

# RECONCILIATION

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Durham, North Carolina**

**July 23, 2023**

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 23, 2023

## A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

### PRELUDE

*Prelude in d minor*

Vincent Luebeck

### INTROIT

*Come, All You People*

Zimbabwe folk tune

*Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker; come now and worship the Lord.*

*Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior; come now and worship the Lord.*

*Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit; come now and worship the Lord.*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mindy Douglas

Leader: O God, who called all life into being,

**All: the earth, sea, and sky are yours.**

Leader: Your presence is all around us,

**All: every atom is full of your energy.**

Leader: Your Spirit enlivens all who walk the earth,

**All: with her we yearn for justice to be done,**

Leader: for creation to be freed from bondage,

**All: for the hungry to be fed,**

Leader: for captives to be released,

**All: for your kingdom of peace to come on earth.**

### \*HYMN NO. 363

*Rejoice, the Lord Is King!*

*Darwall's 148th*

### \*CONFESSION OF SIN

Esther Hethcox

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Merciful God,**

**your creatures cry –**

**creation groans – but we turn away;**

**we surround ourselves with noise.**

**We are quick to excuse ourselves from responsibility:**

**we are young; we are old; we are tired; we are busy.**

**It is hard to imagine that we might make a difference.**

**Life-giving God, wash us clean.**

**Restore our imaginations and our hearts.**

*(Confession continues next page.)*

\*All who are able, please stand.

(Prayer continues in unison)

**Let your courage and compassion flow through our veins  
until we love with abandon  
and our hands reach out in blessing,  
for the creation waits with eager longing  
for the revealing of the children of God.**

Silent Reflection

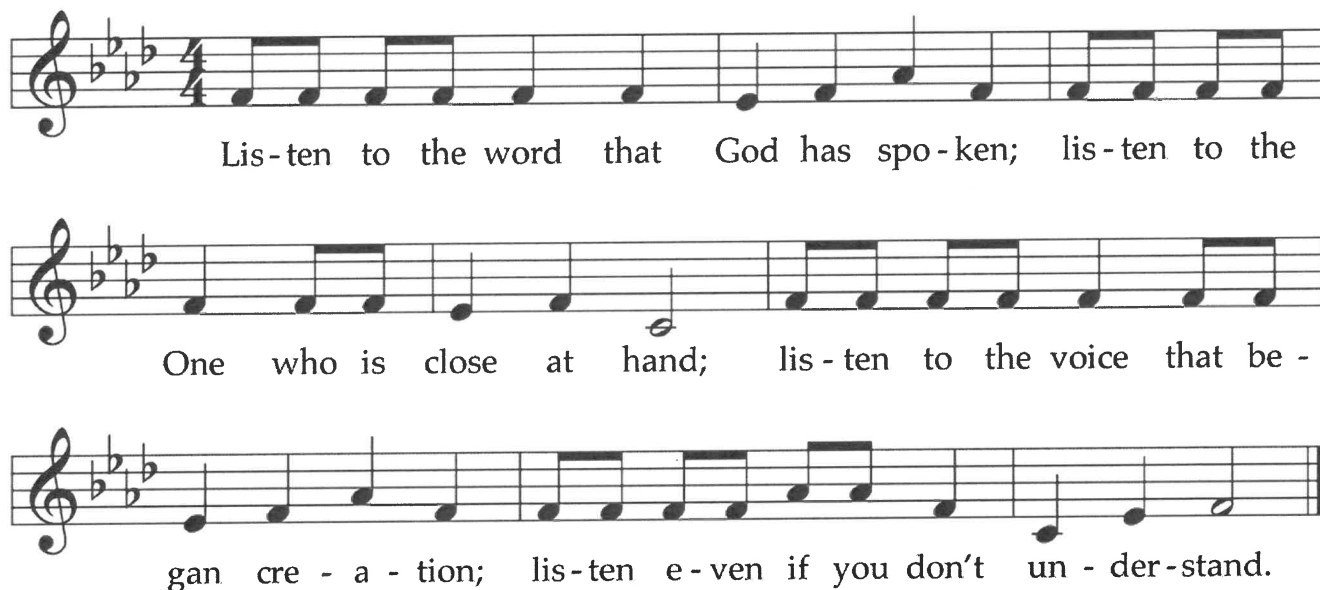
Assurance of Forgiveness

**\*THE PEACE**

Esther Hethcox

**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 139:1-12

(Read responsively)

Michael Honeycutt

**Leader:** Lord, you have searched us out;  
Lord, you have known us.

**People:** **You know our sitting down and our rising up;  
you discern our thoughts from afar.**

**Leader:** You trace our journeys and our resting-places  
and are acquainted with all our ways.

**People:** **Indeed, there is not a word on our lips,  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.**

**Leader:** You encompass us, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon us.

**People:** **Such knowledge is too wonderful for us;  
it is so high that we cannot attain to it.**

**Leader:** Where can we go then from your Spirit?  
Where can we flee from your presence?

**People:** **If we climb up to heaven, you are there;  
if we make the grave our bed, you are there also.**

(Responsive reading continues next page.)

Leader: If we take the wings of the morning  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,  
**People: even there your hand will lead us  
and your right hand hold us fast.**  
 Leader: If we say, "Surely the darkness will cover us,  
and the light around us turn to night,"  
**People: darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day;  
darkness and light to you are both alike.**  
 Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**

**EPISTLE READING** Romans 8:12-25 (Pew Bible, NT page 157)  
 Leader: The Word of the Lord. Mindy Douglas  
**People: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON** Mindy Douglas  
*(Silent reflection)*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (in unison) (From *The Confession of Belhar*) Esther Hethcox  
**We believe**

- that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ;
- that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world,
- that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker,
- that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells;
- that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity;
- that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

**\*HYMN NO. 357** *The Days Are Surely Coming* Llangloffan

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN** Esther Hethcox

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give Mindy Douglas

Offertory Anthem *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Nettleton, arr. Roland E. Martin

The text to the anthem can be found in the hymnal, No. 475.

(The *Hunger for Change Offering* will be received following the anthem.)

**\*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!*

## 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. 360

*Christ Is Coming!*

Unser Herrscher

\*BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

\*POSTLUDE

*The Days Are Surely Coming*

*Llangloffan,*  
arr. Lovelace, Neil Stipp



**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, with love and in memory of **James Perry Allen**, father of **Amy Wilson**, and grandfather of **Julia, James, and Anna Wilson**.

**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. 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* come from *Iona Abbey Worship Book, Feasting on the Word*, and *Book of Common Worship* (2018).

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### **Liturgist Training Session**

On **Saturday, July 29 at 10:00 a.m.**, a two-hour liturgist training session will be held in Watts-Hill Hall. Those wishing to serve as a liturgist (read scripture during worship) are encouraged to attend. This session is open to all. Please register with Steve Rimmer: [csrimmer@nc.rr.com](mailto:csrimmer@nc.rr.com).

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### **Our Joys and Concerns**

**JOY:** Congratulations to *Mary Ann Ruegg* who celebrated her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **CONCERNS:**

*Wes Carson*, discharged from Duke Hospital to The Forest at Duke Health Center.

*Susan Cyr*'s great-grandchildren, *Saya, James*, and *Dontae*, on the death of a family member

*Lynn Guerrant*, friend of Mindy Douglas

*Gabe Lamazares*, Associate Rector at St. Philip's Episcopal, recent cancer diagnosis.

*Elizabeth Manceras*, mother of Julio Manceras, recovering at home following an ER visit.

<i>Bob Breitweiser</i>	<i>Paul Cornsweet</i>	<i>Susan Cyr</i>	<i>Susan Dunlap</i>	<i>Wib Gulley</i>
<i>Kerry Holbrook</i>	<i>Jenni James</i>	<i>Lee House</i>	<i>George Kafula</i>	<i>Mitzi Leshner-Thomas</i>
<i>Franzi Rokoske</i>	<i>Alfred Tisdale</i>	<i>Carol Wills</i>		

#### **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

*Father of Andres*, friend of the congregation

*Larry Hethcox*, father of Esther Hethcox

*Bob Lucas*, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

*Alan Petersburg*, brother-in-law of Jenni

*Dennis Tiede*, nephew of Mary-Jo Keenan

*Kim Cummings*, father of Drew Cummings

*Sylvia Elder*, grandmother of Esther Hethcox

*Grace*, Chris James' great-niece

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

*Elizabeth Rose*, mother of Mary Ashley Rose

*Jim Vacca*, father of Jamie Chambliss



### **CRAYONS-2-CALCULATORS**

The deadline is August 11.

#### **FILL THAT BUS SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE!**

##### **Most Needed Items**

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

Bring your donations to FPC & place them in the **FILL THAT BUS** bin.  
Thank you for supporting our Durham Public Schools Teachers.



**FPC's next blood drive is  
Thursday, August 3  
1:00-6:00 p.m. in Watts-Hill Hall**

**Please sign up to save a life!  
Go to [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter code **firstpres**  
or use the **RAPIDPASS** donor App!**

For more info, contact *Julie Whiddon* at 919-730-6673.  
Sponsored by the Service & Mission Committee of FPC.

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### **Fresh vegetables will be available at FPC beginning August 3**



The Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, done in partnership with Sankofa Farms in Orange County, is starting a six-week summer cycle on August 3. We had a very successful Spring CSA and are looking forward to a bounty of summer vegetables like tomatoes, squash, peppers, and much more during this cycle.

The CSA is a great way to have a steady supply of fresh healthy vegetables each week, grown sustainably by a farmer of color. The boxes of

vegetables will be delivered to First Pres every Thursday afternoon, beginning August 3, and be available for pickup between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. in the church lobby, or at Westminster Pres from 6:00-7:30. This cycle will run for six weeks, from August 3-September 7. The cost is \$35 per week for a full share and \$25 for a half share. For the full six weeks it is \$210 for a full share and \$150 for a half share. If you wish to participate, go to the Sankofa Farms website, and once there, click on "Shop". The website is [www.sankofafarms.com](http://www.sankofafarms.com). For more information feel free to contact Tom Bacon or Johanna and George Bernhardt.

## Christ Is Coming!

1 Christ is com - ing! Let cre - a - tion from its groans and  
 2 Earth can now but tell the sto - ry of your bit - ter  
 3 With that bless - ed hope be - fore us, flutes are tuned and  
 4 Long your ex - iles have been pin - ing for your prom - ised

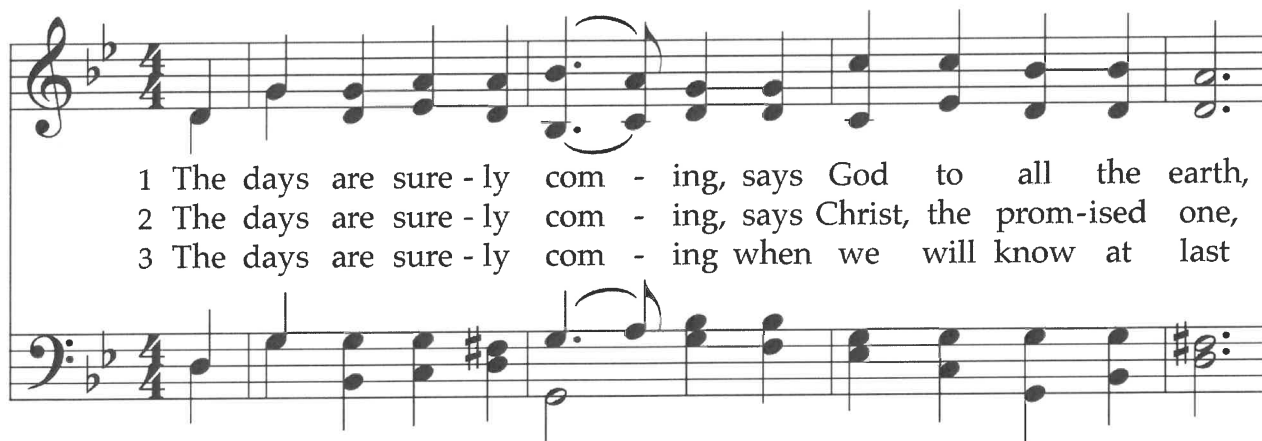
la - bor cease; let the glo - rious proc - la - ma - tion  
 cross and pain; we shall yet be - hold your glo - ry,  
 harps are strung; let the might - y ad - vent cho - rus  
 rest and home, but in heaven - ly glo - ry shin - ing,

hope re - store and faith in - crease: Christ is com - ing!  
 Lord, when you re - turn to reign: Christ is com - ing!  
 on - ward roll from tongue to tongue: Christ is com - ing!  
 soon the ris - en Christ shall come. Christ is com - ing!

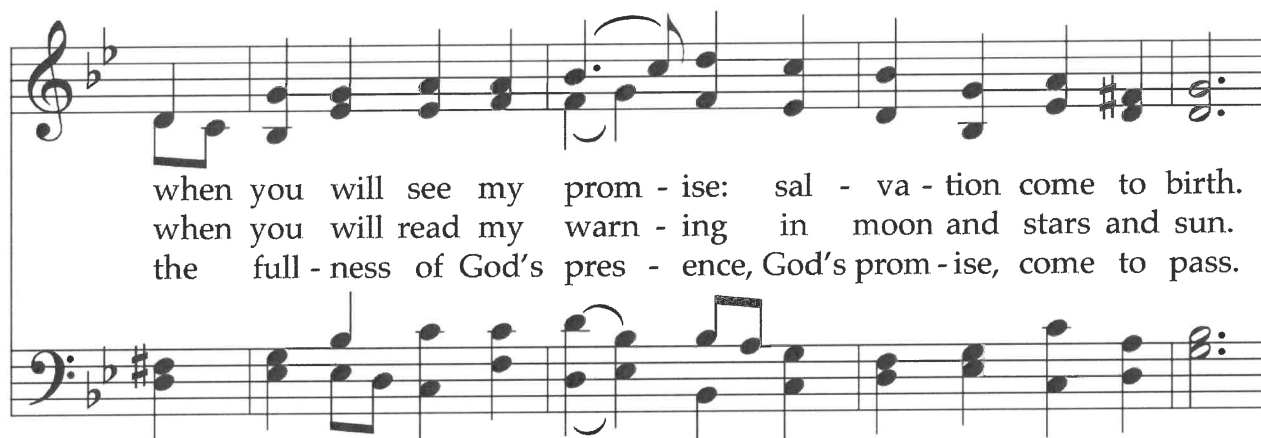
Christ is com - ing! Come, O bless - ed Prince of peace.  
 Christ is com - ing! Let each heart re - peat the strain.  
 Christ is com - ing! Let each heart re - peat the song.  
 Christ is com - ing! Joy - ful, shout the vic - tory psalm.



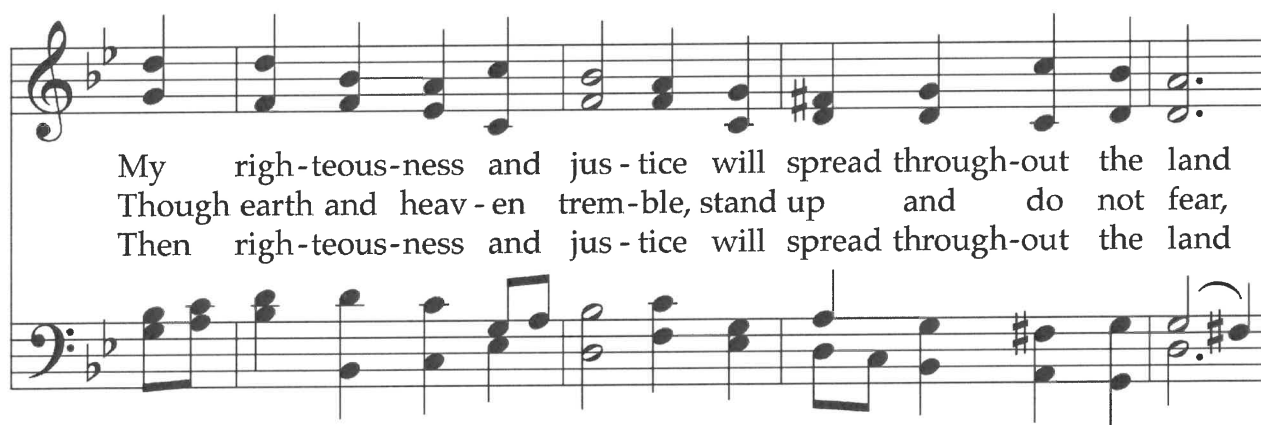
# The Days Are Surely Coming 357



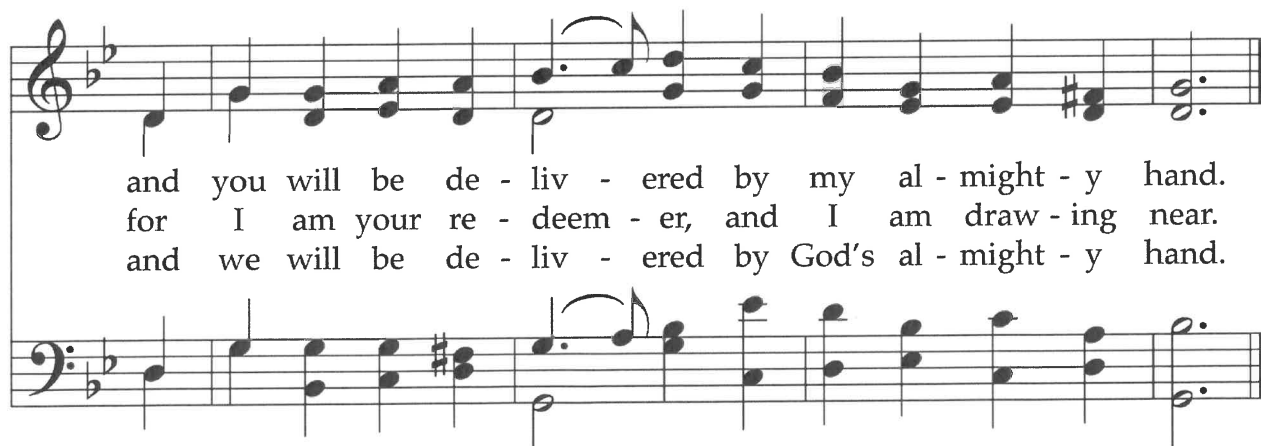
1 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says God to all the earth,  
2 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says Christ, the prom-ised one,  
3 The days are sure - ly com - ing when we will know at last



when you will see my prom - ise: sal - va - tion come to birth.  
when you will read my warn - ing in moon and stars and sun.  
the full - ness of God's pres - ence, God's prom - ise, come to pass.



My righ-teous-ness and jus-tice will spread through-out the land  
Though earth and heav-en trem-ble, stand up and do not fear,  
Then righ-teous-ness and jus-tice will spread through-out the land



and you will be de - liv - ered by my al - might - y hand.  
for I am your re - deem - er, and I am draw - ing near.  
and we will be de - liv - ered by God's al - might - y hand.

# Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

363

*Descant*

4 Re-joyce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

1 Re - joyce, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!  
 2 Our Sav - ior, Je - sus, reigns, the God of truth and love;  
 3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
 4 Re - joyce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

and gath - er all the saints to their e - ter - nal home.

Re - joyce, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.  
 when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.  
 the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus given.  
 and gath - er all the saints to their e - ter - nal home.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a - gain I say, re - joyce!

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a - gain I say, re - joyce!

## **The Hunger for Change Offering**

*You may use the small brown envelopes in the back of the pew for this offering.*

First Presbyterian Church of Durham has a long history of involvement in hunger-related mission, most notably Pennies for Hunger (now Hunger for Change) and the Durham CROP Walk. In addition, we coordinate volunteers for the Community Kitchen at Urban Ministries of Durham, collect food for Iglesia Emanuel's Food Pantry, and the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. We also encourage giving to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Easter Sunday which funds mission activities related to disaster assistance and hunger relief programs locally and around the world.

The funds received from our Hunger for Change Offering go to the New Hope Presbytery for the Presbyterian Hunger Relief Program and are divided as follows:

50% - International Hunger Relief Programs

40% - Local Hunger Programs

10% - Administration.

These funds are dispersed through local grants to hunger relief programs based on a grant application process. Urban Ministries of Durham, Presbyterian Urban Ministries and Iglesia Emanuel are frequent recipients. FPC received a grant to purchase food supplies for our Walk-in Ministry.

The fourth Sunday of each month is designated to receive the Hunger for Change Offering. Please consider supporting this hunger relief effort with a generous offering each month.

**Thank you for giving!**

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*Hi-Wire Brewing  
Wednesday, July 26, 6:30p - for 20s-30s*



Deborah and Tyler Momsen-Hudson's house is located about 20 minutes from the church at 1339 Holden Roberts Farm Rd, Hillsborough.

Please let us know your intentions by responding to the EVITE you will receive soon.

Bean bag golf, basketball, and kickball will be some of the available activities.

Please bring a lawn chair and potluck dish to share.

House and entrance are handicap accessible.

## The Week at a Glance!

<b>Later Today</b>	<b>Monday, July 24</b>  <b>9:00 AM-12 Noon</b> Walk-in Ministry interviews	<b>Tuesday, July 25</b>  <b>9:00 AM-3:00 PM</b> Presbytery of New Hope at FPC, New Bern, NC	<b>Wednesday July 26</b>  <b>1:00 PM</b> Program Staff  <b>6:30 PM</b> The Somethings gathering at Hi-Wire Brewing  <b>No Chancel Choir rehearsal</b>
← High Schoolers at Montreat Youth Conference from July 23-29 →			
<b>Thursday, July 27</b>  <b>9:00 AM-12 Noon</b> Walk-in Ministry interviews	<b>Friday, July 28</b>	<b>Saturday, July 29</b>  <b>8:00-11:00 AM</b> Grounds Workday at FPC  <b>10:00 AM</b> Liturgists Training Session (Watts-Hill Hall)	<b>Sunday, July 30</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  <b>9:45 AM</b> Summer Faith Formation Class for Children Faith & Community and Lectionary Classes  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship

### RIP MEDICAL DEBT

THE CURE FOR MEDICAL DEBT

### Help retire medical debt in North Carolina

Our first of three campaigns raised \$26,000 and paid off \$5 million in medical debt 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). Please share this link with anyone who wants to support this campaign:

<https://ripmedicaldebt.org/campaign/building-beloved-community/>. **The deadline to give to the second campaign is July 31, 2023.**

### 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](mailto: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**