

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

All Saints' Sunday

October 31, 2021

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*(In preparation for worship, please silence all mobile devices.)*

PRELUDE *For All the Saints* Richard Proulx-Denis Bédard

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS Mindy Douglas

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP Izzy Pleasants

\*CALL TO WORSHIP John Weicher

Leader: See, the Lord our God is with us.

People: **God is making all things new.**

Leader: Jesus is the Alpha and Omega.

People: **It is finished! Alleluia! Amen.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

\*OPENING HYMN *How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord* Foundation

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!*

*What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*"Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;*

*I'll strengthen thee, help thee and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.*

*"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;*

*For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.*

*"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes;*

*That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."*

\*CONFESSION OF SIN *(remain standing)* John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.**

**Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear.**

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;**

**open to us a future in which we can be changed;**

**and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;**

**through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.**

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

COLLECT FOR THE DAY Cris Rivera

Leader: Show us your ways, O Lord! Lead us in your truth and teach us.

People: **Open our eyes, minds, and hearts to know your will and to follow it.**

Leader: Reveal your vision for us and keep us focused and faithful to what you would have us do.

People: **Bring us together to worship and work for your purpose,  
and move us forward into your future. Amen.**

\* Those who are able, please stand.

**PSALTER READING** Psalm 146 (Pew Bible, OT Page 581)  
Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL READING** Mark 12:28-34 (Pew Bible, NT Page 49)  
Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God!**

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING** Ezra 3:10-13 (Pew Bible, OT Page 423)  
Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON** *"The Case for Optimism"* Jan Edmiston

**ORGAN INTERLUDE** Kathy Parkins

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS** Mitzi Leshner-Thomas  
Invitation to the Offering

The **Hunger for Change offering** is received today.  
You may give at the end of worship, online via the church's website,  
or by mailing a check to the church office.

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN** Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE** Mindy Douglas

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** Mindy Douglas, Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: With Isaiah the prophet, we give you thanks -  
for the promise of your heavenly banquet,  
a feast of rich food and well-aged wine;  
for the strength of your steadfast love,  
destroying the shroud of sin and shame;  
for the gift of your saving grace,  
our long-awaited day of deliverance.

Therefore, we rejoice in you, singing with the saints of every age:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: With Mary and Martha, we remember Jesus -  
his liberating word and healing touch,  
his saving death and life-giving resurrection,  
his promised return and glorious realm.

Leader: Gathered at your table, we join all your saints who have gone on before us and remember them now before you:

*Everlyn Bass*  
† *Fran Bryant*  
† *Minnie Cameron*



*Walker H. Campbell*  
*Margaret Cleveland*  
*Edith Micere Chomba*



† *Becky Crockett*  
*Tammie Jean Daye*  
*James Michael (Mickey) Efird*



*Phil Goss*  
*George Wilson Gunn, Sr.*  
† *Charles B. Hammond*



† *Lynn Hays*  
*Susan V. Hushon*  
*Rick Kakouris*



† *John Kerr*  
*Gwendolyn King*  
† *Dewey Lawson*



*John Mooney*  
† *Leonard (Len) Pardue*  
† *Robert (Bob) Rankin*



*Eric Reyes*  
† *Martha Rimmer*  
† *Jane Davis Rourk*



*Liz Rupp*  
† *Margaret Sims*  
*Bernice Smith*



*Carl Stowe*  
*Nellie Van Ewyk*  
*James Thomas Webb*



*Christopher Michael Whitworth*  
*Eddie M. Williams, III*  
*Emma Wilson*



† member of FPC

In life and in death, we belong to you, our Alpha and Omega.  
All thanks and praise to you, O God, Holy Three-in-One, now and forever.  
With thanksgiving we remember how Jesus took the bread,  
blessed and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.  
We remember how he took the cup, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this in remembrance of me.  
As often as we share this bread and cup, we proclaim the saving death of the living Lord,  
until he comes in glory to reign. Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**All: Dying, you destroyed our death; rising, you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, as we share this feast of bread and wine.  
Make us one in the body of Christ our Lord and one in the company of your saints.  
With John the Divine, we look with hope -  
for the coming of your new creation, a new heaven and a new earth;  
for an end to suffering and mourning, when every tear will be wiped away;  
for the fulfillment of your ancient promise on the day when you make all things new.  
Through Christ, the Alpha and Omega, in the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, O God, now and forever.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

**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.**

### RESPONSE

*Pie Jesu* (from "Requiem")  
Lesley Curtis, soloist

G. Faure

*Blessed Jesus, Lord, give them rest.*  
*Blessed Jesus, Lord, give them eternal rest.*

## \*THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*(All the bread is gluten free. The elements were prepared in a gluten-free area.)*

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

All: **O God, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace, that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills, and our works, a continual thank-offering to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## \*SENDING

*Waft Them, Angels* (from “Jephtha”)

G.F. Handel

*Waft them, angels, through the skies, far above yon azure plain;*

*Glorious there, like you, to rise, there, like you forever reign.*

*Waft them, angels, through the skies, far above yon azure plain.*

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Jan Edmiston

## \*POSTLUDE

*How Firm a Foundation*

*Early American*, arr. James Johnson



**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 24, 103 joined us for in-person worship and 47 households tuned in to the live-streamed broadcast.

**We welcome to the pulpit today *The Rev. Jan Edmiston*.** Edmiston was born, raised, and educated in Chapel Hill, NC, where she grew up in University Presbyterian Church and graduated from UNC. She has faithfully served the church since being ordained to Word and Sacrament, both as a pastor and as a leader in a number of presbyteries. She was elected Co-Moderator at the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the PC(USA), serving from 2016-2018. She is currently the General Presbyter for the Presbytery of Charlotte.

The **flowers** today are given by **Carol and Wes Carson** to the glory of God and in loving memory of their parents: **Matty Lynn Stine, Bryan Stine, Wilma Carson, and Robert Carson.**

**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** were reprinted from *Call to Worship, Book of Common Worship* (1993, 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.

## **The Hunger for Change Offering**

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 Café at Urban Ministries of Durham, collect food for the Iglesia Emanuel food pantry, and the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. Our youth have sponsored 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.

New Hope Presbytery disperses its funds 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. FPC received a grant in 2019 to purchase supplies for our Walk-in Ministry blessing bags.

## **~ Our Joys and Concerns ~**

**Memorial Service:** A Service of Witness to the Resurrection and special music celebration will be held for FPC member *Margaret Sims* on Saturday, November 6 at 1:00 p.m. in the FPC sanctuary. You may attend in person (masks are required) or watch online from the church's website (<https://firstpres-durham.org>). Attendees are invited to wear clothing that evokes the beauty and color of birds, flowers, and the brilliant grandeur of our earth!

### **Concerns:**

*Linda Foster Momsen*, mother of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

*Paul Cornsweet*

*Kerry Holbrook*

### **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 Tice

*Flora Estrella*, a relative of Beth Stringfield and Cris Rivera

*Lynn Everett*, mother of Luke and Rob Everett

*Grace*, Chris James' great-niece

*Chris Irwin*, cousin of Linda Barenchi

*Roger Kalthoff*, husband of Jane Williams

*Peggy Mordecai*, mother of Beth Eisenson

*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



**Custom Paraments for 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**  
Today is the deadline for submitting items to include in the new paraments.

As part of First Presbyterian Church's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, we have commissioned *Beth Taylor* to create four new paraments and a new white communion tablecloth. Her idea is to include small items in these pieces that are important to you and your family. 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 will dedicate them on February 13, 2022.

**New Bulletin Board Display at FPC**

**Christian Symbols in the Windows of First Presbyterian Church**

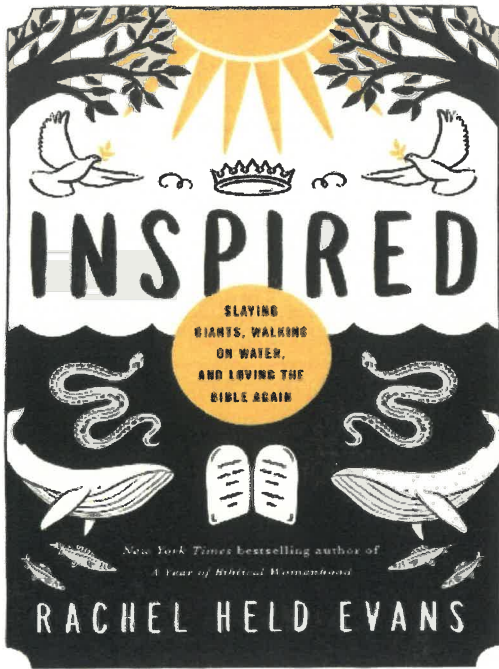
For more than one hundred years, First Presbyterian Church has held worship services in the third house of worship to occupy the corner of Roxboro and Main. The sanctuary, dedicated in 1916, was designed and appointed with the intent of drawing the eye, mind, and heart beyond oneself and into the presence of the Holy. Christian symbols in the windows represent the teachings of our faith and the life and ministry of Jesus. A display of text and photographs on the bulletin board in the foyer serves as an introduction to the symbols and their meanings. May the display deepen your understanding of these timeless symbols and so deepen your worship experience.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Sunday, November 21**

- \* Advent devotional materials can be picked up
- \* Advent crafts provided for children
- \* Advent candles w/cedar block will be available
- \* Purchase alternative gifts from local mission partners
- \* Food truck provides refreshments
- \* Enjoy live music in the courtyard





**The Book Study group led by Mindy Douglas  
begins a new book!**

***Inspired***

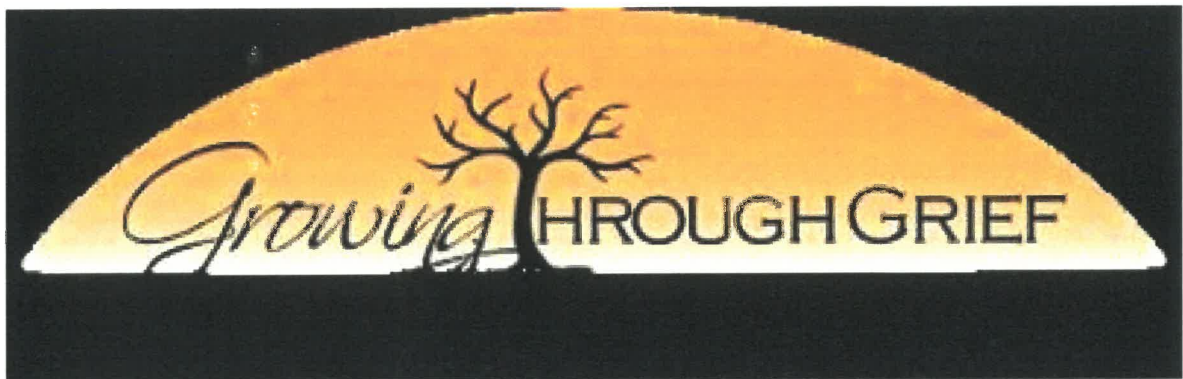
by Rachel Held Evans

**Starting November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Join the discussion via Zoom.

**Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m.**

**Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.**






Growing thru Grief meets year-round, except for major holidays. Here is our schedule for November:

- Nov. 2 Using Humor to Adapt to Loss, by Margaret Albert of Duke HomeCare & Hospice
- Nov. 9 Grief and Joy as Traveling Companions, by Terry Allebaugh
- Nov. 16 Surviving the Holidays, joint session with Duke HomeCare & Hospice
- Nov. 23 Hope, by Gates Vrooman

Our meetings begin with a presentation about a part of the grief process and then we break into small groups for conversation and sharing. With the pandemic, we are meeting on Zoom, though we hope to return to in-person meetings. To register, contact [admin@growingthrugrief.org](mailto:admin@growingthrugrief.org) by 8:00 a.m. on the Monday before the meeting. Growing thru Grief is sponsored by a coalition of religious and civic organizations; there is no charge to attend.

## The Week at a Glance!

Later Today	Monday, November 1	Tuesday, November 2	Wednesday, November 3
	 <p><b>10:30 AM</b> Presbyterian Women Circle and Bible Study</p> <p><b>1:00 PM</b> Plan Worship</p> <p><b>2:00 PM</b> All Staff</p>	 <p><i>Newsletter today</i></p>	<p><b>7:00-8:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir</p>
Thursday, November 4	Friday, November 5	Saturday, November 6	Sunday, November 7
		<p><b>1:00 PM</b> Memorial Service for Margaret Sims</p>  <p>Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed</p>	<p><b>32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time</b> (Daylight Saving time ends at 2:00 a.m.)</p> <p><b>9:30-10:30 AM</b> Faith Formation Classes for Adults</p> <p><b>10:00-10:30 AM</b> Faith Formation Classes for Children and Youth</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> Worship</p> <p><b>4:00-5:30 PM</b> All Youth at the Farm Church (meet at Watts &amp; Green Streets)</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](mailto:info@firstpres-durham.org) or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.

**305 EAST MAIN STREET**

**DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701**  
**ORGANIZED 1871**

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