



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joachim\\_Patinir\\_-\\_The\\_Baptism\\_of\\_Christ\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joachim_Patinir_-_The_Baptism_of_Christ_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg)

## **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

**JANUARY 8, 2023**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

January 8, 2023

---

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
WITH THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS AND SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

---

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

*For those joining worship via live stream, please prepare your bread and cup before worship begins so that we might partake of the elements at the same time during today's service.*

---

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

*Laudamus te (from "Gloria")*

A. Vivaldi

*We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we give you glory.*  
Shannon Shultz-Thomas, Lesley Curtis

LITANY FOR BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Leader: In the beginning, darkness covered the deep,  
and God said, "Let there be light."

**People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

Leader: Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said:  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

**People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

Leader: Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you.  
I have called you by name; you are mine.

**People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

INTROIT

*Down to the River to Pray*

*Trad. American*

Leader voices: *As I went down to the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,  
And who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord, show me the way!  
Oh, sinners let's go down, let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, sinners let's go down, down to the river to pray.*

**All:** *As I went down to the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,  
And who shall wear the robe and crown? Good Lord, show me the way!  
Oh, children let's go down, let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, children let's go down, down to the river to pray.*

*As I went down to the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,  
And who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord, show me the way!  
Oh, Christians let's go down, let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, Christians let's go down, down to the river to pray.*

\*OPENING SENTENCES

Mindy Douglas

Leader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God;  
**People: the holy habitation of the most high.**

Those who are able, please stand.

Leader: The Lord pours forth rivers from bare mountains, and fountains in valleys' depths.  
Left side: God opens rocks, and water flows freely.  
Right side: God causes streams to burst forth in the desert.  
People: **Let us worship God.**

**\*HYMN NO. 475**

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

*Nettleton*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Bob and Sheila Breitweiser

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**  
Leader: Let us pray.  
All: **Creator Spirit, who hovered over the waters at creation's birth,  
who descended in the form of a dove at Jesus' baptism,  
who was poured out under the signs of fire and wind at Pentecost:  
Come to us, open our hearts and minds,  
so that we may hear the Word of life and be renewed by your power,  
for you live and reign with God and Christ now and forevermore. Amen.**

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Isaiah 42:1-9

(Pew Bible, OT Page 670)  
Bob and Sheila Breitweiser

Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 3:13-17

(Pew Bible, NT Page 3)  
Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*"Turning and Returning"*

Mindy Douglas

**\*HYMN NO. 480**

*Take Me to the Water*

*Take Me to the Water*

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Mindy Douglas

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

Offertory Anthem

*Come to the Water*

John Weicher  
Howard Helvey

*Oh, let all who thirst, let them come to the water.  
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:  
without money, without price. Why should you pay the price,  
except for the Lord?*

*And let all who toil, let them come to the water.  
And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord:  
all who labor, without rest. How can your soul find rest,  
except for the Lord?*

*And let all the poor, let them come to the water.  
Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord:  
bring the children, without might. Easy the load and light:  
come to the Lord.*

*\*Doxology with Alleluias*

*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!***

**\*RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

Mindy Douglas, Esther Hethcox

**\*Invitation**

**\*Prayer of Confession (in unison)**

John Weicher

**Merciful God,  
in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,  
making us part of the body of Christ.  
We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves,  
separated from one another.  
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges,  
and show reluctance to welcome one another.  
We allow the past to hold us captive.  
In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us,  
and free us from sin.  
Fulfill the promises of our baptism  
so that we may rise to new life,  
and live together in grace.**

Silent Confession

**\*Baptismal Vows**

Mindy Douglas, Esther Hethcox

**Leader:** You whose hearts are heavy, consider now this invitation:  
Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,  
do you desire to turn from the ways of sin?

**People:** **I do.**

**Leader:** Do you renounce all evil,  
and all powers in the world  
which defy God's righteousness and love?

**People:** **I renounce them.**

**Leader:** Do you turn to Jesus Christ  
and accept him as your Lord and Savior?

**People:** **I do.**

**Leader:** I invite you then to turn back toward the light of Christ,  
back toward your neighbors. *[Participants turn back toward the light.]*

**Leader:** Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word  
and showing his love to your life's end?

**People:** **I will, with God's help.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

John Weicher

**\*Passing the Peace**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Apostles' Creed*

Mindy Douglas, Esther Hethcox

Leader: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

Do you believe in God, the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

John Weicher

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Amy Heit

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 unto the Lord our God.

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

Leader: Creator God,

we praise you for you are continually making all things new  
that the world might fulfill your good purpose.

Into the midst of our sin,

you offer your love in Jesus Christ

who was baptized in the muddy waters of sin,

identifying with us in our human weakness,

yet without sin of his own,

so he could raise us from our watery graves

into the Spirit's breath of new life.

Out of his own body offered for us and our salvation,

Christ our Lord feeds us,

nurturing us in the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Leader: Therefore, we praise you with all the hosts of heaven,  
 praying with them for the world you so love  
 and offering ourselves in service to you on behalf of a hungry world.  
 Make us good stewards of your creation, O Lord,  
 that generations to come might look upon your works of wonder  
 and utter a breathless prayer of praise.  
 Pour your Spirit out upon us all, that we might be filled with your abundance.  
 Send forth your wisdom upon those in positions of authority  
 that they might exercise their responsibilities with your justice and compassion.  
 Set all those held captive by sin free to delight in your love.  
 Now, O Lord, send forth your Holy Spirit upon us  
 and all the faithful who join you at this table,  
 that we might glimpse your glory among us  
 and rise up as one to give you thanks in all we do.  
 Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 all glory and honor and dominion are yours,  
 almighty God, now and forevermore. 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, Amy Heit

**\*THE BLESSING OF WATER AND THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

*(You are invited to come forward (if you are able), take a stone from the font, and receive the blessing of water (on your forehead or the back of your hand. You may then move to a station to receive the elements. The elements are gluten free and prepared in a gluten-free area. Please return to your seat after receiving the elements. If you are unable to come forward, you will be served in your seat. Empty cups may be placed in the holders in the pews.)*

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

John Weicher

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
 People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
 All: **You are a good God who creates, gives birth, redeems, feeds, and encourages us to grow. Thank you for your many blessings to us. May those blessings now flow out to others in your name, we pray. Amen.**

**\*HYMN NO. 484**

*Out of Deep, Unordered Water*

*Rustington*

**\*BENEDICTION**

Mindy Douglas

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Gilbert Martin





**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.

The *flowers* in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by *Alice Raney* in loving memory of her mother, *Ethel Lipscomb Girvin* and grandmother, *Ethel Carr Lipscomb*.

**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: PCUSA worship resources - <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/baptism-lord-sunday-service/> and Margaret LaMotte Torrence, liturgy written for the PAM Worship and Music Conference, 2018.

---

### **FLOWER DONORS NEEDED FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2023**

The flower ministry of FPC offers a meaningful way to donate flowers for the sanctuary in memory or in honor of a loved one, or in celebration of a special occasion. Following worship, our deacons divide the flowers and deliver smaller arrangements to members who are ill, grieving, or unable to attend church, as a way of sharing with them a part of our worship service. Please reserve a Sunday by using this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EA4AD2DA46-flowers3>. You can call the church office for more information and to reserve a Sunday: 919-682-5511 x 215.

---

### **THE THINGS THAT MATTER BOOK GROUP**

The next book group meeting will be **Tuesday, January 10, at 3:30 p.m.** *Barbara Buckley* will be hosting the group in her home on Annandale Road. RSVP to Barbara at [barbjbuckley@gmail.com](mailto:barbjbuckley@gmail.com) so she will know how many to plan for. *Jane Williams* will be leading a discussion of *The Sum of Us* by Heather McGhee.

---

### **THE LEGACY SOCIETY**

FPC's Legacy Society luncheon returns in-person on **Wednesday, February 1, 2023** at Croasdaile Country Club. We look forward to gathering again and enjoying the fellowship of one another. Rev. Tom Roberts will be the speaker. The Legacy Society is open to new members. For a Legacy Society brochure or information on joining, contact *Tom Bloom* (919-682-5511 x 216 or send email to: [t.bloom@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:t.bloom@firstpres-durham.org)). Invitations will be sent to society members soon.

~ **Our Concerns** ~

*We ask you to remember these beloved ones in your personal, family, and daily prayers. We also encourage you to support them with notes and cards during their time of struggle. Please also keep the pastoral staff updated on the progress of your loved ones.*

*Paul Cornsweet  
George Kafula  
Carol Wills*

*Susan Cyr  
Mitzi Leshner-Thomas*

*Kerry Holbrook  
Parker Morton*

*Lee House  
Franzi Rokoske*

**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**

*Liz Block*, cousin of Jane and Bill Brown

*Bob*, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

*John Carter*, brother of Conrad Carter

*Pam Hanson*, mother of Laura Hanson

*Grace*, Chris James' great-niece

*Karen Shelton*, mother-in-law of Dawn Carsey Shelton

*Jim Vacca*, father of Jamie Chambliss

*John Wakefield*, cousin of Vernon Neece



**Slide Show: Birds of Western Brazil**

Do you want to escape the cold winter days, at least virtually? *David and Judy Smith* spent more than two weeks last July in the hot, humid Amazon of Western Brazil, and they came home with lots of photos of tropical birds and monkeys. Join them for a slide show on **Tuesday, January 17, at 7:15 p.m. in Watts-Hill Hall.** (If you're interested in a Zoom option, please contact David Smith.)



**FPC Hosting Community Blood Drive**

**Thursday, February 2, 2023**

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

Primary contact/organizer: *Julie Whiddon*

Julie's email: [foxylady2642@yahoo.com](mailto:foxylady2642@yahoo.com)

Julie's phone number: 919-730-6673

Sign up online to donate blood at [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) using code: *firstpres* or contact Julie Whiddon. For more information on donating blood, pick up a brochure from the table in the church foyer.



This Here Flesh

ADULT FAITH  
FIRST PRES  
FORMATION

WEEKLY  
BOOK  
GROUP

TUESDAYS, 6:15 PM OR  
WEDNESDAYS, 11 AM  
JAN. 10/11 THROUGH  
FEB. 14/15 ON ZOOM

Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories that Make Us

Cole Arthur Riley  
CREATOR OF BLACK LITURGIES

### Reading Schedule

- January 10/11 – preface, chapters 1-2
- January 17/18 – chapters 3-4
- 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>

ADULT FAITH  
FIRST PRES  
FORMATION

“

*Joe Harvard leads this three-week series on how we might build the Beloved Community that our faith longs for in our city. Each week, he'll be in conversation with those who are in the thick of Durham's transformation.*

**FAITH & COMMUNITY - BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY IN DOWNTOWN DURHAM**

Sundays, Jan. 8, 15 & 22, 9:45 am, Watts-Hill Hall

*Love in the Heart of Durham*

Bulletin insert – January 8, 2023

**~ New Schedule from Growing thru Grief ~**

*Growing thru Grief* offers help and support to people grieving the loss of a loved one.

Here is the schedule for January:

- Jan. 10 Beyond Getting Over It: On the Myth of 'Grief Recovery,' with Aaron Klink
- Jan. 17 How Will I Know I'm Feeling Better? with Pastor Scott Anderson
- Jan. 24 Grief Shared is Grief Diminished, with Artie Hendricks
- Jan. 31 Frogs in Cream, with Nell Noonan

We meet at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1200 West Cornwallis in Durham. Meetings are held each Tuesday, with registration starting at 4:00. First time attendees must show proof of COVID vaccination and booster(s). Masks are optional. We ask people to come at 4:00 p.m.; the program begins at 4:30 p.m., and all will end by 6:00 p.m. Please contact [admin@growingthrugrief.org](mailto:admin@growingthrugrief.org) if you have any questions.

---



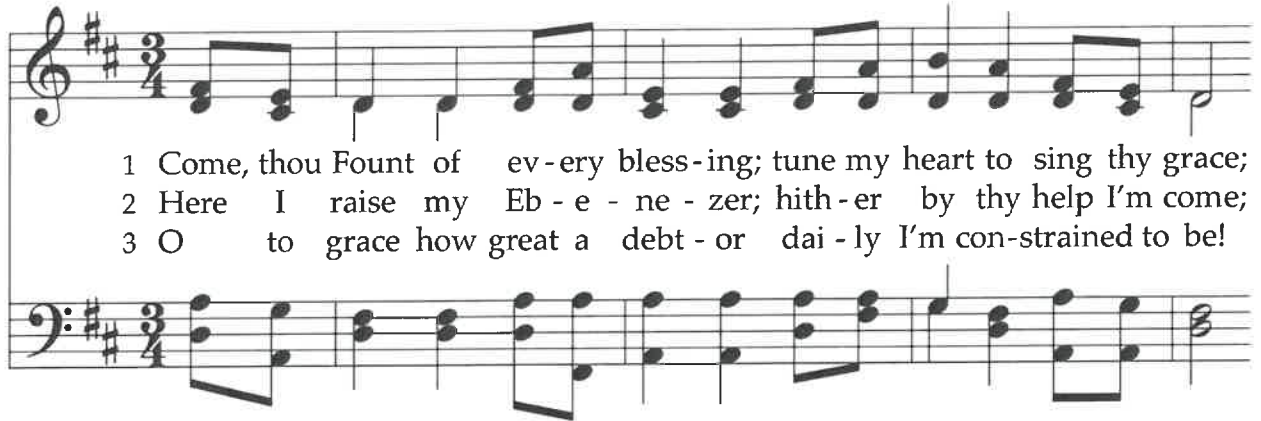
**The church office will be closed on  
Monday, January 16, 2023  
in observance of the  
Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday holiday.**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 16**

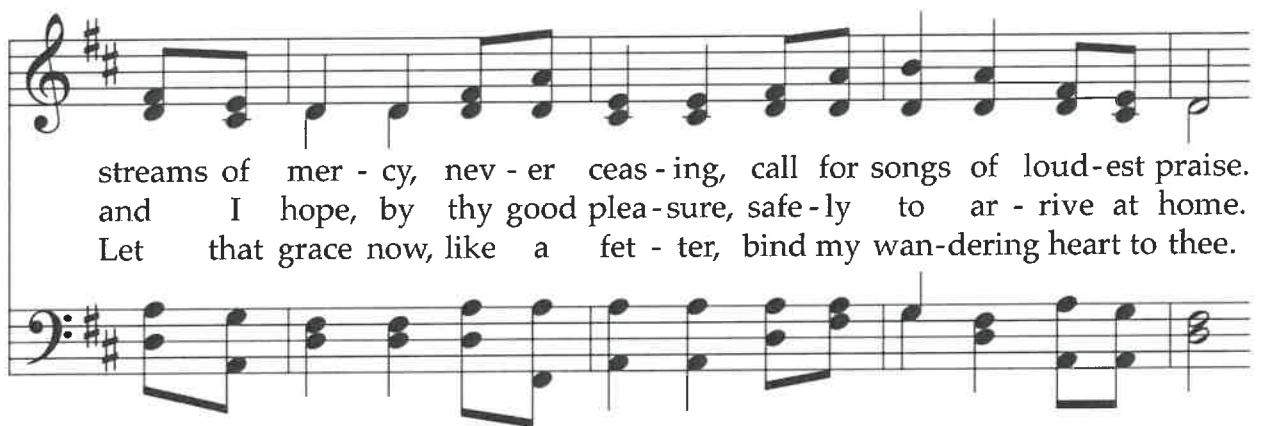
**Annual MLK Unity March and Commemorative Worship**

The March begins at 10:30 a.m. from N.C. Mutual Life Insurance Company (411 West Chapel Hill Street) and ends in the FPC sanctuary around 12 noon with a community worship service. Music will be provided by Durham's Children Choir. All are welcome to participate in the march and the worship. For more information contact Dr. Warren Herndon at 919-599-1056 or [drherndon8@gmail.com](mailto:drherndon8@gmail.com).

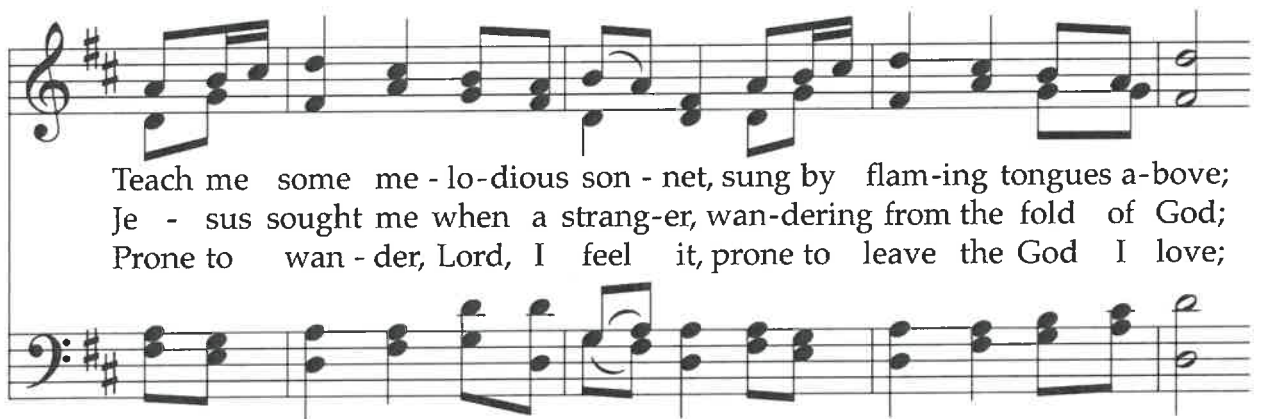
# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



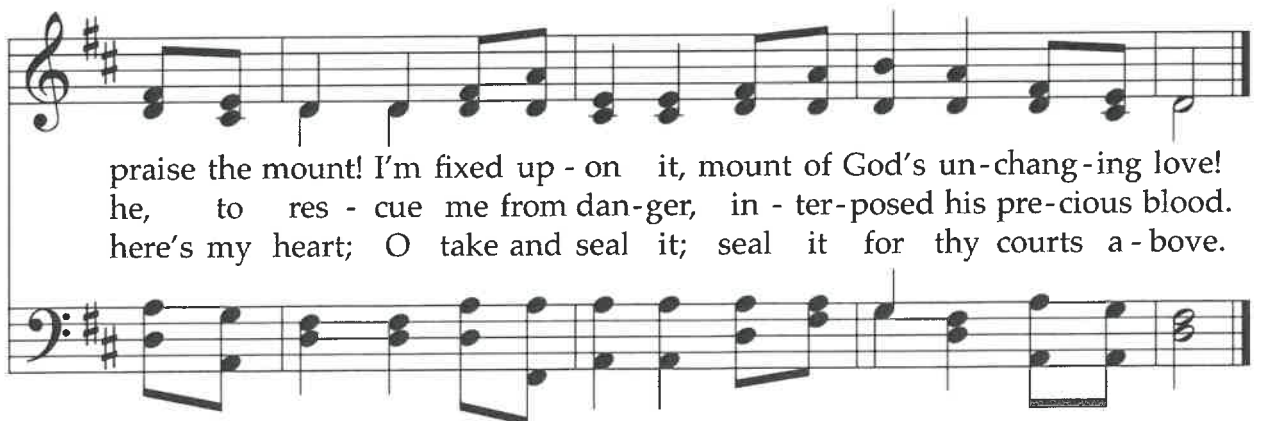
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;  
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!



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.

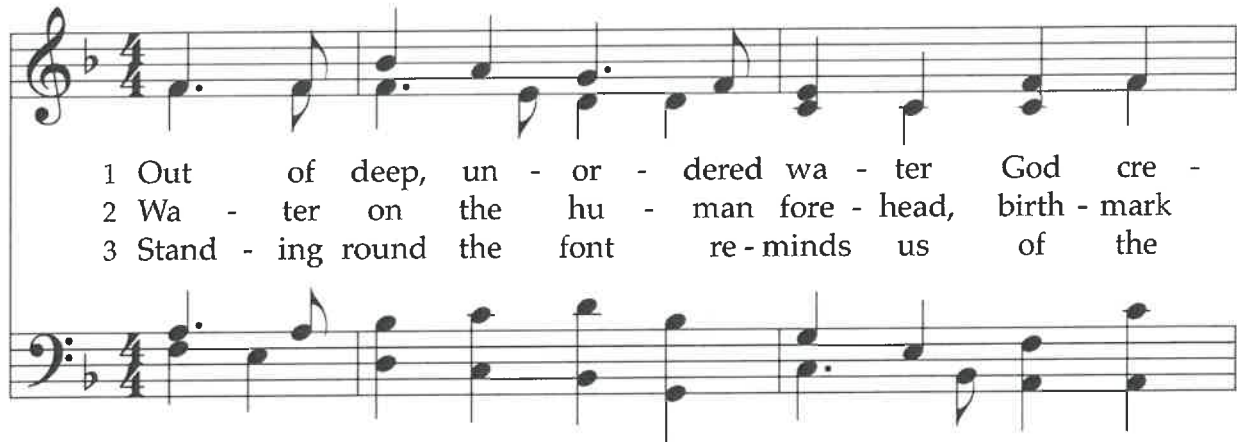


Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

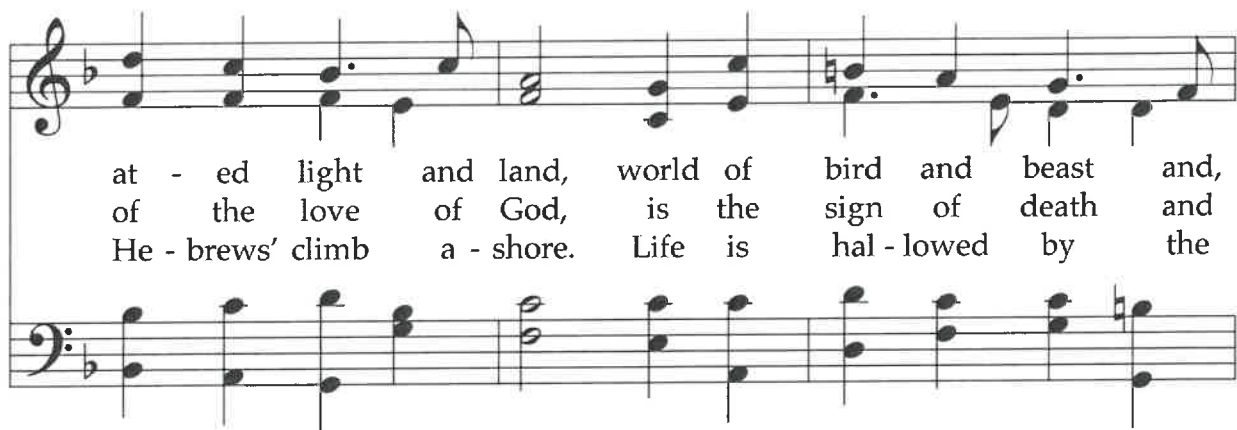


praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love!  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

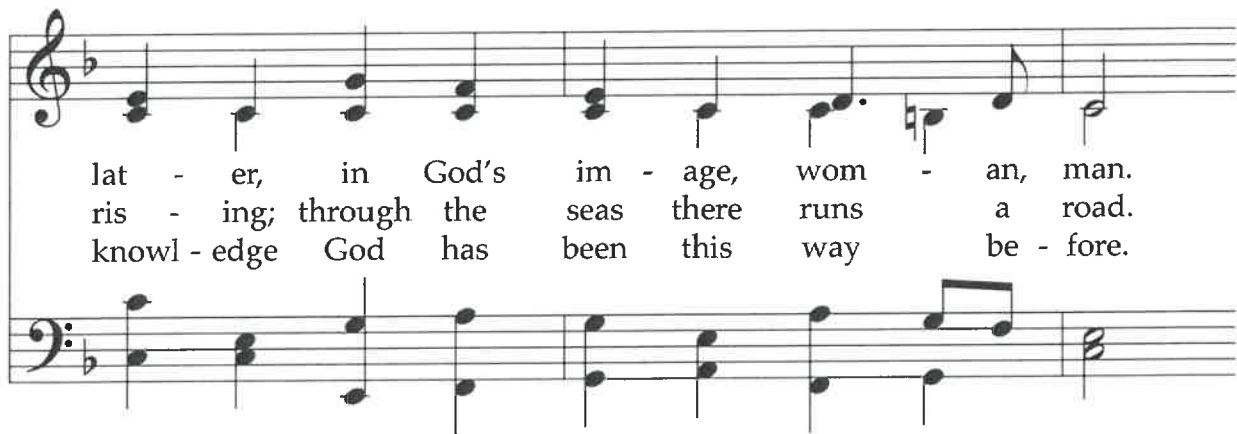
# 484 Out of Deep, Unordered Water



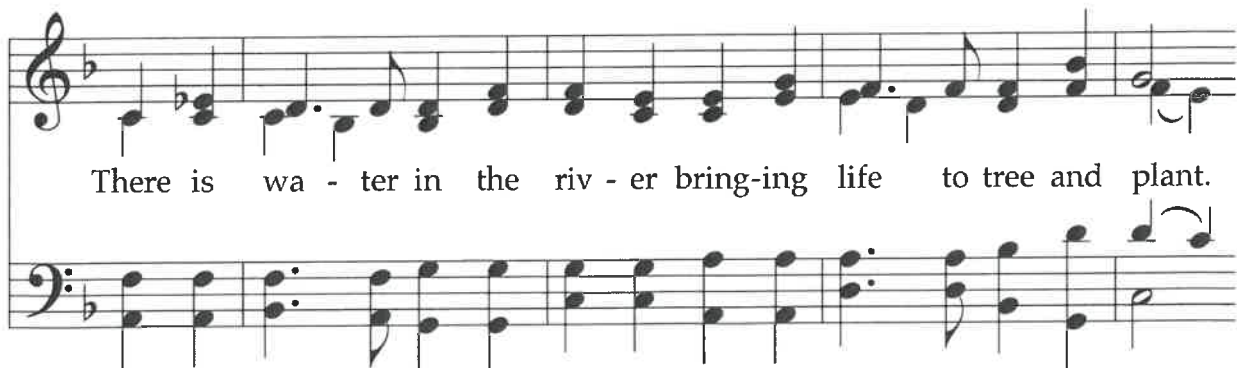
1 Out of deep, un - or - dered wa - ter God cre -  
2 Wa - ter on the hu - man fore - head, birth - mark  
3 Stand - ing round the font re - minds us of the



at - ed light and land, world of bird and beast and,  
of the love of God, is the sign of death and  
He - brews' climb a - shore. Life is hal - lowed by the

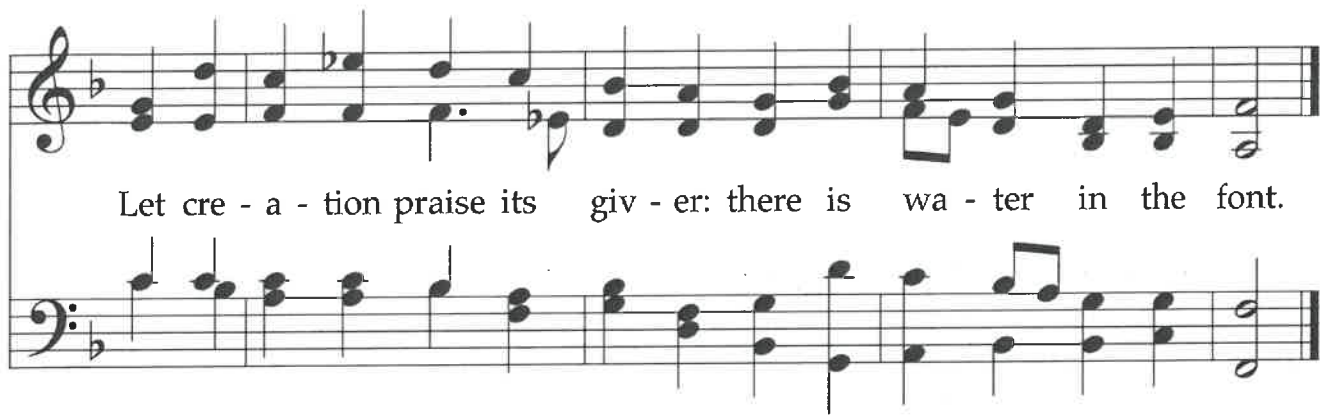


lat - er, in God's im - age, wom - an, man.  
ris - ing; through the seas there runs a road.  
knowl - edge God has been this way be - fore.



There is wa - ter in the riv - er bring - ing life to tree and plant.





Let cre - a - tion praise its giv - er: there is wa - ter in the font.

BAPTISM

480 Take Me to the Water



1 Take me to the wa - ter. Take me to the wa -  
 2 I love Je - sus. I love Je -  
 3 He's my Sav - ior. He's my Sav -  
 4 Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu -



ter. Take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.  
 sus. I love Je - sus, yes, I do.  
 ior. He's my Sav - ior, yes, he is.  
 jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah to be bap - tized.



## This Week at a Glance!

<p><b>After Worship:</b>  <b>5:00-7:00 PM</b>          Youth Sunday          Planning Kickoff</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> (via Zoom)          MnM's Fellowship</p> <p><b>Newsletter Deadline</b></p>	<p><b>Monday, January 9</b></p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b>          Presbyterian Women          Circle and Bible Study</p> <p><b>1:00 PM</b>          Worship Planning</p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> (via Zoom)          Christian Ed. Committee          Property Committee</p> <p><b>6:30 PM</b> (via Zoom)          Service &amp; Mission Committee</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> (via Zoom)          Worship &amp; the Arts Committee</p> <p><b>7:30 PM</b> (via Zoom)          Youth Ministry Committee</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, January 10</b></p> <p><b>Newsletter today</b></p> <p><b>3:30 PM</b>          The Things That          Matter Book Group at          the home of Barbara          Buckley</p> <p><b>6:15 PM</b> (via Zoom)          Book Study:  <i>This Here Flesh</i></p>	<p><b>Wednesday, January 11</b></p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> (via Zoom)          Book Study:  <i>This Here Flesh</i></p> <p><b>No Chancel Choir</b></p>
<p><b>Thursday, January 12</b></p>	<p><b>Friday, January 13</b></p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 20px auto;"/> <p><b>Saturday, January 14</b></p>	<p><b>Sunday, January 15</b>  <i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i></p> <p><b>9:45-10:45 AM</b>          Faith Formation          (Classes available for children, youth, and adults)</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> Worship          Mindy Douglas, Preaching</p> <p><b>5:00-7:00 PM</b>          Youth Groups Service Night</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> (via Zoom)          MnM's Fellowship</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  
*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>.