

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

2nd Sunday of Christmas

January 2, 2022

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

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

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (pt. 1)

D. Buxtehude

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Word became flesh and lived among us

People: and we have seen his glory.

Leader: The true light that enlightens everyone has come into the world.

People: Glory to God who has blessed us in Christ.

All: Glory to God forever.

***HYMN NO. 305**

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Darwall's 148th

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

Holy God,

**we confess that we are a distracted people
and forgetful of your love.**

We make selfish choices,

hurt each other, and perpetuate injustice in your world.

We have sinned against you and are deeply sorry,

**We repent of our disregard of you,
each other, and your creation.**

By the power of your Spirit,

**forgive, restore, and strengthen us
to live in your light and walk in your truth;
through Christ our Lord.**

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Laura McNab

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: God of power and grace, fill us with the wisdom of your word
and the understanding of your Spirit so that we may be your church:
a people with dreams and visions at work in all the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Those who are able, please stand.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 147:12-20

Laura McNab
(Pew Bible, OT Page 582)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!****GOSPEL LESSON**

John 1:1-5, 14-16

Marilyn Hedgpeth
(Pew Bible, NT Page 91-92)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!****SERMON***"Anniversaries"*

Marilyn Hedgpeth

HYMN NO. 130Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light**Ermuntre Dich****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(in unison)**(From A Declaration of Faith)*

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.****Christ is the head of the church,****therefore we are responsible to Christ****when we make policy and decisions in the church.****Christ is the foundation of the church,****therefore it will not fall despite our weakness.****We are confident that the Lord of the church****will judge and defeat our sinful intentions and actions,****help us in our weakness and blindness,****and use the church to accomplish his purposes.****A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

John Weicher

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Mindy Douglas

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer of Dedication *(in unison)***Lord Jesus Christ,****your goodness to us is beyond****the reaches of our imagination,****a fullness of love that embraces all of life.****From you we have received grace upon grace.****Accept our offering for the sake of the world.****All that we have is yours,****and all we return to you****is but a reflection of your****love for us.****In your holy name we pray. Amen.****INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

Mindy Douglas

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

John Weicher

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: It is right and our joy,
Creator God, to give you thanks and praise.
For in the beginning you created the heavens and the earth.
Out of darkness and chaos, you brought light and order.
You have given life to every living thing and made us in your image.
Even when we turned away from you, loving darkness rather than light,
you did not turn away from us. You sent prophets to show us the way.
In the fullness of time, you sent your Son to be Immanuel, God with us.
At his birth, the night sky lit up with heavenly host and a guiding star.
Shepherds and magi found their way to you.
Women and children, tax collectors and lepers continued to find their way to you.
The darkness of Gethsemane, the cross,
and the grave could not overcome you; for you are the light of the world, shining still.
Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
In this feast, make us one with you and with each other.
Enflame us with your Spirit, that we may be united in ministry in every place.
Send us, in your marvelous light, into the world, ready to serve others and work for peace.
We pray in the triune name of God. Amen.

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

John Weicher & Mindy Douglas

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

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

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
People: **Amen.**
All: **Living God, Holy One, Holy Three,
thank you for feeding us at this table.
As we go, keep us close to you, trusting in your love,
and bearing the good news of Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

***HYMN NO. 827**

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

Wie Schön Leuchtet

***BENEDICTION**

Marilyn Hedgpeth

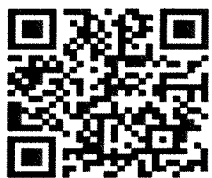
***POSTLUDE**

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (pt. 2)

Buxtehude

We welcome to the pulpit today the **Reverend Marilyn Hedgpeth** former associate pastor at FPC. She served with us for sixteen plus years and retired at the end of 2019. She and her husband **Hedge** are both retired pastors living in Winston Salem.

Following worship today, you are invited to take one or more poinsettias with you to enjoy at home or to share with someone who loves poinsettias. We are grateful to **Arthur Clark** for donating them for the season.



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 December 26, 41 joined us for in-person worship and 33 households watched the live-streamed broadcast.

Special thanks to **Alice Raney**, **Brent Curtis**, and **Graham Curtis** for decorating the sanctuary for the season.

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

Portions of **today's worship texts** were reprinted from *Advent Christmas and Epiphany* by Brian Wren, *Feasting on the Word (Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1)*.

Worship bags and activity bulletins are available in the foyer for children. Books are on the pews in the narthex for young children to read and enjoy should they need a break from the service.

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

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

Large print worship bulletins along with **children's worship / activity bulletins** are available in the foyer.

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.

Masks are still required: The congregation will continue to be masked when inside as an act of generous hospitality to children who cannot yet be vaccinated and transplant recipients and others on medication that reduce the efficacy of vaccines.

Free copies of the **These Days** devotional book for January-March 2022 is now available from the church foyer/narthex. Pick up a copy today. Contact the church office to have a copy mailed to you.

The Church Office will be closed
Monday, January 3 in observance of the New Year's Day holiday.



We are pleased and excited to announce the return of former pastors to the pulpit as our 150th Church Anniversary celebration continues Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in 2022.

January 9 – Joseph Harvard

January 16 – Cherrie Henry

January 23 – Sam Miglarese

January 30 – Lori Pistor

The 150th Anniversary service will take place on Sunday, February 13.

Other special presentations are planned. On Sunday, February 20, the youth will lead worship. Nora Tisdale will preach on Sunday, March 20, and Macky Alston will return on Sunday, March 27 as our 2022 McPherson Lecturer.

All are welcome to join us in-person in the sanctuary.

Worship will also be live streamed.

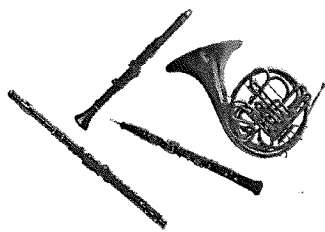
(Click WORSHIP from the church's website opening page to watch worship live.)

Schedule and Reminders **Church Newsletter Schedule**

The first newsletter for 2022 will be issued Tuesday, January 11.

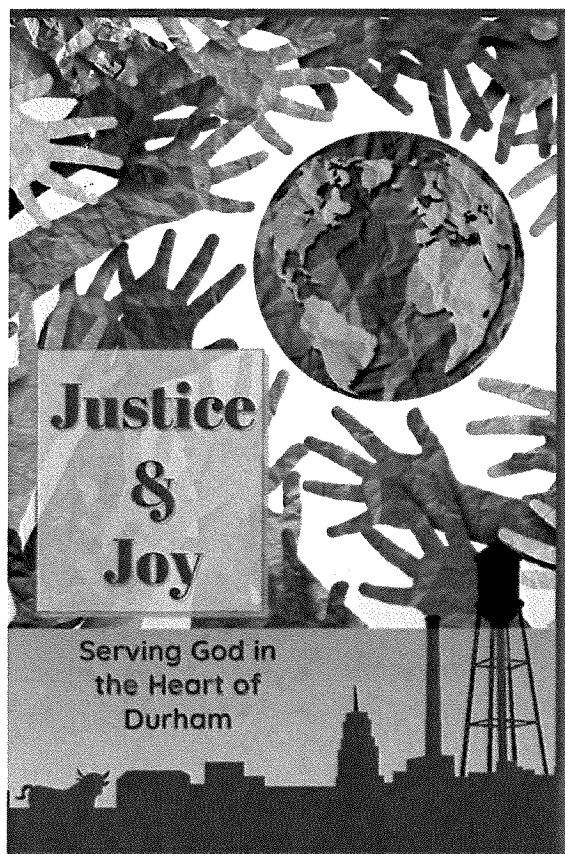
**Please submit your news to Valerie in the church office
by Sunday, January 9.**

Weekend reminder emails will continue to be sent on Friday afternoons.



Musicians Needed

The First Presbyterian Wind Ensemble has been playing together and providing music for occasional worship services for more than nine years. During that time, our numbers have varied (sometimes a quintet, sometimes more or less) and so has our instrumentation. Now we're looking for a new member or two. If you play (or played) a woodwind instrument, such as clarinet, oboe, flute, sax, bassoon, or French horn, please contact David Smith (davidjudysmith@frontier.com) or any of the other members of the group for more information. We would especially like to find a clarinetist.





2022 Pledge Update At a Glance

Inclusion and welcome, service, justice, worship, and building community are the reasons we celebrate Justice and Joy this Stewardship season. The Stewardship Committee and I are grateful that so many of you have already answered the call to support our Justice and Joy campaign to support our life together. We have received **159** pledges, totaling **\$902,544**, representing **84.5%** of our campaign goal. **Thank you** to all who have already pledged. If you have not yet, please return your pledge card in the mail **or make your pledge at our website online**. **We are close** to our **\$1,068,000** goal and can reach it with **your support!** Thank you for building justice and joy in the heart of Durham.

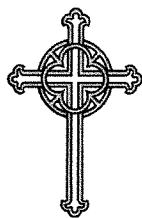
- **Sharon Hirsch**, Stewardship Committee

This Week at a Glance!

<p>After Worship:</p> <p>2:00 PM First Friends New Year's Hike (Rain date: Sunday, Jan. 9) WHERE: Brumley Nature Preserve North (3798-3400, Old NC 10, Durham, NC 27705). Led by <i>Eric Wiebe</i> and <i>Cynthia Shimer</i></p>	<p>Monday, January 3</p> <p>Church Office is closed</p> <p>Presbyterian Women will meet on January 10 at 10:30 AM (Watts-Hill Hall)</p>	<p>Tuesday, January 4</p> <p>1:00 PM Worship Planning</p> <p>2:00 PM All Staff Meeting (Zoom)</p>	<p>Wednesday, January 5</p> <p>No Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>Thursday, January 6</p> <p></p>	<p>Friday, January 7</p> <hr/> <p>Saturday, January 8</p>	<p>Sunday, January 9</p> <p>9:45-10:45 AM Faith Formation Classes for All Ages</p> <p></p> <p>11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Joseph Harvard, Preaching</p> <p>4:30 – 6:00 PM Youth Groups (Combined)</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

~ Our Concerns ~

Condolences: The love and concern of the congregation are extended to *Annie Gentithes* and family upon the death of her father, *David Bowers Libby Gulley* and family upon the death of her mother *Lee Patterson* who died December 24 in Atlanta, GA *Mercy Ndambiri-Curlett* upon the death of her niece *Elizabeth*. Mercy will be traveling to Kenya to be with her sister *Katherine Waithira* (Elizabeth's mother)

Added this week:

Gera Fleming, mother of Christyn Klinck.

Ben Jernigan, grandson of Mickey Velkey, following an accident

Kerry Holbrook, recovering from surgery

Home:

Paul Cornsweet

Harold Dunlap

Mark Higgins

Kerry Holbrook

Mitzi Lesher-Thomas

Care Communities:

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

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: **Phillip Herndon**

Hillcrest Convalescent Center: **Julian Boswell**

Jim Wolfe

Walter Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss

Family and Friends of the Congregation:

Gerald Arrowood, brother of Al Arrowood

Greer & Jenn Brown, friends of Logan Tice

Jim Brown, father of Chris Brown

John Carter, brother of Conrad Carter

Mimi Cummings, mother of Drew Cummings

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

Jim Lesher, father of Mitzi Lesher-Thomas

Vivian Mast, friend of Josh Walters

Aaron Pritchard, friend of Kathy Parkins

Shawantha Purcell, friend of Jane Brown

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

Richard Smith, husband of Laura Casteel's co-worker

Heath Tuttle, son of Chris & Carrie Tuttle

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Toni Vandekemp, sister of Hendrika Vande Kemp

Jean Vollrath, friend of Jean Cary

Deb Walsh, friend of Celia Dickerson

John Wakefield, cousin of Vernon Neece