FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 21, 2020

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

GATHERING MUSIC       Noel’s Psalm (A Sonata for Organ) “Chaconne”       Dan Locklair
Guest Organist, Dr. Robert Parkins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS       Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE       Noel’s Psalm “Scherzo”       Dan Locklair

CALL TO WORSHIP       Mindy Douglas

Leader:  God cares for us completely
        and calls for our total commitment.

People:  Christ gave his life that we might live
        and calls us to give our lives to him.

Leader:  Through Christ we have died to sin;
        in Christ we are fully alive to God.

All:  Come, let us worship God.

HYMN       Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above       Mit Freuden Zart
Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!

Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!

CONFESSION OF SIN       Natalie Wolf

Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession (in unison)
        O Lord our God, we confess
        that we do not reflect your glory.
        You deliver us from evil,
        but we continue to live in sin.
        You offer us new life,
        but we continue to live in fear.
        Forgive us; restore us and reorder our lives
        by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
        so that we may follow you faithfully,
        not counting the cost;
        to the glory of your holy name.
Silent Confession
Declaration of Forgiveness

COLLECT FOR THE DAY
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us pray.
All: God of the covenant,
your compassion reaches beyond the mere making and keeping of promises.
Teach us to listen to one another with your heart,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

EPISTLE READING Romans 6:1b-11
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 21:8-21
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

HYMN Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us Austin

1 Like a moth - er who has borne us, held us
2 Like a fa - ther who has taught us, grasped our
3 Though as chil - dren we have wan - dered, placed our
4 When we of - fer food and com - fort, grasp our

close in her de - light, fed us free - ly from her
hand and been our guide, lift - ed us and healed our
trust in power and might, left be - hind our broth - ers,
neighbor’s hand in love, tread the path of peace and

bod - y, God has called us in - to life.
sor - rows, God has walked with us in life.
sis - ters, God still calls us in - to life.
 jus - tice, God still walks with us in life.

SERMON “I See You; I Hear You” Mindy Douglas
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH  (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

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
    male and female, of every race 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.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN  Natalie Wolf

INVITATION TO GIVE AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING  Susan Dunlap

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(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.
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: As the wind is your symbol,
People: so forward our goings.
Leader: As the dove,
People: so launch us heavenwards.
Leader: As water,
People: so purify our spirits.
Leader: As a cloud,
People: so abate our temptations.
Leader: As dew,
People: so revive our languor.
Leader: As fire,
People: so purge out our dross. Amen.
First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. 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. On June 14, 108 households tuned in to the 11:00 a.m. streamed broadcast of worship.

Notes on the Organ Music: The organ music for today is by Dan Locklair, Composer-in Residence and Professor of Music at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. The “Psalm” was premiered on March 25, 2018 in Duke Chapel, by Robert Parkins, University Organist. It is based on a poem by Noel Kinnamon (published in Christianity and Literature, 1986). Each movement is based on a verse of the poem. For example, the second piece (Scherzo) is based on the verse which reads:

“More than host, you cause us to be here and Give us the run of the place, sweeping Behind when we smash the pots or spill the Wine, confident that you will refill the cup.”

Thanks to Dr. Robert Parkins for providing the organ music for today’s service. Dr. Parkins is the University Organist and Professor of the Practice of Music at Duke University. For a number of years, Dr. Parkins has specialized in early Iberian keyboard music, and more recently he has focused his attention on the German Romantic organ and its literature. He has performed throughout the United States and Europe, as well as in Central America. Dr. Parkins is married to FPC’s Minister of Music, Kathy Parkins.

Hymn Notes: We are singing two hymns this week which may not be familiar to you, but fit with the themes of the scripture and sermon. The tune of the first one “Like a Mother” was written by Dallas, Texas composer, William Rowan and the text was penned by Daniel Bechtel, a United Church of Christ minister. On this Father’s Day, the text reminds us of the parental nature of God’s love for us and tells us that when we help our neighbor, God walks with us in our work. The second hymn, “Jesus, Savior, Lord” is a metrical setting of part of Psalm 61 (“Thou hast been a shelter/refuge for me”). The repeated word “Saranam” means “I take refuge.” The tune comes from a folk melody from Punjab, a region claimed by both India and Pakistan. — Kathy Parkins

Portions of today’s worship music are reprinted under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

Many thanks to Jody Maxwell, Pat Dillon, and John Weicher for their “behind the scenes” technical assistance, making our virtual worship broadcasts possible and accessible to us each Sunday morning.

Church staff will continue working from home until at least the end of June. If you need assistance, you may call the church office (919-682-5511) and leave a message, or email a specific staff person. Thank you for your patience as we respond to your calls and emails.

Children and Youth – Are you Connected? If you are not receiving a separate weekly email connecting you to FPC activities and events for children and youth, contact Natalie Wolf or John Weicher to be added to the list.
THESE DAYS devotional booklets for July - September 2020 are now available at FPC. Stop by the church (Mondays or Fridays, between 9 AM – 2 PM) to pick up a copy, or contact Sybil King in the church office if you would like a copy mailed to you. Regular and large print copies are available.

An Invitation from the Earth Care Committee
We have seen photos of beaches strewn with plastic trash, and we have heard about the 8 million tons of plastic that go into the ocean every year. Here is something we can do about it, together! We can make a commitment to a Plastic Free July. Commit to either cut down on single-use plastic, or eliminate certain plastic items (grocery bags, water bottles, straws, for example), or you can go all the way and commit to eliminating all plastic. As a church, we can make a difference! If you have any questions or want to sign up to participate, contact Cris Rivera or 919-225-4228.

~ Concerns ~
Sympathies: The love and concern of the congregation are extended to the family of Jean Lazarides, FPC member who died June 17th at Hillcrest Convalescent Center, Durham. No service is planned at this time but will be announced at a later date.

Dale Gaddis, preparing for back surgery
Dan Hudgins, recovering at home following surgery
Ellen O’Brien, mother-in-law of Mindy Douglas, preparing for sinus surgery

Hospice Care:
Ruth Buck, mother of Susan Buck
Camilla Crampton, companion of Mal King

Care Communities:
Brookdale Durham: Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett
Croasdaile Pavilion: Bob Rankin, Henderson Rourk
Dubose Center at The Cedars (Chapel Hill): Arthur Clark
Durham Regent: John Kerr, Ann Prospero
Emerald Pond: Paul Cornsweet
Strategic Behavioral Health, Garner: Phillip Herndon
The Forest at Duke: Fran Bryant

Family and Friends of the Congregation:
Peggy Boulden, mother of Dick Boulden
Roxana Boyd’s grandfather
Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss
Paula Cope, sister of Sam Miglarese
Becky Evans (sister) and Doug Neece (brother) of Vernon Neece
Dolores Ewald, mother-in-law of Susan Ewald
Shannon Johnson, daughter of Mary Putman
Chris Kovach, friend of Jeanne Hervey
Lee Tubbs, mother of Nora Tisdale
Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss
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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