

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

4th Sunday after Pentecost

July 6, 2025

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 *"If with All Your Hearts Ye Truly Seek Me" (from "Elijah")*
Webb Cummings, tenor

Felix Mendelssohn

*"If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me." Thus saith our God.
Oh! that I knew where I might find Him, that I might even come before His presence.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Be joyful in God, all you lands; be joyful, all the earth.

People: Sing the glory of God's name; sing the glory of God's praise.

Leader: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you."

People: All the earth bows down before you,
sings to you, sings out your name.

***HYMN NO. 385**

All People that on Earth Do Dwell

Old Hundredth

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

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.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

**Those who are able, please stand.*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

***REGATHERING HYMN NO. 305**

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Darwall's 148th

Come sing, O church, in joy!

Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jennie Alwood

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: Let us pray.

All: **God of mercy,
you promised never to break your covenant with us.
Amid all the changing words of our generation,
speak your eternal word that does not change.
Then may we respond to your gracious promises
with faithful and obedient lives;
through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

PSALTER READING

Psalm 30

(Pew Bible, NT Page 505)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Jennie Alwood

People: **Thanks be to God!**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

2 Kings 5:1-14

(Pew Bible, OT Page 336)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Mindy Douglas

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Paradoxes of Power"

Mindy Douglas

(silent reflection)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

From A Declaration of Faith

Esther Hethcox

Hope in God gives us courage for the struggle.

**The people of God have often misused God's promises
as excuses for doing nothing about present evils.**

**But in Christ the new world has already broken in
and the old can no longer be tolerated.**

We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.

**But hope plunges us into the struggles for victories over evil
that are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives.**

**Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against all opposition, however invincible it
may seem, for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming.**

Jesus is Lord!

He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end.

Even now he is Lord.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

John Weicher

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give

John Weicher

Offertory Anthem

“Panis Angelicus” (sung in Latin)

César Franck

May the Bread of Angels

Become bread for all humanity;

The Bread of Heaven puts

All foreshadowings to an end;

Oh, thing miraculous!

The body of the Lord will nourish

the poor, the servile, and the humble.

*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 LORD’S TABLE

Mindy Douglas

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Esther Hethcox

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: Holy, holy, holy Lord— we praise you for your love:

bringing order out of chaos,

breathing life into dust,

leading captives into freedom,

calling wandering children home,

giving bread to the hungry,

giving drink to the thirsty,

raising the dead to life.

Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven,

we praise you singing:

All (Sung): Hymn No. 565*Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er, God of might, heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Leader: Thank you, Lord— we thank you for Jesus:
Word made flesh, light of the world,
living water, shepherd and gate,
way and truth, bread of heaven,
cup of salvation, resurrection and life.
Take this bread and cup, O God—a feast of grace;
take our hearts and lives—an offering of praise.

All (sung): Hymn No. #566*Memorial Acclamation 1*

Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.
Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

Leader: Spirit, come—
 come and live in us:
 in this bread, in this cup,
 in your people, one in the body, one in the blood;
 one with Christ, one in ministry,
 in this place, in every place;
 in this world, in the world to come.

(Prayers of Intercession)

Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor and power, forever and ever!

Hymn No. #568

Amen



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

Mindy Douglas and Esther Hethcox

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(The bread and the elements are gluten free and were prepared in a gluten-free area. We use grape juice in the cup. Servers will sanitize their hands prior to distributing the elements. As you are able, come forward to receive communion. The server will give you a piece of bread, which you dip in the cup. 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 Voluntary

"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

Calvin Hampton

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Esther Hethcox

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All: Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.

*HYMN NO. 341

O God, Show Mercy to Us

Thaxted

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

*POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary in C

G.F. Handel

Happening Today

Racial Equity Task Force (following worship) in Wilson Parlor.



Sign In

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.



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 are given to the glory of God and in gratitude to First Presbyterian Church which became their church home 65 years ago, by Margaret and Tom Keller.

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 first and second floors 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.

The paraments and communion tablecloth used in worship today were given by ***Ruth and Russell Roberson*** in memory of their mothers: ***Zenobia Teresa Cox Haislip*** and ***Myrtle Taylor Roberson***, both of whom were quilters, for the 150th Anniversary of the founding of First Presbyterian Church of Durham, North Carolina December 31, 1871 - December 31, 2021. They were designed and sewn by ***Beth Taylor***, a fabric artist and modern quilter. She created the unique communion cloth and paraments for First Presbyterian by including personal items of meaning and significance donated by members. Beth and her husband ***Robert Parker*** are former members of First Presbyterian Church and now live in the mountains of Virginia.

★ ***The Lord's Prayer when Holy Communion is celebrated***: From the beginning, one of the hallmarks of Reformed worship has been liturgy in the vernacular—in the common language of the people of God. Many, however, continue to use the language of another era (the Tudor dynasty) when praying the prayer Jesus taught. We hope that by using this ecumenical version, new generations will learn and understand this prayer in a fresh way.

Portions of today's worship resources were reprinted from: *Book of Common Worship*. Music is reprinted under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

We thank ***Webb Cummings*** for sharing his musical gifts with us. Webb, a child of this church (and son of choir member Drew!), is now a rising junior in the UNC Department of Music at Chapel Hill.

~Celebrations and Concerns of the Congregation ~

We remember in prayer:

Wilson Gunn is recovering from surgery.

Michael Honeycutt is recovering from surgery.

Tony Brown

Dennis Buckley

Paul Cornsweet

Sam Crabtree

Susan Cyr

Barbara Gerwe

Kerry Holbrook

Michael Honeycutt

Lee House

Ann Huff

Jenni James

Mal King

Mitzi Leshner-Thomas

Jen McGonigle

Madge McKeithen

Harriett Mitchell

Franzi Rokoske

Keith Rokoske

Alfred Tisdale

Phyllis Supple

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

Julia Allen, grandmother of Amy Wilson

Evan Breyer, grandson of friends of Jo Ann Moore

Francisca Cristobal, relative of Al and Judy Arrowwood

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

Martha Neece, sister-in-law of Vernon & Beth Neece

Aaron Pritchard, friend of Kathy Parkins

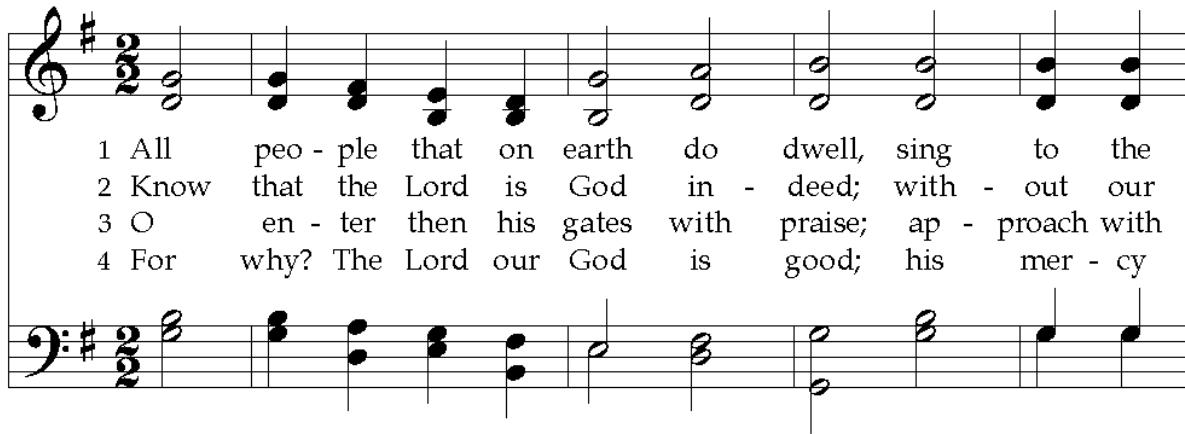
Wu-Chou Su, father of Claire Su

Larry Todd, friend of Kathy Parkins and Wendy McCorkle

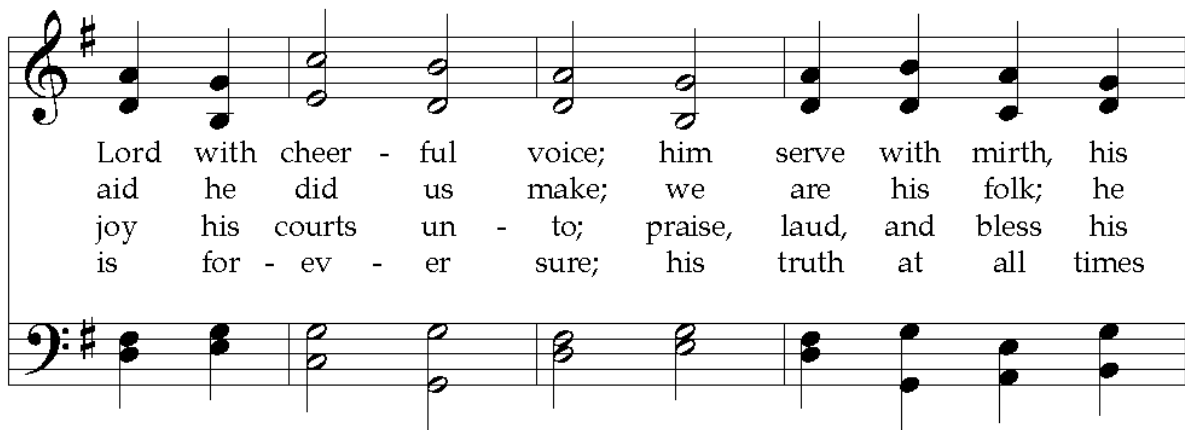
Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

All People That on Earth Do Dwell 385

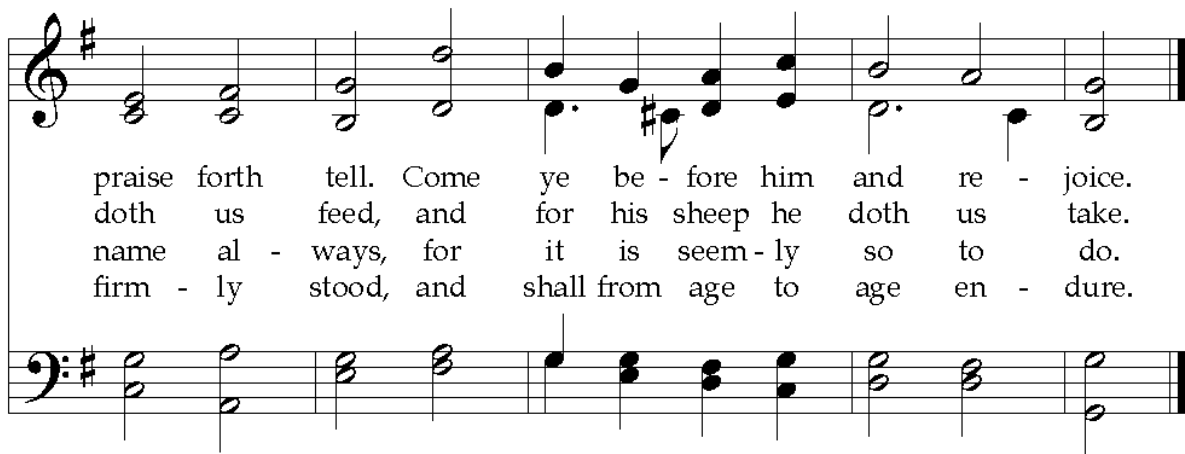
(Psalm 100)



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the
 2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our
 3 O en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with
 4 For why? The Lord our God is good; his mer - cy

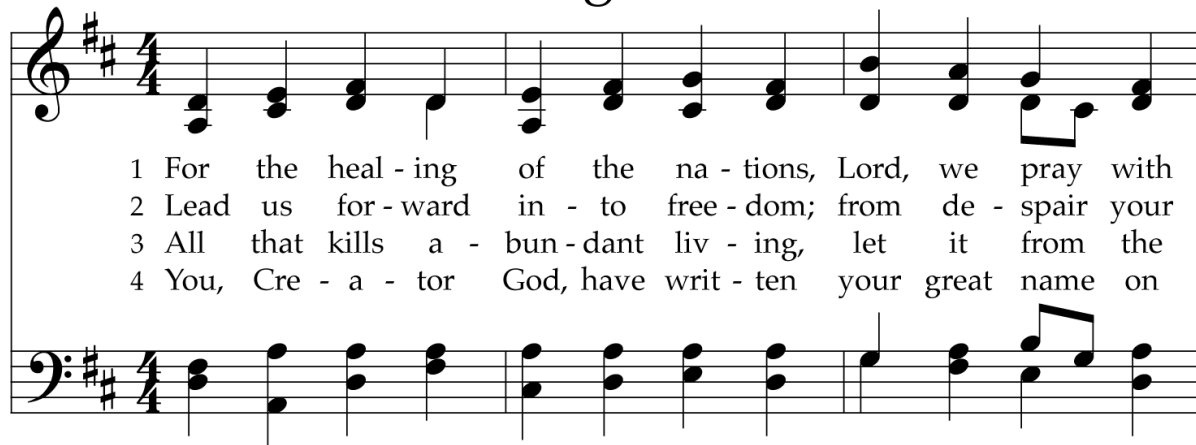


Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
 aid he did us make; we are his folk; he
 joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
 is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times

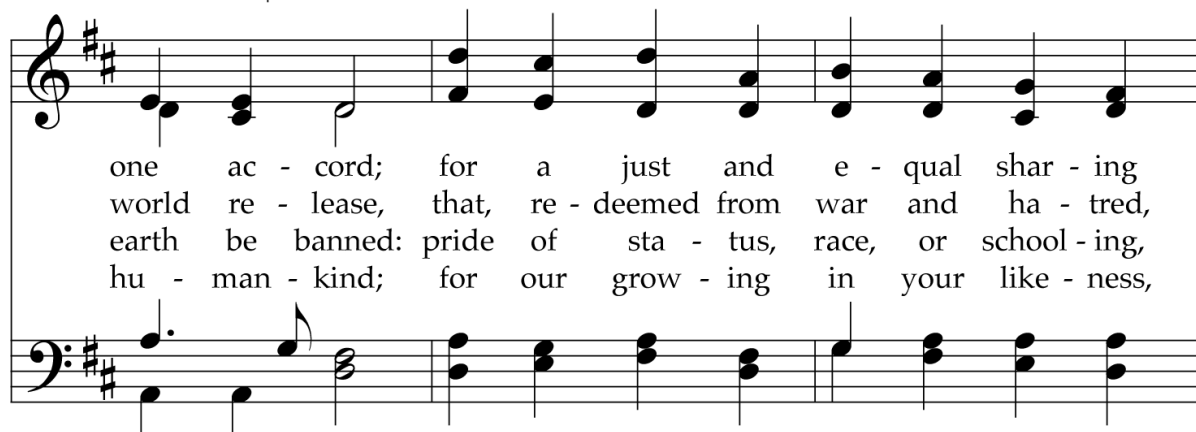


praise forth tell. Come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
 doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
 name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

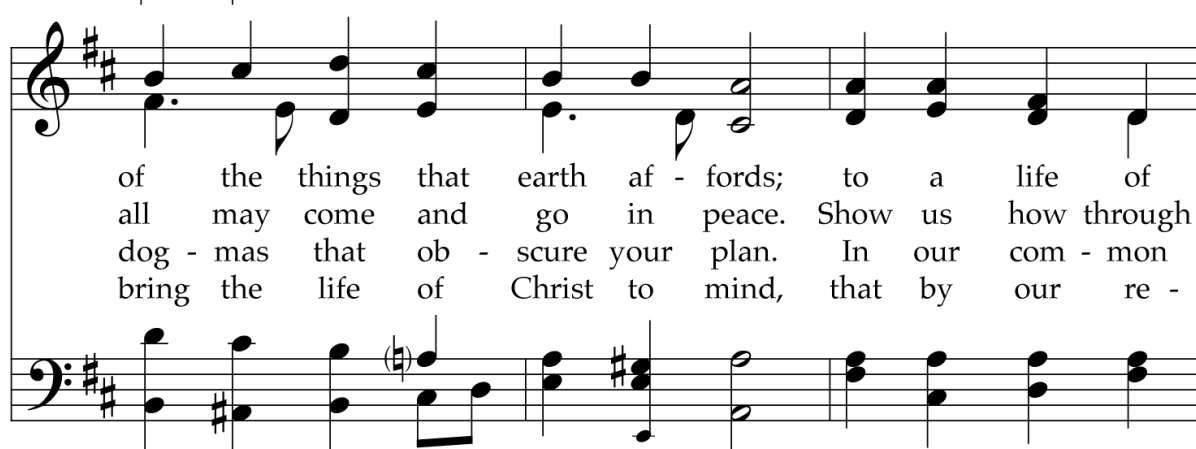
346 For the Healing of the Nations



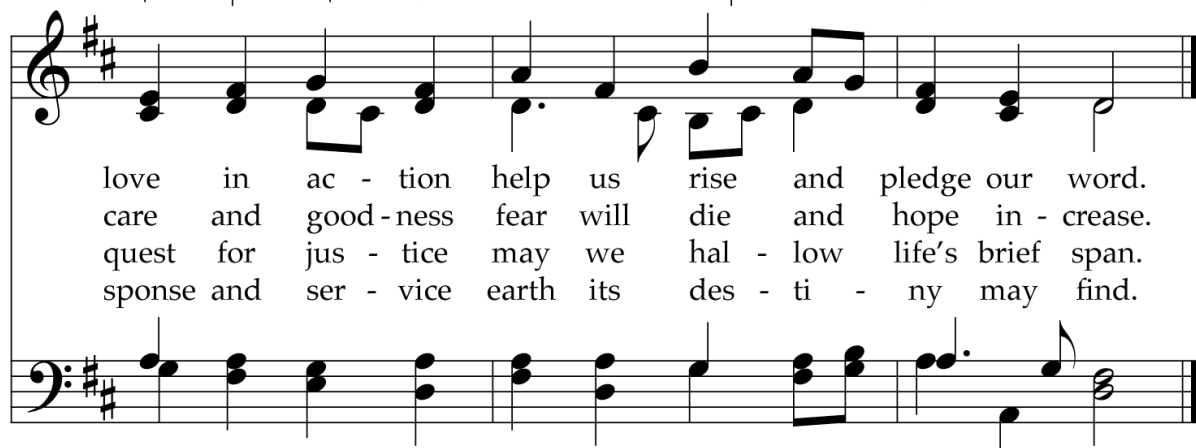
1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
 4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on



one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,
 earth be banned: pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness,



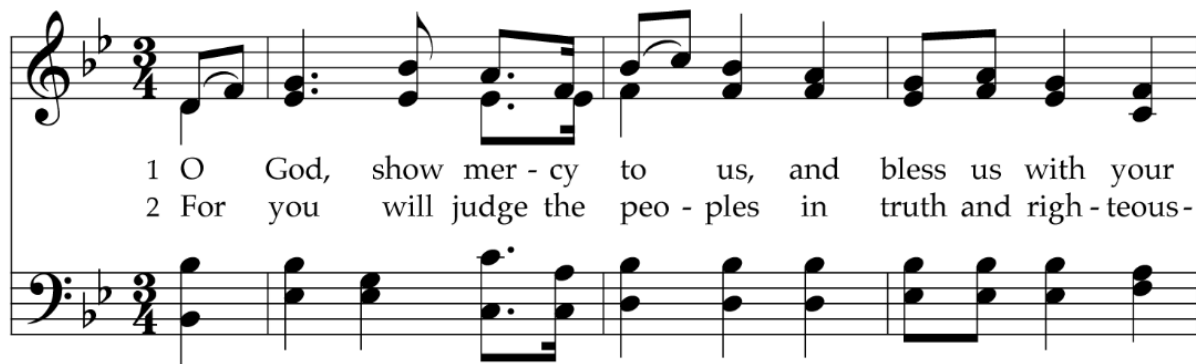
of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon
 bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -



love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.
 sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

341 O God, Show Mercy to Us

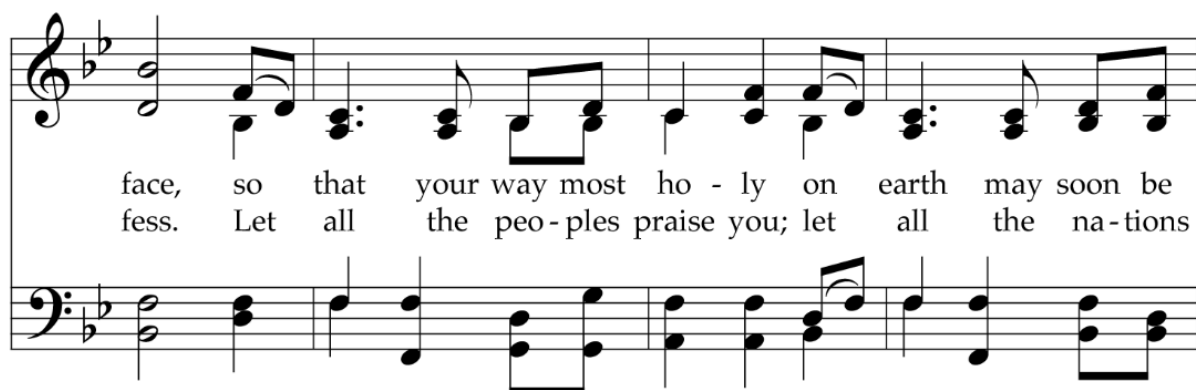
(Psalm 67)



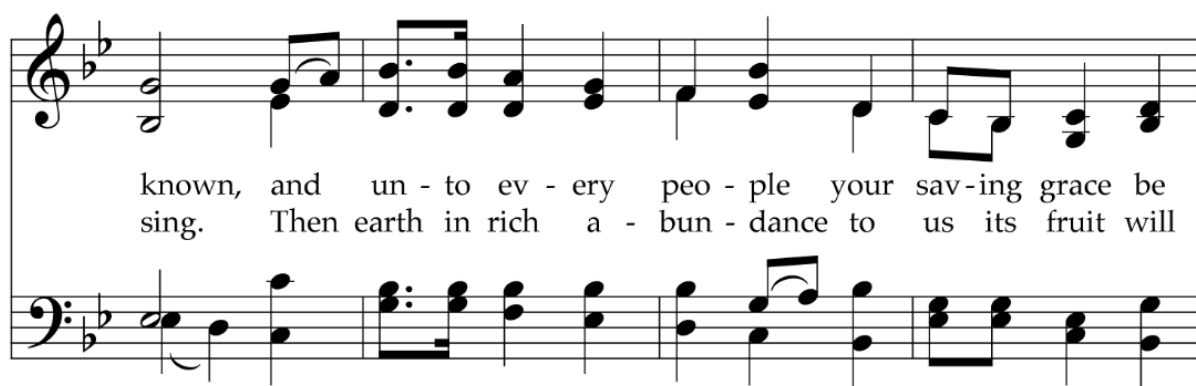
1 O God, show mer - cy to us, and bless us with your
2 For you will judge the peo - ples in truth and righ - teous -



grace; and cause to shine up - on us the bright-ness of your
ness, and on the earth all na - tions will your just rule con -



face, so that your way most ho - ly on earth may soon be
fess. Let all the peo - ples praise you; let all the na - tions



known, and un - to ev - ery peo - ple your sav - ing grace be
sing. Then earth in rich a - bun - dance to us its fruit will

shown. Let all the peo-ples praise you; let all the na - tions
bring. The Lord our God will bless us; our God will bless - ing

sing; in ev - ery land let prais - es and songs of glad - ness ring.
send, and all the earth will wor - ship to its re - mot - est end.

This Week at a Glance!

<p>Later Today</p> <p>12:15 PM Racial Equity Task Force (Wilson Parlor)</p> <p>2:00 PM Middle School mission trip to CROSS (parking lot)</p>	<p>Monday, July 7</p> <p>10:00 AM Digital Literacy Training for Seniors (room 205)</p> <p>1:30 PM Worship Planning (Pastor's Office)</p>	
<p>Tuesday, July 8</p> <p>10:00 AM Digital Literacy Training for Seniors (room 205)</p> <p>1:30 PM Digital Literacy Training for Seniors (room 205)</p> <p>7:00 PM Things That Matter Book Group (offsite) Somethings Summer Book Group (offsite)</p>	<p>Wednesday, July 9</p> <p>1:00 PM All Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)</p> <p>1:30 PM Digital Literacy Training for Seniors (room 205)</p>	<p>Thursday, July 10</p> <p>10:00 AM Digital Literacy Training for Seniors (room 205)</p> <p>1:30 PM Digital Literacy Training for Seniors (room 205)</p>
<p>Friday, July 11 Middle Schoolers return from CROSS</p>	<p>Sunday, July 13 <i>5th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i></p>	
<p>Saturday, July 12</p> <p>4:00 PM SONAM Concert (Sanctuary)</p> <p>5:30 PM First Friends Potluck (Home of the Momsen-Hudson's)</p>	<p>9:45 AM Faith Formation (Classes available for children and adults.)</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship; Mindy Douglas, Preaching</p> <p>12:15 PM FPC 101 (Daye Meeting Room)</p>	

CHURCH STAFF

Shakira Bethea, 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, 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 or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.

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

Things That Matter Book Club will meet on Tuesday, July 8 at 7:00 pm at the home of Emily Wilkins. We will discuss “Reading Genesis” by Marilynne Robinson will be discussed. Even if you have not read the book, you are welcome to come and listen to the discussion. For more information, contact Kathy at k.parkins@firstpres-durham.org

The annual “Fill That Bus!” school supply drive is here! Every year, we count on the community to restock our shelves with the classroom essentials our Durham Public Schools educators need to fuel their students’ success. Drop off supplies from **July 4-August 8** in the marked bins in the church foyer! You can also always make a financial donation to support this work. *Thanks for supporting our public school community!* Use the QR code to donate.



First Friends Celebrate Summer Potluck: Join us **Saturday, July 12 at 5:30 pm at the home of Tyler and Deborah Momsen-Hudson.** You may RSVP to Deborah by phone 919-697-1898, email dmomsenhudson@gmail.com or by scanning the QR Code. Save the Date for our next potluck on Saturday, **August 16 at the home of Mark Higgins.**



SONAM Chorus
Singers of New And Ancient Music

**INVITES EVERYONE
TO A CONCERT**

7-12^{at} 4PM

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 305 EAST MAIN ST. DURHAM



**FEATURING MUSIC FROM SONAM'S RECENT TOUR
OF LATVIA, ESTONIA, AND FINLAND!**

**EMANUEL
FOOD
PANTRY** 
emanuelfoodpantry.org

Donations at the concert in lieu of tickets will support the Emanuel Food Pantry in its critical mission to combat hunger and food insecurity in the Durham community.

What's with the robes and stoles?

Who's Calvin?

What's a session???



**PRESBYTERIAN
101**

July 13, 20, & 27 following
worship in the Wilson Parlor
with Pastor Esther

If you're a visiting friend (or new member!) and have questions like these, come join Pastor Esther for a time of conversation about Presbyterian theology, polity and worship. Come as you are—with all the small questions or big doubts. Following worship on July 13, 20 and 27 in the Wilson parlor (with a building tour on July 27!) light refreshments will be provided!



How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news!
Isaiah 52.7

ANNOUNCING: FPC's Western NC Hurricane Recovery Mission

With our friends at [Fuller Disaster ReBuilders](#), we will travel to help our North Carolina neighbors rebuild from the Hurricane Helene disaster and to engage in fellowship with our FPC friends. No building skills are required.

If the Spirit is calling you, use the link below to register.

Here are some details:

Who: YOU! (Must be 16+ years)
When: September 14-19
Where: Swannanoa, NC (near Black Mountain, NC)
Cost: \$200 (financial assistance available)

Contact Andy Henry with any questions:
andrew.joseph.henry@gmail.com, 919-599-9405.