



**First Presbyterian Church
Durham, North Carolina**

July 16, 2023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 16, 2023

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Weicher

PRELUDE *Four Variations on "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" (St. Anne)*

Christa Rakich

INTROIT *I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes (from Psalm 121)*

Dundee

*I to the hills will lift my eyes; from whence shall come my aid?
My help is from the Lord alone, who heaven and earth has made.
From evil God will keep you safe, provide for all you need.
Your going out, your coming in, God will forever lead.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

John Weicher

Leader: The hand of God encircles us:

All: **God of our beginnings holding us firm.**

Leader: The feet of Christ walk before us:

All: **God of our journeying showing us the way.**

Leader: The wings of the Spirit lift us up:

All: **God who is our company, our energy, our joy.**

*HYMN NO. 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

*CONFESSION OF SIN

Mindy Douglas

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you

with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,

help us amend what we are,

and direct what we shall be,

that we may delight in your will

and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

Silent Reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness

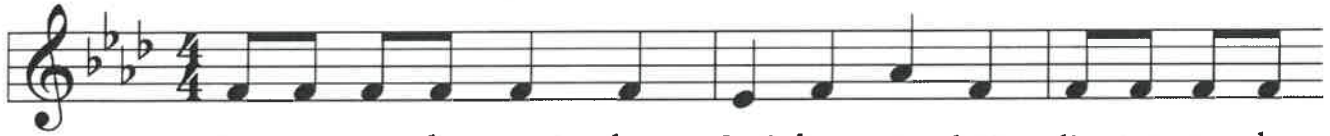
*All who are able, please stand.

***THE PEACE**

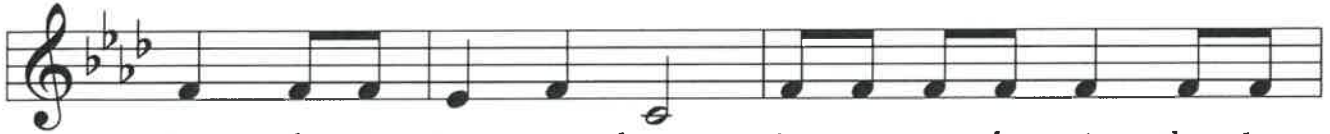
Mindy Douglas

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*All, sung twice*)

Listen



Lis-ten to the word that God has spo-ken; lis-ten to the



One who is close at hand; lis-ten to the voice that be -



gan cre - a - tion; lis-ten e-ven if you don't un - der-stand.

PSALTER READING

Psalm 121

(Pew Bible, OT page 571)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Amy Dillon

People: **Thanks be to God!**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 27:1-11

(Pew Bible, NT page 146-147)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

John Weicher

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

“Shady Valley”

John Weicher

(Silent reflection)

***HYMN NO. 731**

Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm

Repton

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

A Brief Statement of Faith

Mindy Douglas

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain

and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead,

vindicating his sinless life,

breaking the power of sin and evil,

delivering us from death to life eternal.

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give
Offertory Anthem

Psalm 63

John Weicher
American tune, arr. Virgil Thomson

*O God, you are my God alone, whom eagerly I seek,
though longing fills my soul with thirst and leaves my body weak.
Just as a dry and barren land awaits a freshening shower,
I long within your house to see your glory and your power.*

*Your faithful love surpasses life, evoking all my praise.
Through every day, to bless your name, my hands in joy I'll raise.
My deepest needs you satisfy as with a sumptuous feast.
So, on my lips and in my heart, your praise has never ceased.*

*Throughout the night I lie in bed and call you, Lord, to mind;
in darkest hours I meditate how God, my strength, is kind.
Beneath the shadow of your wing, I live and feel secure;
And daily as I follow close, your right hand keeps me sure.*

**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!*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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. 767*

Together We Serve

San Anselmo

**BENEDICTION*

John Weicher

**POSTLUDE*

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Benjamin Culli



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 and in loving memory of *Alice Landt Weicher* by *John Weicher and his family*.

Paraments during Ordinary Time: In the long season of Ordinary Time, stretching for about six months between Trinity Sunday in late spring and Advent in late fall, the liturgical color is green. You will see that color in the stoles of the pastors and choir members and in the paraments that hang from the pulpit and lectern. As part of our 150th Anniversary celebration, we commissioned the creation of new green paraments, along with white paraments and a white communion tablecloth, from fabric artist **Beth Taylor**. The funds for this work were donated by our dear members **Ruth and Russell Roberson** in memory of their mothers. The paraments were displayed and dedicated during the 150th Anniversary commemoration on Sunday, May 1, 2022. You will see the green paraments on the pulpit and lectern for the remainder of this year's "green season." We are grateful to Ruth and Russell for their generous gift.

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 the audio/video console at the rear of the sanctuary. 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 liturgy are taken from *Liturgies for the Journey of Life* by Dorothy McRae-McMahon, *Book of Common Worship* (2018), and *Iona Abbey Worship Book*.

Our Concerns

Wib Gulley, recovering from surgery.

Larry Hethcox, father of Esther Hethcox, diagnosed with prostate cancer.

Elizabeth Rose, mother of Mary Ashley Rose, preparing for surgery.

Willard Valentine, brother-in-law of Valerie McMillian, at Rex Hospital.

Bob Breitweiser

Wes Carson

Paul Cornsweet

Susan Cyr

Kerry Holbrook

Jenni James

Lee House

George Kafula

Bet Lawson

Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

Franzi Rokoske

Alfred Tisdale

Carol Wills

Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Dub Gulley**

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: **Phillip Herndon**

Hillcrest Convalescent: **Julian Boswell, Maxie Honeycutt, Jim Wolfe**

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Michelle Cantrell, niece of Conrad Carter

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Father of Andres, friend of the congregation

Sylvia Elder, grandmother of Esther Hethcox

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

Bob Lucas, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

Clem O'Brien, father-in-law of Mindy Douglas

Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James

Dennis Tiede, nephew of Mary-Jo Keenan

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

First Presbyterian Church - Cove in the Heart of Durham


SUMMER SIZZLE

(GET EXCITED)

All-Church Fellowship & Dinner

Sunday, August 13, 5-7 pm
 Bring a dish to share & water bottle.
 At the Momsen-Hudson's:
 1339 Holden Roberts Farm Road, Hillsborough.

UKRAINE EYEWITNESS: REPORT FROM THE FRONT




АДЖЕ ТИ, ГОСПОДИ СПАСАЄ
 А ОНІ ПРАКАТУЄ УЛЮКОМ

A CONVERSATION WITH PETER LUMSDAINE

MEMBER OF PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
 NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS

7 PM
 MONDAY, JULY 17
 WATTS-HILL HALL



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - LOVE IN THE HEART OF DURHAM

Join us for an in-person briefing and discussion of a unique April 2023 visit to Ukraine & Poland.

Where is the war going?
 What is the answer?
 What can we do?

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes 45

(Psalm 121)

1 I to the hills will lift my eyes; from
 2 God will not let your foot be moved; your
 3 Your faith - ful keep - er is the Lord, your
 4 From e - vil God will keep you safe, pro -

whence shall come my aid? My help is from the
 guard - ian nev - er sleeps; God's watch - ful and un -
 shel - ter and your shade. 'Neath sun or moon, by
 vide for all you need. Your go - ing out, your

Lord a - lone, who heaven and earth has made.
 slum - bering care pro - tects and safe - ly keeps.
 day or night, you shall not be a - fraid.
 com - ing in, God will for - ev - er lead.

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)

1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the opening day.

6 Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 be thou our guard while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

731

Give Thanks for Those
Whose Faith Is Firm

Capo 1: (D) (A) (Bm) (G)
E^b B^b Cm A^b

1 Give thanks for those whose faith is firm when all a -
 2 Give thanks for those whose hope is clear, be - yond mere
 3 Give thanks for those whose love is pure, a spar - kling
 4 Give thanks for saints of a - ges past and saints a -

(D) (A) (D) (G) (Em) (A) (F#m)
E^b B^b E^b A^b Fm B^b Gm

round seems bleak: on God's good prom - ise they re - ly, so
 mor - tal sight: who seek the cit - y God has planned, the
 pre - cious stone: they show by what they say and do an
 live to - day: though of - ten by this world de - spised, their

(Bm) (G) (Em) (A7) (D)
Cm A^b Fm B^b7 E^b

while they live and when they die how force - ful -
 true, e - ter - nal prom - ised land, and steer on
 in - ward beau - ty, warm and true, for God's con -
 hearts by God are rich - ly prized. Give thanks that

(A7) (B) (Em) (G) (A7) (D)
B^b7 C Fm A^b B^b7 E^b

ly they speak: the strong, who once were weak!
 toward that light, a bea - con ev - er bright.
 cerns they own: God's love through them is known.
 we may say we share their pil - grim way.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Together We Serve

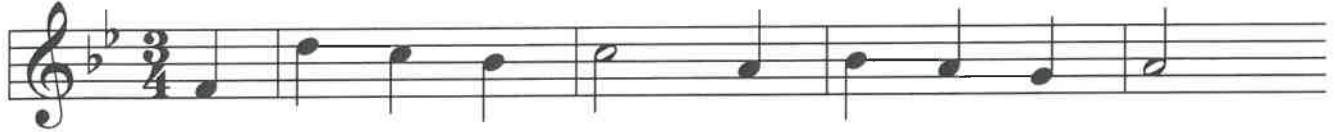
767

Capo 3: (G)
B \flat

(D)
F

(Em)
Gm

(Bm7)
Dm7



1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,

(C)
E \flat

(G)
B \flat

(Am7)
Cm7

(Dsus) (D)
Fsus F



in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.

(G)
B \flat

(D)
F

(C)
E \flat

(Bm)
Dm



We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
We of - fer a home to those who will come,
To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,

(G) (C)
B \flat E \flat

(G)
B \flat

(Am)
Cm

(D7)
F7

(G)
B \flat



ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

The Week at a Glance!

<p>Later Today</p> <p>12:15-1:15 PM Listening Session with Thriving Congregations Committee (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p>12:30 PM Cash Bail Resolution Team (Daye Meeting Room)</p>	<p>Monday, July 17</p> <p>9:00 AM-12 Noon Walk-in Ministry interviews</p> <p>7:00 PM Ukraine Eyewitness: A Conversation with Peter Lumsdaine (Watts-Hill Hall)</p>	<p>Tuesday, July 18</p> <p>5:00 PM Finance Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Massanetta Middle School Conference July 18-21</p>	<p>Wednesday July 19</p> <p>1:00 PM All Staff</p> <p>No Chancel Choir rehearsal</p>
<p>Thursday, July 20</p> <p>9:00 AM-12 Noon Walk-in Ministry interviews</p>	<p>Friday, July 21</p>	<p>Saturday, July 22</p> <p>11:00 AM Memorial Service for Arthur Clark (Reception follows in Watts-Hill Hall)</p>	<p>Sunday, July 23 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>9:45 AM Summer Faith Formation Class for Children Faith & Community and Lectionary Classes</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship</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>

305 EAST MAIN STREET DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701 919-682-5511
ORGANIZED 1871