

First Presbyterian Church

Durham, North Carolina

October 10, 2021

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 10, 2021

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

God of Grace and God of Glory

Paul Manz

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Amos 5:6, 14-15)

Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

Leader: Seek good and not evil;
seek the Lord and live!

People: May the Lord our God be with us.

Leader: Seek good and not evil,
that justice may prevail.

All: May the Lord our God show us grace.

OPENING ANTHEM

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

arr. Hal Hopson

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

**God of justice and mercy,
we confess that we put ourselves first
and trust in things that will not last.**

We desire the evil and scorn the good;

**We gather up power and wealth
and push aside the needy in our way.**

O Lord, be gracious to us in spite of our great sin.

Teach us to love your justice and share in your mercy.

**Help us to seek the treasure of heavenly life with you;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

PASSING THE PEACE

Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jean Cary

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

*Those who are able, please stand.

All: **Reveal to us your Word, O God,
 living and active in our world
 by the power of your Holy Spirit.
Let your Word pierce our hearts and open our minds,
 dividing good from evil, truth from falsehood, life from death;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 4:12-16

Jean Cary

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

(Pew Bible, NT page 220)

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

Mark 10:17-31

Brian Blount

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

(Pew Bible, NT page 46)

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Rahul"

Brian Blount

RESPONSE

God of Grace and God of Glory

Cwm Rhondda

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

A Declaration of Faith (Chapter 7)

John Weicher

The church is founded on Jesus Christ. Gathered around the Word and sacraments, those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, together with their children, have formed a corporate, visible body in pilgrimage with God across the centuries.

We acknowledge that Christ chooses to be known in the world through this community of ordinary people, therefore we dare not despise or abandon the church.

The church has its ongoing story with God. The church's story with God did not end with the latest events recorded in Scripture. Across the centuries the company of believers has continued its pilgrimage with the Lord of history. It is a record of faith and faithlessness, glory, and shame. The church has been persecuted by hostile societies, but it has also known times of privilege and power when it joined forces with dominant cultures. It has sought holiness through separation from society, as well as through involvement in the world's affairs. It has experienced life-giving reformations. It has known missionary expansion throughout the world, but also periods of dwindling resources and influence. It has divided into rival orders, sects, and denominations, but it has also labored for cooperation and union.

We confess we are heirs of this whole story. We are charged to remember our past, to be warned and encouraged by it, but not to live it again. Now is the time of our testing as God's story with the church moves forward through us. We are called to live now as God's servants in the service of people everywhere.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

John Weicher

DEDICATION OF OFFERING

Mindy Douglas

Invitation to Offering

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION
AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: The Lord God, in grace and goodness, has blessed us with 150 years of mission and ministry as First Presbyterian Church. We are a remembering people, and it is good that we remember that God has called us, baptized us, and brought us together as the Body of Christ in this place. As remembering people, we look back at all the saving acts of God: Creation, the Flood, the Covenant, the Exodus, the Incarnation, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, the Church.

We are a remembering people, but we are also a people of this day, brought together by God to be a holy fellowship of believers: the Body of Christ, sharing, caring, working in the world, and living in the hope of the world to come.

Our eyes look back with thanksgiving. Our eyes look forward in hope. Therefore, with thanksgiving for the past and hope for the future, let us dedicate ourselves and our lives to the mission which God gives us as the Church of Jesus Christ in this place.

People: Almighty God, we give you thanks for the work you have done in this place. We give you thanks for your love and faithfulness. When we called on your name, you made your presence known to us. When we prayed, you heard us. When we preached your Word and administered your sacraments, you were in our midst. You have accepted our humble sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving. You have listened to our confessions and forgiven our sins. And you have sent your Holy Spirit to heal and comfort our hurts, our sorrows, our infirmities, and our losses.

Leader: Continue to empower us with your Spirit, O Lord, that we might proclaim your Gospel to all people.

People: We dedicate our lives to your service.

Leader: Help us to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ in all that we do and say.

People: We dedicate our lives to your service.

Leader: Show us how we might give care and support to the needy, love and mercy to the broken and forlorn.

People: We dedicate our lives to your service.

Leader: Show us new ways of loving our neighbors.

People: We dedicate our lives to your service.

Leader: Break down those prejudices and barriers which divide us, and make us all one in your Son, Jesus Christ.

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: Renew us by the Spirit, given at our baptisms, so that we might be challenged to move beyond our fears, our apathy, and our anxieties of inadequacy.

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: Grant that we may continually grow in the Spirit and in the ministry that you give us as members of your royal priesthood, the priesthood of all believers, so that we may carry out your mission of service and love.

People: **Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Leader: Continue to comfort, heal, and lift up the broken and afflicted among us. By the promise of your presence, bring us your healing love.

People: **Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Leader: Bring us at last to the joy of your eternal kingdom, where, with the faithful of this church who have gone before us and with all your saints, we may evermore praise your name.

People: **Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Leader: Blessed Lord, draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, and make us wholly yours. Use us as you will, to the glory of your holy name and the welfare of your people; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: And now hear us as we pray together the words you taught us:

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.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Mitzi Lesher-Thomas

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Eternal God, our days and years are in your hand.**

What we build is temporary; but you are eternal.

We pray that what we begin here today will rise to give you glory;

standing firm on the foundations of apostles and prophets,

and the host of the faithful throughout the ages,

with Jesus Christ himself as the cornerstone. Amen.

SENDING

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Darwall's 148th

*BENEDICTION

Brian Blount

*POSTLUDE

God of Grace and God of Glory

J. Bert Carlson

Fellowship Pop-Up: Walk the Eno River with Laurie Ray

Meet at 4:00 p.m. at the Cole Mill Road entrance
and hike to Bobbitt's Hole (2.4 miles roundtrip).



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 October 3, 99 joined us for in-person worship and 43 households tuned in to the live-streamed broadcast.

Today we welcome back to the pulpit the **Rev. Dr. Brian Blount**, current President and Professor of New Testament at Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA and Charlotte, NC. He was called to this position in 2007, after serving for 15 years as the Richard J. Dearborn Professor of New Testament Interpretation at Princeton Theological Seminary.

We are grateful to **Mal King, Tamzin Kinnett, David Smith, and Amy Wilson** for singing during today's worship.

The **flowers** in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for all FPC musicians.

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 *Book of Common Worship* (2018) and *Feasting on the Word*.

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.



Sunday, October 17

National Children's Sabbath

FPC's third graders will receive Bibles during worship.

~ Joys and Concerns ~

Condolences: The love and concern of the congregation is extended to:

- the family of **Margaret Sims**, FPC member who died October 3. A memorial service will be held Saturday, November 6 at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of FPC;
- the family of **Minnie Cameron**, FPC member who died October 5. A funeral service is being planned;
- **Amy, Drew, Webb, Isa, & Doran Cummings** on the sudden death of their family friend, **Jodi**.

Memorial Services: A Service of Witness to the Resurrection has been scheduled for the following:

- **Martha Rimmer** - Saturday, October 16 at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of FPC. Martha was the wife of **Steve Rimmer** and the mother of **Lyn Williams**.
- **Henderson & Jane Rourk** and **Christopher Michael Whitworth** - Sunday, October 24 following worship in the sanctuary of FPC. Henderson and Jane were the parents of **Caroline Rourk** and Christopher was Caroline's longtime boyfriend.

Concerns: **Kerry Holbrook** **Paul Cornsweet** **Minnie Cameron**

Care Communities:

Brookdale Durham: **Julian Boswell**

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

Duke Hospice – Hock Family Pavilion: **Everlyn Bass**, aunt of Valerie McMillian

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 Tice

Flora Estrella, a relative of Beth Stringfield and Cris Rivera

Lynn Everett, mother of Luke and Rob Everett

Will French, son of Berry & Katie French

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

Chris Irwin, cousin of Linda Barenchi

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

Ty, Laurel, Joe, & Cheli Seddon, family of Martha Seddon, former FPC Parish Administrator

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.

Fall Fellowship Pop-Ups

Questions or concerns, contact *Mitzi Lesher-Thomas*.

To sign-up to participate, go to: *signupgenius.com/go/8050d49a9ac29a75-fall*

Friday, October 15 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Trivia Night with *Ian & Jennie Belle*
on the grounds of FPC (weather permitting)

Sunday, October 17 from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Walking Tour of Downtown Durham
with *Vera Cecelski* and *Laura Hanson*
Beginning at the Museum of Durham History

Saturday, October 23

FPC Workday with Rebuilding Together of the Triangle

(Two Shifts: 8:00-12 Noon and 12 noon- 4:00 p.m.)

The work consists of replacing and painting siding for a homeowner in Durham.

Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and fully vaccinated.

Sign-up at this link: <https://www.betterunite.com/rtrtriangle-fpcdurhamworkday102321>

Contact *Tyler Momsen-Hudson* with questions at 919-697-1898

or send email to: tylermmh@embarqmail.com.

Fun Family Pop-Ups – Save these Dates!

Sunday October 24 from 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Family Pumpkin Carving in the FPC courtyard

Pumpkins and carving tools will be available, or you can bring your own.


Sunday, November 21 from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Turkey “trot” (walk) around downtown


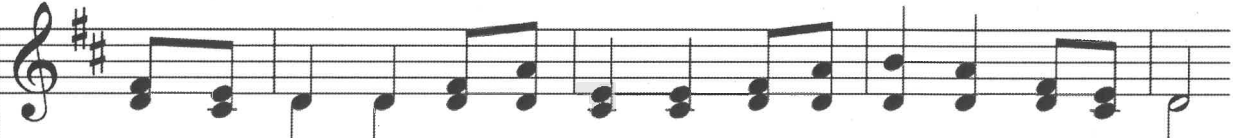
Custom Paraments for 150th Anniversary Celebration

As part of First Presbyterian Church’s 150th anniversary celebration, we have commissioned *Beth Taylor* to create four new paraments and a new white communion tablecloth. There will be two green and two white paraments for the pulpit and the lectern and they will be quilted. Beth is well-known in our congregation and in other congregations for her quilt designs. She indicates that “looking” is one way that she worships. Her idea is to include small items in these pieces that are important to you and your family. Some ideas are little pieces of clothing or ties, a broken earring, a button, handmade pieces from children, etc. **If you would like to contribute an item, please bring it to the church no later than Sunday, October 31, and leave it in the box labeled for these items.** The items will be mailed to Beth as they are received each week, so you do not need to wait until October 31. Please note that **the items cannot be returned** and may not appear as you donated them, as they may need to be altered for inclusion. We are excited about these new paraments for our sanctuary and look forward to the dedication of them on February 13, 2022.



Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475




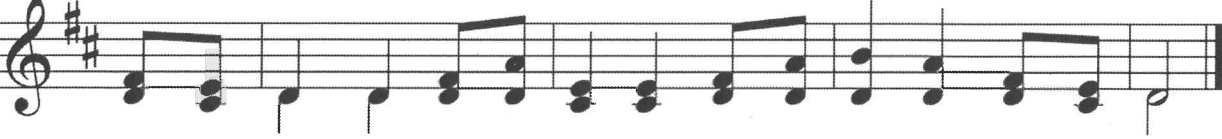
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!


streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



307 God of Grace and God of Glory

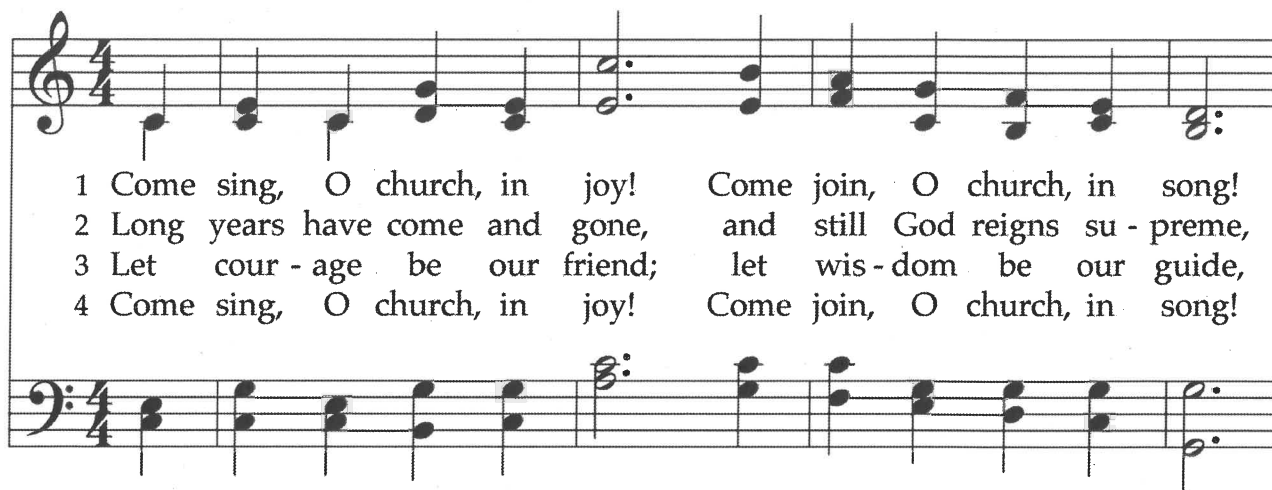
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

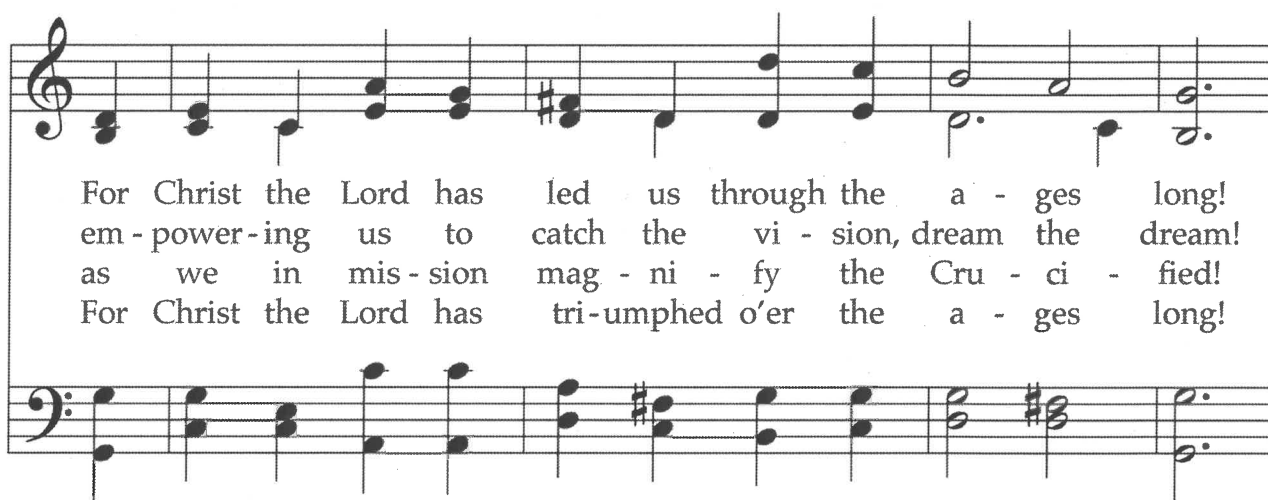
bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

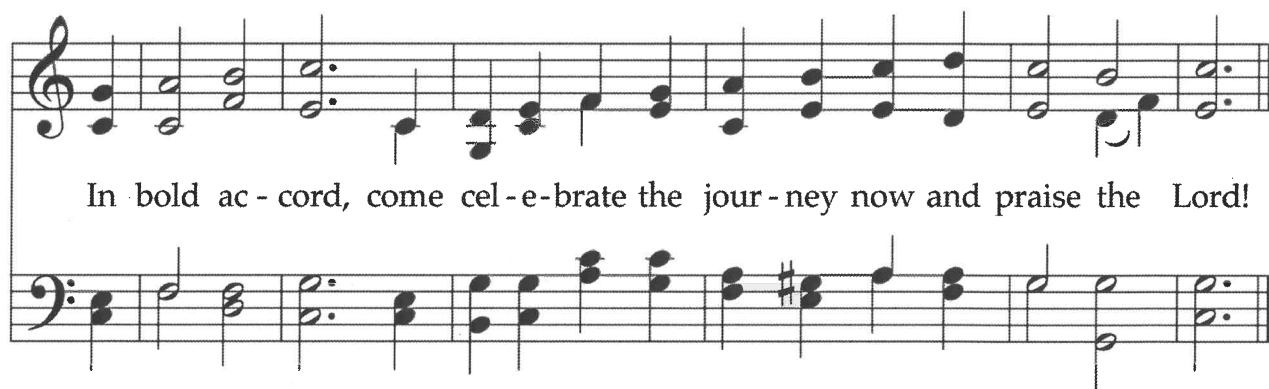
305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!



1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
 2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,
 3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,
 4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!



For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!
 em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!
 as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!
 For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!



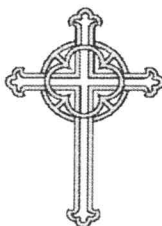
In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

The Week at a Glance!

<p>Later Today</p> <p>4:00-5:00 PM Pop-Up Walk the Eno River with Laurie Ray (Meet at the Cole Mill Rd entrance)</p> <p>4:00-5:30 PM Middle School Youth</p> <p>5:00-6:30 PM High School Youth</p>	<p>Monday October 11</p> <p>1:00 PM Worship Planning</p> <p>2:00 PM Program Staff</p> <p>5:00-6:00 PM Vision Team</p> <p>6:00-7:00 PM Christian Education / Property Committee</p> <p>7:00-8:00 PM Worship & the Arts / Service & Mission Committees</p> <p>7:00-8:45 PM Youth Ministry Committee</p>	<p>Tuesday October 12</p> <p>6:15 PM <i>Love Is the Way</i> Book Study</p> <p>7:00 PM The Things That Matter Book Group (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p>7:00-8:00 PM Personnel Committee</p>	<p>Wednesday October 13</p> <p>11:00 AM <i>Love Is the Way</i> Book Study</p>
<p>Thursday October 14</p> <p>5:30-6:30 PM McPherson Lectureship Sub-Committee</p> <p>7:00-8:00 PM Creation Care Interest Meeting</p>	<p>Friday October 15</p> <p>4:30-6:30 PM Pop-Up Trivia Night (FPC lawn)</p> <hr/> <p>Saturday October 16</p> <p>1:00 PM Memorial Service for Martha Rimmer</p>	<p>Sunday October 17 National Children's Sabbath</p> <p>9:30 - 10:30 AM Adult Faith Formation</p> <p>10:00 - 10:30 AM Children and Youth Faith Formation (Pre-K children on the playground)</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship</p> <p>2:00-4:00 PM Walking Tour of Downtown Durham with Laura Hanson & Vera Cecelski (Meet at Museum of Durham History)</p> <p>4:00-5:30 PM Middle School Youth</p> <p>5:00-6:30 PM High School Youth</p>	

CHURCH STAFF

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator
 Lenore Champion, Children's Ministry Director
 Vernon Cooper, Sexton
 Mindy Douglas, Pastor/Head of Staff
 Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate
 Joseph Harvard, Pastor Emeritus



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>.

305 EAST MAIN STREET DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701 919.682.5511 ORGANIZED 1871