

“Pigeon of Peace,” Anselm VanderHart

**A SERVICE OF
ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION
FOR
ESTHER ROSE HETHCOX**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

3:00 PM

April 1, 2023

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
WITH THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ESTHER HETHCOX

(In preparation for worship, please silence all mobile devices.)

———— GATHERING ————

WELCOME

Rev. John Weicher

PRELUDE

Laudate Domine (Praise the Lord)
Taylor Eppinger, violin

Mozart

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Cheryl Barton Henry, Rev. Mindy Douglas, Rev. Susan Dunlap

Leader: People of God, do you hear that sound?

People: **The Word of God is singing—
calling us to rest in the promise of God's healing.**

Leader: Servants of God, do you feel that movement?

People: **The winds of the Spirit are joining us in praise—
reminding us to lean on their power.**

Leader: Beloved of God, do you remember that promise?

People: **The love of our Savior is present in this moment—
inviting us to dwell in the peace of our God.**

All: **Come, let us worship God!**

*GATHERING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Rev. Susan Dunlap

**Living God,
we gather with all that has life and breath to adore you.
Send your Spirit upon us this hour.
Move in a fresh way in our hearts and minds and fellowship.
Enlarge love in our midst
that we may live large for love in the world.
Our desire to worship pleases you;
may our embodied praise as a church now be received as an offering to you. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe Den Herren

*CONFESSION OF SIN *(in unison)*

Rev. Jordan Davis

**O Lord, you called us to love as you have loved us.
But we have failed to do so by excluding others,
by rejecting those we deem different or difficult.
We follow easy paths which produce harm and pain,
instead of creating paths of repair and reconciliation.
You have shown us a great love—
in return we struggle to give that love to others.
Redeeming God,
forgive our failure to be witnesses of the love we have received.
Help us to hear your call more clearly,
to reflect with intention
and to move within this world as our Savior once moved.
Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer... *(a moment of silence.)***

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Jordan Davis

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. Jordan Davis

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

————— **THE WORD** —————

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Delton Farmer

Living God,
help us to hear your holy Word
that we may truly understand;
that, understanding, we may believe,
and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience,
seeking your honor and glory in all that we do. Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:1-6

Rev. Delton Farmer

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 11:28-30

Rev. Matthew Cople

EPISTLE READING

1 Peter 5:1-11

Rev. Allen Brimer

SERMON

Rev. Allen Brimer

***HYMN NO. 726**

Will You Come and Follow Me

Kelvingrove

————— **THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION** —————

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Rev. Anna Pinckney Straight

STATEMENT OF ORDINATION

Rev. Anna Pinckney Straight

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Elder Sue McLaurin

Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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 to judge the living and the dead.**

Leader: Do you believe in God 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.**

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO PASTOR

Rev. Katie Crowe

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Elder Eric Wiebe

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION/LAYING ON OF HANDS

Rev. Laura Kelly

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Rev. Anna Pinckney Straight

WELCOME BY TEACHING AND RULING ELDERS

CHARGE TO THE NEWLY ORDAINED

Elder Thankam Rangala

PRESENTATION OF SYMBOLS OF MINISTRY

Rev. Anna Pinckney Straight

(Stole made by Carolyn Dillon)

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

Elder Vernon Cooper

———— THE EUCHARIST ————

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Mindy Douglas

(The offering for this service will go toward New Hope Presbytery's Pastor's Assistance Fund.)

Offertory Anthem

Loving Hands

Cary Ratcliff

Taylor Eppinger, violin

*Loving hands, we all need loving hands,
For the sea and the sands cannot hold all the rain, all the tears and the pain.
Where is God's loving hand?*

*Loving hands left a sign in the sand; strong his call:
Jesus' hands reach to all, reaching out, teaching all,
Looking up to see God's loving hand, to be God's loving hand.*

*Giving hands, will there be giving hands?
Healing hands, when we're hungry or cold,
People sick, people old can all hold onto God's loving hand.
Come be God's loving hand.*

*Dedication of Offering

Lasst uns erfreuen

***May God forever be our peace;
May hymns of glory never cease:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let all the faithful people come;
Sing praise to God, the Three-in-One:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

*(As the symbolic gifts of the people are brought to the table,
the elders will take their place for the communion.)*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Rev. Esther Hethcox

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. Katie Crowe

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 to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy

to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, our Creator.

You formed us in your image,

loved us with an everlasting love,

and graced us with gifts for serving.

In covenant with your people Israel,
 you raised up leaders,
 judges, monarchs, and prophets,
 to show us your path of truth
 and nurture us in righteousness.
 When we were faithless and would not follow,
 you forgave us and returned us to your way.
 In the fullness of time,
 you sent Jesus, your Beloved,
 to be for us the way, the truth, and the life.
 By your Holy Spirit,
 he anointed all who would follow him
 to live a new life in your love.
 Therefore, we praise you,
 joining our voices with the choirs of heaven
 and with all the faithful of every time and place,
 who forever sing to the glory of your name:

All (sung):

Sanctus


Hymn No. 552

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the
 pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty,
 and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
 Baptized as one among us,
 he received the gift of your Spirit,
 and claimed his calling as a servant of your reign.
 Jesus proclaimed good news to the poor,
 and by the power of your Word
 set people free from all that bound them.
 He broke open the bread of life for all who were hungry,
 and upon the hurt and the lost,
 poured out the living waters of your grace.
 In humble obedience,
 Jesus went to his death on the cross,
 and was raised up by your power to reign in glory.
 In the resurrection, the gifts of his Spirit were poured out upon your people,
 that the church might embrace his ministry and live as his body in the world.
 Great is the mystery of faith:

All (sung):

Hymn No. 553



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

Leader: Gracious God,
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break
and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ
and with all who are baptized in his name,
that we may be one in ministry in every place.
As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.
O God, by water and the Spirit,
you have claimed us as your own,
and anointed us for your service.
Build up the body of Christ in your love,
and equip the church for the work of ministry.
Send us out into the world to do justice, to show mercy,
and to walk humbly with you in trust and faith.
Give us strength to serve you faithfully
until that promised day of resurrection,
when with the redeemed of all the ages
we will feast with you at your table in glory.
Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

All (sung):

Hymn No. 554



A - men, a - men, a - men.

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 today 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

Rev. Esther Hethcox

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(The bread is gluten free, and the elements were prepared in a gluten-free area. Communion servers will sanitize their hands prior to distributing the elements. As you are able, come forward to receive communion. The bread server will dip a pre-cut piece of bread in the common cup for you and then pass it to you. After eating, please return to your seat. Anyone who is unable to come forward may remain in the pew to be served by the clergy.)

Gracious God, you have gathered us at this table
with all the company of your people in heaven and on earth.
May we, who have shared this holy meal, go out as glad disciples of our Savior,
following in his way, proclaiming his truth, and living his love for the world. Amen.

— SENDING —

*HYMN

*O God, Beyond All Praising**Thaxted*

1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown—
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,



we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Esther Hethcox

*POSTLUDE

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Johann Walther

You are invited to a reception in Watts-Hill Hall following the service.

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 age, race, nationality, gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, and economic circumstance to participate fully in the life of the church.

The *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.

The *bulletin cover* art is a drawing by Esther's nephew, *Anselm VanderHart*.

Hymn texts and music are reprinted from *Glory to God* (Presbyterian hymnal) under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

———— IN GRATITUDE ————

Ordination Commission

Rev. Allen Brimer
*Church of Reconciliation,
Chapel Hill, NC*

Elder Vernon Cooper
*Hillsborough Presbyterian Church,
Hillsborough, NC*

Rev. Katie Crowe
*Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church,
Durham NC*

Rev. Delton Farmer
*Cotton Memorial Presbyterian Church,
Henderson, NC*

Rev. Laura Kelly
*Nutbush Presbyterian Church,
Oxford, NC*

Elder Sue McLaurin
*Covenant Presbyterian Church,
Durham, NC*

Elder Thankam Rangala
*Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church,
Boston, MA*

Rev. Anna Pinckney Straight
*First Presbyterian Church,
New Bern, NC*

Elder Eric Wiebe
*First Presbyterian Church,
Durham NC*

Additional Beloved Speakers

Rev. Matthew Cople
*Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Fayetteville, NC*

Rev. Jordan Davis
*St. Giles Presbyterian Church,
Raleigh, NC*

Rev. Mindy Douglas
*First Presbyterian Church,
Durham, NC*

Rev. Susan Dunlap
*First Presbyterian Church,
Durham, NC*

Rev. Cheryl Barton Henry
*Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Durham, NC*

Rev. John Weicher
*First Presbyterian Church,
Durham, NC*

Musicians

Kathy Parkins
*First Presbyterian Church,
Durham, NC*

Taylor Eppinger, *violin*,
Durham, NC

