

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

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

July 27, 2025

**A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Mindy Douglas

**PRELUDE**

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

J.S. Bach

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,

People: They shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

All: Let us worship God.

**\*HYMN NO. 687**

*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

*St. Anne*

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN**

Esther Hethcox

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God,**

**you despise nothing you have made**

**and you forgive the sins of all who trust in you.**

**Create in us new and contrite hearts,**

**that truly repenting of our sins,**

**and acknowledging our brokenness,**

**we may receive from you,**

**the God of all mercy,**

**full pardon and forgiveness;**

**through your Son, Jesus Christ our redeemer,**

**who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and forever.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

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

**\*REGATHERING HYMN NO. 733** *We All Are One in Mission* *Es Flog Ein Kleins Waldvögelein*  
*Now let us be united*  
*and let our song be heard.*  
*Now let us be a vessel*  
*for God's redeeming word.*  
*We all are one in mission;*  
*we all are one in call,*  
*our varied gifts united*  
*by Christ, the Lord of all.*

**COLLECT**

Griffin Momsen-Hudson

**Reader:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Reader:** Let us pray.

**All:** **Holy God,**  
**you are our faithful love,**  
**our generous parent,**  
**our patient teacher,**  
**our constant friend.**

**We live by the hope of your promises,**  
**seek to follow your way,**  
**and rely on the gift of your Spirit,**  
**by whose power we breathe, and move, and pray. Amen.**

**PSALTER READING**

Psalm 46:1-7

(Pew Bible, OT Page 517)

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

Griffin Momsen-Hudson

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**

**EPISTLE READING**

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

(Pew Bible, NT Page 157)

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

Mindy Douglas

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*"God, Our Help and Our Hope"*

Mindy Douglas

*(silent reflection)*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*From A Declaration of Faith*

**God keeps God's promises and gives us hope.**

**In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus**

**God kept God's promises.**

**All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ.**

**But the work of God in Christ is not over.**

**God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen.**

**The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence that supports us when lesser hopes fail us.**

In Christ God gives hope for a new heaven and earth,  
certainty of victory over death,  
assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death.  
This hope gives us courage for the present struggle.

**\*HYMN NO. 827**

*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

*Wie Schön Leuchtet*

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Lenore Champion

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

Esther Hethcox

Offertory Voluntary

*Allegro in F*

Benedetto Marcello

*(The **Hunger for Change Offering** is 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!*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Susan Dunlap

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

*(Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession)*

**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. 619**

*Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

*Lauda Anima*

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Mindy Douglas

**O God, whose greatness knows no limits, whose wisdom no bounds, whose peace excels all understanding; you who love and help us beyond measure - help us to love you. Though we cannot fully do so because of your infinite goodness, increase and deepen our understanding so that we may love you more and more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*From Book of Common Worship*

**\*POSTLUDE**

*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

D. Buxtehude

*(dedicated to Marilyn Hedgpeth)*

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### ***Happening Today***

***FPC 101 Building Tour*** (following worship): See page 5 for more information.



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 are given to the glory of God and in memory of ***James Perry Allen***, father of ***Amy Wilson***, and grandfather of ***Julia, James, and Anna Wilson***.

***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.

***Portions of today's worship resources*** were reprinted from: *Call to Worship Vol. 58.1* and *Feasting on the Word*. Music is reprinted under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

## Upcoming Community Events

*Many of our events are posted in the bi-weekly newsletter. You may read past newsletters and join our mailing list here. <https://firstpres-durham.org/weekly-newsletter/>*



***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.



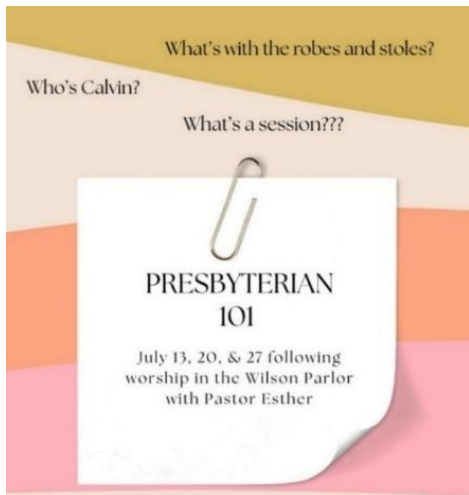
***Community Blood Drive***: Donating blood can save up to three lives every time you give. Schedule your appointment for Thursday, July 31, 2025 between 1:00-6:00pm here at First Presbyterian Church.

***All Church Summer Sizzle***: Saturday, August 9 at 5:00 pm. Join us for a potluck at the home of the Momsen-Hudson's located at 1339 Holden Roberts Farm Rd., Hillsborough, NC, 27278. You may use the QR code to ***sign up to volunteer*** and help make this event one to remember.



***First Friends Summer Potluck***: Saturday, August 16 at 5:30 pm. Join us at the home of Mark Higgins, located at 842 Inglenook Rd., Durham, NC 27707.

***The "Somethings" (young adults) End-of-Summer BBQ***: Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm. Location is TBD.



## **Presbyterian 101** with *Pastor Esther*

July 27 | Wilson Parlor

What's with the robes and stoles? Who's Calvin? What's a Session?

If you're a visiting friend (or a 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. All are invited to the building tour led by Lanny Pratt following worship.



## **THE HUNGER FOR CHANGE OFFERING**

First Presbyterian Church of Durham has a long history of involvement in hunger-related mission, most notably Hunger for Change and the Durham CROP Walk. In addition, we coordinate volunteers for the Community Café at Urban Ministries of Durham, collect and bag food for the Iglesia Emanuel's 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 and Iglesia Emanuel's Food Pantry have been frequent recipients.

***Thank you for your offering today!***



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](mailto:andrew.joseph.henry@gmail.com), 919-599-9405.

## *~Celebrations and Concerns of the Congregation ~*

### **Celebrations:**

**Barbara and Scott Buckley** welcome a new grandson, Viggo. Baby and parents are doing well.  
**Ryeon and Richard Anderson** welcomed a son, Jiwan Harry Anderson. Both baby and mother are doing well.

### **Condolences:**

We extend our care and concern to **Ingram "Hedge" Hedgpeth, Andrew, Emily, Stuart, family, friends** and anyone who was blessed to know **Marilyn Hedgpeth** in our congregation and community. She served here as our associate pastor from 2003-2019. Marilyn tragically died on July 23, 2025. The date for a memorial service has not yet been set.

Condolences may be mailed to Hedge and the family at:

3612 Cherrylaurel Ct.

Winston Salem, NC 27106

### **We remember in prayer:**

**Dennis Buckley** is recovering in the hospital.

**Tony Brown**

**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**

**Ginny Widmark**

### **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 Arrowood

**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

**Jim Vacca**, father of Jamie Chambliss

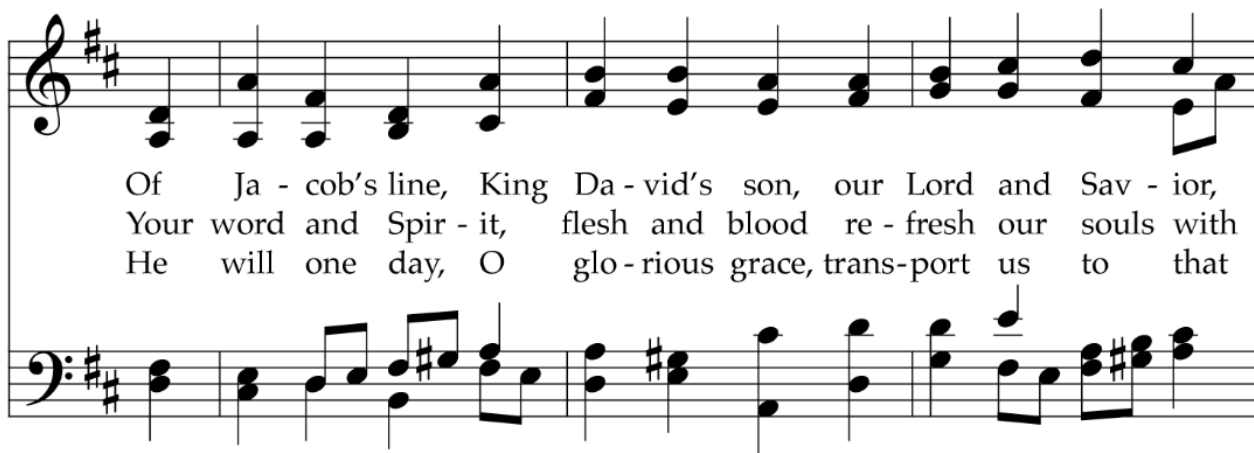
# 827 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
2 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
3 What joy to know, when life is past, the Lord we



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
love is first and last, the end and the be - gin - ning!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
He will one day, O glo - rious grace, trans - port us to that

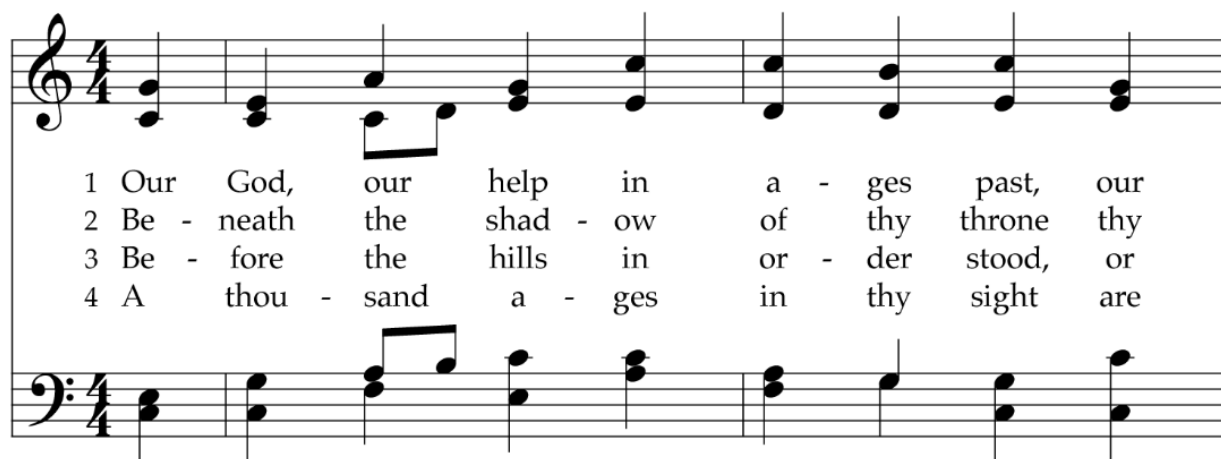
you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
heaven-ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
hap - py place be - yond all tears and sin - ning! A - men!

ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich in  
mer - cy warm and cheer us! O draw near us! For you  
A - men! Come, Lord Je - sus! Crown of glad - ness! We are

bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
yearn - ing for the day of your re - turn - ing.

# 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.

# Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven 619

(Psalm 103)

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your  
2 Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore - bears  
3 Like a lov - ing par - ent car - ing, God knows well our  
4 An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion; you be - hold God

car - ols raise; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,  
in dis - tress; God is still the same for - ev - er,  
fee - ble frame, glad - ly all our bur - dens bear - ing,  
face to face. Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,

who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!  
slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!  
still to count - less years the same. Al - le - lu - ia!  
dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!  
Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me, praise God's name!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

## This Week at a Glance!

<b>Later Today</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>  <b>12:15 PM</b> FPC 101 Building Tour (Wilson Parlor)	<b>Monday, July 28</b>  <b>1:30 PM</b> Worship Planning (Pastor's Office)	<b>Tuesday, July 29</b> <i>Newsletter Release</i>  <b>7:00 PM</b> The "Somethings" Summer Book Group (offsite)
<b>Wednesday, July 30</b>  <b>1:00 PM</b> Program Meeting (Pastor's Office)	<b>Thursday, July 31</b>  <b>1:00 PM</b> Blood Drive (Watts-Hill Hall)	<b>Friday, August 1</b>  <b>8:00 AM</b> <i>Men of Faith Breakfast (Mad Hatters)</i>
<b>Saturday, August 2</b>	<b>Sunday, August 3</b> <i>8th Sunday after Pentecost</i>  <b>9:45 AM</b> Faith Formation (Classes available for children and adults.)  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship with Holy Communion; Mindy Douglas, Preaching  <b>12:15 PM</b> FPC 101 (Daye Meeting Room)	

### 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](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**