

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 31, 2022

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

How Can I Keep from Singing?
Ginger Jones-Robinson, soloist

Robert Lowry

***OPENING SENTENCES**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Before we got up this morning
and decided to come to church,

All: **God was waiting for us,
to welcome us with grace.**

Leader: When we are unsure of what to do,
when we falter before the next step,

All: **we come to listen to God's voice,
to learn from the One who teaches us
all we ever need to know.**

Leader: When we are surrounded by cruelty and injustice;
when our fears cripple our souls,

All: **God delivers us with steadfast love;
we are set free to be God's children.**

***HYMN NO. 664**

Morning Has Broken

Bunessan

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Mindy Douglas

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Almighty and most merciful God,

we have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws.

We have left undone those things that we ought to have done;

and we have done those things that we ought not to have done;

and there is no health in us.

But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.

Spare those who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent,

according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful God,

**that we may live a disciplined, righteous, and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name.**

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,

All: slow to anger and of great kindness.

Leader: God has not dealt with us according to our sins,

All: nor repaid us according to our wickedness.

Leader: For as the heavens are high above the earth,

All: so great is God's mercy upon us.

Leader: As far as the east is from the west,

All: so far has the Holy One removed our sins from us.

Leader: As a parent has compassion on her children,

All: so is the Lord merciful towards all who would love.

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

All: and all that is within me bless the holy name.

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

All: and forget not all God's benefits.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Mindy Douglas

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Jane Williams

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
so that we may truly love you
and worthily praise your holy name;
through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 13:4 – 14:1a

(Pew Bible, NT page 175)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Jane Williams

People: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 12:13-21

(Pew Bible, NT page 74)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Jane Williams

People: Thanks be to God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hosea 11:1-11

(Pew Bible, OT page 842)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Joseph Harvard

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Consider Steadfast Love"

Joseph Harvard

RESPONSE

Wondrous Love

American Folk Hymn

Ginger Jones-Robinson, soloist

(Words can be found in the Hymnal, No. 215.)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*) from Lamentations 3:21-26a

Mindy Douglas

But this we call to mind, and therefore we have hope:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;

God's mercies never come to an end;

they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,

"therefore I will hope in my God."

The Lord is good to those who wait with patience,

to the soul who seeks God.

It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Amy Sanchez

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Mindy Douglas

Invitation to the Offering

Solo

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Spiritual

Ginger Jones-Robinson, soloist

(Words can be found in the Hymnal, No. 792.)

Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:

our selves, our time, and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love;

through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

COMMENDATION TO JOHN FRICKS

Mindy Douglas

(Unison Prayer) **Eternal God, look mercifully upon this church and upon your servant John Fricks, whose service we recognize today. We give you thanks for his many years of service to the church as volunteer sound engineer and coordinator. Thank you for the gifts he has shared and the generosity in love with which he has shared them. Bless him as he steps back from this ministry. Surround him with love and grace, peace and joy. Help us all to live with courage and gladness and a desire to serve you and give you glory through our life and our labor. With gratitude and thanksgiving to you, our Triune God, we pray. Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

. . . 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. 307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

Cwm Rhondda

***BENEDICTION**

Joseph Harvard

***POSTLUDE**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

John Becker



Welcome! Let us know you have joined us for worship by scanning this QR code.

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, sexual orientation, economic circumstance, and ability to participate fully in the life of the church. So that you may know who is sitting nearby, please sign the ***Ritual of Friendship pad***, pass it along the center pew across to the shorter side pew, and **then return it to the starting point**, noting the names of those sitting near you.

We welcome to the pulpit today the ***Rev. Joseph Harvard***, pastor emeritus of FPC. Joe retired in 2013 after serving as pastor for more than 30 years. He and wife Carlisle remain active in the community, supporting non-profit organizations that are near and dear to their hearts.

We welcome back to the organ our minister of music, ***Kathy Parkin***, who has been traveling, attending conferences, and taking some much-needed time off this summer.

We also welcome and express our gratitude to ***Ginger Jones-Robinson***, acclaimed soprano, for leading our worship in song.

Today we celebrate ***John Fricks*** who is retiring from the volunteer position of “Sound Guy” for the church. John shares these memories with us:

Soon after ***Sue*** and I came to First Presbyterian in 1993, ***Esther Pardue*** coaxed me to join the Worship and Music Committee. She had a schedule of the months when I would participate in worship planning, but the real intent, I believe, was to have me line up volunteers to operate sound. Here we are, today, almost 30 years later.

In the late nineties, ***Sarah Cox***, and ***Sarah Todd*** kept a fire burning under ***Joe Harvard*** and the session: Fix the sound system! The hearing assistance system was the first response. Some of the infrared receivers in use today go back to September 2001. I did the installation myself. On September 11, I was crawling around in dirty, dusty parts of the church basement to run cable between the sound cabinet and the choir loft. That’s where I was when airplanes crashed into the World Trade Center. Joe and ***Lori Pistor*** and other Durham ministers scrambled. The community-wide prayer service took place in this sanctuary that afternoon.

The ***flowers*** are given to the glory of God by ***Christy (Myers) and Jim Gudaitis*** and in honor of ***Mary Helm Myers*** on the occasion of her 89th birthday.

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.

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.

Restrooms are 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.

Sources for today’s worship texts: *Lectionary Liturgies*, *Book of Common Worship* (2018) and *Book of Common Prayer*.

Donors Needed for Worship Flowers

We have Sundays available in August, September, and October.

Instructions on how to donate flowers and what Sundays are open can be found at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094ea4ad2da46-flowers2>.

Dealing with Stress and Trauma

Jane Austin returns on Tuesdays, August 2, 9, and 16. Use this link to sign up for a one-on-one session: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EA4AD2DA46-oneonone3>.



Blood Drive this week!

FPC is holding another community blood drive on **Thursday, August 4** from 1:00-6:00 p.m. at FPC in Watts-Hill Hall!

To sign up, go online to RedCrossBlood.org and use code **firstpres** or use the **RAPIDPASS** donor App to save time! Please invite family, friends, and coworkers to support this downtown area drive. Last minute donors will be welcome as walk-ins. For more info on becoming a blood donor, contact **Julie Whiddon** at 919-730-6673.

~ Our Joys and Concerns ~

Caroline Pritchett is recovering at home from a stroke (November 2021) caused by a cerebral aneurysm and successful surgery (July 2022) to remove the aneurysm.

Lee House, three-year-old son of Wayne and Lucie House, undergoing medical tests

Franzi Rokoske is at Wake Medical Center, Raleigh, following a serious fall.

Mitzi Lesher-Thomas is on short term medical leave from duties as our associate pastor.

Paul Cornsweet

Kerry Holbrook

Jancy Johnstone

George Kafula

Katy Loebrich

Carol Wills

Care Communities

Dubose Center at The Cedars, Chapel Hill: *Arthur Clark*

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: *Phillip Herndon*

Hillcrest Convalescent: *Julian Boswell, Walter Chambliss* (Will's dad),

Maxie Honeycutt, Jim Wolfe

The Forest at Duke Health Center: *Wes Carson*

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Gladys Arrowood, mother of Al Arrowood

Nicky Clegg, granddaughter of Jeanne Hervey

Mimi Cummings, mother of Drew Cummings

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

The Knight family, friends of Vernon Cooper

Sydnor Patrick, friend of FPC

Richard Smith, husband of Laura Casteel's co-worker

John Wakefield, cousin of Vernon Neece

Janice Faye West, mother of Randy Lang Howard

Bob, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

Tom Cotton, friend of Michael Honeycutt

Mark Dille, son-in-law of JoAnn and Fred Moore

Roger Kalthoff, husband of Jane Williams

Paul, partner of Gordon Campbell

Aaron Pritchard, friend of Kathy Parkins

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Deb Walsh, friend of Celia Dickerson

Chris Wood, stepfather of Sharon Hirsch



FILL THAT BUS!

JULY 11 - AUGUST 12

Join our community-wide school supply drive
supporting Durham Public School Teachers

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Crayons	Scissors	Clip Boards
Markers	Paper	Rulers
Sharpies	Ink Pens	White Out
Highlighters	Tape	Binder Clips
Mechanical Pencils	Hand Sanitizer	Pencil Pouches

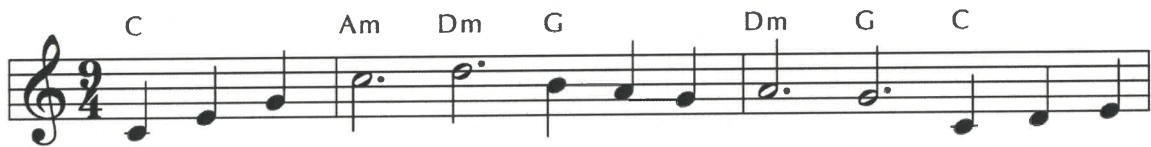
www.crayons2calculators.org

FPC is a collection site again this year.

Please bring your donations and place them in the **FILL THAT BUS** bin in the foyer.
The collection deadline has been extended to **August 31st**.

Morning Has Broken

664



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

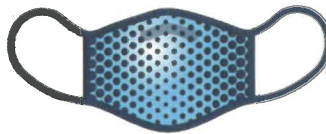
bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

The Week at a Glance!

Later Today 8:00 PM Meaning in the Middle MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)	Monday, August 1 1:00 PM Worship Planning 2:00 PM All Staff	Tuesday, August 2 10:00 AM-3:00 PM Dealing with Stress and Trauma: One-on-One Sessions with Jane Austin 4:30-6:00 PM Growing Thru Grief (St. Paul's Lutheran Church Pre-register at admin@ growingthrugrief.org)	Wednesday August 3 No Chancel Choir
Thursday, August 4 1:00-6:00 PM Red Cross Community Blood Drive (Watts-Hill Hall)	Friday, August 5	Saturday, August 6	Sunday, August 7 9:45 AM Faith Formation 11:00 AM Worship with Communion 8:00 PM Meaning in the Middle MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)

**Masks are welcome but no longer required
when in the sanctuary or other church space.**



For more information about First Presbyterian Church, email the church office:
info@firstpres-durham.org or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.

CHURCH STAFF

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator
Lenore Champion, Children's Ministry Director
Vernon Cooper, Weekday Sexton
Mindy Douglas, Pastor
Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate
Omar Guess, Sunday Morning Sexton
Joseph Harvard, Pastor Emeritus



Amy Bowers Heit, Pastoral Associate
Sybil King, Administrative Assistant
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator
Mitzi Leshner-Thomas, Associate Pastor
Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music
John Weicher, Associate Pastor