

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 4, 2022

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

Trumpet Tune on "The Church's One Foundation"

Michael Helman

*OPENING SENTENCES

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The world belongs to God,

People: **the earth and all its people.**

Leader: How good it is, how wonderful,

People: **to live together in unity.**

Leader: Love and faith come together,

People: **justice and peace join hands.**

Leader: If Christ's disciples keep silent

People: **these stones would shout aloud.**

Leader: Open our lips O God,

People: **and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

*HYMN NO. 321

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

*CONFESSION OF SIN

Vernon Cooper

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Holy God,

we confess that we fail to put our trust in you completely.

Instead, we calculate our gains and losses,

hoarding the things that do not lead to abundant life.

Forgive us,

and help us to treasure only you,

that we may follow you faithfully

and discover the blessings only you can give.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*PASSING THE PEACE

Vernon Cooper

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

David Smith

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

All: **God of mercy:**
 Help us to forgive, as you have forgiven us.
 Help us to trust you, even when hope is failing.
 Help us to take up our cross daily
 and follow you in your redeeming work;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and forever. Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	(Pew Bible, OT page 185)
Leader: The Word of the Lord.		David Smith
People: Thanks be to God!		

PSALM LESSON	Psalms 1	(Pew Bible, OT page 489)
Leader: The Word of the Lord.		David Smith
People: Thanks be to God!		

GOSPEL LESSON	Luke 14:25-33	(Pew Bible, NT page 78)
Leader: The Word of the Lord.		Mindy Douglas
People: Thanks be to God!		

SERMON	<i>"Count the Cost"</i>	Mindy Douglas
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*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	(from <i>A Declaration of Faith</i>)	David Smith
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Christ calls us to pilgrimage toward the kingdom.
Jesus announced the coming of God's kingdom
and its hidden presence in the midst of the world's kingdoms.
He taught his disciples to seek God's Kingdom first.
We believe Christ gives us and demands of us
lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom.
Like Christ we may enjoy on our journey
all that sustains life and makes it pleasant and beautiful.
No more than Christ are we spared
the darkness, ambiguity, and threat of life in the world.
We are in the world, but not of the world.
Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people
do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world,
but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom.
Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom:
to serve as he has served us;
to take up our cross,
risking the consequences of faithful discipleship;
to walk by faith, not by sight,
to hope for what we have not seen.

*HYMN NO. 718	<i>Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said</i>	<i>Bourbon</i>
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A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN	Lenore Champion
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DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Mindy Douglas

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

O God, we hear about the cost of discipleship. Nothing less than our whole life is required. We dedicate these gifts in response to Christ's call, and offer ourselves in full commitment, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Mindy Douglas

LITANY OF LABOR

Vernon Cooper

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord of all creation, from whom comes life and work and purpose.
Almighty God, when you formed us lovingly out of the dust of the earth,
you breathed into us the breath of life and gave us work and purpose for living.

All: You placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden to till and keep it.

Leader: Through our work, you made us co-creators with you,
shaping the world in which we live.

All: You gave dignity to our labor by sending your Son to labor with us.

Leader: For providing varieties of work and for blessing us by our labor:

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who plow the field and those who make the plow;
for farmers and farm workers,
for steelworkers and machinists;
for those who work with their hands and those who move the earth:

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who tend the sick and those who seek new cures;
for doctors and nurses, for scientists and technicians;
for those who keep notes and those who transcribe:

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who think and those who create;
for inventors and explorers,
for artists and musicians;
for those who write books and those who entertain:

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who work in offices and those who work in warehouses;
for secretaries and receptionists,
for stockers and bookkeepers;
for those who market products and those who move them:

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who inspire our minds and those who motivate us;
for teachers and preachers, for public servants and religious servants;
those who help the poor and those who work with our children:

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

(Litany continues next page.)

Leader: For those whose labor is tidiness and cleanliness;
for janitors and sanitation workers,
for drycleaners and maids;
for those who produce cleaning products and those who use them:

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who sail the waves and those who fly the skies;
for captains and attendants,
for astronauts and deep sea divers;
for those who chart and those who navigate:

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: You bless us all with skills and gifts for labor.

**All: You provide us opportunities to use them,
for the benefit of others as well as ourselves.**

Leader: Guard and protect those who labor in the world.

All: Bless the work of our hands, O Lord.

Leader: Look kindly upon the unemployed and the disabled.

All: Give health to the sick, hope to the bereaved.

Leader: Keep us from laboring only for greed.

All: Make us loving and responsible in all that we do.

Leader: Creator Lord, you are the source of all wisdom and purpose,
you are the blessing of those who labor.
Be with us in our labor to guide and govern our world.
Give us work that enhances human dignity
and joins us to one another.
Give us satisfaction in our work,
a fair return for our labor,
and joy in knowing that our work finds its source in you;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

Vernon Cooper

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.

***HYMN NO. 432**

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

Repton

***BENEDICTION**

Mindy Douglas

***POSTLUDE**

Trumpet Tune in D

Wilbur Held



Welcome! Let us know you have joined us for worship by scanning this QR code.

First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship here. We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in Christ. We welcome individuals of every nationality, age, race, gender, sexual orientation, economic circumstance, and ability to participate fully in the life of the church. So that you may know who is sitting nearby, please sign the ***Ritual of Friendship pad***, pass it along the pew, and **then return it to the starting point**, noting the names of those sitting near you.

The ***flowers*** in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by ***Beth and Vernon Neece*** in memory of our mothers, ***Eva Martin*** and ***Helen Neece Penwell***.

Hearing Assistance Receivers are available from the ushers. Before you leave the sanctuary, please turn off the receiver and place it in the specially marked receptacle by the door or return it to an usher.

Childcare: A staffed nursery and children's playroom are available on the second floor of the education building during worship. ***Activity bags*** are available in the foyer for children.

Sources for today's worship texts: *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, *Feasting on the Word*, and *When We Gather*. The ***Litany of Labor*** is written by The Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (<https://www.liturgybytlw.com/Pentecost/Labor.html>).

Restroom locations: to the left and right as you exit the rear of the sanctuary; on the second floor of the education building; and on the first and second floors of the church house. There is an infant changing table in the restroom area located to the left as you exit the rear of the sanctuary.

Choir rehearsals begin this Wednesday night, September 7 from 7:00-8:30 at the church. The choir welcomes new people and, as long as you can "carry a tune," that's all that's required. If you are interested in joining, please email ***Kathy Parkins*** at [***k.parkins@firstpres-durham.org***](mailto:k.parkins@firstpres-durham.org) or speak to Kathy after worship. Please help us "make a joyful noise" to God!

~ Our Concerns ~

Kerry Holbrook will have back surgery on September 6.

Paul Cornsweet

Lee House

Jancy Johnstone

George Kafula

Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

Katy Loeblich

Jo Ann Moore

Franzi Rokoske

Carol Wills

Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: ***Dub Gulley***

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

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: ***Phillip Herndon***

Hillcrest Convalescent: ***Julian Boswell, Maxie Honeycutt, Jim Wolfe***

The Forest at Duke Health Center: ***Wes Carson***

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Gladys Arrowood, mother of Al Arrowood

Bob, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

Nicky Clegg, granddaughter of Jeanne Hervey

Tom Cotton, friend of Michael Honeycutt

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Mimi Cummings, mother of Drew Cummings

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

Sydnor Patrick, friend of FPC

Aaron Pritchard, friend of Kathy Parkins

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

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

John Wakefield, cousin of Vernon Neece

Deb Walsh, friend of Celia Dickerson



Faith Formation



Kick Off

ON THE LAWN

SUNDAY, SEPT. 11

9:45-10:45 AM



First Presbyterian Church - Love in the Heart of Durham

All classes will meet together next Sunday for food and fun!

R U PLUGGED IN?



FELLOWSHIP FAIR

Sunday, September 11, 2022

following worship on the lawn

MAKE a CONNECTION

Get involved!

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER with a local non-profit

JOIN a FELLOWSHIP or STUDY GROUP

SERVE on an FPC COMMITTEE

CONNECT with the FPC FAMILY

ENROLL in a FAITH FORMATION CLASS

The Church's One Foundation 321

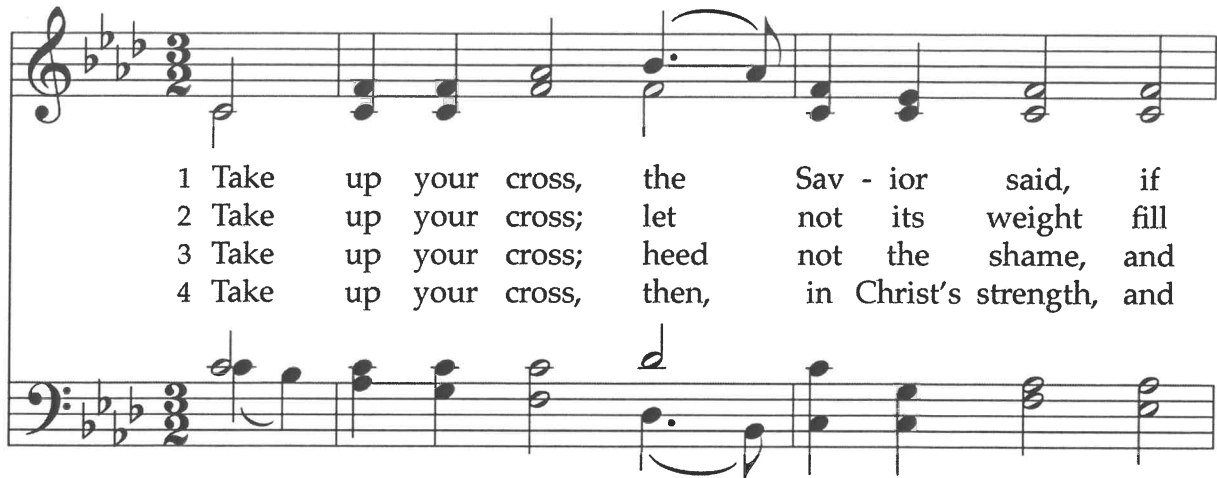
1 The chur-ch's one foun-da-tion is Je-sus Christ her Lord.
 2 E-lect from ev-ery na-tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der this world sees her op-pressed,
 4 Mid toil and trib-u-la-tion, and tu-mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has un-ion with God, the Three in One,

She is his new cre-a-tion by wa-ter and the word.
 her char-ter of sal-va-tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 by schis-ms rent a-sun-der, by her-e-sies dis-tressed,
 she waits the con-sum-ma-tion of peace for-ev-er-more:
 and mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion with those whose rest is won:

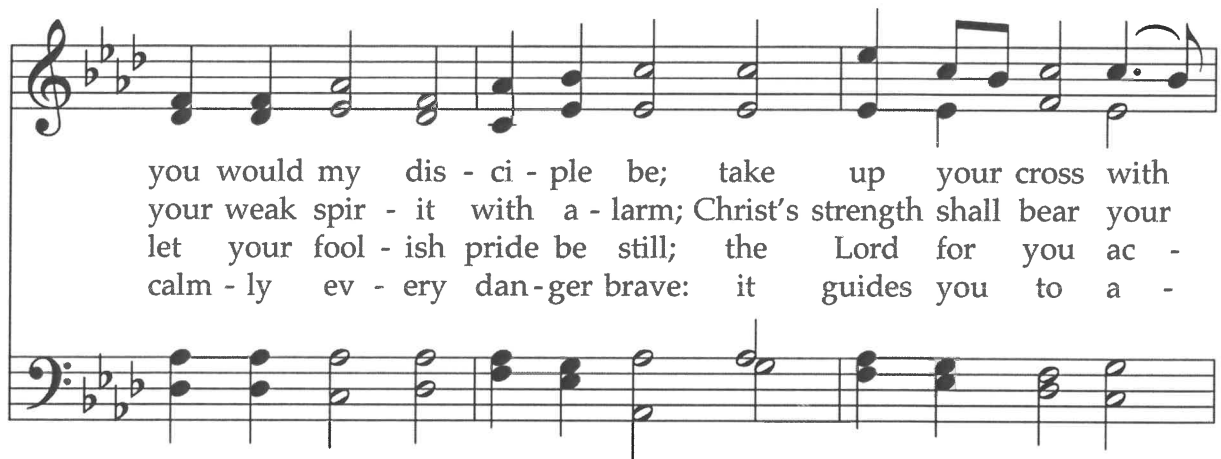
From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho-ly bride.
 One ho-ly name she bless-es, par-takes one ho-ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep-ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi-sion glo-rious her long-ing eyes are blest,
 O hap-py ones and ho-ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press-es, with ev-ery grace en-dued.
 And soon the night of weep-ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic-to-rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low-ly, may live e-ter-nal-ly.

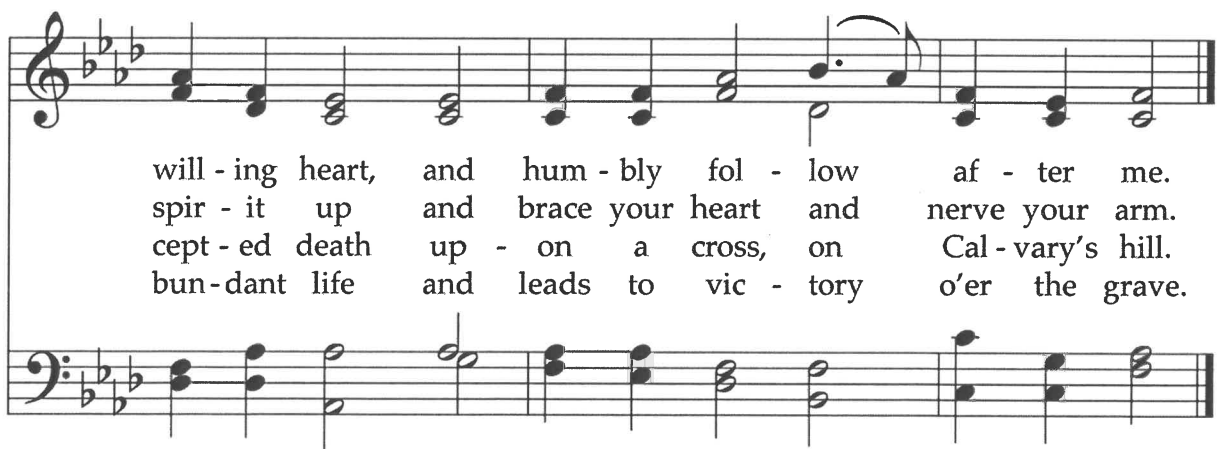
Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718



1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and



you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -



will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432

Capo 1: (D) E^b (A) B^b (Bm) Cm (G) A^b (D) E^b (A)(D) B^b E^b

- 1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
- 2 But if, for-get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
- 3 We mar - vel how your saints be-came in hin-dranc-es more sure:
- 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,

(G) A^b (Em) Fm (A) B^b (F#m) Gm (Bm) Cm (G) A^b (Em) Fm

to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re-freshed, re -
 if world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -
 whose joy - ful vir-tues put to shame the ca-sual way we wear your
 in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to

(A7) B^b7 (D) E^b (A7)(B) B^b7 C (Em) Fm (G)(A7) A^b B^b7 (D) E^b

stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
 wind its tan-gled skein of care: our in-ward life re - pair.
 name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.
 you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav-ored, done.



SAVE THESE DATES!

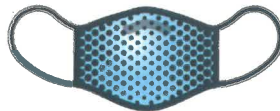
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| *September 11 | Faith Formation Fall Kickoff / Fellowship Fair |
| September 25 | Stewardship Season Kickoff with lunch |
| *October 2 | World Communion / Peacemaking Sunday |
| October 16 | Children's Sabbath / World Food Day |
| October 23 | Stewardship Sunday/ Pledges Dedication |
| October 30 | Reformation Sunday |
| *November 6 | All Saints' Sunday |
| *November 20 | Christ the King Sunday |
| | Advent Festival at 9:45 AM |
| *December 4 | Alternative Gifts Fair (Time TBA) |
| December 11 | Christmas Pageant (Time TBA) |
| | Evening Supper & Sing-along 6 PM |
| December 18 | Lessons and Carols 11 AM |
| *December 24 | Christmas Eve Worship |
| | Communion/Candlelight Service 5 PM |
| *December 25 | Christmas Day Worship 11 AM |

***Communion Sunday**

The Week at a Glance!

<p>Later Today</p>	<p>Monday, September 5</p> <div data-bbox="451 279 747 472" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>The church office is closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday.</p>	<p>Tuesday, September 6</p> <p><i>Newsletter Today</i></p> <p>1:00 PM Worship Planning</p> <p>2:00 PM Program Staff</p> <p>7:00 PM Youth Ministry Committee (via Zoom)</p>	<p>Wednesday, September 7</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>
<p>Thursday, September 8</p> <p>9:00 AM-12 Noon FPC Walk-in Ministry (Phone interviews)</p>	<p>Friday, September 9</p>	<p>Saturday, September 10</p> <p>9:00 AM-12 Noon Landscaping and Grounds Workday at FPC</p>	<p>Sunday, September 11</p> <p>9:45 -10:45 AM Faith Formation Kickoff (all classes combined on the lawn)</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship with Communion</p> <p>12:15 PM Fellowship Fair on the lawn</p> <p>8:00 PM Meaning in the Middle MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>

**Masks are welcome but not required
when in the sanctuary or other church space.**



For more information about First Presbyterian Church, email the church office:
info@firstpres-durham.org or visit our website: <http://firstpres-durham.org>.

CHURCH STAFF

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator
Lenore Champion, Children's Ministry Director
Vernon Cooper, Sexton
Mindy Douglas, Pastor
Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate
Omar Guess, Sunday Morning Sexton
Joseph Harvard, Pastor Emeritus



Amy Bowers Heit, Pastoral Associate
Sybil King, Administrative Assistant
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator
Mitzi Leshner-Thomas, Associate Pastor
Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music
John Weicher, Associate Pastor

305 EAST MAIN STREET DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701 919-682-5511 ORGANIZED 1871