

**"I hereby command you:
Be strong and courageous;
do not be frightened or
dismayed, for the Lord
your God is with you
wherever you go."**

Joshua 1:9 (NRSV)

**First Presbyterian Church
Durham, North Carolina**

August 6, 2023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 6, 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

Laudate Dominum (sung in Latin)

W.A. Mozart

Jacob Boehm, baritone

Praise the Lord, all nations; Praise the Lord, all people.

For God has bestowed mercy upon us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, three in one.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*OPENING SENTENCES (Inspired by Psalm 145)

Esther Hethcox

Leader: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

All: **The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.**

Leader: The Lord is just in all ways, and kind in all doings.

All: **The Lord is near to all who call, to all who call in truth.**

Leader: Let us call on our God in this hour, with open hearts and joyful voices.

All: **Come, let us worship God!**

*HYMN NO. 664

Morning Has Broken

Bunessan

*CONFESSION OF SIN

Haley Stephenson

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Holy God, you see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts.

You have promised to be with us throughout our days.

We confess that we grow anxious and have trouble trusting your promise.

We forget that our lives come from you and that in life and in death we belong to you.

We have not lived as your grateful children and loved as Christ loves us.

We have neglected those in need and gone along with prejudice and injustice.

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

Help us to trust your love which never fails and to faithfully follow Christ our Lord.

Silent Reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness

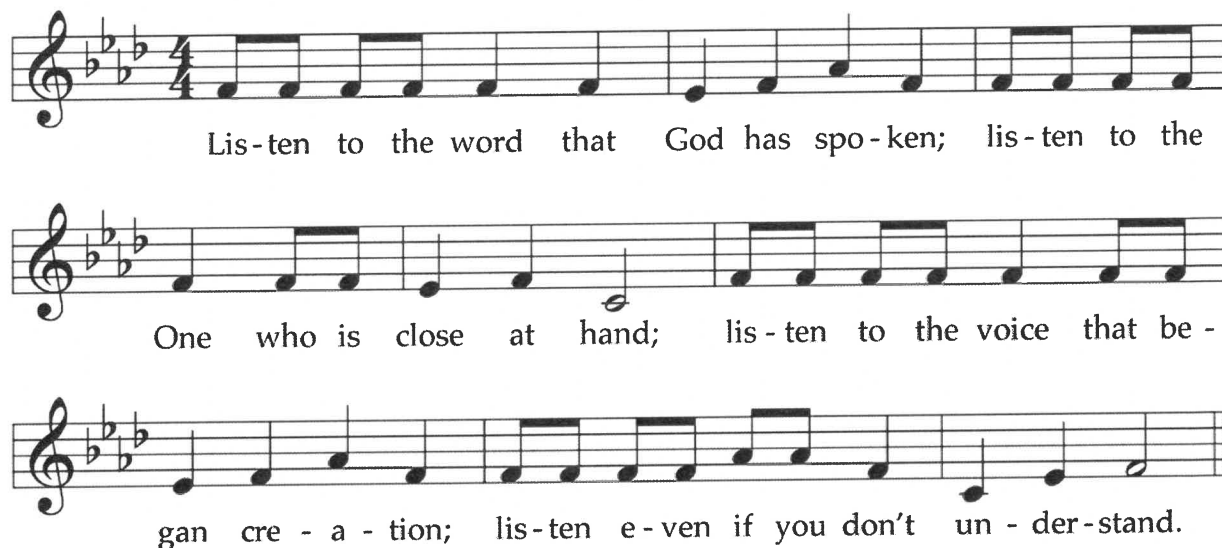
*Those who are able, please stand.

*THE PEACE

Haley Stephenson

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.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 46:1-4

(Pew Bible, OT page 676)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Jane Wettach

People: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:25-34

(Pew Bible, NT page 6)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Joseph Harvard

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"A Good Word about Gray Hair"

Joseph Harvard

*Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed,
for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. – Joshua 1:9*

(*Silent reflection*)

*HYMN NO. 686

God of Our Life

Sandon

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Declaration of Faith

Haley Stephenson

**In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God kept God's promises.
All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ.
But the work of God in Christ is not over.
God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen.
The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence
that supports us when lesser hopes fail us.
In Christ God gives hope for a new heaven and earth,
certainty of victory over death,
assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death.
This hope gives us courage for the present struggle.
Jesus is Lord. He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end. Even now He is Lord.**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Lenore Champion

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give

Esther Hethcox

Offertory Solo *O Rest in the Lord* (from “*Elijah*”)

Felix Mendelssohn

*O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him,
And He shall give thee thy heart's desires.
Commit thy way unto Him, and trust in Him,
And fret not thyself because of evil-doers.*

**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

Esther Hethcox

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Haley Stephenson

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 our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O God,
for you are God of it all.

In the first glimmers of creation your breath stirred nothing into everything,
blew life into dust and hope into being.

In a great act of love you formed us in your image and called us to be with you.

Yet in response to this love we chose estrangement from you,
choosing to trust in ourselves.

But you continued to love us, O Holy One,
by sending forth prophets to speak your will to us,
and calling us home to you.

You led us through this broken, fearful world to the culmination of our saving grace,
the gift of your child Jesus Christ — who will come again to redeem us.

Therefore, we praise you,
joining our voices with the heavenly choirs
and with all the faithful
of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

All (sung):

Sanctus

Land of Rest

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the
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:

O God, when your Word dwelled among us,
you showed us a world where redemption and renewal are within reach.
For our Savior shattered the walls of division and prejudice,
challenged unchecked power and status quo,
stood between violence and the marginalized,
comforted the brokenhearted,
feasted with sinners,
and loved with the same matchless creativity
that you revealed in the origin of creation.
So, we have been called to do the same;
to love as this radical Savior
and to participate in the mystery of your love and the mystery of our 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.

(Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession.)

Leader: Come Triune God—

Lord of our beings, Savior of our lives, Spirit of our movements—
 our hearts are ready, arms are open, spirits brimming and hearts beating.
 May the bread we break and the cup we share
 draw us into the presence of our risen Savior,
 may we be nourished and sustained to go forth,
 may we be united with all the faithful in heaven and earth,
 may we be one as your people.

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

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: Holy God, you have set the table, prepared the feast, nourished our souls.

May we respond to this grace with sacramental living—

to be embodied forms of your love, grace, and mercy for this world,

to be witnesses of your power in our lives,

to be preachers of the truth of your life-altering, abundant love for this world.

Amen.

*HYMN No. 450

Be Thou My Vision

Slane

***BENEDICTION**

Joseph Harvard

*POSTLUDE

Fugue in D Major

J.S Bach



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.

We thank ***Jacob Boehm*** for his musical leadership in today's service. Jacob is the founder and head chef of Snap Pea Creative Dining, locally known for its innovative pop-up dinners at unexpected locations. He studied music at Stanford University and lives in Durham.

The ***flowers*** are given to the glory of God and in honor of the children and youth of First Presbyterian Church and their leaders.

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 the audio/visual console at the rear of the sanctuary. 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 written by Esther Hethcox.



FILL THAT BUS SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE!

The deadline is August 11.

Most Needed Items

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

Bring your donations to FPC and place them in the ***Fill That Bus*** bin.
Thank you for supporting our Durham Public Schools Teachers.

Our Concerns

Condolences: The love and concern of the congregation are extended to:

- **Mindy Douglas** and **Tim O'Brien** on the death on the death of Tim's father. **Clement A. O'Brien** passed away on July 30. A memorial service was held on August 4 in Boston.
- **Carol Carson and family** on the death of her husband, **Wes Carson**. Wes, a member of FPC, died on August 2 at The Forest at Duke. A memorial service will be held at FPC on the afternoon of September 2.

Added this week: **Alisha Champion** (and her three children), granddaughter of Susan Cyr, lost the contents of her home to a fire recently.

Bob Breitweiser	Paul Cornsweet	Susan Cyr	Wib Gulley	Kerry Holbrook
Lee House	Jenni James	George Kafula	Mitzi Lesher-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

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Lynn Guerrant, friend of Mindy Douglas

Larry Hethcox, father of Esther Hethcox

Bob Lucas, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

Calvin Rogers, friend of Steve Rimmer

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Sylvia Elder, grandmother of Esther Hethcox

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

Gabe Lamazares, friend of FPC

Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James

Dennis Tiede, nephew of Mary-Jo Keenan



All Church Fellowship & Dinner

- ❖ The Momsen-Hudson's house is located about 20 minutes from the church.
- ❖ Bean bag golf, basketball, and kickball will be some of the available fun.
- ❖ Please bring a lawn chair, water bottle, and potluck dish to share.
- ❖ House and entrance are handicap accessible.
- ❖ Let us know you plan to attend by signing up via EVITE or call the church office: 919-682-5511.
- ❖ Help is needed. See assignment details on the signup genius (Check the EVITE).

Save the Date!



**You are cordially invited to join the Harvard family
Sunday, August 20
60th Wedding Anniversary Celebration
of Joe & Carlisle**

A reception will be held in Watts-Hill Hall following worship where you can congratulate Joe and Carlisle on 60 years of marriage and celebrate this event with the rest of their family. Light refreshments will be available.



**Fresh vegetables available through September 7
ORDER IN ADVANCE FOR PICK UP ON THURSDAYS**

The Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, done in partnership with Sankofa Farms in Orange County, is now selling tomatoes, squash, peppers, and much more during this vegetable cycle. The boxes of vegetables are delivered to FPC every Thursday afternoon 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, through 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. For more information feel free to contact *Tom Bacon* or *Johanna and George Bernhardt*.

450

Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D)
E^b(G)
A^b(D/F#)
E^b/G(A7)
B^b7(D)
E^b

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A)
B^b(D)
E^b(G)
A^b(A)
B^b

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G)
A^b(D)
E^b(F#m7)
Gm7(G)
A^b(A)
B^b

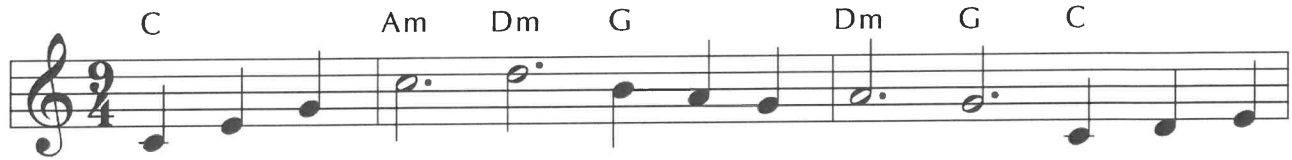
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm)
Cm(D/F#)
E^b/G(G)
A^b(D)
E^b

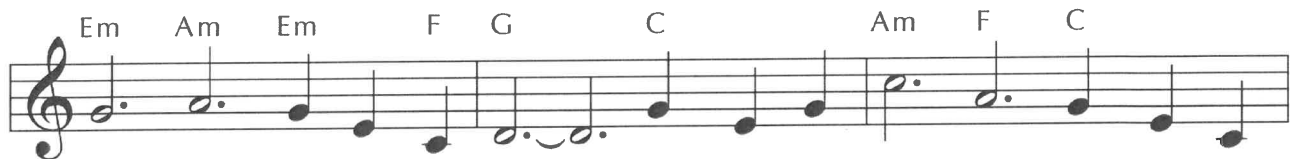
wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

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



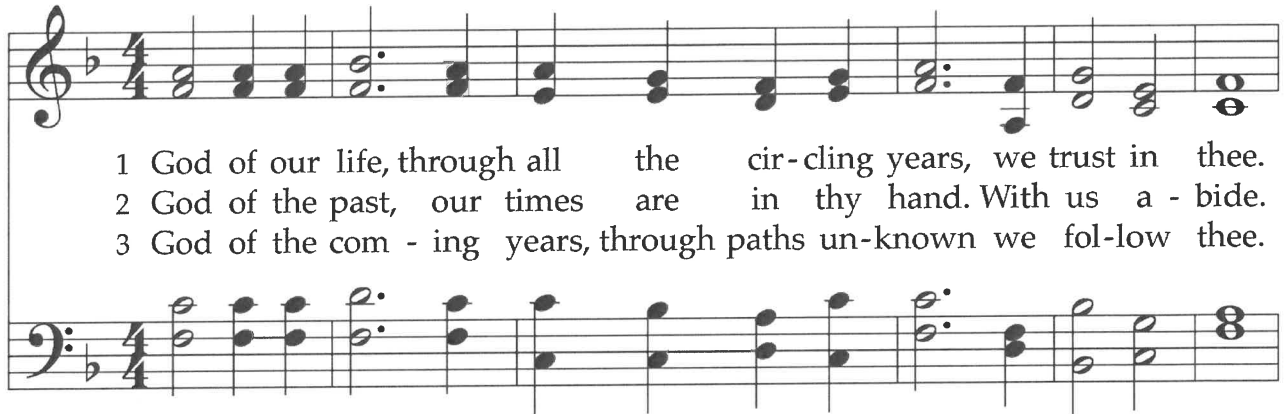
spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



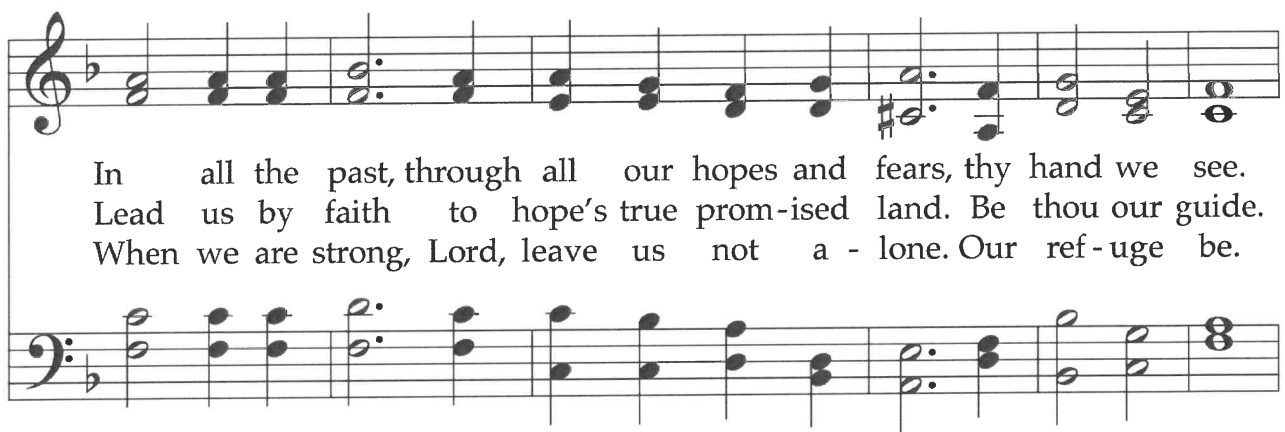
morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

God of Our Life

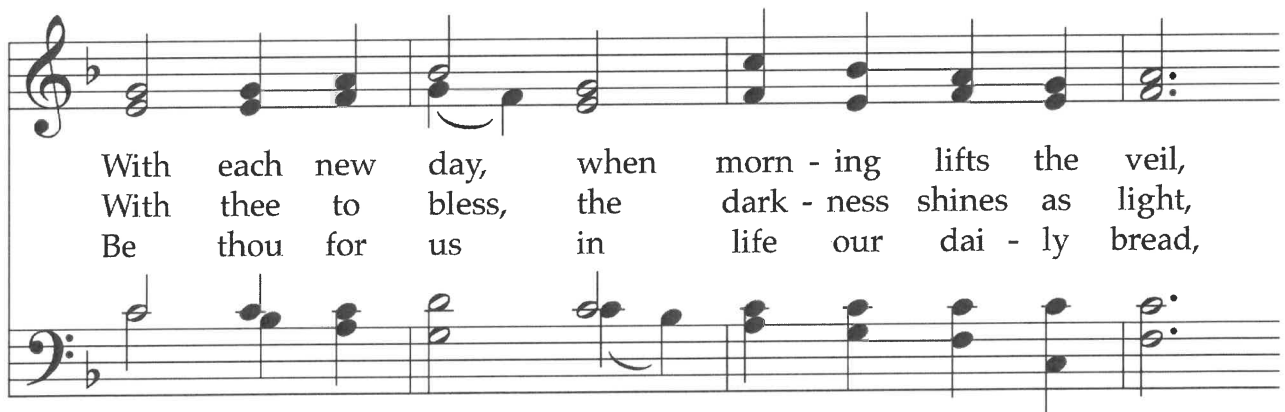
686



1 God of our life, through all the cir-cle years, we trust in thee.
 2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us a - bide.
 3 God of the com - ing years, through paths un-known we fol-low thee.



In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.
 Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land. Be thou our guide.
 When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone. Our ref-uge be.

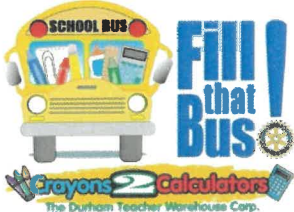



With each new day, when morn - ing lifts the veil,
 With thee to bless, the dark - ness shines as light,
 Be thou for us in life our dai - ly bread,



we own thy mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.
 and faith's fair vi - sion chang - es in - to sight.
 our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

The Week at a Glance!

Later Today After Worship Racial Equity	Monday, August 7 9:00-12 Noon Walk-in Ministry interviews 1:30 PM Worship Planning	Tuesday, August 8 Newsletter today 7:00 PM Personnel Committee (via Zoom)	Wednesday, August 9 No Chancel Choir 1:00-2:00 PM Program Staff
Thursday, August 10 9:00-12 Noon Walk-in Ministry interviews 7:00-8:00 PM Youth Hangout (at Locopops) 7:00-8:00 PM Creation Care (via Zoom)	Friday, August 11  Deadline for Durham Public Schools school supplies drive	Saturday, August 12  8:00-11:00 AM FPC Grounds Workday	Sunday, August 13 9:45 AM Faith Formation class for children Adult Lectionary 11:00 AM Worship 5:00-7:00 PM All-Church Fellowship & Dinner at the Momsen- Hudson home

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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