

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 1, 2021

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mitzi Leshler-Thomas

PRELUDE

Southern tune "Jefferson" for flute & organ
Mackenzie Leshler-Thomas, flute

Robert Powell

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Susan Dunlap

Leader: Lead a life worthy of your calling.

People: **We cannot do this alone, we dare not try this alone,
so we gather as God's people.**

Leader: Lead a life filled with the gifts of your calling,
gifts to be used with service and meekness.

People: **We come to build up Christ's Body,
in humility and gentleness, with patience and love.**

Leader: Lead a life which reflects your calling,
that life of peace grounded in the Spirit.

All: **We rejoice in our oneness in Christ;
we would share the grace offered to us.**

SOLO RESPONSE

God Is Here

Sung to "Jefferson"

Cathy Seib Snell, soloist

*God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.*

*Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.*

*Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.*

*Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!*

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Susan Dunlap

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: God, you have called us to live lives worthy of the calling to which we have been called.

All: **But we confess to you and each other that we have not always spoken the truth in love;
we have not always made every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of
peace. Forgive us and, by your grace, help us to grow in every way into the One who is
our head, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*All who are able, please stand.

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Jennie Alwood

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Holy One, as we move through this day, we pray that you will keep us in union with the faith and knowledge of Jesus. We long to mature into the stature of Christ. Help us to speak the truth in love today, that we may grow into Christ as our savior, teacher, and friend. Amen.**

GOSPEL LESSON

John 6:24-35

Jennie Alwood

²⁴ So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves." ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸ Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹ Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰ So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?" ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³² Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴ They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." ³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

INTERLUDE

Come, Thou Fount

Duane Funderburk

EPISTLE LESSON

Ephesians 4:1-16

Mindy Douglas

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. ⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."⁹ (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴ We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

“One”

Mindy Douglas

SOLO RESPONSE

We All Are One in Mission

Es Flog Ein Kleins Waldvögelein

*We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single, great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.*

*We all are called for service to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,
so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.*

*Now let us be united and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from the Belhar Confession)

Mitzi Leshler-Thomas

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Mitzi Leshler-Thomas

DEDICATION OF OFFERING

Susan Dunlap

Invitation to Offering

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Susan Dunlap

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Use the gifts which we offer to you, Holy God, to restore joy to the despairing, to give food to the hungry, and willing spirits to us, that we might be servants to all your people. Amen.**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Mitzi Leshler-Thomas

INVITATION TO PRAYER (sung)

Nothing Can Trouble

Nada Te Turbe

*Nothing can trouble;
nothing can frighten.
Those who seek God
shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble;
nothing can frighten.
God alone fills us.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Mitzi Leshler-Thomas

Leader: Hear my cry, O God;
listen to my prayer.

(Psalm 61:1-2)

People: **From the end of the earth I call to you,
when my heart is faint.**

Leader: Let us pray.
(prayers of intercession and thanksgiving)

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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**

SENDING

Hope of the World

Donne Secours

*Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion:
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent;
save us, thy people, from consuming passion,
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.*

*Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,
showing to wandering souls the path of light:
walk thou beside us lest the tempting byways
lure us away from thee to endless night.*

*Hope of the world, who by thy cross didst save us
from death and deep despair, from sin and guilt:
we render back the love thy mercy gave us;
take thou our lives and use them as thou wilt.*

***BENEDICTION**

Mindy Douglas

***POSTLUDE**

Fantasy on “Jefferson”

Charles Callahan

REMINDER: Please plan to attend the informational meeting about the proposed building expansion. The meeting is being held today in the sanctuary immediately following this service.



Welcome! Let us know you have joined us for worship by scanning this QR code.
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 identity, ability, sexual orientation, and economic circumstance to participate fully in the life of the church. On July 27, 136 joined us for in-person worship and 36 households tuned in to the live-streamed broadcast.

We thank **Mackenzie Lesher-Thomas** for sharing her musical gifts with us today. Mackenzie is the daughter of our associate pastor, Mitzi, and is a student at Western Carolina University.

The **flowers** are given to the glory of God and were paid for by the **Jerry Tyren Flowers Fund**.

Many thanks to **John Fricks, Jody Maxwell, Pat Dillon, Keith Rokoske, and Jay Klinck**, for their technical assistance with our live broadcasts of worship on Sunday mornings.

Portions of **today's texts** and music were reprinted from *Feasting on the Word, Call to Worship*, and the hymnal, *Glory to God*.

Childcare: a staffed nursery and children's playroom are available on the second floor of the Christian education building for use during worship.

Worship activity bags are available in the foyer for children to use during worship.

Large print worship bulletins along with **children's worship / activity bulletins** are available from the table as you enter the sanctuary from the foyer.

Hearing Assistance Receivers are available for use during worship from the audio console located at the rear of the sanctuary. Before you leave the sanctuary, please turn off the receiver and place it in the specially marked receptacle or return to an usher.

Restrooms are located off the narthex (to the left and right as you exit the rear of the sanctuary), on the second floor of the Christian education building, and on the first and second floors of the church house.



Your Input Is Needed

As we look to the future, our Vision Committee has been actively exploring how our church building can better support our mission. The proposed building project will result in better entryways, a larger and more hospitable fellowship space, a functional kitchen and much better restrooms. To fund the building project, a capital campaign is being considered for Fall 2021. **An informational brochure was shared in early weeks, please return the survey found at the end of the brochure.** You can drop off the survey at the church office, mail it to the church, or quickly respond to the survey

online by going to our church website at www.firstpres-durham.org. If you prefer a paper survey, copies are available in the foyer. Drop-off boxes are also available. **Please respond by August 8.**

Please plan to attend one of the remaining informational meetings to be held as follows: **August 1 at noon**, or **August 2 at 6:30pm** (in the sanctuary). At your request, we have added a second online information session on **August 8 at 4pm**. Thank you for your input and prayers as we continue preparing for our future.



Presbyterian 101:

Who We Are, What We Believe, and Why We Do What We Do
August 8 & 15 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

New-ish to FPC or the PCUSA? Or a long time Presbyterian but still wonder *why* we do what we do in worship or our common life. Join Sam Miglarese, Phyllis Supple, Susan Dunlap, David Smith, Christyn Klinck and Beth Stringfield as they lead conversations around who we are as Presbyterians (what makes us different from other denominations or iterations of Presbyterians); why we worship the way we do and what we believe; and what makes FPC a unique community of faith. Questions or interested in a possible hybrid option contact:

Mitzi Lesher-Thomas at m.lesher-thomas@firstpres-durham.org

~ Our Concerns ~

Added this week: *Greer & Jenn Brown*

Kerry Holbrook *Ruth Roberson* *Margaret Sims*

Care Communities:

Brookdale Durham: *Julian Boswell*

Dubose Center at The Cedars, Chapel Hill: *Arthur Clark*

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: *Phillip Herndon*

Hillcrest Convalescent Center: *Jim Wolfe, Walter Chambliss*, father of Will Chambliss.

Family and Friends of the Congregation:

Carolyn Bonner, wife of Deborah Momsen-Hudson's coworker Al Bonner

Margaret Cleveland, friend of Katharine Whitmore

Flora Estrella, a relative of Beth Stringfield and Cris Rivera

Phil Goss, a friend of the congregation

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

Dorothy Collin Horne, mother of Ginny Horne

Brian Keyt, cousin of Laura Kelley

Peggy Mordecai, mother of Beth Eisenson

Ed Overton and wife Abby, friends of Doug Butler

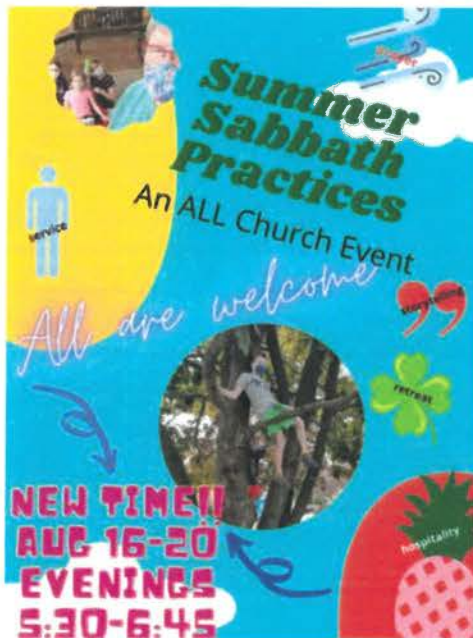
Jennifer Paetzold-Garcia, cousin of Sharon Hirsch

Carlton Rounds' mother, who is fighting cancer. Carlton is a friend of Li-Chen Chin.

Kathy Stahl (mother) & *Larry Purtzenski* (stepfather), parents of Katy Loebrich.

Deb Walsh, friend of Celia Dickerson

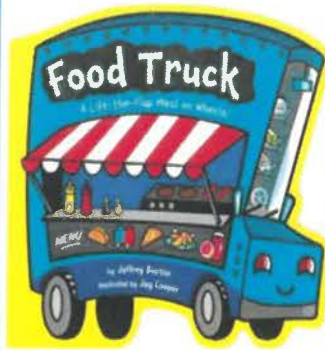
Please remember to update the pastoral staff on the progress of your loved ones.



SUMMER SABBATH PRACTICES rescheduled!

We have new dates for our ALL-Church event, Summer Sabbath Practices which will be held at church each evening from **Monday, August 16 through Friday August 20!** Come for 1, 2, 3, 4, or ALL evenings!! Each evening we will explore a different FAITH PRACTICE: Hospitality, Prayer, Service, Storytelling, and Retreat. There will be something for EVERYONE plus FREE DINNER is included - EAT PICNIC STYLE OUTSIDE OR GRAB DINNER TO TAKE HOME! Also, we need volunteers to sign up to help at this event.

Save the Date!
Fall Kick Off
 Sunday, August 22



People should wear shorts and clothes easy to move around in because we will have a blow-up obstacle course in the parking lot.

All folks who will carry backpacks into the new school year: **BRING YOUR BACKPACKS** for a backpack blessing during worship.



Fill that Bus! is a community-wide campaign to help stock the shelves at Crayons2Calculators (C2C) with classroom essentials to directly equip **Durham Public School teachers** with the supplies they need to help reduce barriers to success for every student. **First Presbyterian Church of Durham is a sponsoring partner organization again this year.** FPC's **Mal King** is coordinating this community project.

When: Now through August 13, 2021

- Give Now - **Financial contributions** help C2C meet the changing needs of teachers throughout the year.
- Shop for C2C - Add their wish list items to your cart while shopping at **Walmart** or **Amazon**.
- Additionally, we welcome you to drop off supplies in person at FPC or at the C2C warehouse located at 808 Bacon St, Durham, NC 27703.

The Week at a Glance!

Sunday, August 1	Monday, August 2	Tuesday, August 3	Wednesday, August 4
<p>Following Worship Informational Session for Proposed Building Expansion (in the (Sanctuary))</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1:00 PM Worship Planning</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00 PM Program Staff Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:30 PM Informational Session for Proposed Building Expansion & Proposed Plans (in the sanctuary)</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">No Chancel Choir</p>
Thursday, August 5	Friday, August 6	Saturday, August 7	Sunday, August 8
			<p style="text-align: center;">9:30-10:30 AM Presbyterian 101</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:45 -10:30 AM Adult Faith Formation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:00-10:30 AM Children's Faith Formation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:00 AM Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:00 PM Informational Session for Proposed Building Expansion & Proposed Plans (via Zoom)</p>

CHURCH STAFF

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator
Lenore Champion, Children's Ministry Director
Mindy Douglas, Pastor/Head of Staff
Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate
Sybil King, Administrative Assistant



Mitzi Lesher-Thomas, Associate Pastor
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator
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