FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(includes music)
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

4th Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS
Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE (Bell Choir)
“Sing We Noel”
Kevin McChesney

INTROIT
Gentle Mary Laid Her Child
Piae Cantiones, 1582

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
There he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favor.

*CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES
Nash Luffman and Julia Wigger

Leader: The prophet Isaiah declares, “A young woman is with child, and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel, which means God-With-Us.” The risen Christ declares, “I am with you always, to the end of the age.” We light this candle as a sign of God’s presence in Christ, now and always. (The candle is lit.) That we may trust that God is with us and live in the light of Christ’s coming...

Congregation: Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives and shine among us now.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 88
O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Veni Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribe on Sinai’s height
In ancient times didst give the law In cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; Fill the whole world with heaven’s peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*CONFESSION OF SIN
John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

* Those who are able, please stand.
Silent Confession
Declaration of Pardon

COLLECT FOR THE DAY
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us pray.
All: O Emmanuel, our Sovereign and lawgiver, desire of the nations and Savior of all:
Come and save us, O Lord our God. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSE HYMN NO. 88 (verse 4)  
Veni Emmanuel
O come, thou root of Jesse, free thine own from Satan’s tyranny
From depths of hell thy people save and give them victory o’er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

GOSPEL LESSON  
Matthew 1:18-25
(Pew Bible, NT Page 1)
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!
Reader: Holly Shoaf-O’Kula

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON  
Isaiah 7:10-14
(Pew Bible, OT Page 636)
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!
Readers: Steve Rimmer, Sam Miglarese

SERMON  
“Read the Signs”
Sam Miglarese
(Silent reflection)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison) from A Brief Statement of Faith  
Minday Douglas
We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the
one body of Christ, the church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life
in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims
us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries
in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with
others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily
tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and
new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!

*HYMN NO. 97  
Watchman, Tell Us of the Night  
Aberystwyth

*THE PEACE  
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.
Signs of hospitality and reconciliation may be expressed verbally, if desired.
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
(Following A Time with Children, children may join their parents/siblings in the pews or return to childcare.)

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS
Invitation to the Offering
Offertory Anthem Midnight Clear
Marilyn Hedgpeth
Russell Schulz-Widmar

The lyrics to this anthem can be found in the Hymnal, No. 123, verses 1, 2, 3, 5.

(The Hunger for Change Offering will be received following the anthem.)

*Doxology (Hymn No. 108, verse 6)

Divinum Mysterium

Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,

hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be.

Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore.

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE
Mindy Douglas

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
Sam Miglarese

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Leader: How can we thank you, O God, for sun and moon and stars; for breath and life and all things good; for your steadfast promise and your faithful love; for the day that is surely coming when all things will be made new? With saints, with angels, and with the whole creation, we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

All (sung): Sanctus Hymn No. 572

[Music notation]
Leader: We give you thanks, Holy God, for Jesus, who came to be your living Word, to baptize us with Spirit and fire, to feed the hungry, to humble the mighty, and to announce the good news of your coming realm. With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you, sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ’s dying and rising, and praying; Come, Lord Jesus!

All (sung): Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us – this bread, this cup, these people – Christ’s body and blood, given in love for the world. Make us one in the Spirit, one in the church, and one with Christ our Lord. Make us gentle, joyful, thankful people, serving our neighbors, worshiping you alone. Keep us in the peace of Christ until you gather us at your table in glory. Even now, a voice is crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord! Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

All (sung): Amen, amen, amen.

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Marilyn Hedgpeth, Sam Migliarese

We celebrate communion by intinction, coming forward to dip the bread into the cup. Ushers will direct you to stations at the front of the sanctuary. Take the bread, dip it into the cup, and remember God’s greatest gift as you return by the side aisles to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, please raise your hand, and an elder will bring the elements to you in the pew. As you come forward to receive the elements, please bring your blessing bags/supplies and place them in the baskets. Gluten/peanut-free bread is served at the station to the right, in front of the lectern.

Communion Hymns (all sing)

Hymn (see music, page 6) Wait for the Lord (Psalm 27) Wait for the Lord
Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

Hymn No. 527 Eat This Bread Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread; drink this cup; trust in me and you will not thirst.

Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to Christ and never be hungry.
Eat this bread; drink this cup; trust in Christ and you will not thirst.
Hymn No 129

Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming

Lo, how a rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse’s lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah ‘twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God’s love aright she bore for us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
and lightens every load.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Marilyn Hedgpeth

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
All: God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice,
righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Strengthen us with this
heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm. Lead us to live in joyful
expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LITANY OF FAREWELL TO SAM MIGLAORESE

Mindy Douglas

Leader: We praise God for the grace that has filled your ministry, we give thanks for your faithful
service to Christ’s church, and we rejoice at the work of the Holy Spirit in you.
People: Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.
Leader: Know that your ministry with us has served the cause of Christ in this community.
Well done, good and faithful servant!
People: Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.
Leader: May God continue to bring joy and peace to your life, just as you have blessed
the church with your ministry and proclaimed the good news of Jesus Christ.
People: Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.
Leader: Eternal God, through all the years of our lives your love protects and guides us.
By your Spirit you call us to varied ministries in the service of Jesus Christ.
We praise you for your gifts to your servant Sam Miglaorese, for his faithful
proclamation of your word, his administration of the holy sacraments of Jesus
Christ, and his pastoral care and leadership in the church. Grant to Sam time
for refreshment and rest, reflection and rejoicing, and the fullness of your peace.
Through your Holy Spirit bless each of us that we may remember the love of Jesus
Christ, which unites us in the service of our Lord. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 105

People, Look East

Besançon

*BENEDICTION

Sam Miglaorese

*POSTLUDE

People, Look East

Kristina Langlois

Attention parents of children: Pageant rehearsal will take place in the sanctuary following worship today
for those with speaking/singing parts. All pageant participants may pick up costumes following worship
today from the basement costume area beneath the sanctuary.
Later today...

4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

_Infant Holy, Infant Lowly_

Join Lesley Curtis, soprano, Deborah Coelanis, piano, and Ann A. Harrison, reader, for a program of Christmas featuring poems by Dorothy Parker and Thomas Hardy and musical setting by Morten Lauridsen and Libby Larsen.

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Wait for the Lord

\[
\text{Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.}
\]

\[
\text{Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!}
\]
Worship Notes and Parish Announcements

As you exit your pew, please kindly recycle your bulletin and pick up any inserts, children’s drawings, personal trash, etc. and take these with you. Returning hymnals and Bibles to the pew racks is also very helpful. Thank you for leaving the sanctuary presentable for our guests who will come later today.

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 December 15, we welcomed 24 visitors to worship.

We welcome to worship today the Rev. Holly Shoaf-O’Kula, Pastor for Compassionate Ministries at First Presbyterian Church in Aiken, SC.

The poinsettias are given to the glory of God and are a gift to the congregation from Arthur Clark.

Special thanks to Alice Raney, Dale Georgiade, Brent Curtis, Graham Curtis, and Robert Daye for decorating the sanctuary for the season.

The Christmas Joy Offering will be received today. Please use the specially marked envelopes enclosed in today’s bulletin for this offering. This PC(USA) offering goes to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and also supports education programs at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. See the insert for more information about this special offering.

The Lord’s Prayer when Holy Communion is celebrated: From the beginning, one of the hallmarks of Reformed worship has been liturgy in the vernacular—in the common language of the people of God. Many, however, continue to use the language of another era (the Tudor dynasty) when praying the prayer Jesus taught. We hope that, by using this ecumenical version, new generations will learn and understand this prayer in a fresh way. Of course, you may always choose to pray in the words closest to your heart, be those words debts or trespasses.

Processional Cross: Christmas 2019 marks the 85th anniversary of the gift of our Processional Cross crafted by the Gorham Manufacturing Company of Providence, RI and given in memory of Wisconsin native Merle Theron Adkins (1872-1934), a professional baseball player, Durham physician, and tenor in FPC’s choir.

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 Book of Common Worship (2018).

Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24

3:00 p.m. - Worship with Children’s Pageant, Communion, and Candles (in the sanctuary)

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 concluding with a candle lighting service. At both services on Christmas Eve, childcare will be provided for younger children and an offering will be received for CWS and their immigrant support programs.
JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
MARILYN HEDGPETH
HER 16 YEAR MINISTRY
AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HAS IMPACTED US ALL

CATERED LUNCH & CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020
12:15 PM
WATTS-HILL HALL AT FPC

RSVP by January 2, 2020 to the paperless post invitation or call the church office:
919-682-5511.

~ Our Concerns ~

We extend our condolences to Katy, Will, Dot, and Ruby Barron on the death of Katy’s father, Chuck Saldarini, who died December 15th in Charlotte, NC.

Added this week: Ellen O’Brien, Mindy Douglas’ mother-in-law
Jean Lazarides is now a resident of Hillcrest Convalescent Center, Durham

Margaret Mubanga  Mercy Ndambiri-Curlett  Carol McKnight  Joseph Ngumi  Carolyn Wolfe

Care Communities:
Brookdale Durham: Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett
Croasdaile Pavilion: Bob Rankin
Dubose Center at The Cedars (Chapel Hill): Arthur Clark
Durham Regent: John Kerr, Ann Prospero
Emerald Pond, Durham (Room 212): Paul Cornsweet
Pruitt Health at Carolina Point, Durham: Helen Garrison
Southern Living for Seniors, Louisburg: Phillip Herndon
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
Carley and Jon Meade, family of Bruce, Ellie, Kristin and Dayton Meade
Doug Neece, brother of Vern Neece
Larry Newark, brother-in-law of Jean Wilson
Danny Parker, father-in-law of Al and Judy Arrowood’s son Jon
Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss
Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

1 Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.

2 Watchman, tell us of the night; higher yet that star ascends.

3 Watchman, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn.

Traveler, what a wondrous sight: see that glory-beaming star.
Traveler, blessedness and light, peace and truth its course portends.
Traveler, shadows take their flight; doubt and terror are withdrawn.

Watchman, does its beautiful ray news of joy or hope foretell?
Watchman, will its beams alone gild the spot that gave them birth?
Watchman, you may go your way; hasten to your quiet home.

Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.
Traveler, ages are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.
Traveler, we rejoice today, for Emmanuel has come!

*May be sung antiphonally.
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 chanted 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, uni-
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
Savior 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

weary'd praises be. Honor, glory, and do-

have been, and that future years shall see,
shining, all that breathes beneath the sun,
deeper, first revealed his sacred face,
pect ed. Let creation praise its Lord,
silent; every voice in concert ring,

(min ion, and eternal victory,

(after stanza 6)
ev-er-more and ev-er-more! Amen.
Eat This Bread

Opt. A “Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to me and never be hungry.

Opt. B Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to Christ and never be hungry. Eat this bread;

never be hungry. Eat this bread;

drink this cup; trust in me and you will not thirst.”

drink this cup; trust in Christ and you will not thirst.
Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
   of Jesse’s lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.

2 Isaiah ’twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
   with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.

3 This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
   dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.

   It came, a floweret 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
   win - ter, when half spent was the night.

   Savior, when half spent was the night.
   saves us and lightens every load.
People, Look East

1 People, look east. The time is near of the
crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are

2 Fur-rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to

crown- ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are

3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the
nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are

4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more
light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty

5 An-gels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who
brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley

People, look

a-ble; trim the hearth and set the table.
nour-ish, that in course the flower may flour- ish.
fro-zened God for fledg-ing time has cho- sen.
weather, bright as sun and moon to-geth- er.
hum-ming with the word, the Lord is com- ing.
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.)
### This Week at a Glance!

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<th>Monday, December 23</th>
<th>Tuesday, December 24</th>
<th>Wednesday, December 25</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>After Worship:</strong> Retirement Celebration and Reception for Sam Miglarese</td>
<td><strong>9:00 AM – 12 Noon</strong> Walk-in Ministry client interviews</td>
<td><strong>Day School Closed</strong></td>
<td><strong>Christmas Day</strong> Church Office Closed (Staff on call)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4:00 PM</strong> Lesley Curtis and Friends present Christmas Program featuring songs and poetry of the season (in the sanctuary)</td>
<td><strong>3:00 PM</strong> Christmas Eve Worship with Pageant and Communion</td>
<td><strong>5:00 PM</strong> Worship with Holy Communion and a Candle-lighting Service</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, December 26</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday, December 27</strong></td>
<td><strong>Saturday, December 28</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sunday, December 29</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Church Office Closed</strong> (Staff on call)</td>
<td><strong>Church Office Closed</strong> (Staff on call)</td>
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<td>1st Sunday After Christmas</td>
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<td><strong>Day School Closed</strong></td>
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<td>No Sunday School</td>
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<td><strong>9:30 – 10:30 AM</strong> FPC preparing sandwiches for lunch bags at Urban Ministries of Durham</td>
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<td>11:00 AM Worship</td>
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The *bulletin cover* is of a stained glass window at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church located in Corona Del Mar, CA. Retrieved December 19, 2019 from https://www.stmikescdm.org/uploads/images/mary-stained-glass_448_medium.png

### Serving Today ~

- **Liturgist:** *Holly Shoaf-O’Kula*
- **Narthex Greeter:** *Chris Williams*
- **After Worship Greeters:** *Wendy McCorkle* (font/side door); *Cris Rivera* (rear/narthex)
- **Ushers:** *John Mozart* (head), *Michael Honeycutt*
- **Communion Head/Replenish Elements:** *Andy Henry*
  - Bread: *Alice Raney* (B1, process), *Sharon Hirsch* (B2), *Brent Curtis* (B3), *Amy Wilson* (B4)
  - Cup: *Cris Rivera* (C1), *Tom Bacon* (C2, process), *Chris Brown* (C3), *Luke Everett* (C4)

### CHURCH STAFF

- **Valerie McMillian,** Parish Administrator
- **Sam Miglarese,** Associate Pastor
- **Kathy Parkins,** Minister of Music
- **John Weicher,** Associate Pastor

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Email the church office: info@firstpres-durham.org or visit our website: https://firstpres-durham.org.

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