

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

APRIL 2, 2023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 2, 2023

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

David Lasky

INTROIT

Prepare the Royal Highway

Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.

Prepare the royal highway; the king of kings is near!

Let every hill and valley a level road appear!

Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

God's people, see him coming: your own eternal king!

Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!

God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you!

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

*OPENING SENTENCES (Psalm 118:19-26)

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

People: **This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.**

Leader: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

People: **The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

Leader: This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

People: **This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Leader: Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

All: **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

*HYMN NO. 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carl Rist

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

*Those who are able, please stand.

**All: Let your Word, O God, break open our hearts this day
through the power of the Holy Spirit,
that we may enter into the coming Holy Week
with the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

GOSPEL READING Matthew 21:1-11 (Pew Bible, NT Page 23)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. Carl Rist

People: Thanks be to God.

***PALM SUNDAY MEDITATION** "There Is a Moment" John Weicher

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Esther Hethcox

***CONFESSION OF SIN** Esther Hethcox

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**We confess, passionate God, how often we scheme against you.
In every moment, we look for chances to betray you, breaking your heart.
We turn our backs on those who reach out to us for help.
We hide our faces from those who are wasting away from hopelessness.
Be gracious to us, compassionate God, and stay with us in these moments.
Morning by morning, awaken us with your voice of mercy,
and call us to humble ourselves in service to others,
even as did Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

Silent Confession

Kyrie

F. G. Douglas

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.

Assurance of Pardon

HYMN NO. 209 *My Song Is Love Unknown* *Love Unknown*

GOSPEL READING Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75 (Pew Bible, NT Pages 30, 31)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. Carl Rist

People: Thanks be to God.

PASSION SUNDAY MEDITATION "At That Moment" John Weicher

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

Esther Hethcox

**We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image
of all genders, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Mindy Douglas

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)
(Sung in Latin)

Esther Hethcox
Giovanni Palestrina

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.

**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 OF THE CHURCH

Mindy Douglas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mindy Douglas

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. 215**

What Wondrous Love Is This

Wondrous Love

***BENEDICTION**

John Weicher

***POSTLUDE**

Ride On, King Jesus

Dennis Janzer

Durham's CROP Walk will step-off from Duke Chapel at 2:30 p.m. today.

FPC walkers should meet in front of the chapel by 2:15 p.m.
Sponsors, remember to make checks payable to CWS/WALK
and give all donations to our walkers this week.



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.

Today's flowers are given by the Worship and the Arts Committee to the glory of God and in celebration of the ordination and installation of **Esther Hethcox** as Designated Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

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. Please return bags to the foyer at the end of 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 are taken from *Lectionary Liturgies* and *Feasting on the Word*.

The bulletin cover is comprised of two images selected for Palm/Passion Sunday. Both images are by Frank Wesley.



Easter Lilies will grace our sanctuary again this year on Easter Day, Sunday, April 9. If you would like to honor someone or remember someone in the worship bulletin on Easter, please fill out a lily card (available in the foyer/narthex) and return it to the church office. **TODAY is the deadline.**



~ Maundy Thursday, April 6 ~

7:00 p.m. **Worship in the sanctuary; Susan Dunlap, preaching.
Communion and Stripping of the Chancel.
Children are welcome in worship.**

~ Good Friday, April 7 ~

12 Noon **Stations of the Cross – begins at St. Philip’s Episcopal Church and ends at FPC.**

7:00 p.m. **The Eno String Quartet presents Haydn’s *Seven Last Words of Christ*,
a free, 50-minute concert, in the sanctuary. This concert is made possible by
the Horst and Ruth Mary Meyer Endowment for Music and Gardens.**

~ Easter Sunday, April 9 ~

(No Faith Formation classes for Children and Youth)

All day **Memorial Garden open for visits.**

9:45 a.m. **Lectionary Class meets in Daye Meeting Room.**

11:00 a.m. **Worship with Holy Communion in the sanctuary.**

12:15 p.m. **Reception with hot cross buns in Watts-Hill Hall.**

PC(USA) Special Offering: The ***One Great Hour of Sharing Offering*** will be received on Easter Sunday to provide relief to the hungry, poor, and oppressed, and those affected by natural disasters and war. Online giving is now available via the church’s website. Specially marked envelopes will be enclosed in the worship bulletins on Easter Sunday morning.

Flower Donation Opportunities

Easter lilies will grace our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 9. Remember/honor someone on Easter Sunday by donating toward the lilies’ cost. **To participate, complete and return the enclosed donor card** (by the offering plate, or US mail) **with your donation today.**

Flower the Cross: You are invited to **bring fresh greenery and flowers** from your garden to flower the cross at the church on Easter Sunday morning.

Worship Flowers: There are open dates for worship flower donors in April. To learn more and to sign up, click on the flowers link in the bi-weekly newsletter, or on the FLOWERS link on the homepage of the FPC web site (<https://www.firstpres-durham.org>).

Joys and Concerns

Kayla Champion, recovering from wisdom teeth surgery.

Arthur Clark has returned to the Dubose Center at The Cedars after time in the hospital.

Lee House, three-year-old son of Wayne & Lucie House, at Philadelphia Children's Hospital.

Pam Tabb, friend of Mindy Douglas

Wes Carson

Paul Cornsweet

Susan Cyr

Kerry Holbrook

Lee House

George Kafula

Mitzi Lesher-Thomas

Franzi Rokoske

Andy Widmark

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 & Wellness Center: *Joe & Carlisle Harvard*

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Jane Austin, friend of the congregation

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Father of Andres, friend of the congregation

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

Pam Hanson, mother of Laura Hanson

Ann Huff, friend of the congregation

Bob Lucas, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

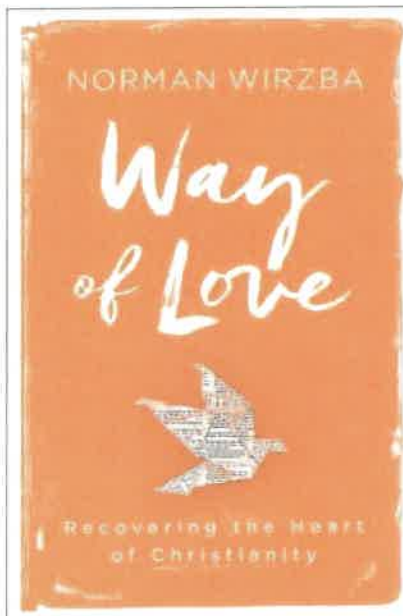
Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

John Wakefield, cousin of Vernon Neece

Spring Book Study

Our new book, *Way of Love: Recovering the Heart of Christianity*, by Norman Wirzba (professor at Duke Div School) discussion begins April 18/19, 2023.



You can order this book from one of these links:

www.amazon.com

www.abebooks.com

www.christianbook.com

Discussion Schedule

April 18/19 - Part I - Christianity as Love

April 25/26 - Part II – Creation

(I will need volunteer teachers this week)

May 2/3 - Part III - Fall

May 9/10 - Part IV - Redemption

May 16/17 - Part V - Hope

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82972133680?pwd=cktmDUNZdXRSZ09NUkxhZkIDTlkzQT09>

All Glory, Laud, and Honor 196

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra-cious King!

to Refrain

My Song Is Love Unknown 209

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from heav - en's throne sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times we strew his way, and his sweet prais - es
 4 Un - heed - ing, we will have our dear Lord made a -
 5 Here might I stay and sing, no sto - ry so di -

me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly
 stow; the world that was his own would not its Sav - ior
 sing, re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to our
 way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of life to
 vine: nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was grief like

be. O who am I that for my sake my
 know. But O my Friend, my Friend in - deed, who
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all our breath, and
 slay. Yet stead - fast he to suf - fering goes, that
 thine. This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I

Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
 at my need his life did spend!
 for his death we thirst and cry.
 he his foes from thence might free.
 all my days could glad - ly spend.

What Wondrous Love Is This 215

Dm C Dm C Dm Am

1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing

Dm C Dm C

soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and

Dm Am B^b Gm Am Em

won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful

G Dm C Am C Dm Am

bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing

Em Am C Dm Am C Dm

soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.



The sanctuary will be open for midday prayer during Holy Week.

<p>Later Today . . .</p> <p>12:15 AM Youth Group Lunch (Meet on the lawn)</p> <p>2:30 PM Durham's CROP Walk (Meet in front of Duke Chapel at 2 PM)</p> <p>8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>	<p>Monday of Holy week April 3</p> <p>10:30 AM Presbyterian Women Circle & Bible Study (Robert Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p>1:30 PM Worship Planning</p>	<p>Tuesday of Holy week April 4</p>	<p>Wednesday of Holy Week April 5</p> <p>1:00 PM Program Staff</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>
<p>Maundy Thursday April 6</p> <p>7:00 PM Evening Worship with Communion and Stripping of the Chancel</p>	<p>Good Friday, April 7</p> <p>12 Noon Stations of the Cross (Begins at St. Philip's Episcopal Church)</p> <p>7:00 PM The Eno String Quartet presents free concert: "The Seven Last Words of Christ" (FPC sanctuary)</p>	<p>Holy Saturday April 8</p>	<p>Easter Sunday / Resurrection of the Lord</p> <p>9:45 AM Lectionary Class</p> <p>No Faith Formation classes for children, youth, Journeys, and MnMs</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship with Communion Mindy Douglas, preaching</p> <p>After Worship Reception in Watts-Hill Hall</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>.

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ORGANIZED 1871