FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 16, 2020

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

(Click here to connect to today’s live worship.)

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  John Weicher

PRELUDE  Noel’s Psalm “Scherzo”  Dan Locklair

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 133)  Mindy Douglas
Leader:  How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!
All:  It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,
Leader: on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.
All:  It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the Lord ordained blessing, life forevermore.

HYMN No. 399  God Welcomes All  Themba Amen

CONFESSION OF SIN  Mindy Douglas
Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession (in unison)
There is always the other side of the street, O God of all time and space.
There is always an opposing viewpoint, a different tack, another way to be.
As creatures who crave certainty and order,
we are too quick to place you next to us
and yell at the other side for their monstrous errors.
Forgive us for co-opting you for our purposes.
Forgive us for failing to see the humanity of those folks.
Forgive us for striving to be right more than to be faithful.
For you are the God of here and there,
and so you are at work, here and there.
Let us instead seek you and stand next to you, wherever you may be.

Silent Confession
Declaration of Forgiveness

COLLECT FOR THE DAY
Leader: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
Leader: Let us pray.
All: Holy One of Israel, covenant-keeper,
you restore what is lost,
heal what is wounded,
and gather those who have been rejected.
Give us the faith to speak as steadfastly
as did the Canaanite woman,
that the outcast may be welcomed
and all people may be blessed.
Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL LESSON
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

HYMN NO. 45 (verses1,2) I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes

I to the hills will lift my eyes;
from whence shall come my aid?
My help is from the Lord alone,
who heaven and earth has made.

God will not let your foot be moved;
your guardian never sleeps;
God's watchful and un-slumbering care
protects and safely keeps.
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison) (from A Brief Statement of Faith) Mindy Douglas

We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN John Weicher

INVITATION TO GIVE AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING Susan Dunlap

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

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.
HYMN NO. 45 (verses 3,4)  
*I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes*  
_Dundee_

*Your faithful keeper is the Lord,*
*your shelter and your shade.*
*’Neath sun or moon, by day or night,*
*you shall not be afraid.*

*From evil God will keep you safe,*
*provide for all you need.*
*Your going out, your coming in,*
*God will forever lead.*

**CLOSING PRAYER**  
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: _It is right to offer thanks and praise._
Leader: Let us pray.
All: _O God, who is present in every worry_  
  _we come to you with open hands._
  Guide us as we navigate the school year  
  _feeling swept into tides of unknown._
  For the parent who feels like there are no right choices,  
  _be near in the rocks and hard places._
  For the child with special needs getting lost in the shuffle  
  _bring compassion and creative solutions._
  For the school leader who must make difficult decisions  
  _guide in wisdom and compassion._
  For those who prepare classroom, may they be protected from harm.  
  For those who sweep floors, may they be remembered as your beloved.  
  For those who have weakened health, may they be not cast aside.  
  For those who must work, may they have safe options for childcare.  
  And for the children whose lives feel upside down  
  _surround them with nurture and structure_  
  _to feel safe in unsettling times._
  O God, who is present in every worry  
  _we come to you with open hands._  
  _Amen._

(Source: Prayer for the School Year’s Unknown by @Kayla_Craig)

**BENEDICTION**  
John Weicher

**POSTLUDE**  
_Noel’s Psalm “Dance”_  
_Don Locklair_

**TODAY after worship . . .**

Do you miss seeing those familiar faces in the pews next to you?
Do you miss making connections with others on Sunday?

Here is your chance to meet up with some friendly faces for **30 minutes of fellowship**!
Join us immediately following worship using this Zoom link: [https://unc.zoom.us/my/bpleas](https://unc.zoom.us/my/bpleas).
Bob Pleasants, FPC deacon, will be waiting to greet you and send you to a breakout room!
The Racial Equity Task Force will have a meeting today at 11:45 (or right after worship) via this [Zoom link](https://zoom.us). Please note that anyone from the congregation is welcome to join the Task Force, you don't need a nomination. We have seen a lot of interest in the Faith and Community class this summer and hope that some of you might want to join us. It is always good to have fresh perspectives on next steps, as well as new ideas. Please contact Kathy Krahenbuhl or Jon Abels if you have any questions about or for the Task Force.

**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 August 9, 98 households tuned in to the 11:00 a.m. live-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 Dr. 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, he 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.

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

**Many thanks** to Jody Maxwell, Pat Dillon, Jay Klinck, and John Weicher for their “behind the scenes” technical assistance with our virtual worship live broadcasts each Sunday morning. We are also grateful to Jennie Alwood for the beautiful images she finds for our online worship.

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**Interested in joining FPC?**

**Tired of waiting until we can be in person again?**

**Ready to find more ways to be connected to the FPC Community?**

We will welcome new members as a part of our live-stream worship on August 30, 2020. If you are interested in joining FPC and making this your church home, contact [Mindy Douglas](mailto:mdouglas@firstpres-winston.org).
~ Celebrations and Concerns ~

**CELEBRATION:** On August 20, 2020, *Henderson and Jane Rourk* will observe their 60th wedding anniversary. The church family is invited to celebrate this milestone with the Rourks by showering them with notes and cards. Please send all correspondence to:

Henderson and Jane Rourk  
2600 Croasdaile Farm Pkwy  
A 113 Homestead  
Durham NC 27705.

**SYMPATHY:** The love and concern of the congregation are extended to *Anna Claire Huntley*, friend of FPC, upon the death of her grandfather, *Harry H. Summerlin* in Asheville, NC.

**CONCERNS:** *Wil James*, recovering from abdominal surgery  
*Joe* (and Carlisle) *Harvard*, recovering at daughter Rebecca Barnes’ home
All those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
All school administrators, teachers, parents, and students as the new school year begins

**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*  
Hillcrest Convalescent Center: *Mickey Velkey; Peggy Mordecai*, mother of Beth Eisenson  
Rose Vista Village /Kinston Assisted Living, Kinston NC: *Phillip Herndon*  
The Forest at Duke: *Fran Bryant*  

**Family and Friends of the Congregation:**
*Brendan Bequette*, family friend of Margaret & Miguel Rubiera  
*Jennie Bodkin*, sister of Mindy Douglas  
*Peggy Boulden*, mother of Dick Boulden  
*Becky Evans*, sister of Vernon Neece  
*Bruce Foster Momsen*, father of Deborah Momsen-Hudson  
*Phil Goss*, friend of the congregation  
*Shannon Johnson*, daughter of Mary Putman  
*Robert Reaves*, husband of Floalice Reaves, active friend of the congregation

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**AN INVITATION FROM NEW HOPE PRESBYTERY**

In October 2018, members of the Presbytery of New Hope initiated a conversation on Presbyterians and race. Please join the Presbytery at their first forum: *Is this Conversation Really Necessary?* led by Dr. Brian K. Blount. *Mindy Douglas will be one of the panelists.* The forum will be conducted as a Zoom meeting on **Tuesday, August 18 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.** Please sign up to participate at [www.nhpresbytery.org/racial-equity](http://www.nhpresbytery.org/racial-equity).
Massanetta Springs presents Speakman Online Series Event
Racism, Law Enforcement, and The Church
August 20 & 21 at 11:00 a.m.

Massanetta Springs has made a commitment to helping our beloved church grapple with the lasting impact of systemic racism through our programming and to conducting an internal examination of our own systems and structures. We invite you to a two day webinar exploring issues of race, the law enforcement and criminal justice systems, and the church.

**Sessions begin at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.**
- **August 20** - Each leader will present on a different aspect of our theme, "Racism, Law Enforcement, and the Church," followed by Q&A moderated by Mary Newbern-Williams.
- **August 21** - Each leader will give a short reflection on the previous day’s topics, and then the three will engage in discussion with each other and respond to questions from attendees.

**Registration & Support**
Click to [Pre-Register] - Event is free.
Click to [Invest in Massanetta]. If you are using this webinar for continuing education purposes and need an invoice from Massanetta, email Executive Director, [Rev. Clayton Rascoe].

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**Drive thru-get a popsicle**

**Kids: Get your Sunday School kit for virtual Sunday School!!**

**FPC Children's Ministry Sunday School Kick-Off**

**Sunday, Aug. 23rd**
12:30-1:30
Here's a sneak peak of our theme and process for the upcoming 2020-2021 Sunday School year!

First Presbyterian Church Children's Ministries

REAL stories - REAL people

During the 20-21 year, REAL will be our process and our theme.

Sunday School Schedule beginning August 30, 2020

9:00-9:30 a.m.
2's, 3's, and 4's

9:30-10:15 a.m.
Younger elementary class

10:15-11:00 a.m.
Older elementary class

10:00-10:45 a.m.
Youth: Middle School
Youth: High School

10:00-10:50 a.m.
Adults / Special Interests classes

Women’s Spirituality class schedule: TBA

Scratch class at 8:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings

R=Remember and retrieval
Remember and retrieval: What do we know about this story or person in the Bible? Possible activities: drawing, writing, use of whiteboards for brainstorming, talking, etc.

E=Explore/Explain the particulars of the person or story
Read the text from various sources, watch a video, look at artwork

A=Access and Elaborate
Allow and encourage students to find out more about the context, person or story. Use technology tools to get more information, record and share back to larger group

L=Learn/Leave
Encourage and allow for each person to say something that they learned or appreciated during the lesson. Encourage and allow students to talk about their upcoming week or day, or say something they are looking forward to.

FAITH FORMATION
Faith formation is essential to the church’s mission and needs to be flexible but consistent in this time of major upheaval and loss of familiar routines. A structured lesson plan will provide familiarity to students, and ease of planning for teachers, whether there is a curriculum or not.
FPC members, you have been some of the most prolific contributors of school supplies in the Crayons2Calculators drive each summer. Let’s do it again! If you place an online order, remember to include First Presbyterian Church in the “From” address field. If you want to give a monetary donation, please make check payable to “Durham Teacher Warehouse” and mail to the church. Supplies can also be dropped off at the church on Mondays or Fridays between 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Sign up to volunteer at Urban Ministries of Durham
Contact Margaret Rubiera or Jen McGonigle

- Monday, August 17, lunch prep, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
- Friday, August 21, prepare breakfast/fill to-go boxes, 7 - 9 a.m.
- Thursday, August 27, lunch prep, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Small but mighty — those words perfectly describe the Food Pantry at Iglesia Emanuel. Since the outbreak of Covid in March, volunteers from FPC and other churches have joined forces with Iglesia Emanuel to pack and distribute large boxes of fresh and staple food every week to families in need of assistance. The numbers have grown steadily, from around 60 families in early March to 440 families last week! Over and over, we have seen heartwarming examples of generosity — people volunteering to help sort and bag food, unload delivery trucks, load the boxes of food into the trunks of cars in searing heat as well as pouring rain. Financial and food donations have also played a huge part in the ongoing success of this ministry. Thank you to all who have responded with love! The needs continue, and we welcome your ongoing support. For questions, contact Margaret Rubiera.

KEEP THE DONATIONS COMING!

Our local food pantries have been flooded with requests for basic sanitation items that have become hard to come by in the pandemic, but they have not had enough to meet the demand. To answer this urgent need, Durham Congregations in Action has launched a hygiene drive to keep our partner pantries fully stocked with the supplies Durhamites need.

They are seeking the following items:
- CDC-approved disinfectant wipes or sprays (Lysol, Scrubbing Bubbles, Clorox)
- hand sanitizer
- empty spray bottles
- paper towels
- toilet paper
- feminine hygiene products
- hand and body soap
If you can donate any of these, they can be dropped off at any of these partner congregations, from which the supplies will be delivered to area food pantries for distribution to our Durham neighbors!

- **First Presbyterian Church**  
  Mondays and Fridays, 9:00am-1:00pm.  
  305 E. Main Street

- **Cole Mill Road Church of Christ**  
  Monday through Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm.  
  1617 Cole Mill Road

- **Antioch Baptist Church**  
  Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00am-12:00pm.  
  1415 Holloway Street

- **Pilgrim United Church of Christ**  
  Tuesday through Friday, 8:00am-12:00pm.  
  3011 Academy Road

- **Christus Victor Lutheran Church**  
  Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9:00am–2:00pm  
  1615 E. NC 54 Hwy

*Thank you in advance for your support of this project!*