

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Durham, North Carolina

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 22, 2023

## A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minute for Stewardship: FPC Legacy Society

Mindy Douglas  
Cris Rivera and Beth Stringfield

### PRELUDE

*Domine, Dona Nobis Pacem*

Frigyes Hidas

Hannah A. Lorber, trombonist; Gordon Campbell, organist

### \*OPENING SENTENCES (Psalm 27:1,4)

Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

People: **to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in the holy temple.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

### \*HYMN NO. 410

*God Is Calling through the Whisper*

*W Żłobie Leży*

### \*CONFESSION OF SIN

Esther Hethcox

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

**We admit, God our Light, that we do indeed try to tear Christ apart –  
a piece of him here to support our politics,  
a part of him to undergird our economic views,  
the rest of him to bolster our fears of others.**

**We could leave immediately to follow him,  
but need to wait until we see where he might lead us.**

**We want you to look upon us with favor always,  
but have no trouble turning our backs on those around us.**

**Hear us, God our Deliverer, as we speak of our failures!**

**Have mercy on us, we appeal to you, have mercy!**

**May your love become the core of our hearts,  
may your compassion become the words we speak,  
may your hope illuminate the ways in which we serve others,  
even as we seek to follow the One who calls us to new life,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

\*Those who are able, please stand.

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

Esther Hethcox

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Bert Clere and Carlo Diy

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Your call to us echoes down through the ages, O God.  
Let us listen deeply, as those early disciples did.  
Let us hear your Word anew through the words of scripture.  
Send your Spirit to open our ears and our hearts. Amen.

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 9:1-4

(Pew Bible, OT Page 638)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Bert Clere and Carlo Diy

**GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 4:12-23

(Pew Bible, NT Page 3)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

John Weicher

**SERMON**

*"Elephant Seals"*

John Weicher

**\*HYMN NO. 69**

*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

*Here I Am (Schutte)*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

( from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

Mindy Douglas

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts,

forgiving sinners,

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

Jesus was crucified,

suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead,

vindicating his sinless life,

the power of sin and evil,

delivering us from death to life eternal.

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Amy Sanchez

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music

*\*Doxology with Alleluias*

*Air on the G String*

J.S. Bach, arr. Frank J. Halferty

*Lasst uns erfreuen*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia; Alleluia;*

*Praise God above, ye heavenly host;*

*Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

\*Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

Mindy Douglas

**God of our salvation, receive these gifts we offer and bless them  
for the work of your kingdom, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS**

Esther Hethcox

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Esther Hethcox

**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

John Weicher

\*POSTLUDE

*Fugue in D Major*

J.S. Bach



**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.

**Special thanks** to **Hannah A. Lorber**, trombonist and **Gordon Campbell**, organist for providing music for today's worship. The **Chancel Choir** is hoping to return to worship on next Sunday.

Today's **flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of **B.J. Seitzer** by her family.

**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 to use during worship.

**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. Receivers are sanitized after each use.

**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.

Portions of **today's worship texts** were reprinted from **Lectionary Liturgies** and **Feasting on the Word**.

## NOTICE OF CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

The Session of First Presbyterian Church has called a congregational meeting following worship on **Sunday, January 29** for the purpose of establishing a Designated Associate Pastor position (this change for FPC's relationship with Esther Hethcox is a recent requirement of the Presbytery of New Hope's Commission on Ministry). The Session has also called a subsequent congregational meeting for **Sunday, February 12**. At the February 12 meeting, the search committee will present Esther Hethcox as their candidate for the Designated Associate Pastor position. The Designated Associate Pastor position will be for two years. Esther will be ordained to the Designated Associate pastor role and will be eligible to apply for the future permanent Associate Pastor position.

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### ~ Our Concerns ~

*Andy Widmark*, recovering after a brief hospitalization due to complications from surgery  
*Brooke*, roommate of Heidi Biermann, dealing with an ongoing ailment  
*Blaine Ballantyne*, friend of Jane Brown

<i>Paul Cornsweet</i>	<i>Susan Cyr</i>	<i>Kerry Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee House</i>
<i>George Kafula</i>	<i>Mitzi Lesher-Thomas</i>	<i>Parker Morton</i>	<i>Franzi Rokoske</i>
<i>Carol Wills</i>			

#### 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*

#### Family and Friends of the Congregation

<i>Bob</i> , friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore	<i>Pam Hanson</i> , mother of Laura Hanson
<i>Grace</i> , Chris James' great-niece	<i>Karen Shelton</i> , mother-in-law of Dawn Carsey Shelton
<i>Jim Vacca</i> , father of Jamie Chambliss	<i>John Wakefield</i> , cousin of Vernon Neece

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### REMEMBER TO SIGN UP. . .

#### Community Blood Drive

**Thursday, February 2, 2023**

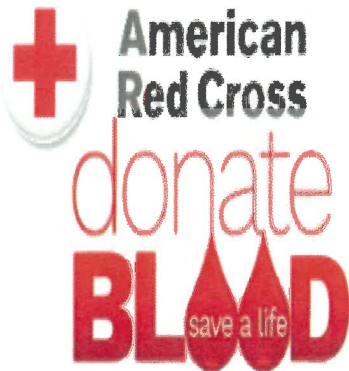
**1:00-6:00 p.m. at FPC in Watts-Hill Hall**

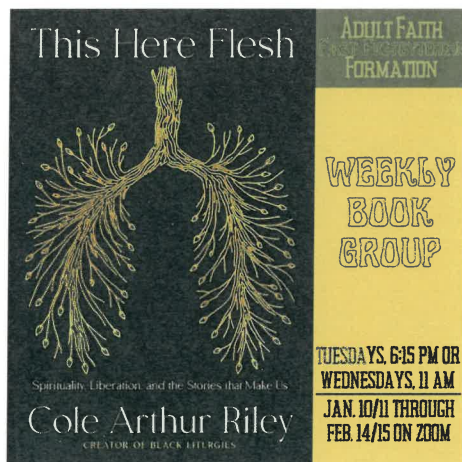
FPC's primary contact/organizer: *Julie Whiddon*

Email: [foxylady2642@yahoo.com](mailto:foxylady2642@yahoo.com)

Phone number: 919-730-6673

Sign up online to donate blood at [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) using code: *firstpres*. For more information on donating blood, pick up a brochure from the table in the church foyer. This blood drive is open to the public.





## WEEKLY BOOK STUDY

Led by Mindy Douglas

### Discussion Schedule

January 24/25 – chapters 5-7  
 January 31/February 1 – chapters 8-9  
 February 7/8 – chapters 10-12  
 February 14/15 – chapters 13-15

### Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82972133680?pwd=cktmdUNZdXRSZ09NUkxhZklDTlkzQT09>

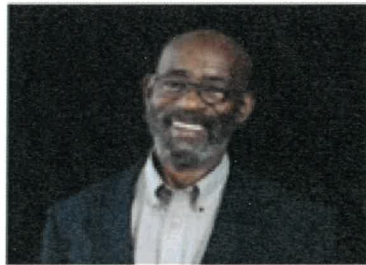


**DURHAM CONGREGATIONS IN ACTION INVITES YOU!**

**2023 DCIA  
 ANNUAL BANQUET**  
 Thursday, January 26, 5:45-8pm PM  
 HOLY INFANT CATHOLIC CHURCH  
 5000 Southpark Dr., Durham, NC

***"Resilience and Re-imagining"***

***Keynote Speaker: Imam Abdul Waheed***



### **PLEASE MAKE ADVANCE RESERVATION.**

The deadline to RSVP is January 22: 919-688-2036.

Cost is \$20 per plate or host a table for \$100.

Pay at the banquet or with Paypal.

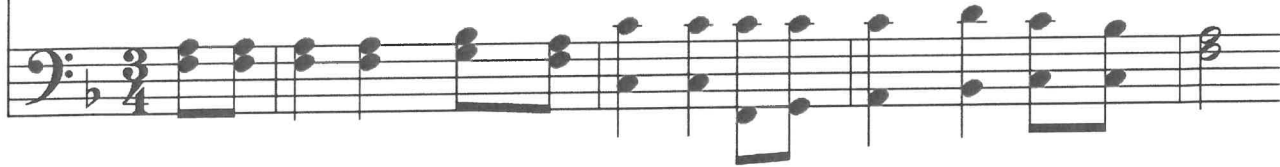
FPC's pastor emeritus, **Joe Harvard**, will be honored with the 2023 Haywood Holderness Distinguished Community Service Award. **Rebecca Harvard**, former DCIA president, will also be recognized at the event.

**Masks are optional, please do not come if you are sick.**

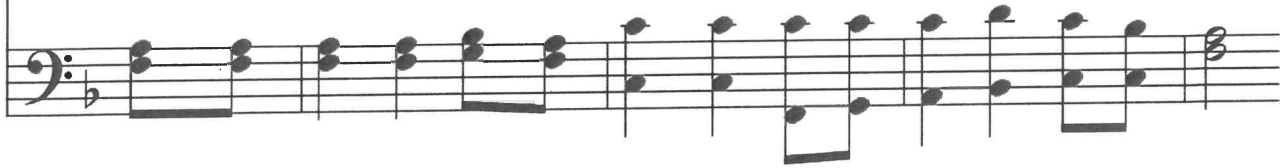
# 410 God Is Calling through the Whisper



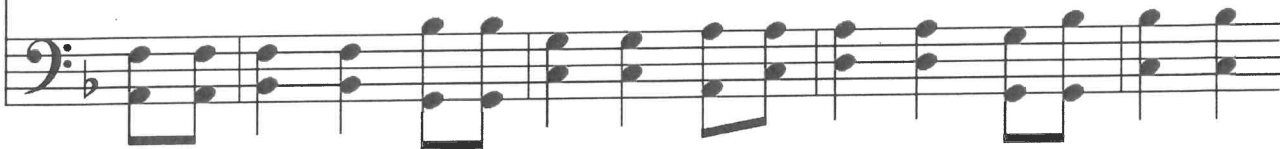
1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,  
2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,  
3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,



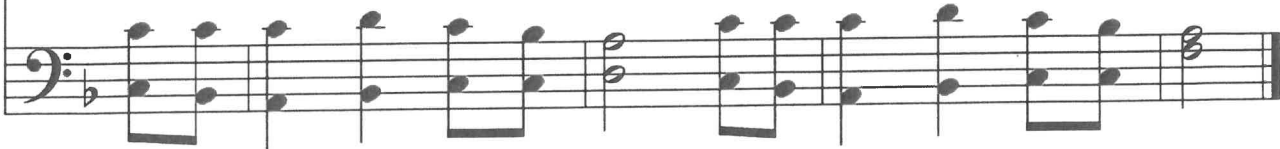
through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties that can catch us by sur-prise.  
through their long-ing for re-demp-tion and for res-cue from de-spair.  
through the hymns of earth and an-gels, and the car-ols of our hearts.



Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der; hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:  
Place of hurt or face of need-ing; stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing:  
Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing; days and nights our prais-es bring-ing:

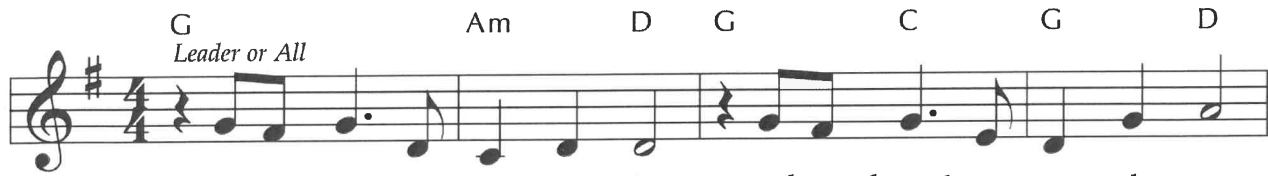


God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?  
God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?  
God is call-ing—and we hear! God is call-ing—and we hear!



## I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

## Here I Am, Lord



1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

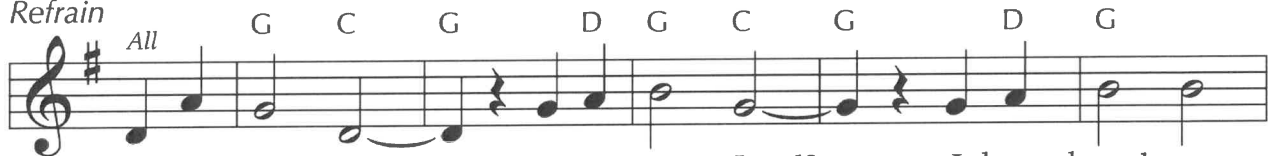


made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

## Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.



# How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432

Capo 1: (D) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A)(D)  
 Eb Bb Cm Ab Eb Bb Eb

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) (Em) (A) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (Em)  
 Ab Fm Bb Gm Cm Ab 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) (D) (A7)(B) (Em) (G)(A7) (D)  
 Bb7 Eb Bb7 C Fm Ab Bb7 Eb

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.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*



## This Week at a Glance!

<b>After Worship:</b> <b>2:00-4:00 PM</b> HS Youth Group Climb (Plan B) with Trinity Ave PC <b>5:00-7:00 PM</b> MS Youth Group with Trinity Ave PC <b>8:00 PM</b> (via Zoom) MnM's Fellowship	<b>Monday, January 23</b> <b>1:30 PM</b> Worship Planning <b>5:30 PM</b> Diaconate (via Zoom) <b>7:00 PM</b> Session (via Zoom)	<b>Tuesday, January 24</b> <b>11:30 AM</b> Daytimers' Luncheon at Bennett Point Grill <b>6:15 PM</b> (via Zoom) Book Study: <i>This Here Flesh</i>  <i>Newsletter today</i>	<b>Wednesday, January 25</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> (via Zoom) Book Study: <i>This Here Flesh</i> <b>1:00 PM</b> Program Staff <b>7:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir
<b>Thursday, January 26</b> <b>5:45-8:00 PM</b> DCIA Banquet (at Holy Infant Catholic Church)  <b>Friday, January 27</b>   <b>January 27 (5:00 PM) – January 29 (1:00 PM)</b> High School Winter Beach Retreat	<b>Saturday, January 28</b>  <b>January 28 (9:00 AM) –</b> <b>January 29 (1:00 PM)</b> Middle School Winter Beach Retreat	<b>Sunday, January 29</b> <i>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>  <b>9:45-10:45 AM</b> Intergenerational Faith Formation Activities will be held in Watts-Hill Hall for all ages  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship with the Ordination and Installation of Officers and Congregational Meeting Esther Hethcox, Preaching  <b>8:00 PM</b> (via Zoom) MnM's Fellowship	

### 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  
*Omar Guess, Sr.*, Sunday Morning Sexton  
*Joseph Harvard*, Pastor Emeritus



*Amy Bowers Heit*, Parish Associate  
*Esther Hethcox*, Pastoral Associate  
*Sybil King*, Administrative Assistant  
*Mitzi Leshner-Thomas*, Associate Pastor (Medical Leave)  
*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    919.682.5511    ORGANIZED 1871**