

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 23, 2024

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Esther Hethcox

PRELUDE

Song of Hope

Peter Meechan

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 9:9-11)**

Esther Hethcox

Leader: You, O Lord, will be a refuge for the oppressed,

People: a refuge in time of trouble.

Leader: Those who know your name will put their trust in you,

People: for you never forsake those who seek you, O Lord.

Leader: Sing praise to the Lord who dwells in Zion;

People: proclaim to the peoples the things God has done.

***HYMN No. 275**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Ein' Feste Burg

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Cris Rivera

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Lord of hosts---

We confess that we are weak, unable on our own to defeat the enemies of our souls.

We give in to our fears and live in their darkness,

rather than living by faith in your promises of mercy and justice.

**Even as you delivered your people of old from their enemies by the hand of David,
your anointed servant,**

so deliver us also from all evil through the Son of David,

your anointed one and our Sovereign, Jesus of Nazareth.

By the same Spirit that strengthened them both to believe

and to act according to your promises,

strengthen us also to serve you faithfully,

that we may be victorious

over all the forces of darkness within us and around us,

to the praise of your glory and grace.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

***THE PEACE**

Cris Rivera

** Those who are able, please stand.*

*REGATHERING HYMN (No. 475, verse 3)

Nettleton

*O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jane Wettach

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray.
People: **God our helper,
by your Holy Spirit, open our minds,
that as the scriptures are read and your word is proclaimed,
we may be led into your truth and taught your will,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 4:35-41

(Pew Bible, NT Page 39)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

Jane Wettach

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 17:41-50

(Pew Bible, OT Page 262)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

Tim Verhey

SERMON

"Stilling Storms and Slaying Giants"

Tim Verhey

(silent reflection)

*HYMN NO. 307

God of Grace and God of Glory

Cwm Rhondda

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from the *Heidelberg Catechism*)

Cris Rivera

1. Q. What is your only comfort, in life and in death?
 - A. **That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death—not to myself but to my faithful savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of God in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit God's purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by the Holy Spirit, Christ also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**
86. Q. Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace alone through Christ, without any merit of our own, why must we yet do good works?
 - A. **Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, also renews us by the Holy Spirit to be God's image, so that with our whole life we may show ourselves thankful to God for God's benefits, and God may be praised by us. Further, that we ourselves may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and that by our godly walk of life we may win our neighbors for Christ.**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Esther Hethcox

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give
Offertory Music

Lento

Cris Rivera
S. Rachmaninoff, arr. Thomas Hooten

(The *Hunger for Change Offering* is received following the offertory music.)

*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!***

*LITANY OF FAREWELL FOR THE HOUSE FAMILY

Esther Hethcox

Leader: We send you forth as disciples of Jesus Christ and as ambassadors of friendship, spreading the good news of God's love in your new surroundings. Go in the spirit of Christ. Be steadfast in your devotion to him.

People: Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.

Leader: Know that your ministry with us has served the cause of Christ in this community. Well done, good and faithful servants!

People: Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.

Leader: May your commitment to Christ grow as you enter another community and another congregation.

People: Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.

Leader: Remember that even though we will be separated in space, our shared faith in Jesus Christ will keep us connected.

People: Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.

Unison Prayer of the People:

Gracious God, a wandering Aramean is our ancestor and you have been with us every step of the way on the long journey of faith. Go now with Wayne, Lucie, Eloise, and Lee, we pray. Keep them faithful to you, in prayer, worship, service, and in the new relationships they will make. Give them traveling mercies and a new community of faith through which they may continue to serve you. May our friendship with them continue, and may they ever be one in Christ. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Esther Hethcox

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Esther Hethcox

**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. 339

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift Every Voice

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Tim Verhey

*POSTLUDE

Toccata in D

G. B. Martini, arr. M. Rondeau

Habitat House Dedication and Celebration with Omar Guess!

Please plan to attend a celebration for Omar and his new house following worship today in Watts-Hill Hall. Light refreshments will be available.



First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. Let us know you have joined us in person for worship by scanning the QR code to the left. For online giving, scan the QR code to the right.



Sign in

Donate online

We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in Jesus 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.

We welcome to the pulpit today *Rev. Dr. Tim Verhey*, an ordained PC(USA) Minister of Word and Sacrament and professor at St. Andrews University in Laurinburg, NC. Tim is the son of *Phyllis Verhey* and the *late Allen Verhey* and worships with us several times each year. Mindy Douglas and Tim Verhey were in school together at Union Seminary in Richmond.

We welcome *Kent Foss* (trumpeter) back to Durham where he is playing this summer with the NC Symphony. We also thank *Gordon Campbell* for serving as organist while *Kathy Parkins* is away.

The *flowers* in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by *Mary Ann Ruegg* in honor of FPC's ministers, staff, and techs who work behind the scenes.

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. 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.



CONDOLENCES: The love and concern of the congregation are extended to *Walt and Katy Barron (Ruby and Dot)* on the death of Walt's father. *The Rev. Dr. William (Bill) Barron* died June 16th in Knoxville, TN.

CONCERNS: *Harriett Mitchell* is home after spending time at Hillcrest.

- *Jerry Boles*, sister-in-law of Maxie Honeycutt and aunt of Michael Honeycutt, is recovering from brain surgery.
- *Sylvia Elder*, grandmother of Esther Hethcox, is under Hospice care.
- *Mary Kay Robinson* is home, recovering from knee surgery.

Tony Chavez *Paul Cornsweet* *Susan Cyr* *Kerry Holbrook* *Lee House* *Jenni James*
Mal King *Mitzi Leshner-Thomas* *Madge McKeithan* *Jo Ann Moore* *Vernon Neece*
Ruth Roberson *Franzi & Keith Rokoske* *Alfred Tisdale*

Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Dub Gulley*

Durham Ridge: *Phillip Herndon*

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

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Sabrina Anwar-Wilson, friend of Mary Berry

Francisca Cristobal, family of Al & Judy Arrowwood

Larry and Lynn Farrell, parents of Rachel Bethune

Andrew Holbrook, nephew of Kerry Holbrook

Katie Jackson, wife of Matt Hirsch

Doug Neece, brother of Vernon Neece

Doug Rimmer, brother of Steve Rimmer

Elizabeth Romska, daughter of Bob Lewis

John C. Weicher, father of John Weicher

Tim Boyer, cousin of Fred Moore

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Isla Foster, cousin of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

Ford Holbrook, brother Kerry Holbrook

John Keller, son of Tom & Margaret Keller

Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James

Joe Robinson, former member of FPC

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Denisha Williams, daughter of Sybil King

The Retirement Committee

Over the next two years, all three of the team of administrators at First Presbyterian Church, Durham (FPC) plan to retire. To take the lead in assembling a new team and in celebrating the prospective retirees, *Mindy Douglas*, FPC Head of Staff, has commissioned a Retirement Committee, chaired by *Douglas Butler*.

Assembling a new team of administrators will be a multi-task undertaking.

- To begin, the Committee will document the duties and responsibilities of the current team of *Valerie McMillian* as Parish Administrator, *Tom Bloom* as Business Administrator, and *Sybil King* as Administrative Assistant. Committee members, having reviewed the existing (2014) position descriptions, will meet with them individually. In addition, Committee members will talk to “the customers”—for example, other church staff and volunteers—about the support the administrators provide.
- Another task will be to collect information about the administrative duties, structures, and compensation packages at other churches with sizes and operations like FPC.
- As all this information is collected, the Committee will conduct a forward-looking review of FPC’s administrative duties and structure. It will ask—in light of factors such as budget, changing technology and vendor availability, and FPC needs—what should continue, be strengthened, and be eliminated.
- Then the Committee will turn to preparing new position descriptions and compensation packages, working with the Personnel, Finance, and Stewardship Committees.
- To be complete, the Committee will plan the introduction and integration of the new staff, including provision of overlap- and cross-training.

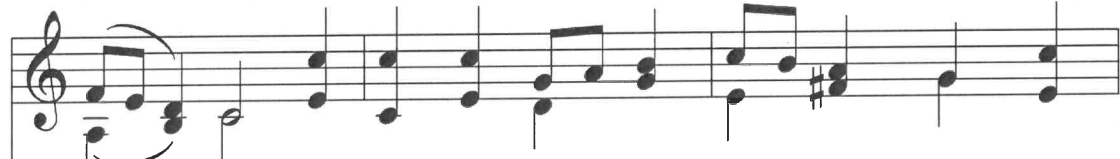
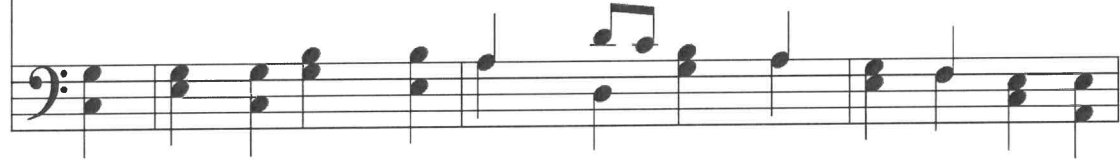
Throughout, priority in time will be given to plans for recruiting a person to be trained by Valerie, who plans to retire in December this year. Proposals will be brought to Mindy, for consideration by the Session as appropriate.

In parallel, celebrations to express our love and appreciation for the prospective retirees will be arranged. These will be tailored to the individual, their contributions to the life of FPC, and the date of their departure. Although much of the Committee’s work will be confidential, it will provide broad-stroke progress reports. The Committee’s membership is expected to evolve, especially as additional retirements appear imminent.

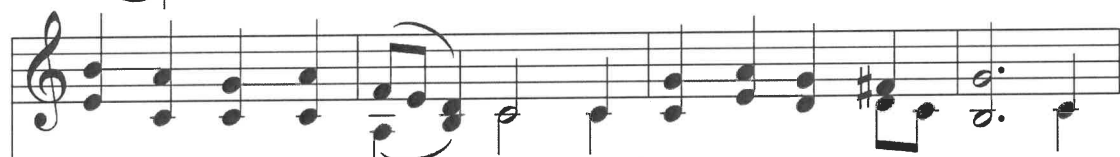
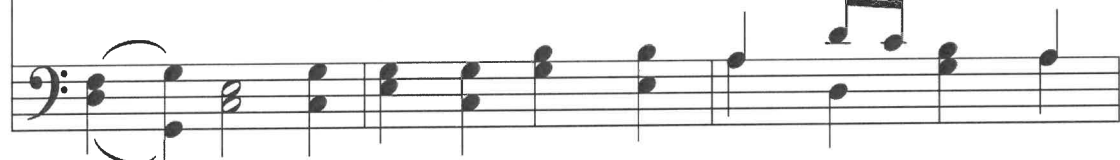
275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



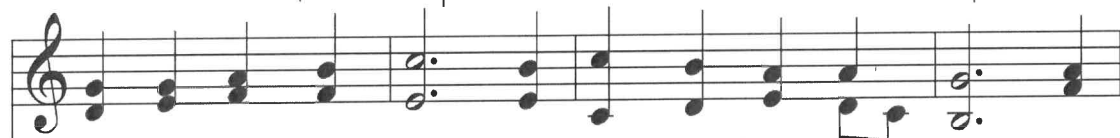
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -



fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this



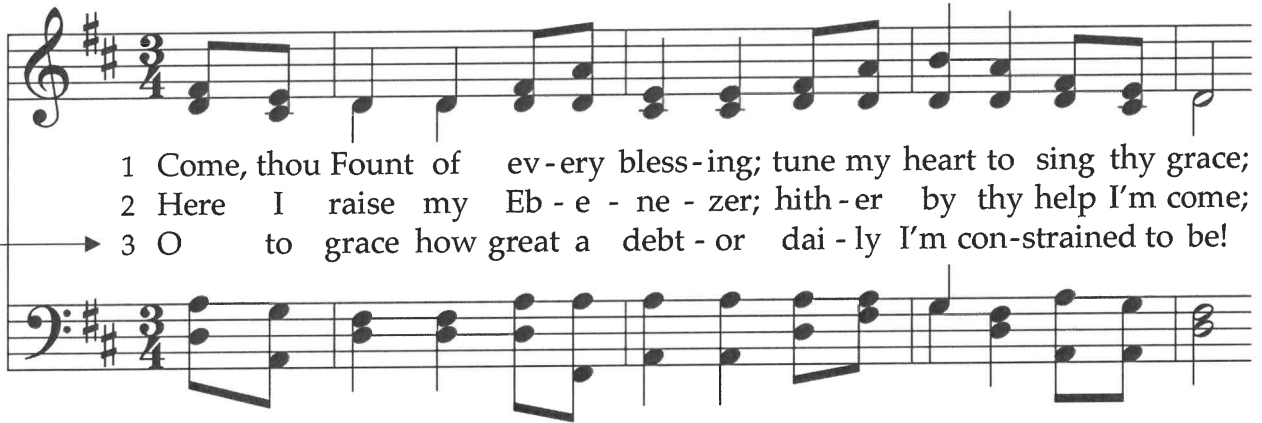
seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's



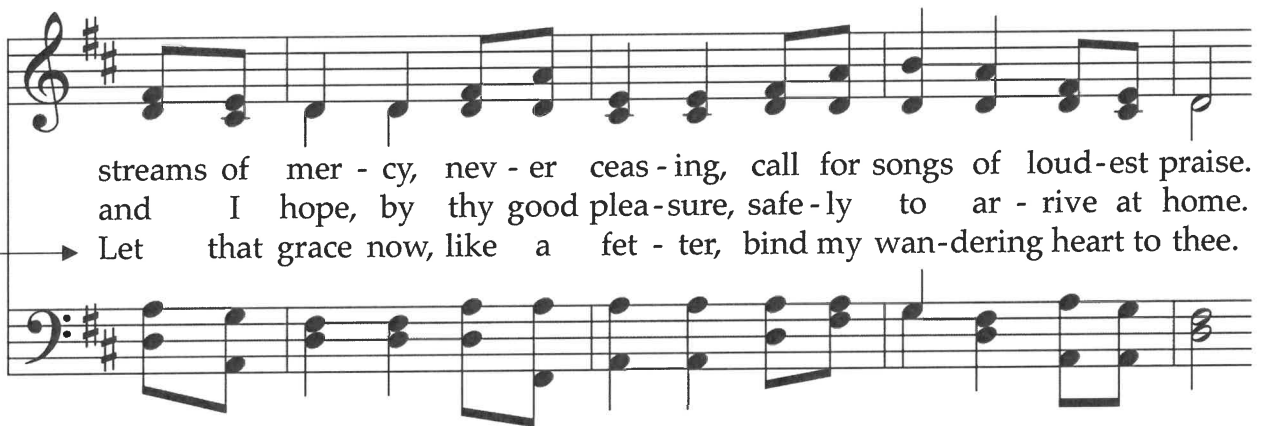
armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The treble staff contains the melody, and the bass staff contains the bass line. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. The music is in a common time signature (C) and the key signature has one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual. age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle. lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him. truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er." The word "equal" is hyphenated as "e - qual". The word "battle" is hyphenated as "bat - tle". The word "forever" is hyphenated as "for - ev - er".

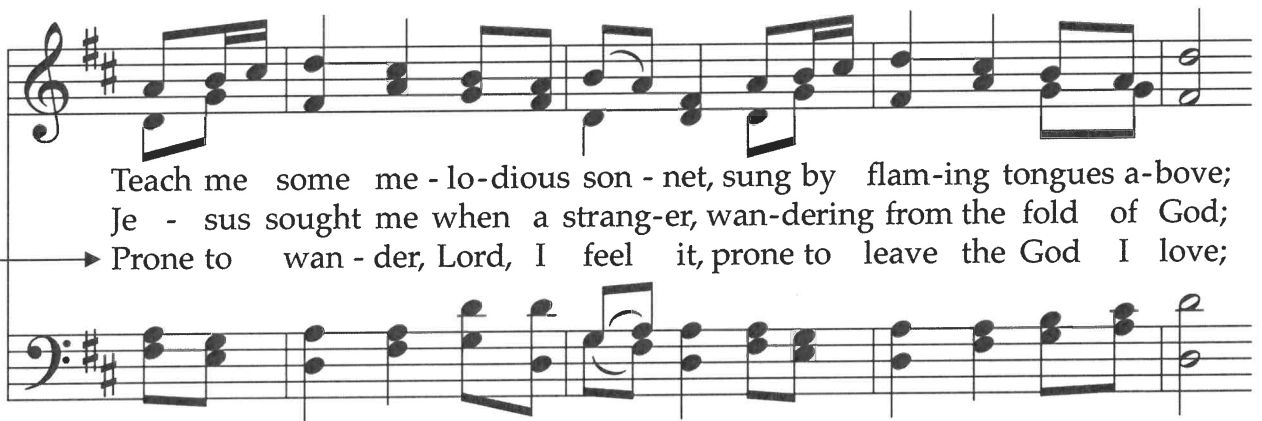
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



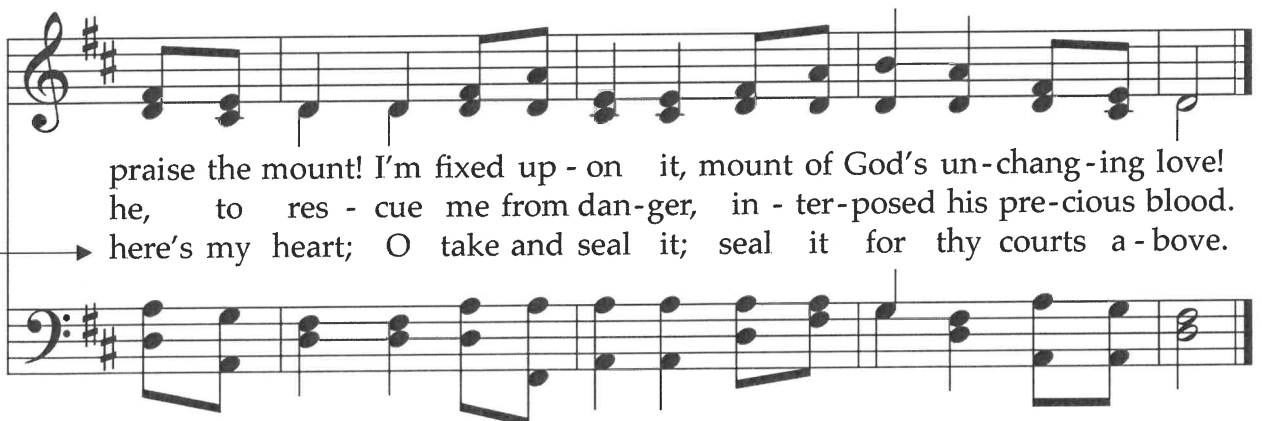
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.

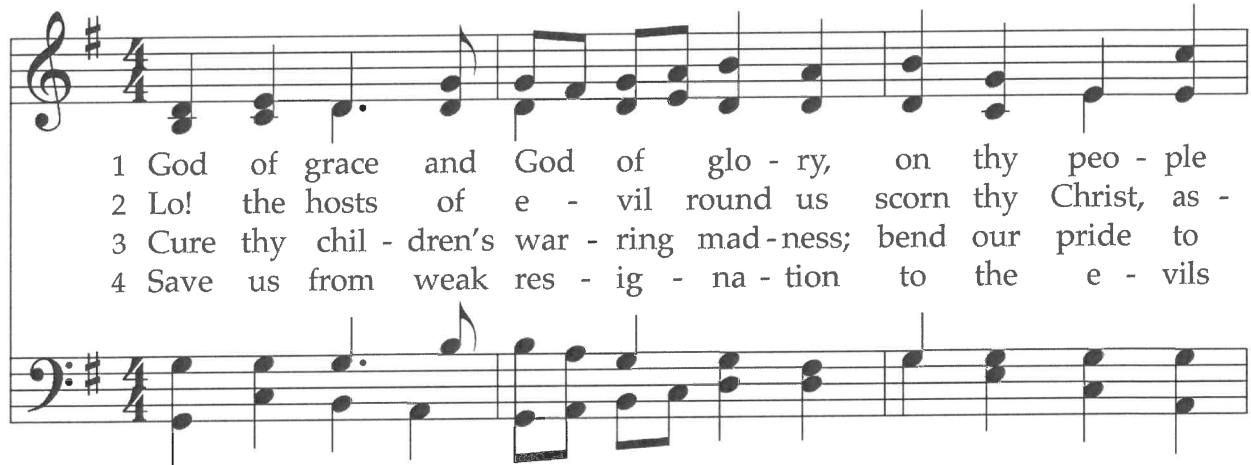


Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

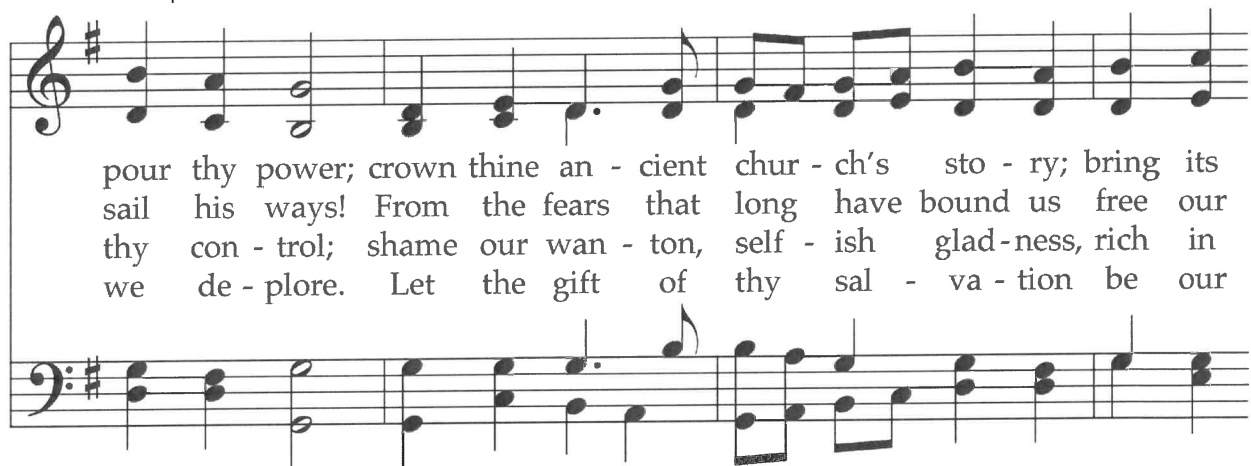


praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

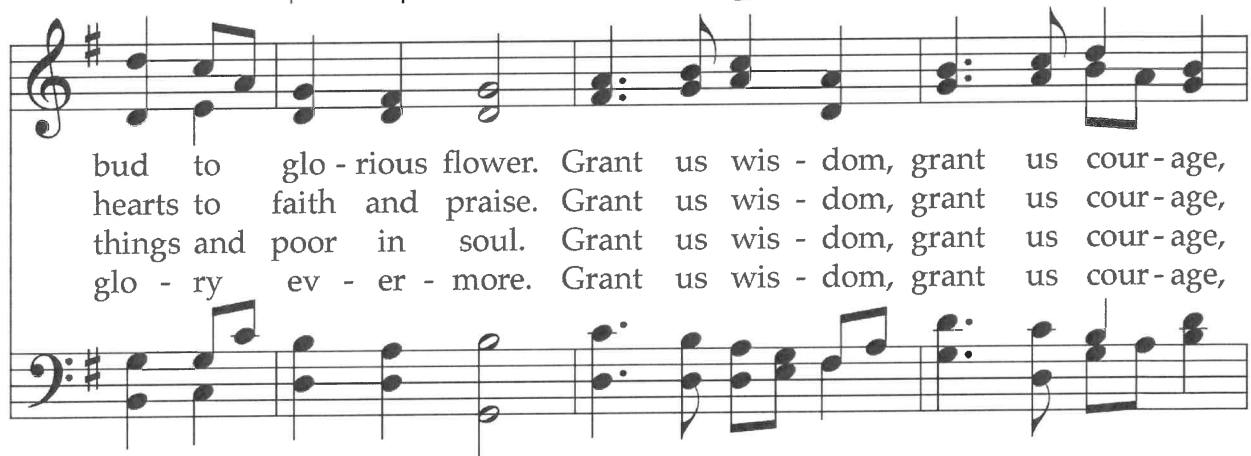
307 God of Grace and God of Glory



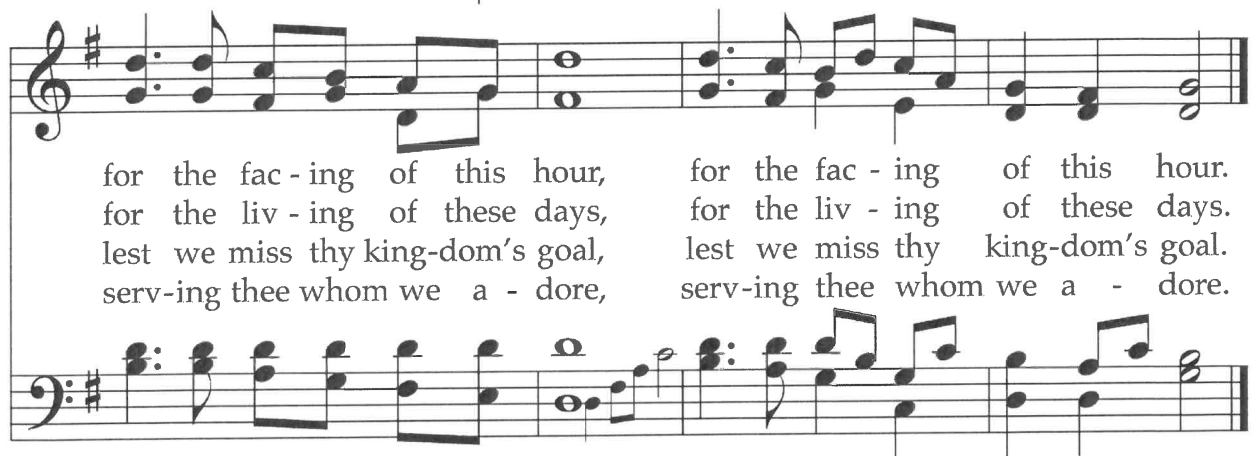
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our



bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

339 Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -
 rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had
 tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening
 died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry
 way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

The Week at a Glance!

Later Today

12:15 PM Celebration for Omar Guess new home
(Watts-Hill Hall)

8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)

Monday, June 24

9:00 AM-12 Noon Walk-in Ministry interviews

1:30 PM Worship Planning

Tuesday, June 25

11:30 AM Day Timers' Luncheon
(at Bennett Pointe Grill)

Wednesday, June 26

1:00 PM Program Staff

The Chancel Choir is on summer break.

Thursday, June 27

9:00 AM-12 Noon Walk-In Ministry Interviews

Friday, June 28

Saturday, June 29

High School mission delegation returns from
Breathitt County, KY (Appalachia Service Project)

Sunday, June 30

9:45 AM Faith Formation classes for children & adults

11:00 AM Worship (Katherine Higgins, preaching)

8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)

CHURCH STAFF

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator
Lenore Champion, Children's Ministry Director
Vernon Cooper, Sexton
Mindy Douglas, Pastor/Head of Staff (Sabbatical)
Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate
Omar Guess, Sr., Sunday Morning Sexton
Joseph Harvard, Pastor Emeritus



Amy Heit, Parish Associate
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

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, email the church office:
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