

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 29, 2021

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

Plaint (Suite in D)

Charles Callahan

*CALL TO WORSHIP

John Weicher

Leader: With our words and in our actions,

People: **let us praise the living God.**

Leader: With our lips and in our lives,

People: **let us glorify the Lord.**

RESPONSE

In My Life

Lord, Be Glorified

Doug Butler & Franz Rokuske

In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In our song, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In our song, Lord, be glorified today.

In your world, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

*CONFESSION OF SIN

John Weicher

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

God of light,

**we confess that we live in the shadows of
hypocrisy and self-righteousness.**

We honor you with our lips, but we have not served you in our hearts.

**We are satisfied with human traditions and norms
and avoid your liberating truth.**

We have confused meekness with weakness,

holiness with social conformity, and righteousness with anger.

Forgive us, we pray.

**By the power of your word save us from the prison of our conceit
so that we may serve you with sincere hearts;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Silent Confession

*Those who are able, please stand

RESPONSE (*Kyrie Eleison*) *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!* *Appalachian Folk Melody*
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

Assurance of Pardon

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Michael Honeycutt

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Holy God, you know the thoughts of our minds
and all the works of our hands.**

**Teach us both to honor you with our lips
and to worship you in our hearts,
so that we may live according to your word
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

EPISTLE LESSON

James 1:17-27

Michael Honeycutt

¹⁷ Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. ¹⁹ You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹ Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²² But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³ For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴ for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵ But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶ If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

INTERLUDE

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord

Eventide

*Take thou our hearts, O Christ;
they are thine own;
come thou within our souls and claim thy throne;
help us to shed abroad thy deathless love;
use us to make the earth like heaven above.*

*Take thou ourselves, O Lord,
heart, mind, and will;
through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all;
we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.*

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Mindy Douglas

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴ and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶ He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’ ⁸ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

²¹ “For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Heart Condition”

Mindy Douglas

RESPONSE

Jesus Knows the Inmost Heart

Loe De Isa

Refrain:
Jesus knows the inmost heart:
nothing can be hidden.

Jesus knows our deepest fears,
knows the pain of hidden tears.
By his words of love and peace
every heart can find release. (Refrain)

This our sinful hearts require:
flame of God's refining fire,
working in us day by day
till the dross is burned away. (Refrain)

So our faith will be restored
by the word of Christ our Lord;
for the warmth his love imparts
melts the very hardest hearts. (Refrain)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

"A New Creed (1968)"

John Weicher

We are called to be the Church...to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

John Weicher

DEDICATION OF OFFERING

Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

Invitation to Offering
Hunger for Change Offering is received today.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: O God, receive these gifts for the work of your church.
People: **With these gifts we dedicate ourselves to live in the truth of your word,**
Leader: and follow your commandments with sincere hearts;
All: **through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Leader: The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them Psalm 34:17
People: **and delivers them from all their troubles.**
Leader: Let us pray.
(Prayers of intercession and thanksgiving)

All: **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.**

SENDING

Great God of Every Blessing

Aurelia

*Great God of every blessing,
of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness,
the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you?
Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely
I offer you my heart.*

*Your Spirit is our teacher,
the light that guides our search,
transforming broken people
into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy,
for wisdom you impart:
sincerely and completely
I offer you my heart.*

***BENEDICTION**

Mindy Douglas

***POSTLUDE**

Trumpet Tune (from Suite in D)

Charles Callahan



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 August 22, 73 joined us for in-person worship and 50 households tuned in to the live-streamed broadcast.

Thanks to **Doug Butler and Franzi Rokoske** for sharing their musical gifts today.

The **flowers** in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in memory of **Chuck Barenchi** by his wife, **Linda Barenchi**.

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

Portions of **today's texts and music** were reprinted from *Call to Worship, Feasting on the Word Liturgies for Year B. Vol.2.*

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.

~ **Concerns** ~

Added this week: **Will McDow's** parents are recovering from surgery and illness.

Chris Irwin, cousin of Linda Barenchi, hospitalized in St. Louis MO with covid.

Kerry Holbrook **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

Greer & Jenn Brown, friends of Logan Trice

Flora Estrella, a relative of Beth Stringfield and Cris Rivera

Lynn Everett, mother of Luke and Rob Everett

Lori Griffin & baby Teagan Rose in NICU- niece of Jeanne Hervey

Chris Grill, former FPC intern

Phil Goss, a friend of the congregation

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

Peggy Mordecai, mother of Beth Eisenson

Ed Overton and wife Abby, friends of Doug Butler

Carlton Rounds' mother, Carlton is a friend of Li-Chen Chin

Karen Renee Shoaf, friend of Kathy Parkins.

Heath Tuttle, son of Chris & Carrie Tuttle

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Deb Walsh, friend of Celia Dickerson

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



THE HUNGER FOR CHANGE OFFERING

Hunger has become more prevalent, particularly since the recession. First Presbyterian Church of Durham has a long history of involvement in hunger-related mission, most notably Pennies for Hunger (now Hunger for Change) and the Durham CROP Walk. In addition, we coordinate volunteers for the Community Kitchen at Urban Ministries of Durham, collect and distribute food for the members at Iglesia Emanuel Presbyterian Fellowship, and the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. Our youth sponsor the annual Souper Bowl of Caring to raise money for hunger-related missions. We also encourage giving to the One Great Hour of Sharing Hunger Offering on Easter Sunday which funds mission activities related to disaster assistance and hunger programs locally and around the world.

The funds received from our Hunger for Change Offering go to the New Hope Presbytery for the Presbyterian Hunger Relief Program and are divided as follows:

50% - International Hunger Relief Programs

40% - Local Hunger Programs

10% - Administration.

These funds are dispersed through local grants to hunger relief programs based on a grant application process. Urban Ministries of Durham, Presbyterian Urban Ministries and Iglesia Emanuel have been frequent recipients.

If your family committed to saving a **penny**/day each month, you'd be donating about \$0.30 per month or \$3.65 for the entire year. That's not much in the face of the rising need. Save a **nickel**/day, and you can contribute \$1.50 per month. A **dime**/day will generate \$3.00 and a **quarter**/a day will generate \$7.50 per month.

Please consider supporting this hunger relief effort with a generous offering each month.

Thank you for your offering today!



FIRST FRIENDS ANNUAL BEACH TRIP
All are welcome.
September 24-26

Please contact [Kathy Conner](#) with questions by September 5.



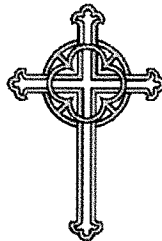
**The church office will be
CLOSED
Monday, September 6**
in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

The Week at a Glance!

Sunday August 29 12:00 – 1:00 PM Youth Group Lunch Out	Monday August 30 1:00 PM Worship Planning 2:00 PM Program Staff Meeting	Tuesday August 31	Wednesday September 1 No Chancel Choir
Thursday September 2	Friday September 3	Saturday September 4	Sunday September 5 9:30 -10:30 AM Adult Faith Formation 11:00 AM Worship

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 Leshner-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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