FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
(As we prepare to worship, please silence all mobile devices.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE (Handbell Choir)  Joy to the World  French Carol, 15th cent.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 105  People Look East  Besançon
(Permission seated)

PRAYER OF ADORATION (in unison)
Sam Miglarese

Heavenly God, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN’S PAGEANT  “Journey to Bethlehem”  by Akiko Kageyama
Cast: Narrator, Mary Ellis Merritt; Angel, Vanessa Armstrong; Star, Cordie Ramont; Shepherd 1, Logan Brown; Shepherd 2, Noah Dillon; Joseph, Ricky Bennett; Mary, Brianna Bennett; Baby Jesus, Luke Bennett. Handbells: Jane Brawley, Kate Busa, Gordon Campbell, Brent Curtis, Mindy Douglas, Andrew Hedgpeth, Marilyn Hedgpeth, Mary-Jo Keenan, Julie Maxwell, Betsy Robinson, Phyllis Supple, Tess Tessier.

(Following the pageant, the children may either go and sit with their parents or return to the playroom for the remainder of worship.)

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLES
Kirk Huslage, Erin McClain, Maeve and Rhys

Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of the peace only God can bring. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

HYMN NO. 82  Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus  Hyfrydol

CONFESSION OF SIN (remain standing)
John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)
Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon

THE PEACE
John Weicher

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you
People: And also with you.

*Those who are able, please stand.
COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us pray.
All: Covenant God, you send us messengers to cleanse and refine us for your coming. Help us endure the mirror of the prophets’ message, that we may see you when you suddenly appear among us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

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

Malachi 3:1-4 (Pew Bible, OT Page 889)

GOSPEL LESSON

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

Luke 3:1-6 (Pew Bible, NT Page 543)

MEDITATION

“The Great Leveling” Mindy Douglas
(Silent meditation)

*HYMN NO. 96

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry Winchester New

NEW MEMBER SERVICE OF WELCOME

Words of Welcome and Introduction
Affirmation of Faith (in unison)
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.
Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows
Prayer
Song of Welcome (Hymn No. 306, verse 1; all sing)

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Marilyn Hedgpeth

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Leader: For God alone my soul waits in silence;
People: From God comes my salvation.
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 OFFERING
Invitation to the Offering
Offertory Anthem

In Adam we have all been one, one huge rebellious man;
We all have fled that evening voice that sought us as we ran.
We fled Thee, and in losing Thee, we lost our brother too;
Each singly sought and claimed his own, each man his brother slew.
But Thy strong love, it sought us still and sent Thine only Son
That we might hear His Shepherd's voice and, hearing Him, be one.
O Thou who, when we loved Thee not, didst love and save us all,
Thou great Good Shepherd of mankind, O hear us when we call.
Send us Thy Spirit, teach us truth Thou Son, O set us free
From fancied wisdom, self-sought ways, to make us one in Thee.
Then shall our song united rise to Thine eternal throne,
Where with the Father evermore and Spirit Thou art one.

*Doxology (Hymn No. 108, verse 6)

Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Doxology, and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be.
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore! Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to offer thanks and praise.
All: God of all righteousness, receive these gifts of gratitude, the offerings of our lives.
Purify them with your refining fire so that they may serve your purposes and shine
with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

*Benediction

Mindy Douglas

*POSTLUDE

People Look East

Paul Manz

Parents: The Children's Choir will hold a quick rehearsal today following worship in the choir room.
They will sing again during worship on December 23rd.

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
Sunday, December 2, we welcomed 31 visitors to our worship service.

Please welcome the following new members to FPC: the Bass Family (Dustin, Elizabeth and Bennett) and
Diane Goff. Elizabeth Bass is the daughter of Ed and Caroline Pritchett. Diane is the mother of Leslie
McDow.
The table upon which the Advent wreath sits was handcrafted by George Danser and is given to the church by him and his wife, Jean Cary.

The Advent paraments, a gift from the bequest of Anne St. Clair Williams, were designed and created in 2012 by Laurie Wohl, an internationally known fiber-artist.

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. 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.

Portions of today’s worship texts are taken from Book of Common Worship (2018 edition) and Feasting on the Word.


Year-End Giving: Contributions statements are being mailed this week to all those who had pledge balances as of November 30. Timely payment of pledges by December 31 will allow First Presbyterian to pay its end-of-year bills promptly and to meet its benevolence obligations for 2018. Please remember that the church must receive your charitable contributions by 12:00 p.m. on Monday, December 24, 2018; or 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 1/2 + 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, 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 for submitting nominations is January 6, 2019.

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 Jose at the School for Conversion in Durham. Both Rosa and Jose 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 December 18th edition of the church’s newsletter. The deadline to participate is December 16.
Day School Winter Pageant and Auction

Please join First Presbyterian Day School on **Friday, December 14 at 3:00 p.m.** for their annual Winter Pageant and Auction. The auction will be held in the fellowship hall and doors open at 2:30 p.m. Do some holiday shopping including ornaments made by the students, a beautiful hand-crafted maple table made by Miguel Rubiera, and the opportunity to bid on a child's playhouse - your gifts will support the Day School! At 3:00 p.m. the pageant begins in the sanctuary. You’ll enjoy music and songs from all of the Day School classes as well as the staff. Santa will also be stopping by! The children, staff and parents of the Day School hope you’ll join them! If you have items to donate for the auction or would like to help, please contact Roxanne Little at 919-698-3910.

~ Our Concerns ~

**Sympathies**

We extend our sympathies to the family of Peggie (Peg) June Bracken, a longtime visitor to FPC who died December 5, 2018 at Duke Hospital. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held at FPC at 2:00 p.m. today. The family will receive friends at a reception in Watts-Hill hall following the service.

**Hospitals**

*Ann Prospero*, a patient at Duke Regional Hospital  
*Joseph Ngumi*, a patient at Duke Hospital  
*Jake Frost*, husband of Erica Shirts (friends of FPC)  
*Doug Hervey*, son of Jeanne Hervey and a patient at Duke Hospital  
*Jim Mau*, father of Shirley Frederick’s daughter-in-law, Sharon  
*Jim Vacca*, father of Jamie Chambliss

**Home**

*Lee Courtland*  
*Barbara Gerwe*  
*Franzi Rokoske*  
*Carolyn Wolfe*

**Care Communities**

Brookdale Senior Living, Durham: *Julian Boswell*  
Croasdaile Pavilion: *Bette Conroy, Bob Rankin, Jim Wolfe*  
Durham Regent: *John Kerr*  
Pruitt Health at Carolina Point, Durham: *Helen Garrison*  
The Forest at Duke: *Fran Bryant*

**Family and Friends of Church Members and Staff**

*Catherine Gitia*, friend of Mary Gitata  
*Heath Huberg*, friend of Kathy Parkins  
*Ben Johnston-Krase*, pastor of Durham's Farm Church  
*Paul Martin*, brother of Beth Neece
Advent MIDWEEK CAROLING AND CHILD-FRIENDLY WORSHIP

Wednesday, December 12 with Cheryl Henry
Wednesday, December 19 with Mary Berry

Join us at 5:45 p.m. on the Main Street steps for caroling, followed by worship and communion at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The evening worship will be followed by a light supper at 6:30 p.m. in Watts-Hill Hall. Donations will be received to offset the cost of the meal.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 16

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - A Service of Lessons and Carols
6:00 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 23

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Worship

Come prepare for a silent night/holy night. The Children’s Choir will be singing.

The Hunger for Change Offering will be received during worship.

The PC(USA) Joy Gift Offering will be received, supporting financial assistance programs of the Board of Pensions and Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges.

CHRISTMAS EVE – MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

(The livestream radio broadcast of the King’s College Lessons and Carols event at FPC has been canceled.)

3:00 p.m. - Worship with communion and candles (in the sanctuary)
A simple 45-minute service featuring carols from around the world.

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.
Childcare provided for younger children. An offering will be received to support Welcome Baby and the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC.
People, Look East

1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.

2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.

3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen.

4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.

5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
east and sing to-day:

People, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
Love, the Rose, is on the way.
Love, the Bird, is on the way.
Love, the Star, is on the way.
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

People, look east: (Love is on the way.)
1 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 long-ing heart.

2 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.
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry an-
nounces that the Lord is nigh; awake and heark-en,
for he brings glad tiding of the King of kings!

2 Then cleansed be every life from sin; make
straight the way for God within, and let us all our
hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our
refuge and our great reward; without your grace we
waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

4 Stretch forth your hand; our health restore, and
make us rise to fall no more. O let your face up-
on us shine and fill the world with love divine.
Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.
   The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

2. Before our Father’s throne we pour our ardent prayers.
   Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

3. We share our mutual woes; our burdens bear.
   And of ten for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

4. When we are called to part, it gives us inward pain;
   But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

5. From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
   And perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.
Of the Father’s Love Begotten 108

1 Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the worlds began
2 By his Word was all created; he commanded; it
3 O, that birth forever blessed when the Virgin full
4 This is he whom seers in old time chant-ed of with one
5 O ye heights of heaven, adore him. Angel hosts, his praises
6 Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost,

to be, he is Alpha and Omega; he the was done: heaven and earth and depths of ocean, un
of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the accord, whom the voices of the prophets promised es sing. Powers, dominions, bow before him, and ex
to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giving and un

source, the ending he, of the things that are, that verse of three in one, all that sees the moon’s soft Sav
ior of our race, and the babe, the world’s Re
in their faithful word. Now he shines, the long ex
tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be wea
ried praises be. Honor, glory, and do

have been, and that future years shall see, shin ing, all that breathes beneath the sun, deem er, first revealed his sacred face,pect ed. Let creation praise its Lord, si lent; every voice in concert ring, min ion, and eternal victory,

(after stanza 6)

ever-more and ever-more! Amen.
1 “Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.
2 For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.

“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load,
calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God’s holy reign.

To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!
O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,

Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.
Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting,
and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.
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<th>The Week at a Glance!</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Later Today</strong></td>
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<td>After Worship:</td>
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<td>12:15 - 12:45 PM</td>
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<td>Children's Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>2:00 PM</td>
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<td>Memorial Service for</td>
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<td>Peg Bracken</td>
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<td>(Reception follows</td>
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<td>in Watts-Hill Hall)</td>
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<td><strong>TBA</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Youth Groups</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Christmas Party</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Monday, December 10</strong></td>
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<td>5:00 PM</td>
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<td>Time Out Radio Show</td>
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<td>Jennie Belle talks ab</td>
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<td>out immigration and</td>
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<td>sanctuary opportunities</td>
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<td>(Listen live on FM103.5</td>
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<td>or at wcom.org)</td>
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<td>6:00 PM</td>
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<td>Property Committee</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<td>Worship and the Arts</td>
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<td>Committee</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, December 11</strong></td>
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<td>1:30 PM</td>
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<td>Plan Worship</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, December 12</strong></td>
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<td>Daytimers' Luncheon at</td>
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<td>Bell Choir</td>
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<td>Carol Singing</td>
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<td>Advent Worship</td>
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<td>(Sanctuary)</td>
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<td>Advent Supper</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<td>Chancel Choir</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, December 13</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Friday, December 14</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 - 9:00 AM</td>
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<td>FPC serving breakfast</td>
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<td>at Urban Ministries</td>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
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<td>Day School Winter</td>
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<td>Pageant and Auction</td>
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<td>Deadline for</td>
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<td>January 7, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, December 15</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sunday, December 16</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Sunday of Advent</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
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<td>Worship</td>
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| "A Service of Lessons & Carols"
| 6:00 PM               |
| Christmas Potluck and |
| Carols Sing-Along     |
| (No evening Youth Groups)|

~ Serving Today ~

Liturgist: *Amy Dillon*
Narthex Greeters: *Maxie Honeycutt, Elinor Hess*
After Worship Greeters: *Sigfried Fullenkamp* (narthex/rear); *Raymond Mbah* (side/font)
Ushers: *Emily Wilkins* (head), *Amy Sanchez, Amy Dillon, Katy Barron*

**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 Miglarose*, Associate Pastor
*Kathy Parkins*, Minister of Music
*John Weicher*, Associate Pastor

305 EAST MAIN STREET  DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701  919.682.5511
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