

**First Presbyterian Church
Durham, North Carolina**

July 9, 2023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 9, 2023

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

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

*In preparation for celebrating communion via live stream, **please have your own bread and cup available at the beginning of worship** so that we might partake of the elements at the same time during today's service.*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS

Esther Hethcox

PRELUDE

Prelude on Slane (Lord of All Hopefulness)

Dennis Janzer

INTROIT

Come, Behold! The Feast of Heaven

Llanfair

Come, behold! the feast of heaven, Alleluia! has to mortal flesh been given. Alleluia!

Hear the Word of God declared: Alleluia! "Come! The banquet is prepared." Alleluia!

As the Lord our God has willed, Alleluia! here the hungry soul is filled; Alleluia!

here the weary are refreshed. Alleluia! All who share God's feast are blessed. Alleluia!

***OPENING SENTENCES**

Esther Hethcox

Leader: Come to our God, all who hunger for life:

People: for it is God who nourishes us at the Table of Grace

Leader: Come to our God, all who are worn out by life:

People: for it is God who provides the rest we need.

Leader: Come to our God, all who are weighed down:

People: for it is our God who carries our burdens with us.

***HYMN NO. 504**

We Come as Guests Invited

Wie Lieblich Ist Der Maien

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Lord, we marvel at the thought of a well-fitted yoke,
a burden scaled to match our frames;**

we do not know how to rest in the promise of such labor.

**Some of us are weary from unceasing responsibility;
others find no welcome in the marketplace.**

We confound your vision for our common life.

**Forgive our blind striving,
our stifled concern,**

the judgments we cast on others.

Make yourself known to us in the silence.

Shape your children for the commonwealth of your love,

In Jesus' name we pray.

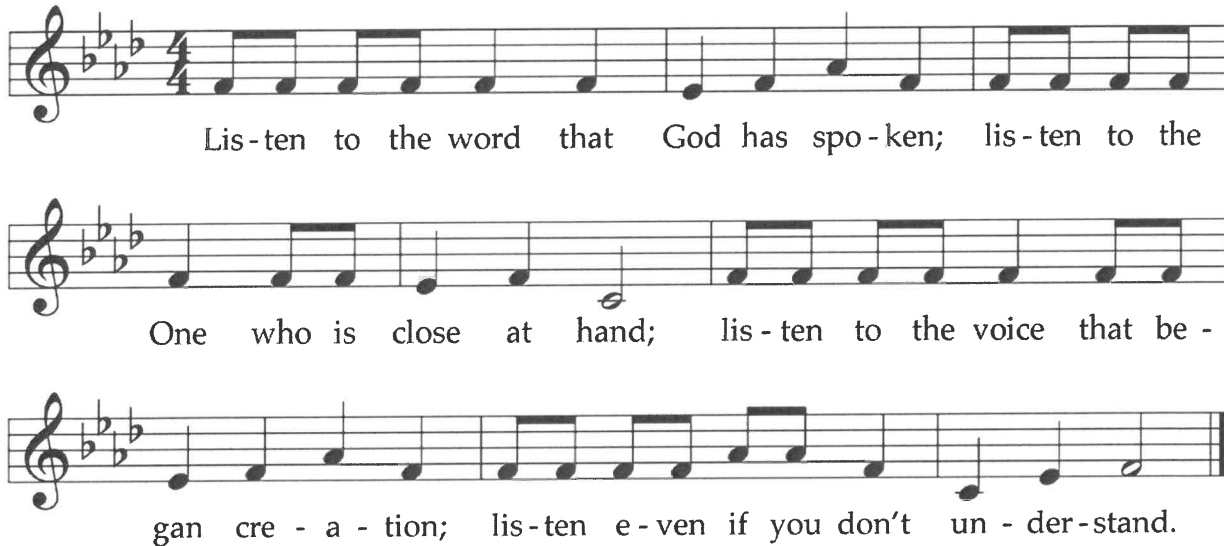
**All who are able, please stand.*

***THE PEACE**

John Weicher

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

Psalms 145:8-14

(Pew Bible, OT page 581)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Jane Williams

People: **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

(Pew Bible, NT page 11)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Mindy Douglas

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Yoked to Jesus: Yoked to Love"

Mindy Douglas

(*Silent reflection*)

***HYMN NO. 851**

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

Woza nomthwalo wakho

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

A Brief Statement of Faith

Esther Hethcox

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

Esther Hethcox

Offertory Anthem

Let All Mortal Flesh keep Silence

Picardy, arr. Roger Price

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand.

Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand, Christ our God to earth descended, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood; he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, As the Light of light descended from the realms of endless day; that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away. Alleluia!

At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord most high! Alleluia!

**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

Mindy Douglas

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Esther Hethcox

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 just to give you thanks
in every time and in every place, almighty God.
We give you thanks for the gift of creation
and especially for the gift of our life.
We are grateful that you have made us in your image
and that you pardon us
when we act as though you have no authority over our lives.
We are grateful that you sustain us in your great love.
And so, with all your people
with angels, archangels,
and with all the company of heaven
we praise and magnify your glorious name,
joining our voices in the eternal hymn.

All (sung):

Sanctus

Land of Rest

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: Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son.
He lived among us and told your story.
He healed the sick and welcomed sinners.
He shared our pain and died our death,
then rose to new life that we might live,
and all creation be restored.
Remembering, your boundless love
revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
we break bread and share the cup,
giving ourselves to you
to live for him in joy and praise.
Great is the mystery of faith.

All (sung):

Memorial Acclamation

Land of Rest

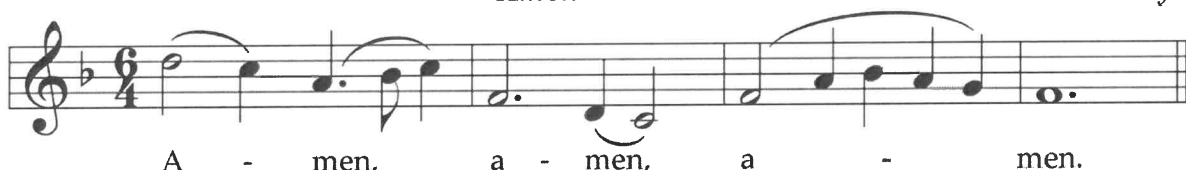
Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.
Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

Leader: God of the weary and heavy laden, God of the tired, the poor,
the huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
God of the homeless and the tempest-tossed,
bring rest to all who labor today.

(Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession.)

Leader: Set your gentle yoke upon us all,
 for you are gentle and humble in heart.
 Be a shining golden light in the souls
 of all who struggle in body, mind, or spirit,
 with demons within or without,
 with fears about the future or regrets about the past.
 Through this communion with you
 in union with Christ in the power of your Spirit,
 write on our hearts a new law
 that draws us to walk with you across the storms of suffering,
 the tremors of temptation,
 and the pangs of persecution.
 And on the last day, bring us home to you forever.

All (sung): Amen Land of Rest



THE LORD'S PRAYER *(in unison)*

Ecumenical version

**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 forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Mindy Douglas, Esther Hethcox

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(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.)

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Esther Hethcox

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
 People: Amen.
 All: God of grace,
 you renew us at your table with the bread of life.
 May this food strengthen us in love
 and help us to serve you in each other.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 837

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Showalter

***SENDING**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: We leave with the presence of the Holy,
People: **so we may show others the way to grace and hope.**
Leader: We leave with Jesus, who draws living water for us,
People: **so we can share it in the heat of summer,
and in the bitterness of winter.**
Leader: We leave with the Spirit, who teaches us how to listen
People: **so we may hear the cries of the lonely
and the voices of all who are ignored.**

***BENEDICTION**

Mindy Douglas

***POSTLUDE**

Tuba Tune

C.S. Lang



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 identity, sexual orientation, economic circumstance, and ability to participate fully in the life of the church. So that we 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.

The ***flowers*** are given to the glory of God by ***Maureen Short*** and in loving memory of her dad, ***William Wanyonyi Wambwa***.

The Lord's Prayer when Holy Communion is celebrated: From the beginning, one of the hallmarks of Reformed worship has been liturgy in the vernacular—in the common language of the people of God. Many, however, continue to use the language of another era (the Tudor dynasty) when praying the prayer Jesus taught. We hope that, by using this ecumenical version, new generations will learn and understand this prayer in a fresh way. Of course, you may always choose to pray in the words closest to your heart, be those words debts or trespasses.

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.*

Restrooms are in the narthex (to the left and right as you exit 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 narthex, located to the left as you exit the rear of the sanctuary.

Portions of ***today's worship texts*** are taken from ***Thom Shuman*** at *lectionaryliturgies.com*, *Feasting on the Word* (Year A, Volume 2), *Book of Common Worship* (2018), and *Eucharistic Prayers*.

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/>. **This campaign can receive funds through July 31, 2023.** We are currently at 78% of our goal of \$35,000.

Our Concerns

Memorial Service: A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held for FPC member *Arthur Clark* on **Saturday, July 22 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary**. The service will be live streamed on the church's YouTube channel for those unable to attend. The family will greet friends at a reception in Watts-Hill Hall following the service. Arrangements by Clement Funeral Home, Durham.

Concerns:

<i>Bob Breitweiser</i>	<i>Wes Carson</i>	<i>Paul Cornsweet</i>	<i>Susan Cyr</i>	<i>Kerry Holbrook</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

Jane Austin, friend of the congregation

Sylvia Elder, grandmother of Esther Hethcox

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

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

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Father of Andres, friend of the congregation

Bob Lucas, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James

Ukraine Eyewitness
REPORT FROM THE FRONT
of the 21st century's rapidly escalating
global power struggle

A Conversation with Peter Lumsdaine,
member of Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR)
national committee to abolish nuclear weapons

Monday, July 17
7:00 p.m. - Watts-Hill Hall

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?

Looking for a place to volunteer?

- **Church Office First floor weekday receptionists needed**

Contact Sarah Wright (swright1951@gmail.com or 919-218-7890)

Sign up for 4-hour shift: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4aaca28aafac61-first/1438266#/>

- **Communion servers needed**

Contact Mary Ann Compton (maryannmac@bellsouth.net or 919-363-8822)

Sign up to serve: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094ea4ad2da46-communion2#/>

- **Ushers needed**

We are in need of ushers on Sunday mornings, especially on the second Sunday of the month. Please contact Esther Hethcox (e.hethcox@firstpres-durham.org) if you would like to serve. Training is available if you have not ushered before at FPC.

- **Media techs needed**

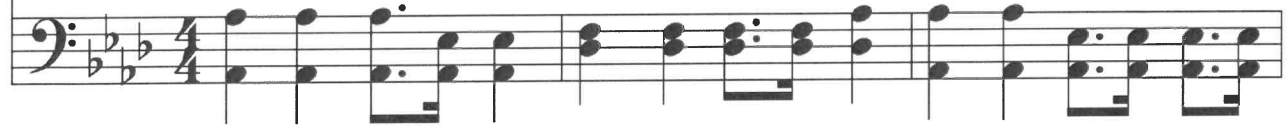
The audio and video consoles at the back of the sanctuary are operated by volunteers, and we need more. Middle and high school youth are particularly welcome this summer. If you're not afraid of technology and are interested, please speak to one of the operators on any Sunday before or after worship, or send an email inquiry to: mediatech@firstpres-durham.org.

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



1 What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-
2 O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-



last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

Refrain

Lean-ing,
Lean-ing on Je-sus,



lean-ing, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing on
lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus,



ing, lean-ing, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus,



Come, Bring Your Burdens to God 851

Woza nomthwalo wakho

Leader

(no.) Come, bring your bur - dens; O

All

Come, bring your bur-dens to God; come, bring your
Wo - za nom-thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom-

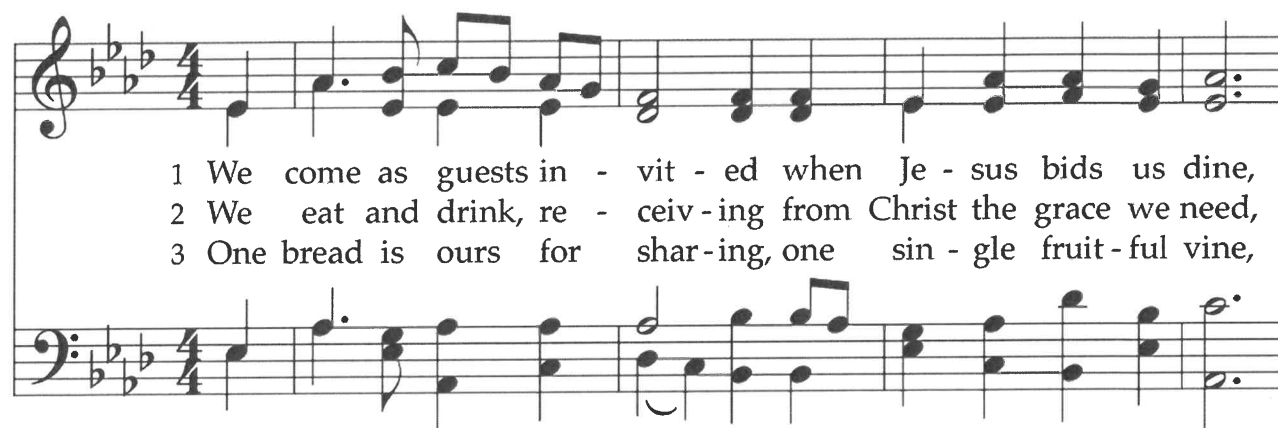
come, bring your bur - dens; O come, bring your bur - dens.

bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for
thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho U -

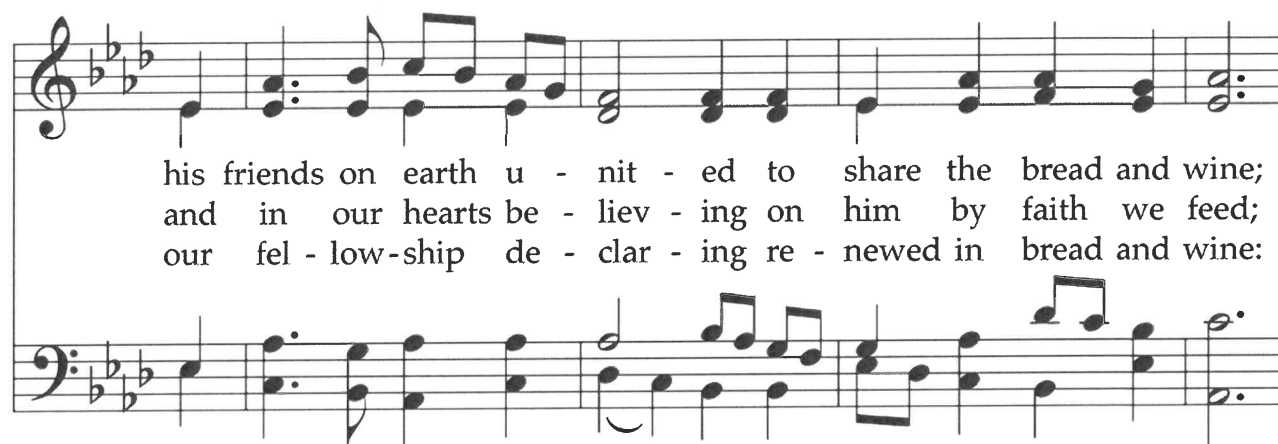
(except last time)

Je - sus will nev - er say

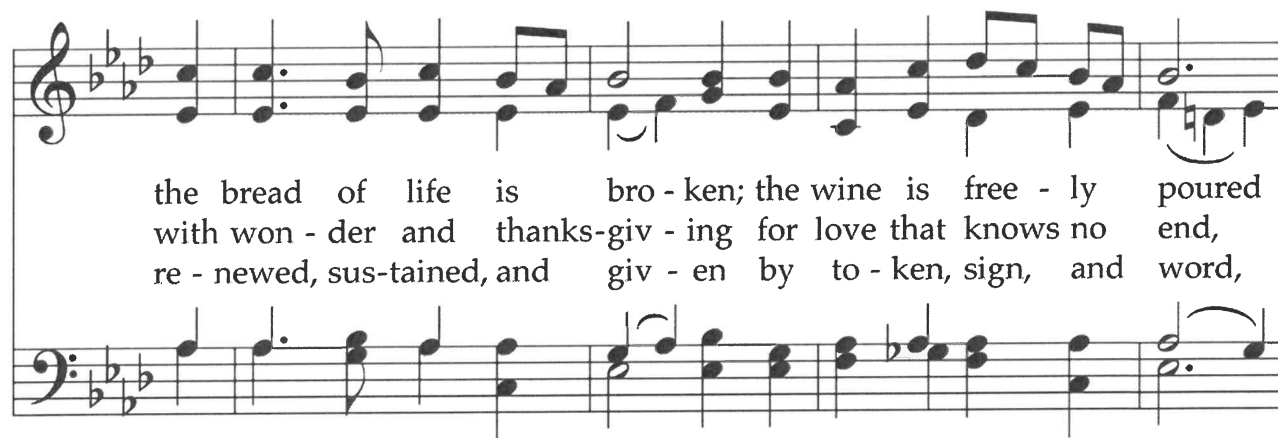
Je - sus will nev - er say no.
ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.



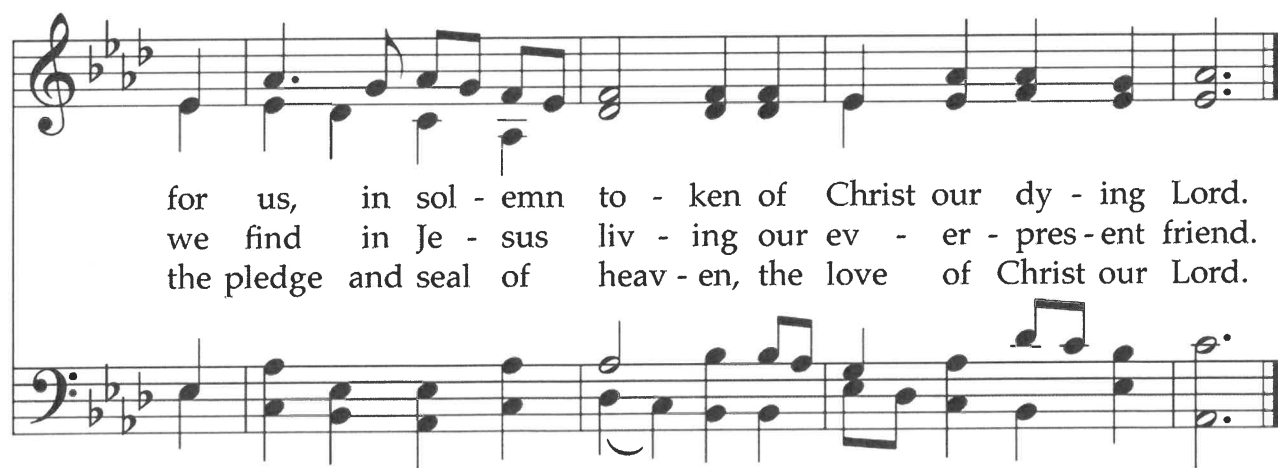
1 We come as guests in - vit - ed when Je - sus bids us dine,
2 We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing from Christ the grace we need,
3 One bread is ours for shar - ing, one sin - gle fruit - ful vine,



his friends on earth u - nit - ed to share the bread and wine;
and in our hearts be - liev - ing on him by faith we feed;
our fel - low-ship de - clar - ing re - newed in bread and wine:



the bread of life is bro - ken; the wine is free - ly poured
with won - der and thanks-giv - ing for love that knows no end,
re - newed, sus - tained, and giv - en by to - ken, sign, and word,



for us, in sol - emn to - ken of Christ our dy - ing Lord.
we find in Je - sus liv - ing our ev - er - pres - ent friend.
the pledge and seal of heav - en, the love of Christ our Lord.

The Week at a Glance!

Later Today 12:15 PM Racial Equity Task Force (Wilson Parlor)	Monday, July 10 9:00-12 Noon Walk-in Ministry interviews 1:30 PM Worship Planning	Tuesday, July 11 Newsletter today 7:00 PM Things That Matter Book Group (home of Jane Williams)	Wednesday July 12 No Chancel Choir rehearsal this summer. 1:00-2:00 PM Program Staff
Thursday, July 13 9:00-12 Noon Walk-in Ministry interviews 7:00-8:00 PM Youth Hangout (at Pelican Snoballs) 7:00-8:00 PM Creation Care (via Zoom)	Friday, July 14	Saturday, July 15 8:20 AM-2:00 PM Youth Excursion (River tubing) 6:00 PM First Friends Potluck (home of Kim & Jon Abels)	Sunday, July 16 9:00-10:00 AM Listening Session with Thriving Congregations Committee (Watts-Hill Hall) 9:45 AM Faith Formation class for children, Adult Lectionary, Faith & Community 11:00 AM Worship 12:15-1:15 PM Listening Session with Thriving Congregations Committee (Watts-Hill Hall) 12:30 PM Cash Bail Resolution Team (Daye Meeting Room)

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>

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