



© 2023 Isa Cummings

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Wilbur Held

INTROIT

Lord Jesus, Think On Me

Southwell and Kingsfold

*Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin;
From earth-born passions set me free, and make me pure within.
Lord Jesus, think on me, nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity point Thou the heavenly way.*

***OPENING SENTENCES**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Blessed:

People: **the poor in spirit
those who mourn,
the meek.**

Leader: We gather to hear whom Christ calls blessed;

People: **those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
the merciful, the pure in heart,
the peacemakers, the persecuted.**

Leader: Blessed.

***HYMN NO. 166**

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

St. Flavian

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Esther Hethcox

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Leader: For forty days and forty nights the rain fell,
and the waters covered the face of the earth.
Cleanse us, O God, of our ways that mar your creation.

All: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: For forty years your people wandered,
seeking the land you promised.

Free us, O God, from the distractions that pull us from your path.

All: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Moses spent forty days on the mountain
learning the commandments of God.

Save us from falsehood, O God; teach us your ways.

All: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

*Those who are able, please stand.

Leader: Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness
to hear your voice in the silence.
Break our dependencies, O God, to vain controversy and empty noise.

All: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh:
Repent, or in forty days you will perish.
Receive us, O God, in mercy; awaken us to the urgency of the hour.

All: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days
and was tested by the devil.
Test us, O God, make us pure. Show us how to pray.

All: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Silent Confession
Kyrie No. 30

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son Chri - ste e - le - i - son

Ky - ri - e, Chri - ste, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Declaration of Pardon

***THE PEACE**

Esther Hethcox

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Laura McNab

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Almighty God,**

who sees that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves;

keep us both outwardly in our bodies,

and inwardly in our souls,

that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body,

and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul:

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Micah 6:6-8

(Pew Bible, OT Page 866)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Laura McNab

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM READING

Psalm 15

(Read responsively)

Leader: Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your holy hill?
Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;

**People: they do not slander with the tongue,
they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.**

Leader: In their sight the wicked are rejected,
but they honor those who fear the Lord.
They have sworn to do no wrong
and do not take back their word.

**People: They do not give their money in hope of gain,
nor do they take bribes against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:1-12

(Pew Bible, NT Page 4)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Rebecca Todd Peters

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"A New Beatitude"

Rebecca Todd Peters

***HYMN NO. 783**

When We Are Tested

Angels of Healing

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Heidelberg Catechism

Esther Hethcox

Q.1 What is our only comfort in life and death?

**A. That we are not our own, but belong with body and soul,
both in life and in death,
to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ.**

**He has fully paid for all our sins
with his precious blood,
and has set us free
from all the power of the devil.**

**He also preserves us in such a way
that without the will of our heavenly Father
not a hair can fall from our head;
indeed, all things must work together
for our salvation.**

**Therefore, by the Holy Spirit
we are assured of eternal life
and made heartily willing and ready
from now on to live for him.**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

John Weicher

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to the Offering

Mindy Douglas

Offertory Anthem

O Nata Lux (sung in Latin)

Thomas Tallis

*O light of light, by love inclined, Jesu, redeemer of us all,
With loving-kindness deign to here from suppliant voices praise and prayer
Thou who to raise our souls from hell did deign in fleshly form to dwell,
Vouchsafe us, when our race is run, in thy fair Body to be one.*

(The Hunger for Change Offering is received following the anthem).

*Doxology (Hymn No. 654)

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;

in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God; do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

John Weicher

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

John Weicher

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. 826

Lift High the Cross

Crucifer

*BENEDICTION

Rebecca Todd Peters

*POSTLUDE

Glory Be to Jesus

J.S. Bach

Shelter Theology Follow Up Susan Dunlap

Anyone who would like to continue the conversation about the faith of unhoused people, begun in Faith and Community, is invited to meet in the Daye Parlor after worship today. We will explore the challenges and the implications of this work for our church and ministry. For more information, contact Susan Dunlap, sjd4@duke.edu.



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.

We welcome to worship Rev. Dr. Rebecca Todd Peters, Professor of Religious Studies and Founding Director of the Poverty and Social Justice Program at Elon University. Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA), she has been active denominationally and ecumenically for over twenty-five years and currently represents the PCUSA as a member of the Faith and Order Standing Commission of the World Council of Churches. She is a graduate of Rhodes College (B.A.), and Union Theological Seminary in New York (M.Div., Ph.D., Christian Social Ethics).

The *flowers* in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of *David Rimmer* by his father *Steve Rimmer*, his sister *Lyn*, and her husband *John Williams*.

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.

Today's worship texts are taken from *Call to Worship*, Rev. Tommy Grimm, *Book of Common Worship* (2018), and *A Morning and Evening Prayer Book*.

The artist for today's bulletin cover is *Isa Cummings*.

~ Our Joys and Concerns ~

Birth Announcement: Congratulations to *Meredith and Taylor Crabtree* on the birth of a daughter. *Vivian Ann* was born February 21. She joins brothers, Sam, and Jude.

Condolences to *Miguel and Amy Sanchez (Alex and Carlos)* on the death of Miguel's mother. *Ofelia Gallegos Sanchez* died February 19.

Tom Bacon, recovering from surgery

Duke Hospital: *Patrick Dobson*, son of Linda Dobson, brother of Nancy Kost, uncle of Jack Kost

<i>Paul Cornsweet</i>	<i>Susan Cyr</i>	<i>Joe Harvard</i>	<i>Kerry Holbrook</i>
<i>Lee House</i>	<i>George Kafula</i>	<i>Mitzi Lesher-Thomas</i>	<i>Franzi Rokoske</i>
<i>David Verner</i>	<i>Andy Widmark</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*

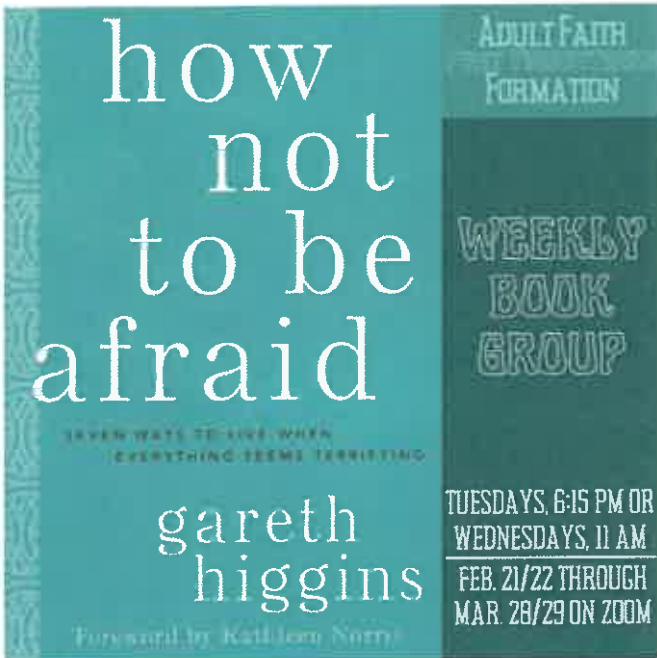
Family and Friends of the Congregation

Blaine Ballantyne, friend of Jane Brown
Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings
Bob Lucas, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore
John Wakefield, cousin of Vernon Neece

Brooke, roommate of Heidi Biermann
Father of Andres, friend of the congregation
Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Continue to pray for and support earthquake victims in Syria and Turkey.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas through long-standing partners in Syria, in addition to ACT Alliance members in Syria and Turkey. Gifts can be made by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with “DR999999-ST Earthquake” written on the memo line and mailed to
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.



Book Discussion

Discussion Schedule

February 28/March 1 - chapters 3-5
March 7/8 - chapters 6-7
March 14/15 - chapters 8-9
March 21/22 - chapters 10-11
March 28/29 - chapter 12 and epilogue
April 4 – Holy week – no meeting
April 11 – Easter week – no meeting

See Mindy Douglas on how to obtain the book.

ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82972133680?pwd=cktmdUNZdXRSZ09NUkxhZkIDTlkzQT09>

Save the Date!

MCPHERSON LECTURESHIP 2023
THEME: Finding God in the Movies

Sunday, March 26

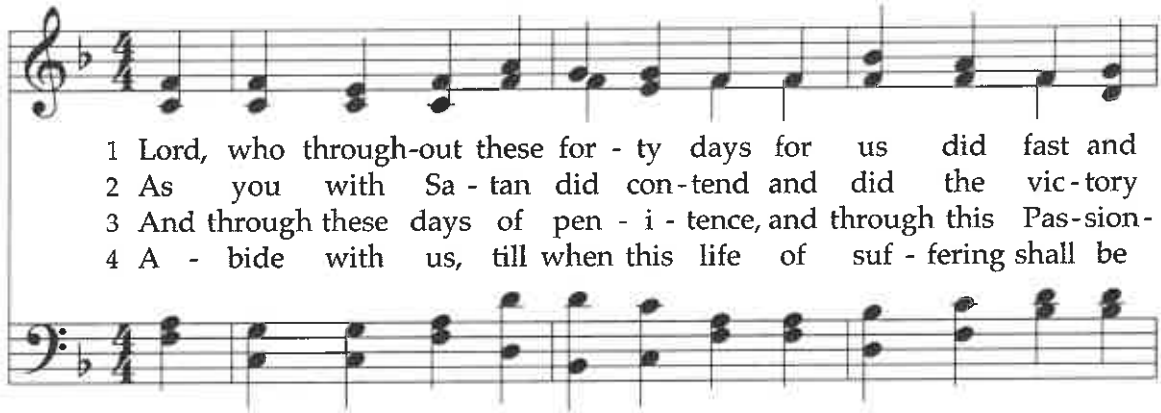
9:45 a.m. Faith & Community Class
11:00 a.m. Worship
3:00 p.m. Community Lecture at FPC

Monday, March 27

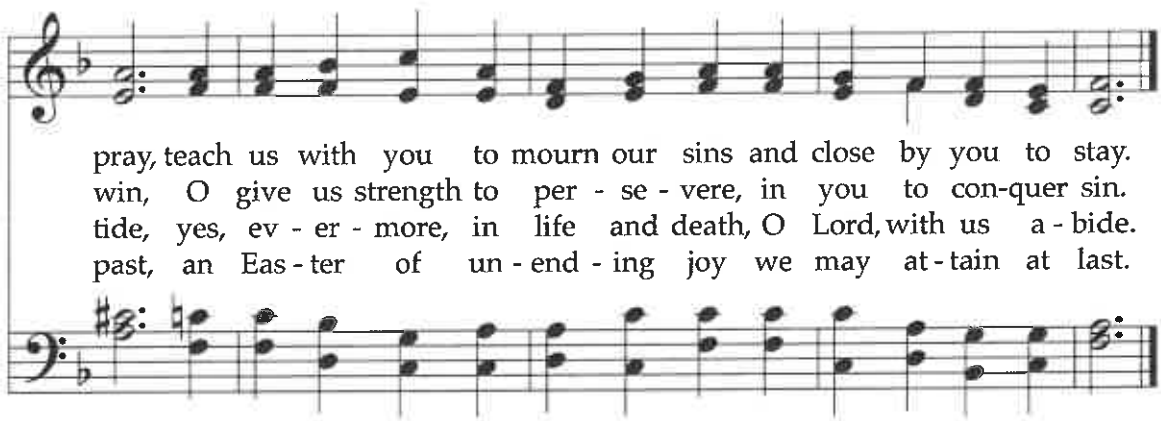
9:00 a.m. Clergy and Youth Leader
Breakfast at FPC



Lord, Who throughout These 166 Forty Days



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and
2 As you with Sa - tan did con - tend and did the vic - tory
3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas - sion -
4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be



pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con - quer sin.
tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.
past, an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last.

When We Are Tested

783

Capo 2: (Dm) (Am) (Dm) (Am)
 Em Bm Em Bm

1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
 2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
 3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
 4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,

(Em) (B7) (Em) (Dsus) (D)
 F#m C#7 F#m Esus E

fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
 plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
 trad - ing the truth for the power to con - trol,
 sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,

(G) (D) (Em7) (F)
 A E F#m7 G

nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
 lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
 teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
 Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,

(Am6) (C) (Dm) (Am) (E)
 Bm6 D Em Bm F#

food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
 trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
 seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
 an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful 654

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful; in the Lord I will re -

joice! Look to God; do not be a - fraid. Lift up your

voic - es; the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near.

Lift High the Cross

826

Refrain

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name. *Fine*

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

to Refrain
the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.
your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

This Week at a Glance!

<p>Later Today . . .</p> <p>12:15 PM <i>Shelter Theology</i> follow-up conversation with Susan Dunlap (Robert Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 PM Youth Group with Youth Parents</p> <p>8:00 PM MnM Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>	<p>Monday, February 27</p> <p>1:30 PM Worship Planning</p> <p>6:00 PM Diaconate (via Zoom)</p> <p>7:00 PM Session (Watts-Hill Hall)</p>	<p>Tuesday, February 28</p> <p>6:15 PM (via Zoom) Book Study: <i>How Not to Be Afraid</i></p>	<p>Wednesday, March 1</p> <p>11:00 AM (via Zoom) Book Study: <i>How Not to Be Afraid</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>
<p>Thursday, March 2</p>	<p>Friday, March 3</p>	<p>Saturday, March 4</p>	<p>Sunday, March 5 Second Sunday in Lent</p> <p>9:45-10:45 AM Faith Formation</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship and Communion <i>Esther Hethcox</i>, preaching</p> <p>4:30 PM MnMs Fellowship Potluck at the home of Wayne & Lucie House</p> <p>5:00-7:00 PM Youth Group</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, Designated Associate Pastor
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 or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.