FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 15, 2019

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS
Minute for Peacemaking: Tomorrow's Youth Organization in Nablus, West Bank
Mindy Douglas
Carolyn Mangeot

PRELUDE
“Voluntary in A”
William Herschel

*INTROIT
“Gloria, Gloria”
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Alleluia
(Glory to God in the Highest)
Taizé Community

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader: We come to this place to search for God,
Marilyn Hedgpeth
People: But God is already searching for us.
Leader: We come to this place to speak for God,
People: But God is already speaking for us.
Leader: Let us worship and listen for God,
People: Who calls us together and leads us home.
All: Let us worship God.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 475
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Nettleton

*CONFESSION OF SIN
Call to Prayer
Marilyn Hedgpeth
Prayer of Confession (in unison)
We expect you to stay in your lane, O Divine One. We know the way the world works,
after all, and so we have gotten comfortable with the ways we think you move in it.
Forgive us such faithless comfort and easy laziness. Forgive us for bristling at your
abundant grace as decadent or silly. Forgive us snickering at your love. When we
come to ourselves, we remember just how we need that love – like right now.
Silent Confession
Declaration of Pardon

COLLECT FOR THE DAY
Leader: The Lord be with you.
Torrell Armstrong
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us pray.
All: God of mercy, grant that the Word you speak this day may take root in our hearts,
and bear fruit to your honor and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON
1 Timothy 1:12-17
(Pew Bible, NT Page 208)
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

* Those who are able, please stand.
GOSPEL LESSON
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

HYMN NO. 173 (sung by choir)  A Woman and a Coin  Life Restored

A woman and a coin: the coin is lost!
How much it means to her, what time and toil,
what part it was to play in her bright dreams!
Am I that treasured coin worth searching for?
I'm found, and you rejoice! What love! What love!

A shepherd and a sheep: the sheep is lost!
Far from the flock, the one in hundred cries,
them, risking life, the shepherd's voice and staff?
Am I that treasured sheep worth dying for?
I live, and you rejoice! What love! What love!

Dear God, you sought us when the world was lost;
you gave your only son at what a cost;
your Spirit welcomes home the tempest-tossed:
now we can be all you were dreaming of.
We're safe, and you rejoice! What love! What love!

SERMON
"Frustrating Grace"  John Weicher

(A moment for meditation.)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH  (from A Brief Statement of Faith)  Mindy Douglas

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, all races and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

*HYMN NO. 435  There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy  In Babilone

*THE PEACE  Mindy Douglas

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

During the passing of the peace, children through first grade, along with their caregivers and older siblings, are invited to come to the front pews for “A Time with the Children.”

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN  John Weicher

(Following “A Time with Children,” children may return to the playroom or join their parents and siblings as they go back to their seats.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER  Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Lord looks down from heaven on humankind
People: To see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.  (from Psalm 14:2)
(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 OFFERINGS
Invitation to the Offering
Offertory Anthem

Glory to God in the Highest
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us:
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord.
You alone are the most high, Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*Doxology with Alleluias

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!

PRAAYER OF THANKSGIVING
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to offer thanks and praise.
All: We rejoice and give thanks, O God, for the lost have been found, sinners have received mercy, and the dead have been restored to life. Send us out in your service to tend your sheep and show the riches of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 649
Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound
Amazing Grace

*BENEDICTION
John Weicher

*POSTLUDE
Fugue in D
J.S. Bach

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 September 8, we welcomed 31 visitors to worship.

Music Notes: The text of “Glory to God in the Highest” is a short hymn of praise to the Trinity and is one of the core canticles of the church (a canticle is a song used in liturgical worship drawn from biblical texts other than the Psalter). Its use dates from the 4th century and it continues to be used in the morning office of the eastern churches. In the western church, it became a part of the Eucharistic service in the 12th century. This text has been set thousands of times by various composers from the earliest times continuing until today.

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents and grandparents Margaret S. Davis, J. Van Davis, Marie F. Rourke, and Malcolm H. Rourke, MD by Henderson and Jane Davis Rourke and Caroline Davis Rourke.
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. 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 were reprinted from Call to Worship, Book of Common Worship (2018), and Feasting on the Word.

Alleluia Children’s Choir
The Alleluia Children’s Choir sang this morning at Covenant Presbyterian Church during their 10:00 a.m. worship. The children will not have practice today. The choir will practice again next Sunday, September 22 at 5:00 p.m. at FPC. For more information on this newly formed joint choir for children in second-fifth grade, contact Kathy Parkins.

Evening Class: Who Is My Faith Neighbor?
This class is worshipping with the Sikh Gurudwara congregation in Durham today. There is no class discussion at FPC this afternoon. Our discussion of Holy Envy will resume next Sunday, September 22, at 5:00 p.m. at FPC.

Congregational Meeting to be held September 22
The FPC Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, September 22 following worship for the purpose of hearing a report from the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and voting on a candidate for the installed position of Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families.

~ Our Joys and Concerns ~
Chuck Barenchi, a patient at Duke Hospital
Paul Cornsweet, in rehab at Treyburn Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Durham
Families and individuals displaced or impacted by Hurricane Dorian
Margaret Mubanga
Mercy Ndambiri-Curlett
Joseph Ngumi
Franzi Rokoske
Carolyn and Jim Wolfe

Care Communities:
Brookdale Durham: Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett
Croasdaile Pavilion: Bob Rankin
Durham Regent: John Kerr, Ann Prospero
Pruitt Health at Carolina Point: Helen Garrison
The Forest at Duke: Fran Bryant

Family and Friends of the Congregation:
Fran Alwood, mother of Jennie Alwood
Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss
Camilla Crampton, companion of Mal King
Ralph Edwards, grandfather of Amy Wilson
Heath Huberg, friend of Kathy Parkins
Doug Neece, brother of Vern Neece
Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss
Bob Warren, father of Dawn Carsey
**Stewardship Season Kickoff – Sunday, September 29**

Last year, we began a new tradition at FPC. We held our stewardship season kickoff meal following worship instead of during the weekday at a supper event. This year, we are again providing a FREE LUNCH in Watts-Hill Hall. On Sunday, September 29 immediately following the worship service, the Stewardship Committee will give a presentation around the theme: “Love in the Heart of Durham,” while we enjoy a wonderful meal prepared by Cris Rivera and Beth Stringfield. Childcare will be available during the luncheon. RSVP via the Evite or use the reservation card in today’s bulletin if you plan to join us. One response per household is needed by September 25.

Your personalized stewardship materials will be available for pickup on September 29th in the foyer. **Dedication Sunday is October 27.** Please make note of these important dates.

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**PRIDE**

**Durham’s Pride Festival and Parade**

*Come celebrate and walk with our LGBTQIA+ friends, neighbors and allies in the Durham Pride Parade!*

For the past several years, FPC members have been present for the Durham Pride Parade as festival goers, and for the first time last year, we had a group to participate in the parade! We hope to have another large crowd representing FPC in support of our LGBTQIA+ community this year on **Saturday, September 28**! We will gather when the festival opens at 10:00 a.m., with the parade starting at 11:00 a.m. Please email Laurie Williamson (laurie@laurieandmatt.com) if you would like to join us. Laurie will follow up with those interested to coordinate walkers, signs, color, and flair!

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**Racial Equity Task Force**

**Trip planned to Montgomery, Alabama**

A group of First Presbyterians is planning a trip to The National Memorial for Peace and Justice and The Legacy Museum in Montgomery the weekend of **October 18-20**. We will visit the Memorial and tour the “From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration” Exhibit. Details regarding transportation and lodging are to be determined. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Kathy Conner or Eric Wiebe. Checkout the museum’s website for information on what to expect: [https://museumandmemorial.eji.org/](https://museumandmemorial.eji.org/).

The Tutoring Program for children, held **every Tuesday evening from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Iglesia Emanuel**, is gearing up for the new school year and we need more tutors for reading or math. Questions? Contact Miguel or Margaret Rubiera.

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**Hurricane Relief & Recovery**

If you would like to help victims of Hurricane Dorian, you may give directly to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at: [https://pma.pcus.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000194/](https://pma.pcus.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000194/). This designated account supplements the One Great Hour of Sharing offering to enable a significant response for relief and recovery from hurricanes and typhoons that cause widespread destruction in the United States and internationally. Additional hurricane relief and recovery information from Church World Service is available from the tables in the foyer and narthex.
1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace.
2 Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I come.
3 O to grace how great a debt or daily I'm constrained to be!

streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!
his, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.
A woman and a coin: the coin is lost!
A shepherd and a sheep: the sheep is lost!

Dear God, you sought us when the world was lost;

How much it means to her, what time and toil,
Far from the flock, the one in hundred cries,
you gave your only son at what a cost;

what part it was to play in her bright dreams!
then, risking life, the shepherd’s voice and staff!
your Spirit welcomes home the tempest-tossed:

Am I that treasured coin worth searching for?
Am I that treasured sheep worth dying for?

now we can be all you were dreaming of.

I’m found, and you rejoice! What love! What love!
I live, and you rejoice! What love! What love!

We’re safe, and you rejoice! What love! What love!
1 There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness
   of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice, of the mind. And the heart of the Eternal

2 For the love of God is broader than the measures
   which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more

sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word, and our lives re-

where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given. fleet thanks-giving for the goodness of our Lord.
1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
4 The Lord has promised good to me; his portion be as long as life endures.
5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.
~ Serving Today ~

Liturgist: Torrell Armstrong
Greeter: Alice Raney
After Worship Greeters: Wendy McCorkle (rear/narthex), Raymond Mbah (side/font)
Ushers: Matt Cline (head), Katy Barron, Miriam Morey

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<th>This Week at a Glance!</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Later Today</strong></td>
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<td>4:30 – 6:30 PM</td>
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<td>Middle School Youth</td>
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<td>6:00 – 8:00 PM</td>
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<td>High School Youth</td>
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<td><em>No Alleluia Children’s Choir practice</em></td>
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<td><em>No “Holy Envy” Book Study</em></td>
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| **Monday, September 16** |
| 9:00 AM – 12 Noon        |
| Walk-in Ministry client interviews |
| 9:30 – 11:00 AM          |
| FPC preparing bag lunches at Urban Ministries |

| **Tuesday, September 17** |
| Newsletter Today!        |
| 8:00 AM High School Youth Midweek Meal (Coffee World, Guess Rd) |
| 1:30 PM Plan Worship      |
| 2:30 PM Program Staff    |
| 6:00 PM Finance & Investment Committee |
| 7:00 PM Vox Chorus       |

| **Wednesday, September 18** |
| 5:00 PM Bell Choir         |
| 5:30 PM Winesday Fellowship at Durham Co-op |
| 7:00 PM Chancel Choir      |

| **Thursday, September 19** |
| 9:00 AM – 12 Noon          |
| Walk-in Ministry client interviews |
| 6:30 PM                    |
| Day School Board           |

| **Friday, September 20** |
| 7:00 – 9:00 AM            |
| FPC serving breakfast at Urban Ministries |

| **Saturday, September 21** |
| 9:00 AM – 12 Noon          |
| Grounds Workday            |

| **Sunday, September 22** |
| 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| 9:45 AM Sunday School Membership Inquiry Class |
| 11:00 AM Worship Hunger for Change Offering received during worship Congregational Meeting at the end of worship to hear APNC report/vote on candidate |
| 4:30 – 6:30 PM Middle School Youth |
| 5:00 PM Alleluia Children’s Choir / Book Study: Holy Envy |
| 6:00 – 8:00 PM High School Youth |

*International Day of Peace*

**CHURCH STAFF**
- **Tom Bloom**, Business Administrator
- **Robert Daye**, Sexton
- **Mindy Douglas**, Pastor/Head of Staff
- **Susan Dunlap**, Parish Associate
- **Marilyn Hedgpath**, Associate Pastor
- **Cheryl Henry**, Parish Associate
- **Valerie McMillian**, Parish Administrator
- **Sam Miglarese**, 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: https://firstpres-durham.org

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ORGANIZED 1871