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# **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

**JANUARY 28, 2024**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

Minute for Stewardship: Red Cross Blood Drive

Julie Whiddon

PRELUDE

*Jesus Shall Reign*

*Duke Street,*  
arr. David Cherwin

INTROIT

*O Rise and Sing*

James Biery

*O rise and sing to God today!  
And call on our creator's might:  
The will of God to be our guide,  
The eye of God to be our sight,  
The word of God to be our song,  
The hand of God to be our stay,  
The shield of God to be our strength,  
The path of God to be our way. Amen.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mindy Douglas

Leader: With our whole hearts, we give God thanks.

People: **Great are the works of the Lord!**

Leader: We ascribe honor and majesty to God.

People: **God's righteousness endures forever.**

Leader: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

People: **Let us worship God!**

\*HYMN NO. 32

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

*Ellacombe*

\*CONFESSION OF SIN

Haley Winslow Stephenson

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Holy and all-powerful God,  
who commands all spirits,  
comforts those in distress,  
and casts out destructive forces,  
we confess that we are unable to do your will.**

**We protect what is familiar and reject what is unknown.**

**We admire those with courage but excuse ourselves when we falter from the truth.**

**We forget that you are always with us,  
and that with you all things are possible.**

*(Confession continues next page.)*

Those who are able, please stand.

**Forgive us, lead us, make us new.  
Remove our desire to heed false prophets,  
and show us your way;  
in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
one God, Mother of us all.**

Silent Confession  
Assurance of Pardon

**\*THE PEACE**

Haley Winslow Stephenson

**\*RESPONSE** (Hymn No. 435, verse 2)

*In Babilone*

***For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,  
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.***

**COLLECT FOR THE DAY**

Jean Cary

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.  
**People:** And also with you.  
**Leader:** Let us pray.  
**All:** Holy and awesome God,  
your Son's authority is found in integrity and living truth,  
not the assertion of power over others.  
Open our imaginations to new dimensions of your love,  
and heal us of all that severs us from you and one another,  
that we may grow into the vision you unfold before us. Amen.

**PSALTER** (Read responsively)

Psalm 111

Jean Cary

**Leader:** Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.  
**People:** Great are your works, O Lord,  
pondered by all who delight in them.  
**Leader:** Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,  
and your righteousness endures forever.  
**People:** You cause your wonders to be remembered;  
you are gracious and full of compassion.  
**Leader:** You give food to those who fear you,  
remembering forever your covenant.  
**People:** You have shown your people the power of your works.  
**Leader:** The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;  
all of your precepts are sure.  
**People:** They stand fast forever and ever,  
because they are done in truth and equity.  
**Leader:** You sent redemption to your people  
and commanded your covenant forever;  
holy and awesome is your name.

(Reading continues next page.)

**People:** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who practice this have a good understanding.  
God's praise endures forever.

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God!

**GOSPEL READING**

Mark 1:21-28

(Pew Bible, NT page 35)

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord.

Mindy Douglas

**People:** Thanks be to God!

**SERMON**

*"No Ordinary Man"*

Mindy Douglas

**\*HYMN NO. 53**

*O God, Who Gives Us Life*

*Noel*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(From *A Declaration of Faith*)

Haley Winslow Stephenson

**Jesus was God in the flesh.**

**Jesus Christ overthrew evil powers that enslaved and degraded people,  
yet he made no use of power to protect himself.**

**He healed those who were sick in body and mind,  
yet he did not avoid pain and suffering for himself.**

**He commanded his followers to place loyalty to him  
above loyalty to family and country,  
yet he lived among them as a servant.**

**Jesus taught with authority,  
challenging many time-honored customs and ideas,  
yet he submitted to humiliation and death  
without a word on his own behalf.**

**He forgave sinners,  
yet he was counted among sinners.**

**We recognize the work of God in Jesus' power and authority.**

**He did what only God can do.**

**We also recognize the work of God in Jesus' lowliness.**

**When he lived as a servant and went humbly to his death  
the greatness that belongs only to God was manifest.**

**In both his majesty and lowliness Jesus is the eternal Son of God,  
God himself with us.**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Heidi Biermann

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

Mindy Douglas

Offertory Anthem

*More Love*

*Shaker Hymn*, arr. Sid Davis

*More love; the heavens are blessing, the angels are calling, O Zion, more love.*

*If ye love not each other in daily communion, how can ye love God, whom ye have not seen?*

*More love! The heavens are blessing, the angels are calling, O Zion, more love!*

*(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!*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Heidi Biermann

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Heidi Biermann

**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. 265

*Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

*Duke Street*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

\*POSTLUDE

*Canzona in d minor*

D. Buxtehude



**Welcome!** Let us know you have joined us for worship by scanning the QR code to the left. For online giving, scan the QR code to the right. First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in Christ. First Presbyterian welcomes individuals of every age,



race, nationality, gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, and economic circumstance to participate fully in the life of the church. So that you may know who is sitting nearby, please sign the *Friendship Pad*, pass it along the pew, and **then return it to the starting point**, noting the names of those sitting near you.

Thanks to *Leigh Joyner Wynkoop* for conducting the Introit this morning and to *Dan Huff* for conducting the anthem.

The *flowers* are given to the glory of God by the family of *Maxie Honeycutt* in honor of her 99th birthday which she is celebrating today.

*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.

*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. Please return bags to the foyer at the end of worship.

*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 worship texts* are taken from *Book of Common Worship* (2018), *Call to Worship* (2023-2024 Year B), and *Feasting on the Word* (Year B, volume 1). Music reprinted under Onelicense.net A. 713926.

Today's *bulletin cover* was created by FPC youth, *Mason Armstrong*.

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### ~ Concerns ~

*Brent Curtis* is recovering from surgery.

*Barbara Gerwe* is preparing for knee surgery.

*Diane Lesman* is preparing for hip surgery.

*Joe Robinson*, former member of FPC, is preparing for surgery.

*Denisha Williams*, daughter of Sybil King

*Emily Wilson*, wife of Mike Wilson and daughter-in-law of Jean and Chuck Wilson, as she begins her second round of chemotherapy this week.

*Doug Butler*

*Paul Cornsweet*

*Susan Cyr*

*Kerry Holbrook*

*Lee House*

*Jenni James*

*Mitzi Leshner-Thomas*

*Franzi Rokoske*

*Caroline Rourk*

*Alfred Tisdale*

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Dub Gulley*

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: *Phillip Herndon*

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

### Family and Friends of the Congregation

*Karla Brown & family*, friends of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

*Kim Cummings*, father of Drew Cummings

*John Keller*, son of Tom & Margaret Keller

*Brian Knowles*, son of Sheila & Sam Miglarese

*Gabe Lamazares*, assoc. rector, St. Philip's EC

*Robert Lewis Jr.*, son of FPC regular worshipper Rev. Bob Lewis

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

*Doug Rimmer*, brother of Steve Rimmer

*Calvin Rogers*, friend of Steve Rimmer

*Jim Vacca*, father of Jamie Chambliss

*John C. Weicher*, father of John Weicher

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### **FPC Hosting Community Blood Drive**

**Thursday, February 1, 2024**

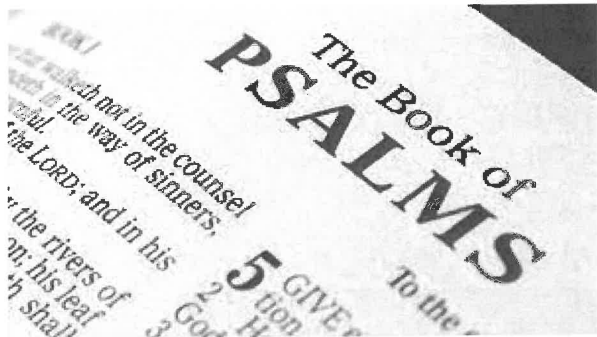
**1:00-6:00 p.m. at FPC in Watts-Hill Hall**

FPC contact/organizer: *Julie Whiddon*

[foxylady2642@yahoo.com](mailto:foxylady2642@yahoo.com) or 919-730-6673

The American Red Cross is experiencing an emergency blood shortage as the nation faces the lowest number of people giving blood in 20 years. **Come and give blood and you will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card.** Go online to [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and use code *firstpres* to schedule your appointment. If you are healthy and it has been over 50 days since your last blood donation, please sign up to donate. Most donations take about an hour. Walk-ins are also welcome.

## New Bible Study



Join Susan Dunlap as she leads this study on the Psalms on Sundays, February 4, 11, 18, 25, and March 3, from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the Spiritual Formation room/basement parlor across from the Youth Rooms.

The Book of Psalms is the church's prayer book, and we learn from them that nothing need be excluded from our discourse with God. From lofty, poetic expressions of praise to raw expressions of abandonment and anguish, to affirmations of the steadfast, bountiful love of God, the Psalms teach us how to lay it all out before God. We are buoyed by them, we connect to God with them, and we give voices to our deepest joys and longings through them. For many of us, the Psalms have been a source of sustenance and hope, and this study will allow us to share with one another our favorite Psalms as well as be introduced to new ones. We will examine the variety of Psalm types, from lament to praise, and explore ways to incorporate them into the prayerful life. As always, everyone is invited to this study, no reading required. While consistent attendance is preferable, it is not always possible, so all are welcome to just come when they can.

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## February Events

### **Sunday, February 4**

Worship and Communion, Nora Tisdale preaching – 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary  
Interest Gathering for Discerning Visitors hosted by the Welcome & Belonging Committee –  
12 noon in Watts-Hill Hall

### **Monday, February 5**

Presbyterian Women Circle & Bible Study – 10:30 a.m. in the Daye Meeting Room

### **Tuesday, February 6**

FPC Program Staff Retreat – 12 noon–4:00 p.m. at Eno River Unitarian Universalist Church

### **Wednesday, February 7**

A Service of Lament and Prayer for Peace – 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

### **Sunday, February 11 - YOUTH SUNDAY**

FPC youth lead worship – 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

### **Tuesday, February 13**

Things That Matter Book Group Potluck – 6:00 p.m. in Watts-Hill Hall

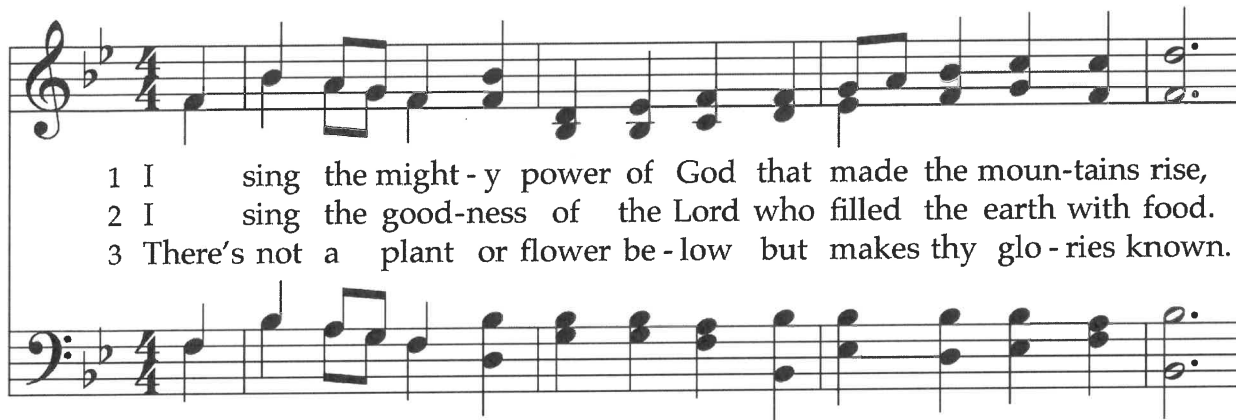
### **Wednesday, February 14 - ASH WEDNESDAY** (The Season of Lent begins)

Imposition of Ashes Services – 12 Noon in the Memorial Garden / 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

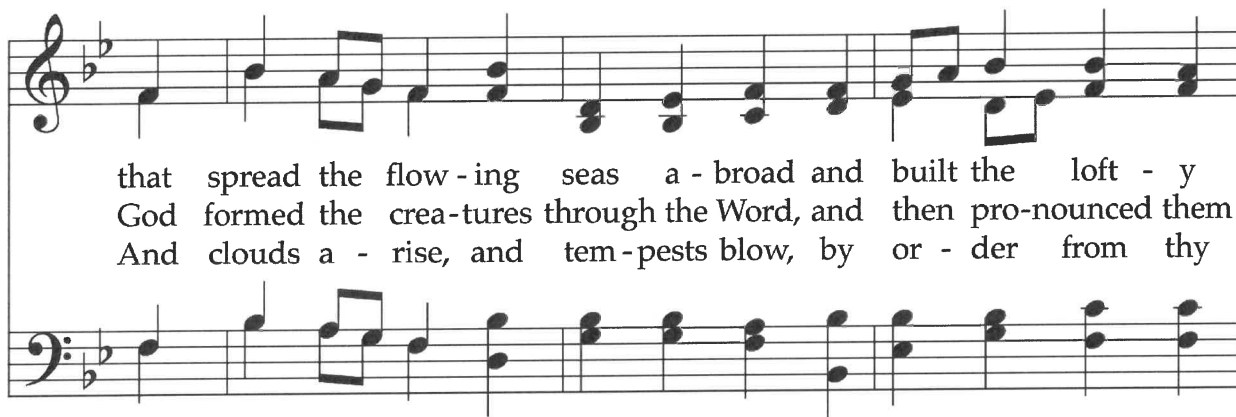
### **Sunday, February 18**

Racial Equity Task Force Retreat – 12:30-4:00 p.m. in Watts-Hill Hall

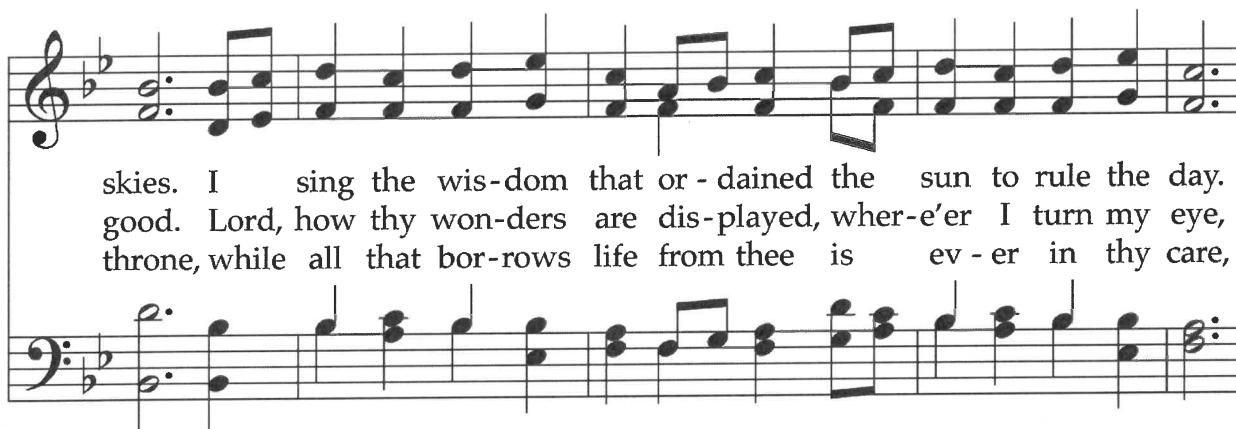
# 32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God



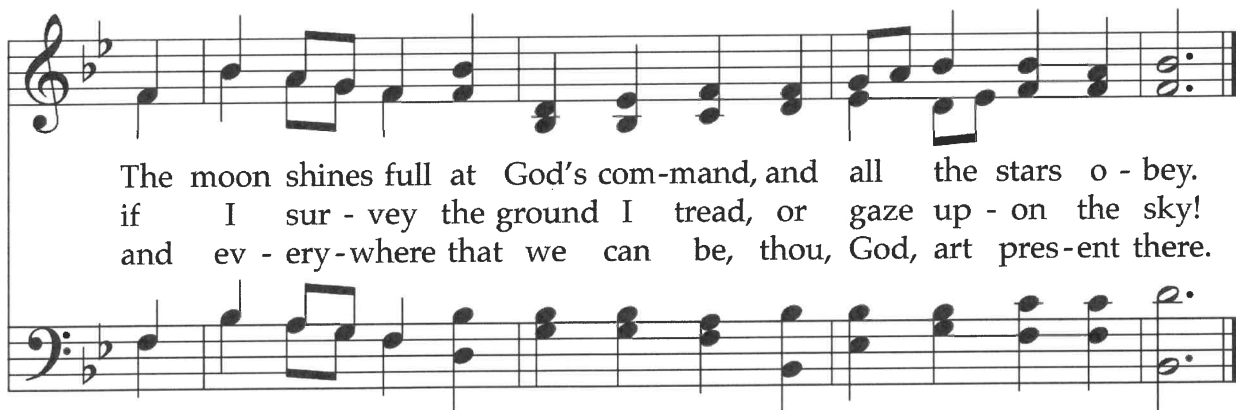
1 I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,  
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.  
3 There's not a plant or flower be-low but makes thy glo-ries known.



that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad and built the loft - y  
God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them  
And clouds a-rise, and tem-pests blow, by or-der from thy



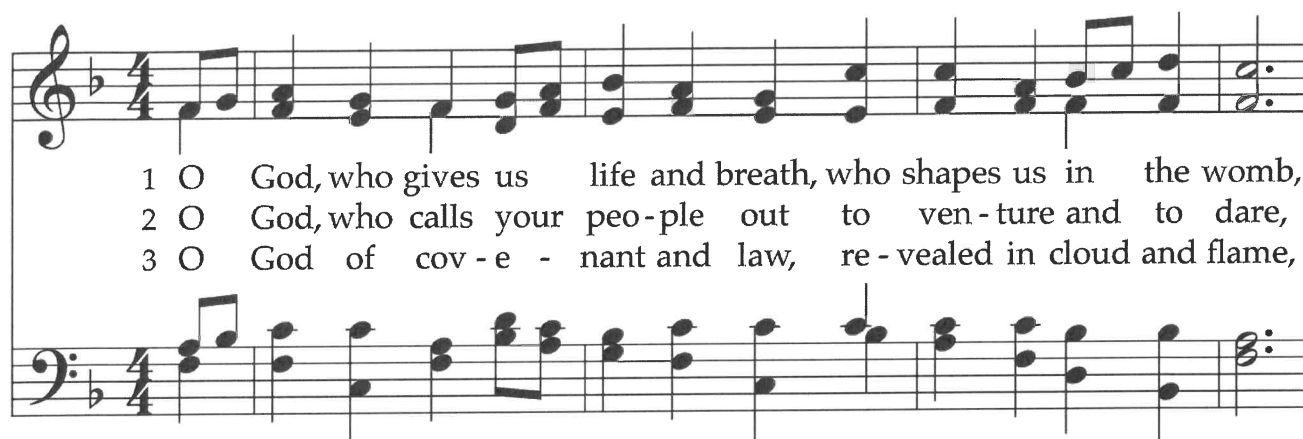
skies. I sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day.  
good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,  
throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev-er in thy care,



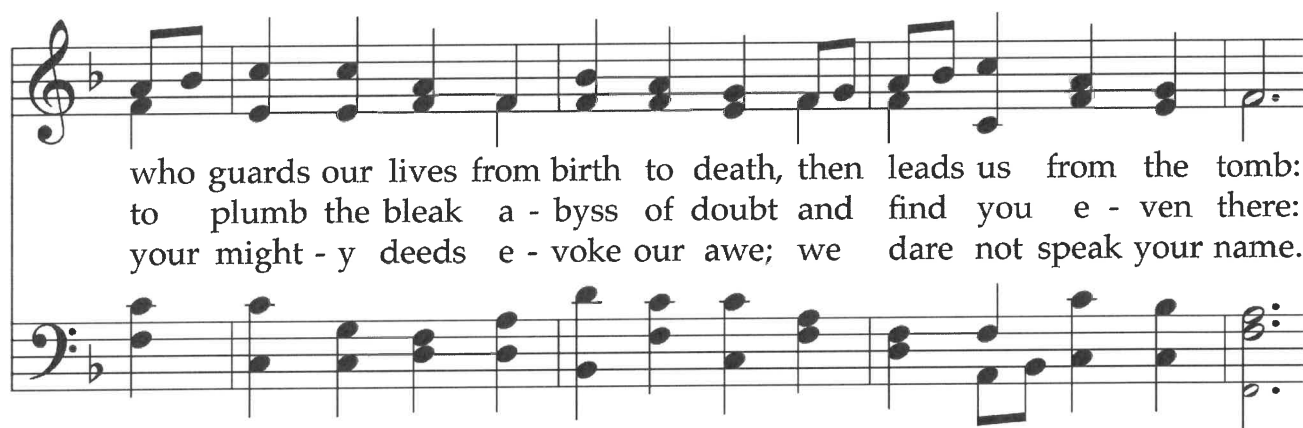
The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o-bey.  
if I sur-vey the ground I tread, or gaze up-on the sky!  
and ev-ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.



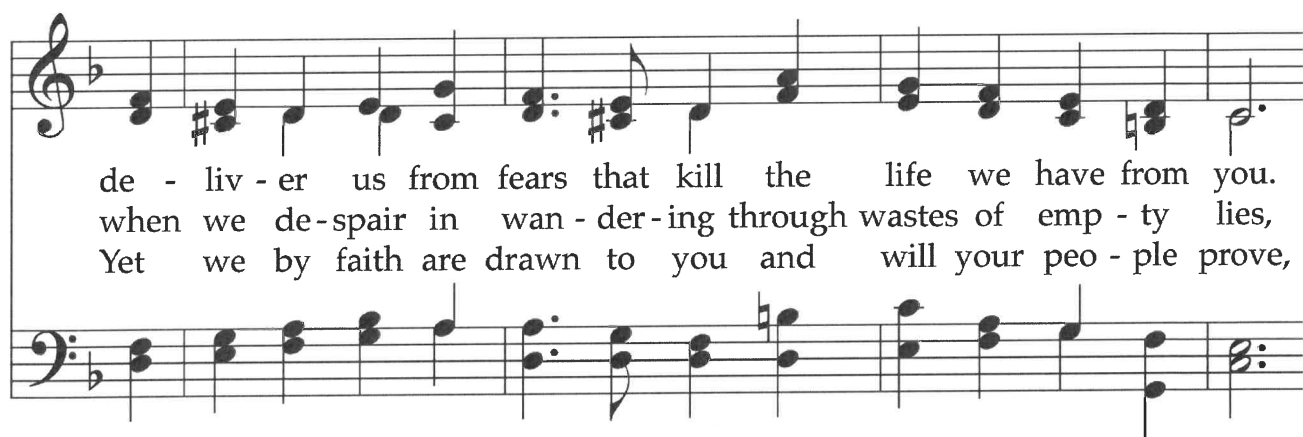
## O God, Who Gives Us Life



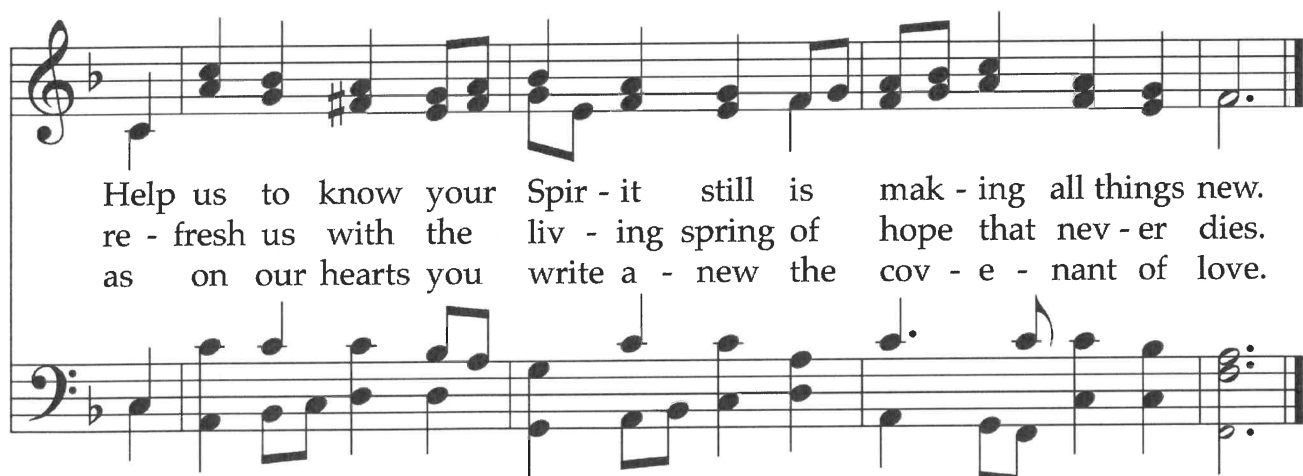
1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,  
2 O God, who calls your peo-ple out to ven-ture and to dare,  
3 O God of cov-e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,



who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:  
to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:  
your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.

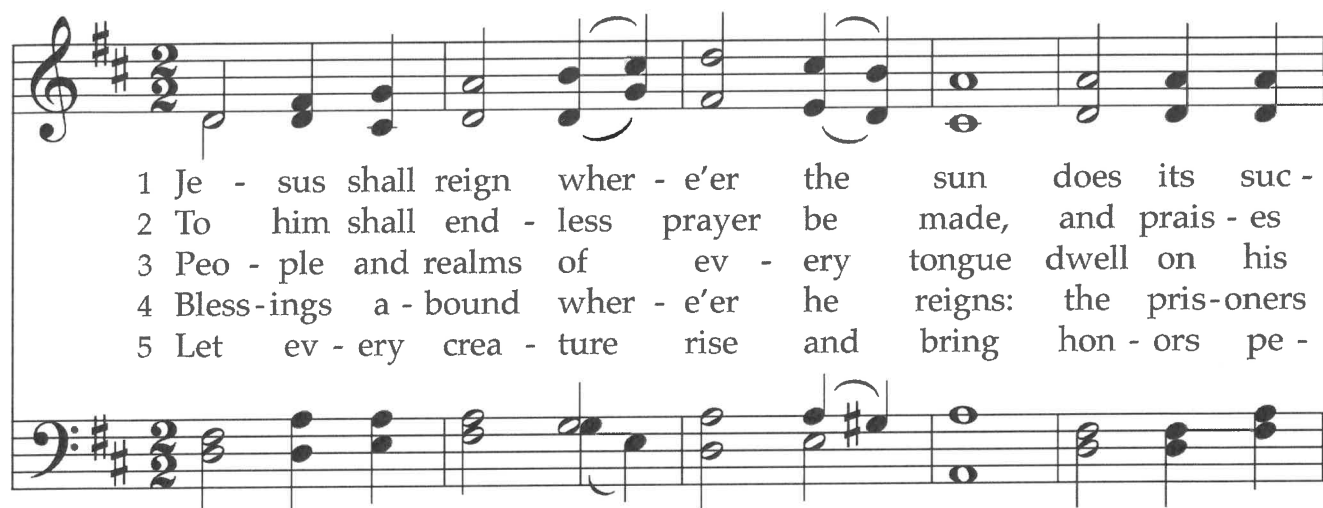


de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.  
when we de-spair in wan - der-ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,  
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,

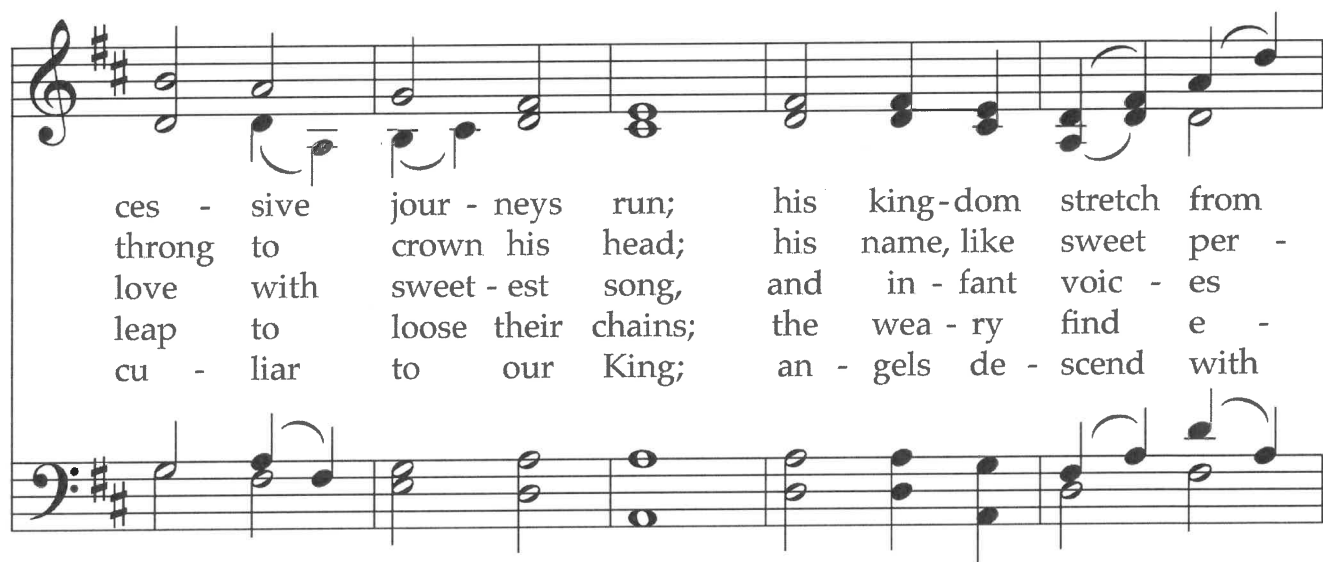


Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.  
re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.  
as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

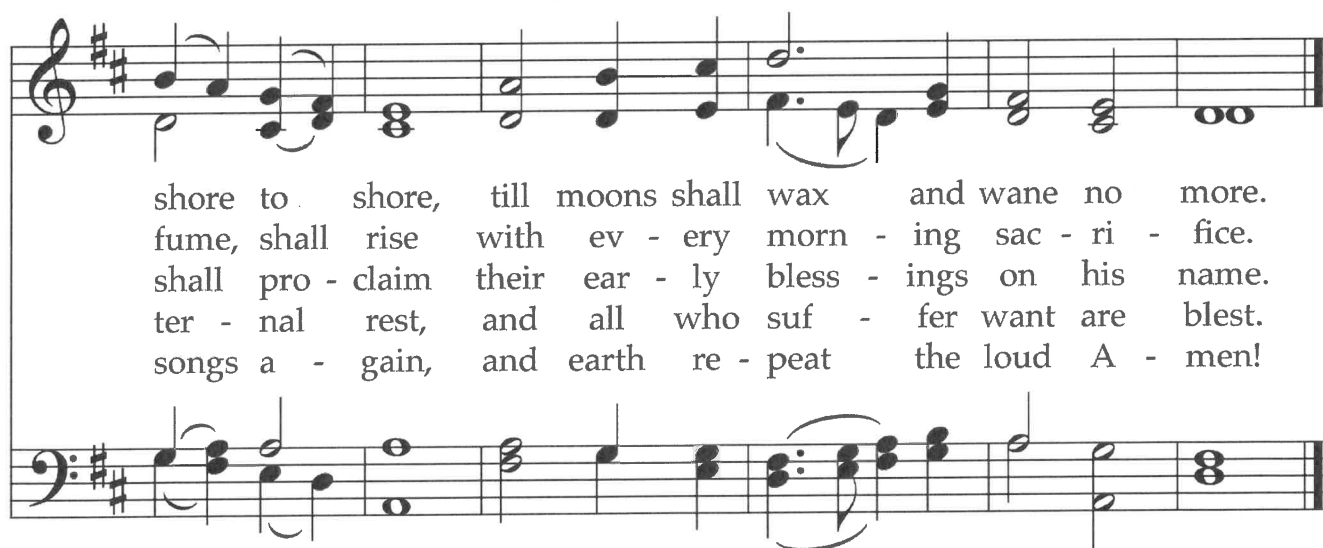
# 265 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners  
 5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
 throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song, and in - fant voic - es  
 leap to loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -  
 cu - liar to our King; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume, shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud A - men!



## THE HUNGER FOR CHANGE 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 and bag food for the Iglesia 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 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 have been frequent recipients.

If your family committed to saving a **penny**/day each month, you'd be donating about \$0.30 per month or \$3.65 for the entire year. That's not much in the face of the rising need. Save a **nickel**/day, and you can contribute \$1.50 per month. A **dime**/day will generate \$3.00 and a **quarter**/a day will generate \$7.50 per month.

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 your offering today!**

## The Week at a Glance!

<p><b>Later Today</b></p> <p><b>5:00-7:00 PM</b> Youth Group (at Sky Zone)</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)</p> <hr/> <p><b>Monday, January 29</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM-12 Noon</b> Walk-in Ministry Interviews</p> <p><b>1:30 PM</b> Worship Planning</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, January 30</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Wednesday, January 31</b></p> <p><b>1:00 PM</b> All Staff</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir</p>	
<p><b>Thursday, February 1</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM-12 Noon</b> Walk-in Ministry Interviews</p> <p><b>1:00-6:00 PM</b> Red Cross Blood Drive (Watts-Hill Hall)</p>	<p><b>Friday, February 2</b></p> <div></div> <p><b>8:00 AM</b> Men of Faith Breakfast and Conversation (at Mad Hatters restaurant)</p> <hr/> <p><b>Saturday, February 3</b></p>	<p><b>Sunday, February 4</b> <b>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</b></p> <p><b>9:45-10:45 AM</b> Faith Formation classes for all ages/Study of Psalms</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> Worship and Communion Nora Tisdale, preaching</p> <p><b>After Worship:</b> Interest Gathering for Discerning Visitors hosted by the Welcome &amp; Belonging Committee (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p><b>5:00-7:00 PM</b> Youth Group</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>

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>.

### 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*, Sunday Morning Sexton  
*Joseph Harvard*, Pastor Emeritus



*Esther Hethcox*, 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