gentle Stranger, in that manger, in Judah’s land we find thee, infant Savior.

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

William, Jane, Isabel, Annabelle, and Clarabelle Brown

Reader 1: We light this candle as a symbol of the joy to be found in your kingdom on earth.

(Lighting of the pink candle)

Reader 2: For the Lord elevates the lowly and releases the captive.

Reader 3: The Lord brings sight to the blind and lets the oppressed go free.

Reader 4: We rejoice in his justice and mercy, faithful to all generations.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

*HYMN NO. 123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Carol

Marilyn Hedgpeth

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience to the glorious redemption brought to us by this Holy Child. But first, let us pray for the world that God so loves, and especially for peace on earth and goodwill among all people. Let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the lonely and the unloved; all who have none to care for them; all those whose lives have been torn asunder by injustice, terror and war; the aged and little children; and all who know not the great loving-kindness of the Lord Jesus.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this day, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous, guard the strong. We make our prayer in the words Christ himself has taught us: 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.

*Those who are able, please stand.
FIRST LESSON  
Genesis 3:8-12; 22-24  
Adam and Eve are driven from the garden.  
Noah Rokuske

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON  
Leader:  Lord of grace and truth, your Son, our Savior, was born in poverty in a manger.  
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
We have sinned:  
People:  Forgive and heal us.  
Leader:  The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.  
Forgive our disobedience to your will.  
We have sinned:  
People:  Forgive and heal us.  
Leader:  The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.  
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.  
We have sinned:  
People:  Forgive and heal us. Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Leader:  May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins,  
time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.  
All:  Amen.  
John Weicher

ANTHEM  
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus  
Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free,  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.  
Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king;  
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring:  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.  
Daniel Gawthrop

SECOND LESSON  
Zechariah 7:8-10; 9:9-10, 16-17  
The prophet tells of the coming ruler of God's people.  
Cris Rivera

SOLO  
Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion (from Messiah)  
Lesley Curtis, Soprano  
Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion,  
O daughter of Jerusalem, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee.  
He is the righteous Savior, and he shall speak peace unto the heathen.  
G.F. Handel

THIRD LESSON  
Isaiah 11:1-9  
The coming of peace is foretold.  
Ellie Everett

HYMN NO. 129  
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming  
Es Ist Ein' Ros'  
John Weicher

FOURTH LESSON  
Isaiah 40:1-5  
God's people are comforted.  
John Weicher
ANTHEM

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak of peace, thus saith our God; Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning 'neath their sorrows' load. Speak you to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them; tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over. Hark, the voice of one that crieth in the desert far and near, calling us to new repentance since the kingdom now is here. Oh, that warning cry, obey!
Now prepare for God a way; let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.
Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain; let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign. For the glory of the Lord now e'er earth is shed abroad, and all flesh shall see the token that the word is never broken.

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel appears to Mary.

Cary Henry

*HYMN NO. 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-20


Sam Miglarese

*HYMN NO. 145

What Child Is This

Greensleeves

SEVENTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.

Mindy Douglas

HYMN NO. 144

In the Bleak Midwinter

Cranham

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance:
(Refrain) Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance;
Thus was I knit to man's nature, to call my true love to my dance: (Refrain)

In a manger laid and wrapped I was, so very poor this was my chance,
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call my true love to my dance: (Refrain)

Then afterwards baptized I was; The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above, to call my true love to my dance: (Refrain)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: All glory to you, great God, for the gift of your Son, whom you sent to save us. With singing angels, let us praise your name, and tell the earth his story that all may believe and rejoice in your saving grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria
SOLEMN BENEDICTION
Leader: The Son of God once came to us; may his coming bring us the light of his holiness.
People: Amen.
Leader: God sent heavenly angels to shepherds to herald the great joy of our Savior’s birth.
May God fill us with joy and make us heralds of the gospel.
People: Amen.
Leader: When the Word became Flesh, earth was joined to heaven.
May God give us peace and good will, and brighten our hearts with holiness.
People: Amen.
Leader: May Almighty God, the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, bless us.
All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

J. S. Bach

Parents of young children: The Children’s Choir will rehearse in the choir room immediately
following worship today. They will sing in worship on next Sunday, December 23.

Today at 6:00 p.m. - Potluck Supper and Carols Sing-Along

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

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.

Today’s worship is patterned after the Lessons and Carols service at King’s College Chapel in Cambridge,
England. The traditional service of Lessons and Carols dates from 1880, but the most famous tradition is
that of the service at King’s College, Cambridge which began in 1918. It is always held on Christmas Eve.

The striking Advent paraments, purchased with funds from the bequest of Anne St. Clair Williams, were
designed and created in 2012 by Laurie Wohl, a fiber-artist internationally known for her “Unweavings.”
The pulpit hanging contains a text in Hebrew and English drawn from Isaiah 12: 3: “With joy you will draw
water from the wells of salvation” while the text for the lectern hanging 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.”

The sanctuary table upon which the Advent Wreath sits was made by George Danser and is given to us by
his wife, Jean Cary, and him. George has drawn 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.

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 or return to an usher.

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

Copies of the These Days devotional booklet for January – March 2019 have arrived. Pick up a copy, regular
or large print, from the foyer or narthex while supplies last.
**FINAL CALL for Christmas Concerns:** During Advent, share Christmas wishes with friends in the congregation by making a donation to Christmas Concerns. This year’s proceeds will be given to support two people who are in sanctuary: Rosa at the Church of Reconciliation and José at the School for Conversion in Durham. Both Rosa and José are parents trying to support their children who are also in the area. To participate in Christmas Concerns, write a check to First Presbyterian Church, memo: “Christmas Concerns” and put it in the offering plate. Then, visit the Giving Tree in the foyer, sign your name on an ornament and hang the ornament on the Giving Tree for all to see. The names of those who share greetings will be listed in the “Christmas” edition of the church’s newsletter. **The deadline to participate is TODAY.**

**Year-End Giving:** The church must receive your charitable contributions by 12:00 p.m. on Monday, December 24, 2018; or be placed in the offering plate at a service through Sunday, December 30, 2018; or the gift must be postmarked by December 31, 2018, if mailed, to be deductible on your 2018 taxes. If you wish to make a contribution by credit card, this may be done through the church’s website (www.firstpres-durham.org) at any time. To be deductible on your 2018 taxes, please initiate the gift by Friday, December 28. If you wish to make a donation through a gift of stock, please notify Tom Bloom, Business Administrator (t.bloom@firstpres-durham.org) as soon as possible. Members aged 70 ½ who own an IRA may be able to make a tax-excludable gift directly to First Presbyterian and have that gift satisfy any required minimum distribution for this year. Please contact your IRA administrator ASAP if you wish to consider this giving option for tax year 2018.

**A Call for Nominations:** The Nominating Committee has two important tasks to complete this 2018-2019 church year. They will manage the process to nominate members to the Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families Nominating Committee; and in the spring they will present a slate of candidates for the Diaconate, Session, and at-large members of the 2019-2020 Nominating Committee. Forms for submitting nominations can be picked up from the tables in the foyer and narthex. **The deadline is January 6, 2019.**

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**Our Concerns**

**Our Sympathies:** The love and concern of the congregation are extended to **Wendy and Mac McCorkle, Chip and Lewis** on the death of Wendy’s father on December 7th in Pennsylvania; and to **Mickey Velkey and Beth and Larry Brockman** on the death of Mickey’s niece, **Vicky Tobey**, who died December 4th in Virginia.

**Added this week:**

- **Ann Prospero**, a patient at Duke Regional
- **Jerry and TJ England**, Mary-Jo Keenan’s brother-in-law and his wife
- **Jake Frost**, husband of Erica Shirts (friends of FPC)
- **Doug Hervey**, son of Jeanne Hervey
- **Shirila Hudson**, mother of Tyler Momsen-Hudson, recovering from surgery
- **Jim Mau**, father of Shirley Frederick’s daughter-in-law, Sharon
- **Jim Vacca**, father of Jamie Chambliss
- **Joseph Ngumi**, recovering at Duke Hospital
- **Nellie Van Ewyk**, sister of Hendrika Vande Kemp

**Home:**
- **Barbara Gerwe**  **Franzi Rokoske**  **Carolyn Wolfe**

**Care Communities:**
- Brookdale Senior Living, Durham: **Julian Boswell**
- Croasdaile Pavilion: **Bette Conroy, Lee Courtland, Bob Rankin, Jim Wolfe**
- Durham Regent: **John Kerr**
- Pruitt Health at Carolina Point, Durham: **Helen Garrison**
- The Forest at Duke: **Fran Bryant**
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Later Today</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>After Worship: Racial Equity Task Force (Wilson Parlor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 – 12:45 PM Children’s Choir Rehearsal (Choir room)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 PM All-Church Potluck and Carols Sing-Along (Watts-Hill Hall and foyer)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday, December 17</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 – 11:00 AM FPC preparing lunch bags at Urban Ministries Café</td>
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<td>6:00 PM Officers and Clergy Potluck at the home of Mindy Douglas</td>
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<th>Tuesday, December 18</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 PM Worship Planning</td>
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<td>2:30 PM All Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM A “Blue Christmas” Service for those who mourn (at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Durham)</td>
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<th>Wednesday, December 19</th>
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<td>5:00 PM Handbell Choir</td>
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<td>5:45 PM Candlelight Caroling</td>
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<td>6:00 PM Advent Worship &amp; Communion followed by Supper at 6:30</td>
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<td>6:30 PM McPherson Lectureship Committee</td>
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<td>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</td>
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<th>Thursday, December 20</th>
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<td>Christmas Newsletter issued today</td>
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<th>Friday, December 21</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 – 9:00 AM FPC serving breakfast at Urban Ministries Community Café</td>
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<th>Saturday, December 22</th>
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<tr>
<td>Poinsettias arrive</td>
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<th>Sunday, December 23</th>
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<th>Sunday, December 24</th>
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<tr>
<td>Join us on Christmas Eve . . .</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, December 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>The King’s College Lessons and Carols livestream broadcast in the sanctuary has been cancelled.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Candles and Communion</td>
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<td>A simple 45-minute service featuring carols from around the world.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion and Candle Lighting Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>The birth of the Christ Child is celebrated in word and song with communion and a candle lighting service. Childcare provided for younger children. An offering will be received to support Welcome Baby of Durham and the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.</td>
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<td>Sunday, January 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Children’s Christmas Pageant will take place during the 11:00 a.m. worship.</td>
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<th>Church Office Holiday Schedule</th>
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<td>The church office will be closed Tuesday-Friday, December 25-28 for Christmas, and Monday, December 31 – Tuesday, January 1 for the New Year’s holiday. Church staff will be available by email and cell phone.</td>
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123  It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

1 It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
2 Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
4 And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low;
5 For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,

from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world:
neath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King":
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
and we at war on earth hear not the tidings that they bring;
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendor fling,
the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

O, hush the noise and cease the strife to hear the angels sing!

O, rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
3 This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,

of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.

It came, a flower bright, amid the cold of
To show God's love a right she bore for us a
Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he

winter, when half spent was the night.
Savior, when half spent was the night.
saves us and lightens every load.
132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice
   with heart and soul and voice;
   give ye heed to what we say:
   Jesus Christ is born today;
   ox and ass before him bow,
   and he is in the manger now.

2. Good Christian friends, rejoice
   with heart and soul and voice;
   now ye hear of endless bliss:
   Jesus Christ was born for this!
   He has opened heaven's door,
   and we are blest forevermore.

3. Good Christian friends, rejoice
   with heart and soul and voice;
   now ye need not fear the grave:
   Jesus Christ was born to save!
   Calls you one and calls you all
   to gain the everlasting hall.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
2 Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!
In the Bleak Midwinter

1. In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan;
   earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
   snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
   in the bleak mid-winter, long ago.

2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
   heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;
   in the bleak mid-winter a stable place sufficed
   the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

3. Angels and archangels may have gathered there;
   cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
   but his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
   worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

4. What can I give him, poor as I am?
   If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
   if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
   yet what I can I give him: give my heart.
1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
3. Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;

and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
What the glad some tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

Refrain

Gloria

in excelsis Deo! Gloria
Hodie Christus natus est
Minister of Music, First Presbyterian Church  
Kathryn Cain Parkins

**Sopranos**  
Maddie Brigman  
Isabel Brown  
Kate Busa  
Dawn Carsey  
Kathy Conner  
Lesley Curtis  
Mindy Douglas  
Wendy McCorkle  
Charlotte Nelson  
Sara Radke  
Laurie Ray  
Cathy Snell  
Amy Wilson

**Altos**  
Marsha Butler  
Cheryl Henry  
Hope Hunter  
Christyn Klinck  
Katy Loebrich  
Diane Prosser  
Mary Kay Robinson  
Hendrika Vande Kemp

**Tenors**  
Bob Breitweiser  
Stephen Cole  
Brent Curtis  
Sam Henry  
Tom Juhnke  
Jerry Postema  
Joe Robinson

**Basses**  
Eric Burton  
Doug Butler  
Stephen Cole

**Special thanks to our instrumentalists:**  
Violin: Janet Barringer  
Recorder: Patricia Petersen, Doug Petersen  
Drum: Jody Maxwell  
Organ: Gordon Campbell

~ Serving Today ~

Narthex Greeter: Alice Raney  
After Worship Greeters: Dewey Lawson (side/font); Leah Graves (rear/narthex)  
Ushers: Emily Wilkins (head), Christy Gudaitis, John Mozart (counting),  
Laurie Williamson, Elinor Hess, Amy Sanchez

**CHURCH STAFF**

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator  
Robert Daye, Sexton  
Mindy Douglas, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate  
Marilyn Hedgpeth, Associate Pastor  
Cheryl Henry, Parish Associate  
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator  
Sam Migliarese, 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: http://firstpres-durham.org

The bulletin cover, "The Concert of Angels," is by Gaudenzio Ferrari (1471-1546), a painter of the Italian High Renaissance. This work adorns the dome of the church of Santa Maria dei Miracoli. Image was retrieved December 7, 2017 from https://todoelordelmundo.files.wordpress.com/2012/01/the-concert-of-angels-1534-36-xx-gaudenzio-ferrari1.jpg?w=500&h=333

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