

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 18, 2024

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**A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

John Weicher

**PRELUDE**

*Deep River*

Trad. Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

Tim Turkington, soloist

*Deep river, my home is over Jordan. Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.  
Oh, don't you want to go, to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace?  
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

John Weicher

Leader: With voices and instruments,  
with hearts and with hands,

**People: we play music for our God.**

Leader: At all times, with each person;  
in every place, through every moment,

**People: we give thanks in the name of Jesus.**

Leader: Turning away from evil, doing good at every chance;  
seeking peace, and sharing hope everywhere,

**People: we will walk in the Spirit's way.**

**\*HYMN NO. 37**

*Let All Things Now Living*

*Ash Grove*

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN**

Susan Dunlap

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Merciful God,**

**in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world.**

**Although Christ is among us as our peace,**

**we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world.**

**The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas.**

**The fears and jealousies that we harbor**

**set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.**

**We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,**

**of intellect and reason,**

**and have turned them into bonds of oppression.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us;**

**heal and forgive us.**

**Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.**

*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

Silent Confession  
Assurance of Pardon

Susan Dunlap

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**

**\*REGATHERING** (Hymn No. 687, verse 1)

*St. Anne*

*Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Annie Gentithes, Ruby Gentithes

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**  
Leader: Let us pray.  
People: **Great God of steadfast love,  
we study your works and delight in your ways.  
Illumine our understanding by your Holy Spirit,  
that we may reverence your name, grow in your wisdom,  
and discern between good and evil. Amen.**

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Proverbs 9:1-6

(Pew Bible, OT Page 591)

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

Annie Gentithes, Ruby Gentithes

**PSALTER LESSON** (sung response)

Psalm 34:9-14

Mindy Douglas, cantor

*(The refrain will be introduced by the organist and cantor. Then the cantor will sing the verses and the congregation will respond by singing the refrain where indicated (R)).*

(Sing three times)

Refrain: Sing for joy to the Ho - ly One! Ho - ly One!

Cantor: Reverence the Creator, you holy people;  
those who do, want for nothing.  
Young lions may lack food and starve,  
but those who turn to the Holy One lack nothing (R)

Come, my people, I will teach you how to reverence the Holy One.  
Who enjoys life?  
Who loves years full of good things?  
Guard your tongue from evil and your lips from deceit.  
Turn from evil! Do good!  
Seek peace! Strive for it! (R)

**EPISTLE LESSON**

Ephesians 5:15-20

(Pew Bible, NT Page 194)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Mindy Douglas

People: Thanks be to God!

**SERMON**

*“Be Careful How You Live”*

Mindy Douglas

*(silent reflection)*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(from *Belhar Confession*)

John Weicher

**We believe . . .**

**that God has revealed God’s self as the one**

**who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;**

**that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity,**

**is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;**

**that God calls the church to follow God in this,**

**for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;**

**that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;**

**that God supports the downtrodden,**

**protects the stranger,**

**helps orphans and widows**

**and blocks the path of the ungodly;**

**that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit**

**the orphans and the widows in their suffering;**

**that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right;**

**that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need,**

**which implies, among other things,**

**that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice,**

**so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;**

**that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands,**

**namely against injustice and with the wronged;**

**that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged**

**who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.**

**Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice**

**and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.**

**\*HYMN NO. 753**

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

*Prayer of St. Francis*

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Lenore Champion

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

John Weicher

Offertory Solo

*For the Mountains Shall Depart* (from “*Elijah*”)

Felix Mendelssohn

Tim Turkington, soloist

*For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed,*

*But thy kindness shall not depart from me:*

*Neither shall the covenant of thy peace be removed.*

\*Doxology with Alleluias  
*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!*

*Lasst uns erfreuen*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Susan Dunlap

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Susan Dunlap

**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. 547 *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

*Ar Hyd Y Nos*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

\*POSTLUDE *Voluntary on a Welsh Hymn Tune (Cwm Rhondda)*

Robert Lind



First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. 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.



**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.

The *flowers* are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of *Weldon Abels* by *Jon and Kim Abels*.

We are grateful to *Mindy Douglas* (cantor) and *Tim Turkington* (soloist) for their music leadership today. The choir remains on summer break.

*Childcare*: During worship, a staffed nursery and children's playroom are available on the second floor of the education building. *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.

Portions of **today's texts** are reprinted from *Book of Common Worship* (2018), *Feasting on the Word* (*Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2*), *Songs for the Holy One*, and *Glory to God* (*The Presbyterian Hymnal*). Music is reprinted under Onelicense.net A.713926.

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## CONCERNS

*Wright Caughman*, brother of Carlisle Harvard, has thoracic cancer and is now under hospice care.

<i>Judy Arrowood</i>	<i>Paul Cornsweet</i>	<i>Susan Cyr</i>	<i>Kerry Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee House</i>
<i>Jenni James</i>	<i>Mitzi Leshner-Thomas</i>	<i>Madge McKeithan</i>	<i>Jo Ann Moore</i>	<i>Vernon Neece</i>
<i>Ruth Roberson</i>	<i>Franzi Rokoske</i>	<i>Keith Rokoske</i>	<i>Alfred Tisdale</i>	

### Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Dub Gulley*                      Durham Ridge: *Phillip Herndon*

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

Southpoint Rehabilitation and Healthcare: *Fred Callaway*

### Family and Friends of the Congregation

*Tim Boyer*, cousin of Fred Moore

*Kim Cummings*, father of Drew Cummings

*Isla Foster*, cousin, and *Linda Foster Momsen*, mother of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

*Andrew Holbrook*, nephew, and *Ford Holbrook*, brother of Kerry Holbrook

*Katie Jackson*, wife of Matt Hirsch

*Doug Rimmer*, brother of Steve Rimmer

*Jim Vacca*, father of Jamie Chambliss

*Denisha Williams*, daughter of Sybil King

*Francisca Cristobal*, family of Al & Judy Arrowood

*Larry and Lynn Farrell*, parents of Rachel Bethune

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### **Landscaping & Grounds Workday**

**Saturday, August 24**

**8:00-11:00 a.m.**

All are welcome to join with church members in working to beautify the church grounds following these many days of rain. New volunteers are always welcome.

Contact *Barbara Buckley* at 919-210-0482 or [barbjbuckley@gmail.com](mailto:barbjbuckley@gmail.com) to learn what work is planned.

### **“ORIGIN” Film Documentary**

**Saturday, August 24**

**Showings at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.**

**in Watts-Hill Hall**

Join us for a discussion over Pizza at 5:00 p.m.

Use this QR code to sign up to attend a showing and sign up for the pizza meal.



Sponsored by our Racial Equity Task Force.

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### **Wildlife of South Africa Slide Show**

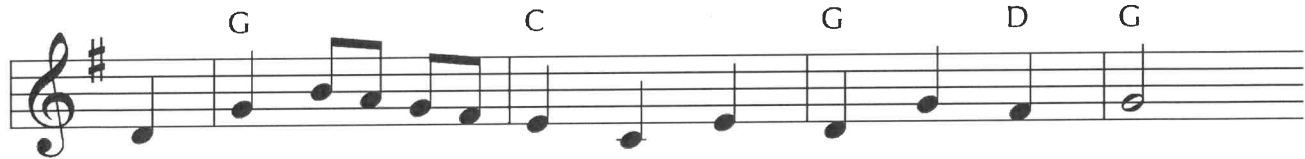
Southern Africa is teeming with birds and animals, from Barbets to Weavers and Antelopes to Zebras. Our members *Judy and David Smith* spent three weeks in South Africa (and Lesotho) last fall and returned with lots of photos and stories. **Join them for a slide show on Sunday, August 25, at 7:00 p.m. in Watts-Hill Hall. All are welcome.**

## 37

## Let All Things Now Living



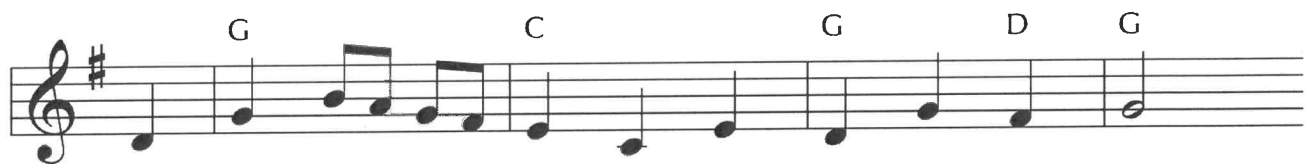
1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks-giv - ing  
2 By law God en - forc - es, the stars in their cours - es,



to God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;  
the sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash-ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us,  
the hills and the moun-tains, the riv - ers and foun-tains,



by guid - ing us on to the end of our days.  
the depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

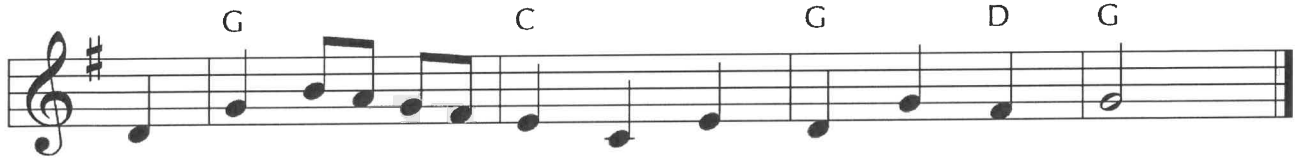
*Harmony*

God's ban-ners are o'er us; pure light goes be - fore us,  
We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing;

a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:  
with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise,



till shad - ows have van - ished, all fear - ful - ness ban - ished,  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing:



as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!

# 753 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

## Prayer of St. Francis

D Bm A7 D Em A7

1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where  
2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where  
4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace. It

D Bm G Em A7

there is ha - tred, let me bring your love. Where  
there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope. Where  
is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned, in

Em A7 Em7 A7

there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord, and  
there is dark - ness, on - ly light, and  
giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, and in

Em A7 D 1 2, 4 (Fine)

where there's doubt, true faith in you.  
where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.  
dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

G Em D Bm

3 O, Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so

Em A7 D A7 D D7

much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be



G Em F#m Bm

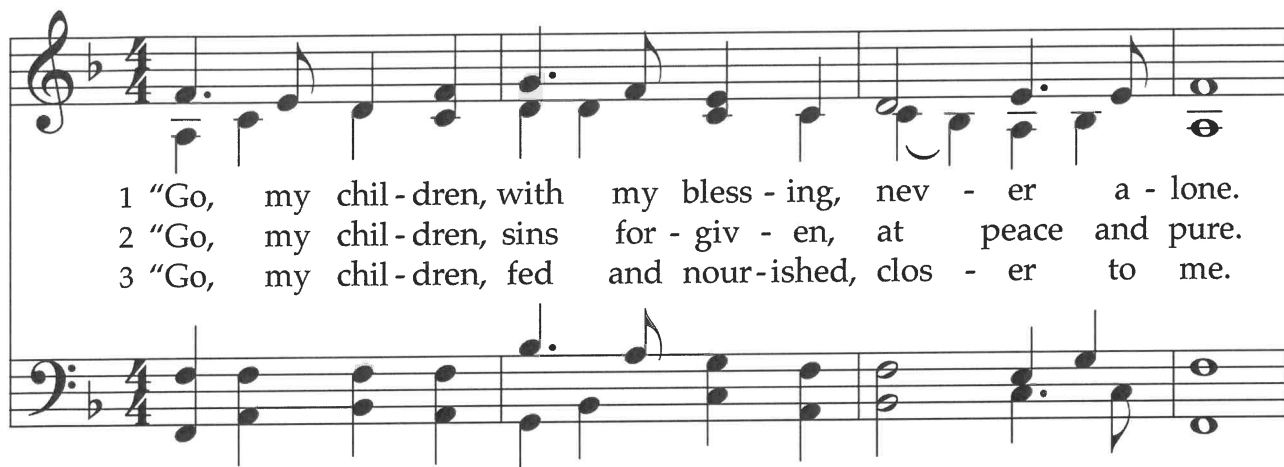
un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be

*to Stanza 4*

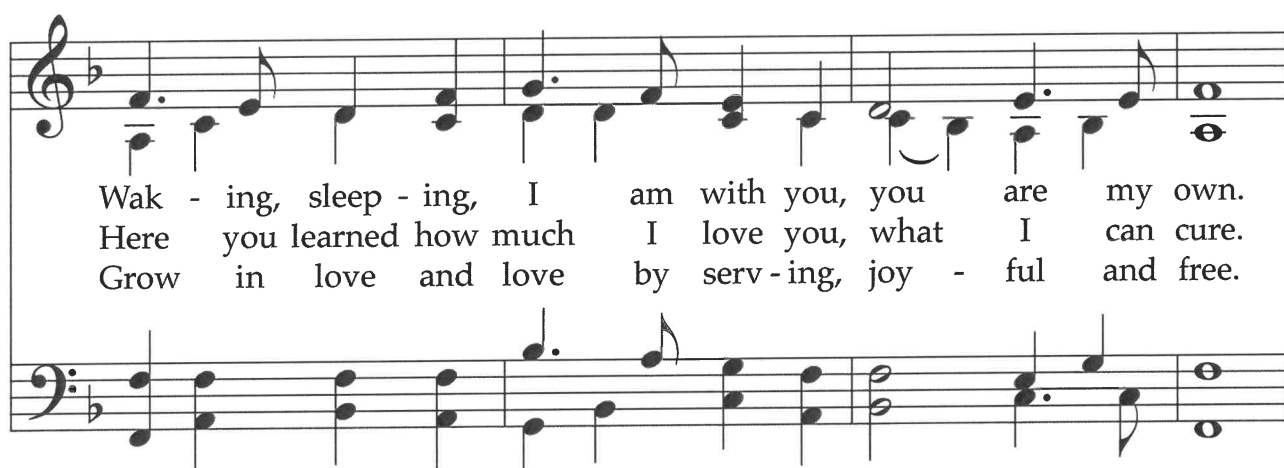
E E7 A E A A7

loved as to love with all my soul.

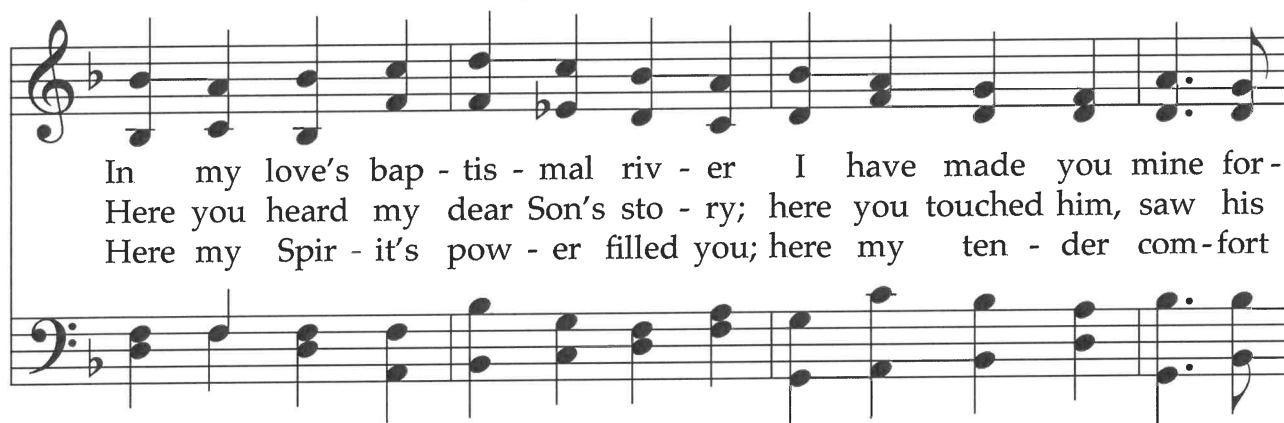
# Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547



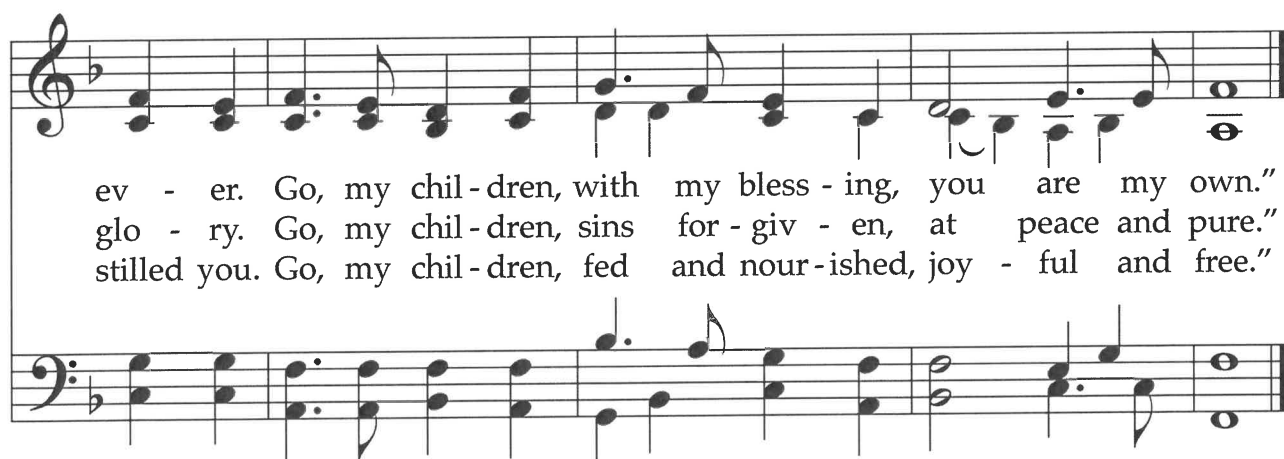
1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.  
2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.



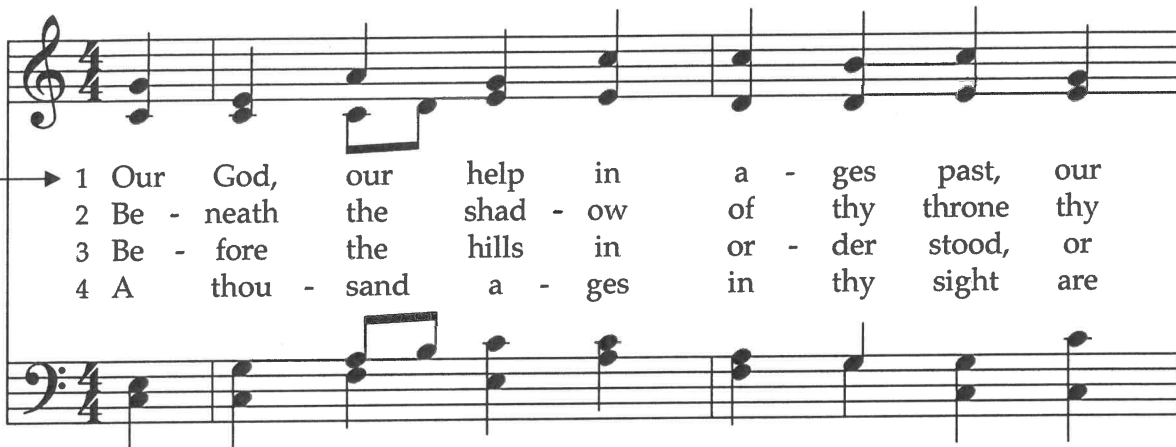
In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his  
Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort



ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."  
stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

# 687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

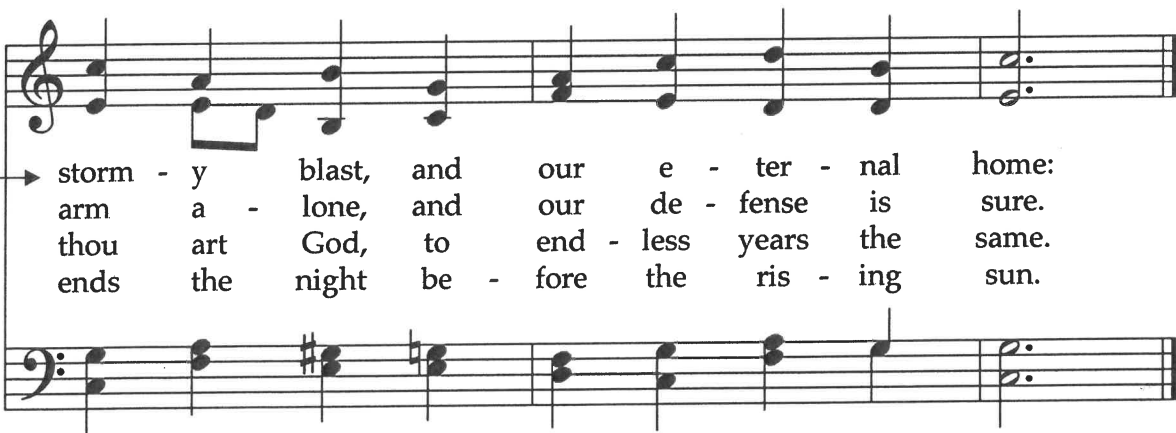
(Psalm 90)



1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our  
2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are



hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the  
saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine  
earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing  
like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that



storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the opening day.

6 Our God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
be thou our guard while life shall last,  
and our eternal home.

## The Week at a Glance!

### Later Today

**The MnM's Fellowship is on summer break.**

### Monday, August 19

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

**1:30 PM** Worship Planning

**7:00-8:15 PM** Youth Ministry Committee (Daye Meeting Room)

### Tuesday, August 20

### Wednesday, August 21

**1:00 PM** Program Staff (Daye Meeting Room)

**The Chancel Choir is on summer break.**

### Thursday, August 22

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

### Friday, August 23

### Saturday, August 24

**8:00-11:00 AM** Landscaping & Grounds Workday

**2:00-4:00 PM** "Origin" Documentary (Watts-Hill Hall)

**5:00 PM** "Origin" Discussion with pizza meal (Watts-Hill Hall)

**6:00-8:00 PM** "Origin" Documentary (Watts-Hill Hall)

**7:45 PM** Youth Group: Movie with goats (Spring Haven Farm)

### Sunday, August 25

*14th Sunday after Pentecost*

**9:45 AM**

Faith Formation Class for Children  
Lectionary Class for Adults

**11:00 AM** Worship (Hunger for Change offering received)

**12:15 PM** Youth Stockholders Brunch (Watts-Hill Hall)

**7:00 PM** Wildlife of South Africa Slide Show Presentation by David & Judy Smith (Watts-Hill Hall)

**The MnM's Fellowship is on summer break.**

### 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



*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*.