FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

5th Sunday of Eastertide

May 7, 2023

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Union Seminary, arr. Craig Phillips

INTROIT

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name, two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garments hem.

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,

then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup:

Alleluia! Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.

*CALL TO WORSHIP Mindy Douglas

Leader: We are God's household, crafted by the Architect of creation:

People: our hearts a shelter for the outcast;

our hands open to the stranger.

Leader: We are God's people, created in the divine image:

People: to tell others of God's love,

to offer mercy as freely as we have received it. We are God's children, called to give of ourselves:

Leader: We are God's children, called to give chosen to serve the lost and lonely,

gifted to minister to a hurting world.

*Hymn No. 393

O Day of Rest and Gladness

Es Flog Ein Kleins Waldvögelein

*CONFESSION OF SIN (remain standing)

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Christ, our way, our truth, our life, you have shown us the way, so clearly and fully.

You have not simply told us how to live,

you have shown us.

But we still don't understand.

(Prayer of Confession continues, in unison.)

We do not believe all you have said to us; we do not trust the way you have shown us.

Help us, O God.

Forgive us.

Open our ears to your truth, open our eyes to your way, and lead us into new life.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

*THE PEACE John Weicher

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jane Wettach

Leader: The

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

People: Leader:

Let us pray.

All:

Lord, as we listen to your holy Word,

open our hearts to the power of your Spirit,

call us out of darkness,

and lead us into your marvelous light. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Peter 2:2-10 (Pew Bible, NT Page 233)

Leader:

The Word of the Lord.

Jane Wettach

Mindy Douglas

People:

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL LESSON John 14:1-14 (Pew Bible, NT Page 108)

Leader:

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON "This is the Way" Mindy Douglas

*HYMN No. 450 Be Thou My Vision Slane

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From Philippians 2:5-11) Esther Hethcox

Christ Jesus,

though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form

he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

(Affirmation of Faith continued, in unison.)

Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Lenore Champion

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Offering

Esther Hethcox

Offertory Anthem

Ave Verum Corpus

W. A. Mozart

(sung in Latin)

Hail, true body, born of the Virgin Mary,

Who truly suffered, and was sacrificed on the cross for all,

Whose pierced side overflowed with water and blood,

Be for us our food in the trial of death.

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!

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

John Weicher

Esther Hethcox

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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: We rejoice to give you thanks and praise, God of love,

because you called us to exist in your image,

you filled the earth with wonder and beauty and life,

and made the children of Abraham your covenant people.

You made us a chosen race, a royal priesthood,

a holy nation, your own people,

and in the death and resurrection of Jesus

you show us the way, the truth, and the life.

Once we were not a people, but now we are your people;

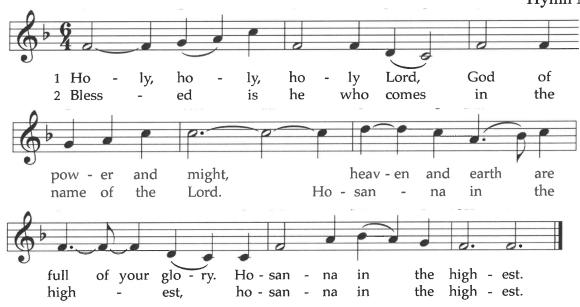
once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.

And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels

and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:



Hymn No. 552



Leader: Living God, you prepare a place for us

with the Holy Trinity in your kingdom banquet,

and you set a place for us at this table as we anticipate your glory.

Come among us now, in the power of your Holy Spirit,

that we may see your glory in the breaking of the bread,

and that these gifts of bread and wine may become for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Great is the mystery of faith.

All (sung):

Hymn No. 553





Leader: Glorious God, you promise

that those who believe in you will do greater things than these.

Bestow upon your church the gifts of your Spirit,

that your people may be with the hungry, do beautiful things,

show grace amid hostility, witness to your story,

and behold your glory.

Make us living stones and build us into a spiritual house,

that we may be your holy priesthood and that all creation,

suffering and flourishing, faithful and fallen,

may be suffused with your glory and may overflow with your praise,

Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, ever one God.

All (sung):

Hymn No. 554



THE LORD'S PRAYER (ecumenical)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Esther Hethcox, John Weicher

*THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(The bread is gluten free, and the elements were prepared in a gluten-free area. 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.)

Communion Hymn No. 516 (all sing) For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Kingdom

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Esther Hethcox

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is right to offer thanks and praise.

All: God of abundance,

with this bread of life and cup of salvation

you have united us with Christ,

making us one with all your people.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit

that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world

and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN No. 536

Rise, O Church

Surge Ecclesia

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

*POSTLUDE Easter Trumpet Voluntary on "Lasst uns Erfreuen" Rebecca Groom Te Velt



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* are given to the glory of God by *George Danser* and *Jean Cary* in celebration of George's 75th birthday and George and Jean's 35th Wedding Anniversary.

Communion ware: The ceramic chalices that are used in our communion service were made by **Jane Williams**. They were designed, carved in clay, and glazed in white to reflect a sense of purity and strength as we celebrate the sharing of bread and wine.

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.

Media volunteers: The audio and video streaming consoles at the back of the sanctuary are operated by volunteers, and we need more. The equipment may look intimidating, but training and mentoring is provided. If you're not afraid of technology and are interested, please speak to one of the operators following today worship. Middle school and high school youth are particularly welcome.

Portions of today's worship service were reprinted from Call to Worship, Feasting on the Word, Book of Common Worship (2018) and Eucharistic Prayers.

Joys and Concerns

Stephen Berry Wes Carson
Lee House George Kafula

Paul Cornsweet
Mitzi Lesher-Thomas

Susan Cyr Franzi Rokoske Kerry Holbrook 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 Sylvia Elder, grandmother of Esther Hethcox Grace, Chris James' great-niece Bob Lucas, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James Alfred Tisdale, husband of Nora Tisdale John Wakefield, cousin of Vernon Neece

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings
Father of Andres, friend of the congregation
Pam Hanson, mother of Laura Hanson
Clem O'Brien, father-in-law of Mindy Douglas
Pam Tabb, friend of Mindy Douglas
Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss



THE CURE FOR MEDICAL DEST

In 2022, the Session of First Presbyterian Church in Durham, NC voted to set aside \$50,000 from our capital campaign to help eliminate debt for our neighbors in NC who have been saddled with overwhelming medical bills. Our first of three campaigns raised \$26,000 and paid off \$5 million in medical debt in NC in Durham and other counties in NC. On May 1, 2023, we launched a second campaign which targets the counties with the greatest number of people of color in their boundaries (including Wake, Guilford, Forsyth, and Mecklenburg). In this second campaign, University Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill and West Raleigh Presbyterian Church are partnering with us and seeding the campaign with two significant gifts that total \$30,000. Though our goal for this second campaign is \$35,000, we would love to see support lift the second campaign total to \$50,000! Please share the link below with family, friends, co-workers and anyone who wants to make a difference.

Link to give: https://ripmedicaldebt.org/campaign/building-beloved-community/

It's graduation season!



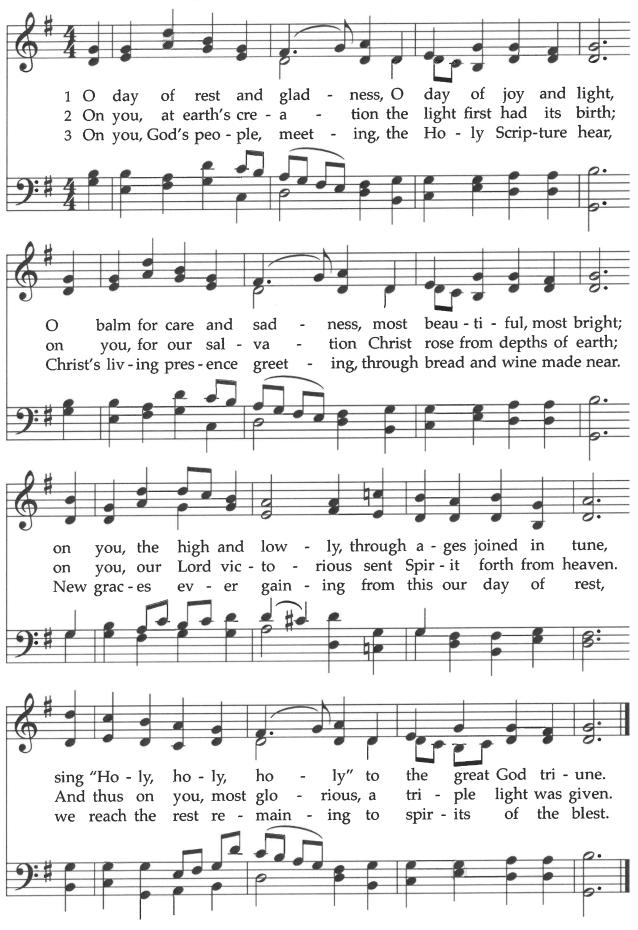
Let us know who in your family is graduating in the Class of 2023. We will acknowledge our grads next month. Email their name and degree, major, and school to Valerie in the church office: v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org by May 28. Thank you.-

Faith Formation Calendar for May - August

- May 21 End of Faith Formation classes for Spring 2023 program year
- May 28 No Faith Formation classes for children, youth, or adults.
- June 4 August 20 Faith Formation class for children meeting as a one-room schoolhouse.
- June 4 July 30 Faith & Community summer class and the Lectionary class for adults will meet.

 Other summer adult classes TBA.

393 O Day of Rest and Gladness



450

Be Thou My Vision



516 For the Bread Which You Have Broken



536 Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen



This Week at a Glance!

Later Today . . .

12:15 PM

Racial Equity Task Force (Wilson Parlor)

Prayer Shawl Ministry (Daye Meeting Room)

12:30-2:00 PM

New Officers Training (Watts-Hill Hall and Room 205 in CE Building)

4:30-6:30 PM

Youth Group – Flour War (2927 Tavistock Dr.)

> 8:00 PM (via Zoom) MnM Fellowship

Monday, May 8

9:00 AM-12 Noon

Walk-in Ministry
Interviews

1:30 PM

Worship Planning

6:00 PM

Christian Education / Property Committee

6:30 PM

Service & Mission Committee

7:00 PM

Worship & the Arts

Tuesday, May 9

6:15 PM (via Zoom) Book Study: Way of Love

Wednesday, May 10

11:00 AM (via Zoom) Book Study: Way of Love

1:00 PM All Staff

7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 11

9:00 AM-12 Noon

Walk-in Ministry Interviews

Friday, May 12

Saturday, May 13

Sunday, May 14 6th Sunday in Eastertide



9:45 AM

Faith Formation Classes for all ages Membership Class (Room 205 in CE building)

11:00 AM Worship

8:00 PM (via Zoom) MnMs Fellowship

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 Lesher-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*.