



First Presbyterian Church
Durham, North Carolina

September 10, 2023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 10, 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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

You Are Present with Your Love
Ginger Jones Robinson, soloist

Welsh melody,
arr. Wayne L. Wold

*In the morning, every morning, you are present as I wake.
You, sustaining, recreating with each deeper breath I take.
In the morning I will praise you for your dawning love and grace.
In the morning, every morning, you are present as I wake.*

*In the daytime, every daytime, you are present come what may.
You, inspiring, energizing in my busy work and play.
In the daytime I will praise you for your vibrant love and grace,
In the daytime, every daytime, you are present come what may.*

*In the evening, every evening, you are present as I rest.
You, still giving and forgiving, you embrace us; we are blessed.
In the evening I will praise you for your healing love and grace.
In the evening, every evening, you are present with your love.*

INTROIT

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

Holy Manna

*All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wand'ring, here in truth we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.*

*All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here in joy we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 148:1-4)**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

People: Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.

Leader: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

People: Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

All: Let us worship God.

***HYMN NO. 645**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Mit Freuden Zart

*Those who are able, please stand.

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**You do not ask much of us, Guardian of hope - to love, to serve, to welcome.
Yet too often, it is words of bitterness we speak to friends and family.
It is our stiff-with-judgment backs we offer to those looking for help.
It is our hardened hearts people find when they reach out, hoping to touch grace.
Love-lived-as-Compassion, forgive us.
We are broken, so make us whole through the life of Christ.
We are empty of peace, so fill us with the reconciling Spirit of Christ.
We are alone, so take us by the hand and lead us into your kingdom of joy and grace,
brought to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

Silent Reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness

***THE PEACE**

John Weicher

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (all sing)

Sung to *Bunessan*

***Christ be in all hearts thinking about me;
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me;
In ears that hear me Christ ever be.***

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:15-20

(Pew Bible, NT page 20)
Susan Dunlap

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE READING

Romans 13:8-14

(Pew Bible, NT page 162)
Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Amo Ergo Sum"

Mindy Douglas

(Silent reflection)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(from A Declaration of Faith)

John Weicher

**Christ calls us to live for our neighbors.
Jesus broadened the definition of neighbor
to include those ordinarily despised and excluded.
His life in behalf of others led to persecution and death.
He commanded his disciples to live the same way.
We believe Christ gives us and demands of us
lives that recognize all people in all cultures as our neighbors on this planet.
Christ teaches us to go beyond legal requirements in serving and helping our neighbor,
to treat our neighbor's needs as our own,
to care passionately for the other's good,
to share what we have.**

(The Affirmation continues on the next page.)

It is part of our discipline to live in simplicity,
avoiding greed and luxury that threaten our neighbor's survival.
We are obligated to speak the truth in love,
to listen with patience and openness,
to love our enemies,
to accept the risk and pain which love involves.

*HYMN NO. 205

Live in Charity

Ubi caritas (Taizé)

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Brent Curtis

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give

John Weicher

Offertory Anthem

I Surrender All

W.S. Weeden, arr. Moses Hogan

*All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him, in his presence daily live.
I surrender all, I surrender all;
All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.
All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power, let Thy blessing fall on me.
I surrender all, I surrender all;
All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all. Amen.*

*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 TABLE

John Weicher

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Susan Dunlap

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: The moment you spoke and liberated chaos, Holy God,
time marked the beginning of created beauty and glory.

You watered earth with tears of joy,
planting those seeds of hope and peace so we might be fed by your heart.

But asked simply to be your children,

we could not obey that request,

but wandered off to feast at the table

groaning with lies and curses.

Leader: Your gracious word was sung in new ways by the prophets,
 but we tuned them out,
 so we could listen to the seductive songs of sin.
 You sent us your hope in Jesus Christ,
 who came to set us free
 and bring us home from our exile in rebellion.
 So, with those who longed for your coming,
 packed and ready to journey into freedom,
 we sing our praises in the company of our siblings from every time:

All (sung): *Sanctus* *Land of Rest*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,____
 Bless - ed is____ the one who comes____

God of pow - er and might,____ heaven and earth____ are
 in the 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: You are righteousness,
 God our Deliverer,
 and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Child, our Brother.
 Because we break your heart with our words and deeds,
 he came to shatter the chains of our arrogance and selfishness.
 Because we feast on bitterness and fear,
 he came to be the sweet bread of healing and hope.
 Because death smiles at us,
 waiting with open arms,
 he came to gather us up in the embrace of grace and life,
 carrying us out of the empty tomb into your life of joy forever.
 As you have prepared this table for us,
 gather us as your children,
 so we might remember all the promises fulfilled to us in Christ our Lord:

All (sung):

Memorial Acclamation

Land of Rest



Leader:

As you bless the gifts of the bread and the cup,
anoint us with your Spirit which brings us together.
As your grace touches our lips with hope and healing,
may we reach out our hands to set free those captive to injustice.
As your peace is poured into the empty corners of our hearts,
may we go forth to love others as much as we love ourselves,
and to serve them as we show our love for you.

(Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession.)

And when time has marked the end of history,
and we gather with one another,
all division done away with,
all brokenness healed,
all barriers pulled down,
and all your children set free from despair,
we will join our hands and hearts around your table of eternity,
singing praise forever:

All (sung):

Celtic Alleluia



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

Susan Dunlap, John Weicher

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.)

Communion Solo

Let Us Break Bread Together

Traditional Spiritual

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

John Weicher

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: Amen.

All: Gracious God, how can we thank you for such a gift?

For you have met us, fed us, drawn us to you, and bound us to one another.

**Now send us out to share your love and proclaim our hope until Christ comes again.
Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 536

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

Surge Ecclesia

*BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

*POSTLUDE

Fugue in C

Johann Pachelbel



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

The *flowers* are given to the glory of God by **Mary Ann Ruegg** and in honor of the ministers of FPC, the staff, and the technology team.

We welcome our friend, **Ginger Jones-Robinson** as our soloist today. Ginger has performed solos and concerts in our sanctuary for many years. She recently completed her Doctorate in Music at the University of South Carolina and has moved back to the Triangle to become the Director of Choirs at Northern High School in Durham.

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.

Portions of today's liturgy are taken from *Book of Common Worship* (2018) and *lectionaryliturgies.com*.

Copies of sermons are available from the table in the foyer. Please feel free to take a copy for yourself and to share copies with our homebound members and friends of the church.

~ Concerns ~

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

- **Art Baker & Lara Duffney** on the death of Art's grandfather. **Richard Baker** died September 5.
- **Steve Rimmer**, his daughter **Lyn** and her husband **John Williams**, on the death of family friend. **Gayle Munday** died September 4 in Statesville.
- **Marcia Lorimer, Stephen Lorimer, and David Lorimer** of the death of Marcia's brother, and uncle to Stephen and David. **Robert Sciretta** died September 2 in Florida.

Bob Breitweiser	Paul Cornsweet	Kerry Holbrook	Jenni James	Lee House
George Kafula	Mitzi Leshner-Thomas	Franzi Rokoske	Alfred Tisdale	

Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Dub Gulley**

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: **Phillip Herndon**

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

Southpoint Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center: **Carol Wills**

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Robert (Bob) Clark, regular online worshipper

Ellen Doyle OSU, friend of Karolyn Mangeot

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

Larry Hethcox, father of Esther Hethcox

Rick Leinhas, friend of David & Judy Smith

Paul McCombs, friend of Walk-in Ministry

Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James

Calvin Rogers, friend of Steve Rimmer

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Sylvia Elder, grandmother of Esther Hethcox

Jasper Yeatts Gunn, child of Wilson Gunn

Gabe Lamazares, assoc. rector, St. Philip's Episcopal

Bob Lucas, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

Mary Myers, mother of Christy Gudaitis

Spencer Reeves, regular online worshipper

Dennis Tiede, nephew of Mary-Jo Keenan

John C. Weicher, father of John Weicher

SAVE THESE DATES!

Interfaith Pride Worship

An Interfaith Pride Worship Service will be held at Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Durham at **7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 21**. First Presbyterian Church is a partner in planning and leading this service.

DURHAM PRIDE Parade

Saturday, September 23, 2023 – step off at 10:30 a.m.

FPC will walk in the parade this year. Stay tuned for where to meet.

645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief
 4 Thus all my toil-some way a - long I sing a - loud

cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song

the God of our sal - va - tion. With
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,

mur-mur stilled:
all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!
cho - sen band:
take your part:

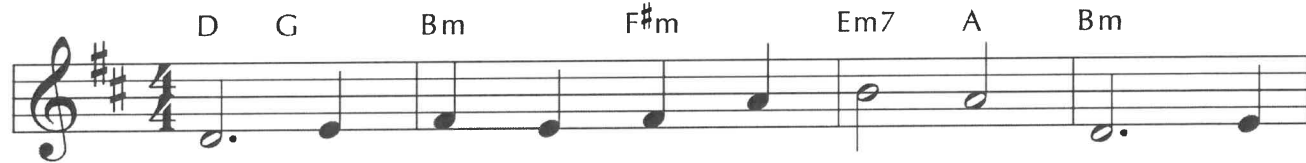
Live in Charity

205

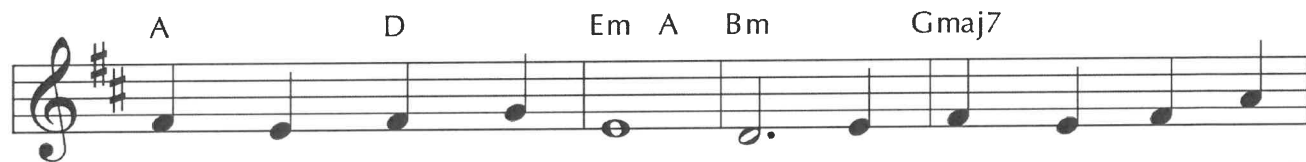
Ubi caritas

Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love.
U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.
u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.

536 Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen



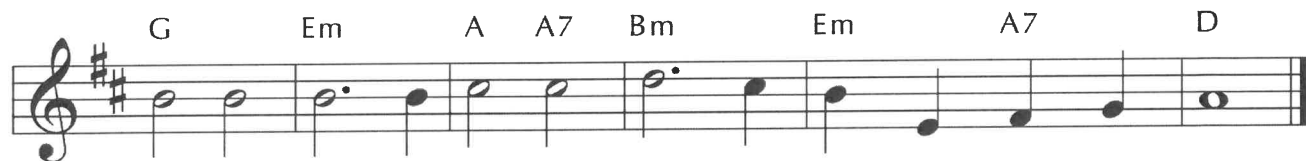
1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en, from this
 2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low af - ter
 3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture God has
 4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion; cour - age



meal of love and grace; may we through such love en -
 Christ, though wound - ed, whole; bro - ken, shared, our lives are
 called us to re - ceive; pres - ent by God's lov - ing
 be our dai - ly breath; mer - cy be our des - ti -




vi - sion whose we are, and whose, our praise. Al - le -
 hal - lowed to re - lease and to con - sole. Al - le -
 nur - ture, Spir - it - ed then let us live. Al - le -
 na - tion from this day and un - to death. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia: God, the won - der of our days.
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia: Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia: Spir - it, grace by whom we live.
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

The Week at a Glance!

<p style="text-align: center;">Later Today</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:15 PM Racial Equity Task Force (Wilson Parlor)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:00-7:00 PM Youth Group Kickoff & Parent Meeting</p> <hr/> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Monday, September 11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:30 AM Presbyterian Women (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:30 PM Worship Planning</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:00 PM Christian Education / Property Committees</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:30 PM Service & Mission Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:00 PM Worship & the Arts Committee</p> </div> </div>		<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, September 12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:00 PM Things That Matter Book Group (at the home of Marsha Butler)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday September 13</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:00 AM-12 Noon All Staff</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:00-4:00 PM Staff CPR Training</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:00 PM Stewardship Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:00 PM Chancel Choir rehearsal</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, September 14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:00 AM-12 Noon Walk-in Ministry interviews</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday, September 15</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, September 16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:30-11:30 AM Memorial Service for Phil Boyle</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:30 AM-3:30 PM Celebration of Life for Phil Boyle (both events being held at Pluck Farm, Mebane NC)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, September 17 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:45 AM Faith Formation (Fall classes resume for Children, youth, and adults)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:00 AM Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:00-7:00 PM Youth Group</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>

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