

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

Transfiguration Sunday

March 2, 2025

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**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, JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Mindy Douglas

**PRELUDE**

*Meditation on the Celtic tune "Columcille"*

Charles Callahan

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: In the beginning before time,  
before people, before the world began,

**People: God was.**

Leader: Here and now among us, beside us,  
enlisting the people of earth for the purposes of heaven,

**People: God is.**

Leader: In the future, when we have turned to dust  
and all we know has found its fulfilment,

**People: God will be.**

Leader: Not denying the world, but delighting in it,  
not condemning the world, but redeeming it,  
through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,

**People: God was. God is. God will be.**

**\*HYMN NO. 450**

*Be Thou My Vision*

*Slane*

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Esther Hethcox

Call to Prayer

Leader: We gather in God's name.

**People: We claim Christ's promised presence.**

Leader: Beloved, not out of dread and fear,  
but believing that God is faithful to forgive,  
let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Before God, with the people of God,  
I confess to my brokenness:  
to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others,  
and the life of the world.

\*Those who are able, please stand.

**People:** May God forgive you, Christ renew you,  
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

Leader: Amen.

**People:** Before God, with the people of God,  
we confess to our brokenness:  
to the ways we wound our lives,  
the lives of others, and the life of the world.

Leader: May God forgive you, Christ renew you,  
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

### **\*REGATHERING HYMN NO. 399**

*God Welcomes All*

*Themba Amen*

*God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it never ends.*

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Jane Wettach

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All:** Lord, as we hear your Word, let our faces,  
like the face of Moses, shine toward you.

Let our minds be opened to accept your teachings.

Let our hearts be stirred as we receive your commandments  
and renew our covenant with you.

Let our spirits be overwhelmed by the promise of salvation. Amen.

### **HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING**

Exodus 34:29-35

(Pew Bible, OT page 81)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Jane Wettach

**People:** Thanks be to God!

### **GOSPEL READING**

Luke 9:28-36

(Pew Bible, NT page 69)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

John Weicher

**People:** Thanks be to God!

### **SERMON**

*Intrepid Heroes*

John Weicher

*(Silent reflection)*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*From the Iona Community*

Mindy Douglas

**We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn;  
 in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,  
 conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.**

**We believe in a with-us God,  
 who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.**

**We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place  
 into action, into vulnerability, and into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change and put us on the line;  
 to bear responsibility, to take risks,  
 live powerfully and face humiliation;  
 to stand with those on the edge;  
 to choose life and be used by the Spirit  
 for God’s new community of hope. Amen.**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Lenore Champion

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

Mindy Douglas

Offertory Anthem

*A Prayer of Saint Patrick (Celtic text, 5th cent.)*

John Rutter

*Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,  
 Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me,  
 Christ above me, Christ beneath me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
 Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.*

\*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

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Esther Hethcox

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to God**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

All: **It is right to give both thanks and praise.**

Leader: Loving God,  
through your goodness  
we have this bread and wine to offer,  
which earth has given  
and human hands have made.  
May we know your presence  
in the sharing of this bread,  
so that we may know your touch  
in all bread, all matter.

We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared  
among his community through the centuries,  
and shares with us now.  
Made one in Christ  
and one with each other,  
we offer these gifts and with them, ourselves,  
a single, holy, living sacrifice.  
Therefore, we give you thanks:

Hymn of Praise (sung to "Morning Has Broken") Celtic tune, "Bunessan"

*Praise and thanksgiving, great God we offer,  
for all things living, you have made good;  
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,  
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.*

*So does your blessing reach every people,  
each one confessing your gracious hand.  
When you are reigning no one will hunger:  
Your love sustaining throughout the land.*

*Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

**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.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

John Weicher, Esther Hethcox

#### \* THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*(The bread 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 Hymn

*What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the bread come down from heaven.  
O taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!*

#### *What Feast of Love*

*What light of truth is offered here,  
what covenant from heaven?  
What hope of everlasting life,  
what wondrous word is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the Sun come down from heaven.  
O see and hear and sing!  
The Word of God is given.*

#### *Greensleeves*

*What wine of love is offered here,  
What saving drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the sweetest wine of heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given.*

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Esther Hethcox

Leader: Triune God,

in the bread we have eaten,

**People: the blessing of the God of life.**

Leader: From the cup we have drunk,

**People: the blessing of the Christ of love.**

Leader: In the sustenance for the journey as disciples of action and hope,

**People: the blessing of the Spirit of grace.**

**\*HYMN NO. 543**

*God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

*Green Tyler*

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

John Weicher

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Voluntary on the Celtic tune "Llanfair"*

*Wilbur Held*

***HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY!***

**Children's Music**

Children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are invited to the choir room immediately after worship today for a time of music with Kathy Parkins.

***Acts of Reparation Showing at 5:00pm***

Watts-Hill Hall

Together, Selina Lewis Davidson and FPC's own Macky Alston, will join us by Zoom after this showing. Sign up to order pizza.

<https://evite.me/TEbADksRuq>

**Youth Groups from 5:00 – 7:00pm**

Mini Golf w/TAPC at Frankie's Fun Park

**Meaning in the Middle Fellowship at 8:00pm**

Contact Emily Diy for Zoom link

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS - SUNDAY, MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup> AND 16<sup>TH</sup>**

The Session of FPC has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, **March 9<sup>th</sup>** at the end of worship. We will hold our **annual meeting**, which includes the following:

1. The election of new deacons, elders, and nominating committee members (recommended nominees will be presented the week before from the nominating committee with photos and bios of the nominees).
2. A presentation of the 2025 annual budget from the stewardship and finance committee chairs, Jon Abels and Al Arrowood, respectively. Approval of Pastor's terms of call.
3. "State of the Church" address looking back at 2024 and forward to 2025 which will include an update on the Building Beloved Community Capital Campaign and Renovation and Expansion Project. The **August 2023 - July 2024 annual report** will be available online by that date, and a few hard copies will be available for those who need them.

At the **March 16<sup>th</sup> congregational meeting**, the **FPC Associate Pastor Nominating Committee** (elected by the congregation on Sunday, November 17) will present their candidate, along with the terms of call (salary, housing, and benefits) for the position of Associate Pastor.



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* today graced the sanctuary for **Maxie Honeycutt's** memorial service yesterday. They are given to the glory of God in memory of Maxie and in honor of the love with which she held her FPC family.

**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.

**Hearing Assistance Receivers** are available from the ushers for use in the sanctuary during worship. 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.

**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 resources** were written by *Jane Wettach*; others were reprinted from: *Iona Worship Book* and *A Wee Worship Book*. Music is reprinted under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

### Memorial Services

We gather in faith and remembrance to honor those who have passed. These memorial services provide an opportunity for family, friends, and our community to come together in prayer, reflection, and gratitude for the lives of our loved ones. You are welcome to join us in offering support, sharing memories, and finding comfort in the presence of one another. Below is a list of upcoming services.

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection for **Bill Hendrickson** will be held in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church on **Saturday, March 15**, at **3 p.m.** Condolences may be shared with **Sally Hendrickson** (wife) at 1111 Millspring Drive, Durham, NC 27705. Obituary: <https://www.hallwynne.com/obituaries/william-hendrickson>

**Presbyterian Women's Circle & Bible Study**  
**Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
10:30 a.m.  
Daye Meeting room  
*New faces welcome.*

**Men of Faith Breakfast at Mad Hatters**  
**Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**  
8:00a.m.  
Join the men from FPC for breakfast and some casual conversation.

**Things That Matter Book Group**  
**Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**  
Hosted by Jane Williams

Join us for a discussion of *The Hundred Years' War on Palestine* by Rashid Khalid.

## Ash Wednesday

ASHES  
TO  
ASHES

**Remember you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.**

12 pm - Garden Worship w/Imposition of Ashes  
5:30 pm - Sanctuary Worship w/Imposition of Ashes  
6:15 pm - Light Dinner

first Presbyterian Church - Love in the Heart of Durham

First Presbyterian Church Durham

## McPherson Lectureship 2025

Sunday, March 23 9:45 Faith and Community Class  
11:00 Worship Service  
4:00 Community Gathering  
Monday, March 24 9:00 am Clergy Breakfast



~*Celebrations and Concerns of the Congregation*~

**We remember in prayer:**

*Jeanne Hervey*, recovering from surgery.

*Carol Wills*, recovering from surgery.

*Tony Brown*

*Paul Cornsweet*

*Sam Crabtree*

*Susan Cyr*

*Mark Higgins*

*Kerry Holbrook*

*Lee House*

*Ann Huff*

*Jenni James*

*Jen McGonigle*

*Madge McKeithen*

*Harriett Mitchell*

*Maryn Leonard*

*Mitzi Leshner-Thomas*

*Caroline Pritchett*

*Franzi Rokoske*

*Keith Rokoske*

*Alfred Tisdale*

**Care Communities**

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Dub Gulley, Harvey Estes*

Durham Ridge: *Phillip Herndon*

Hillcrest Convalescent: *Carol Wills*

Pruitt Health - Durham: *Fred Callaway*

Brookdale Senior Living: *Debbie Mathews*

**Family and Friends of the Congregation**

*Janet Bodisco-Massink*, friend of Emily Wilkins

*Francisca Cristobal*, relative of Al and Judy Arrowwood

*Jacqueline Culver*, niece-in-law of Mary Jo Keenan

*Kim Cummings*, father of Drew Cummings

*Linda Foster Momsen*, mother of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

*Cheryl Fowler*, friend of Cheri Reece

*Jennifer Hervey*, daughter-in-law of Jeanne Hervey

*Katie Jackson*, wife of Matthew Hirsch

*Donna Johnson*, mother of Ann Huff

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

*Aaron Pritchard*, friend of Kathy Parkins

*Tom Rokoske*, father of Keith Rokoske

*Wu-Chou Su*, father of Claire Su

*Logan Tice*, friend of the congregation

*Jim Vacca*, father of Jamie Chambliss



## 450

## Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F#) (A7) (D)  
 E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G B<sup>b</sup>7 E<sup>b</sup>

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) (D) (G) (A)  
 B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>

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!

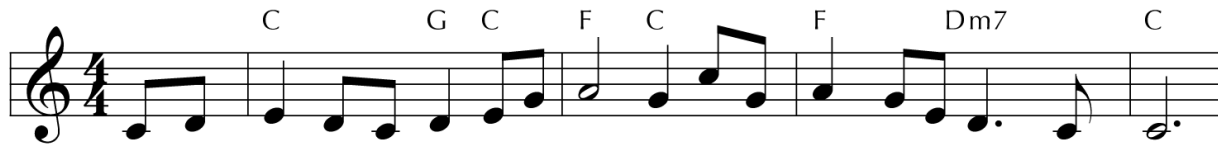
(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)  
 A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> Gm7 A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>

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,

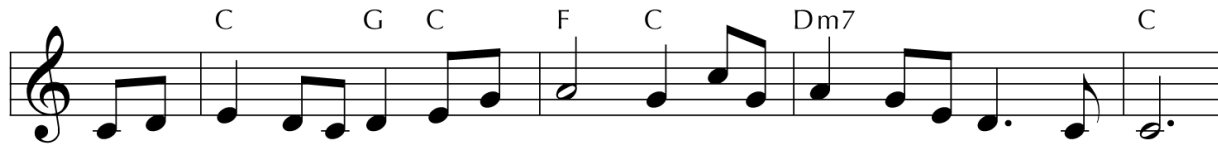
(Bm) (D/F#) (G) (D)  
 Cm E<sup>b</sup>/G A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>

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.

# 800 Sometimes a Light Surprises



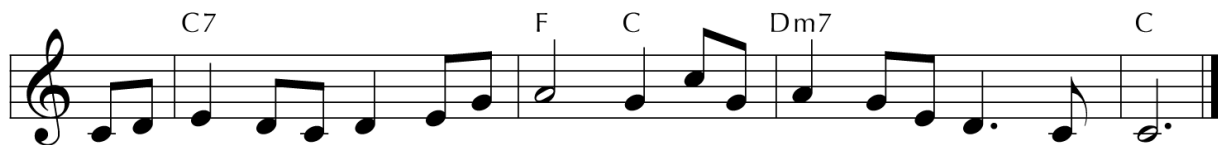
1 Some - times a light sur - pris - es the child of God who sings;  
 2 In ho - ly con - tem - pla - tion we sweet - ly then pur - sue  
 3 It can bring with it noth - ing but he will bear us through;  
 4 Though vine nor fig tree nei - ther their longed - for fruit should bear,



it is the Lord who ris - es with heal - ing in his wings;  
 the theme of God's sal - va - tion and find it ev - er new;  
 who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple, too;  
 though all the fields should with - er, nor flocks nor herds be there,



when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the soul a - gain  
 set free from pres - ent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly can say,  
 be - neath the spread - ing heav - ens no crea - ture but is fed;  
 yet God the same a - bid - ing, his praise shall tune my voice;



a sea - son of clear shin - ing to cheer it af - ter rain.  
 "Let the un - known to - mor - row bring with it what it may."  
 and he who feeds the ra - vens will give his chil - dren bread.  
 for while in him con - fid - ing, I can - not but re - joice.

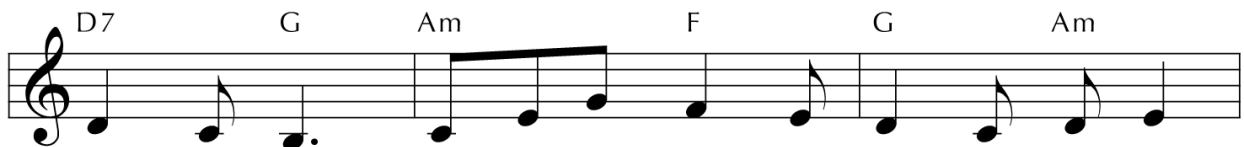
# God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

543

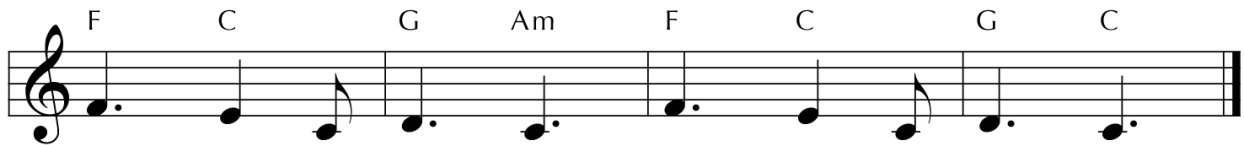
O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -  
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,  
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

## This Week at a Glance!

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Later Today</b></p> <p><b>5:00 – 7:00 PM</b> Youth Group Mini Golf w/TAPC (Frankie's)</p> <p><b>5:00 PM</b> <i>Acts of Reparation</i> Showing (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> MnM's/Meaning in the Middle Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday, March 4</b></p> <p><b>6:30 PM</b> Shrove Tuesday with the Somethings (Home of Matthew Eggleston)</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday, March 5</b></p> <p><b>12:00 PM</b> Ash Wednesday Day Service (Memorial Garden)</p> <p><b>1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p><b>4:30 PM</b> Yoga (Room 201)</p> <p><b>5:30 PM</b> Ash Wednesday Evening Service (Sanctuary)</p> <p><b>6:15 PM</b> Ash Wednesday Supper (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Choir (Choir Room)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday, March 3</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM – 12:00 PM</b> Walk-In Ministry</p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b> Presbyterian Women's Circle (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p><b>1:30 PM</b> Worship Planning (Mindy's Office)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday, March 6</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM – 12:00 PM</b> Walk-In Ministry</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday, March 7</b></p> <p><b>8:00 AM</b> Men of Faith Breakfast (Mad Hatters)</p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b> Yoga (Room 201)</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday, March 8</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday, March 6</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM – 12:00 PM</b> Walk-In Ministry</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday, March 9</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Congregational Meeting after Worship</i> <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i></p> <p><b>9:15 AM</b> (Room 205) - Called Session Meeting</p> <p><b>9:45 – 10:45 AM</b> Faith Formation (Classes available for children, youth, and adults.) In preparation for faith and community, read the book of Ecclesiastes.</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> Mindy Douglas, Preaching; New Members Welcomed</p> <p><b>12:15 PM</b> Children's Music (Choir Room)</p> <p><b>5:00 PM</b> Youth Group: Chosen Family Senior Project (Youth Rooms)</p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Something for Lent (Hosted by Jane Williams)</p> <p><b>8:00 PM</b> MnM's Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>

### CHURCH STAFF

*Shakira Bethea*, Interim Church Administrator  
*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*, Designated Associate Pastor  
*Sybil King*, Administrative Assistant  
*Kathy Parkins*, Minister of Music  
*John Weicher*, Associate Pastor  
*Mitzi Leshner-Thomas*, Associate Pastor  
 (Medical Leave)

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>.

**305 EAST MAIN STREET    DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701    919.682.5511    ORGANIZED 1871**