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First Presbyterian Church  
Durham, North Carolina

December 7, 2025

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

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 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**

Esther Hethcox

**PRELUDE**

*Every Valley Shall Be Exalted (from Messiah)*  
*Dan Huff, Tenor*

G. F. Handel

*Every valley shall be exalted,  
and every mountain and hill made low,  
the crooked straight,  
and the rough places plain.*

(silent reflection)

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

The Jennings Family

Leader: ...The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf  
and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them.

**People: Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when  
we seek the flourishing of all God's creation.**

*The second candle of the Advent wreath is lit.*

**\*HYMN NO. 88** (verses 1,2,6,7)

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*Veni Emmanuel*

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN**

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**Eternal Light,**

**in a world of violence and devastation, we fail to believe in peace.**

**We doubt its impact, its meaning, its possibility.**

**Forgive us, for not daring to be the peacemakers you have called us to be.**

**Embolden our hearts,**

**so we might imagine more clearly**

**what peace might look like for a community of weary disciples.**

**Inspire us.**

**Dare us.**

**Forgive us.**

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. 447**

*We Are Forgiven*

*We Are Forgiven*

Three staves of music in G major, 3/4 time. The lyrics are: We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Chords: G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, Dsus, D, G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, D, G.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Amy Dillon

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

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

**Reader:** Let us pray.

**All:** **Light of the world,**  
**you have called us into a moment to bask in the warmth of your glow.**  
**May the radiance of your Living Word**  
**reveal new ways for us to do, and love, and be in the world. Amen.**

**GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 3:1-12

(Pew Bible, NT Page 2)

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

Amy Dillon

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

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 11:1-10

(Pew Bible, OT Page 640)

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

Esther Hethcox

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

**SERMON**

*"The Conundrum of the Pigeon"*

Esther Hethcox

*(silent reflection)*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from *A Declaration of Faith*

John Weicher

**God created human beings with a need for community**  
**and with freedom to enter into it**  
**by responding to their Maker with grateful obedience**  
**and to one another with love and helpfulness.**

**We believe that we have been created**  
**to relate to God and each other**  
**in freedom and responsibility.**

**We may misuse our freedom and deny our responsibility**  
**by trying to live without God and other people**  
**or against God and other people.**

**Yet we are still bound to them for our life and well-being,**  
**and intended for free and responsible fellowship with them.**

Since every human being is made  
for communion with God and others,  
we must treat no one with contempt.  
We are to respect and love all other people  
and ourselves as well.

**\*HYMN NO. 100**

*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

*Star of the County Down*

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Lenore Champion

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

John Weicher

Offertory Anthem

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

Houston, arr. Paul Manz

*I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus.*

*God sent the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.*

*Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.*

*The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

*I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.*

*Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path and show me the way to the Father. (Refrain)*

*I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.*

*When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus (Refrain)*

\*Doxology

from *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

*Divinium Mysterium*

***Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost to thee,***

***Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be.***

***Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore.***

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

Esther Hethcox

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

John Weicher

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: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise O God,  
for you are the perfecter of peace.

You created us in the gentleness of breath, formed us in the softness of soil, and held us  
in the garden of paradise.

In response to this peaceful love, we chose to create a world of disorder and harm.

Yet, you responded in peace, calling forth prophets, judges, and martyrs, to remind us  
of the origin of our beings, the centrality of our hope.

In the greatest act of peace, you chose to enter this broken world of our own making, and  
to dwell with us in the disorder of it all.

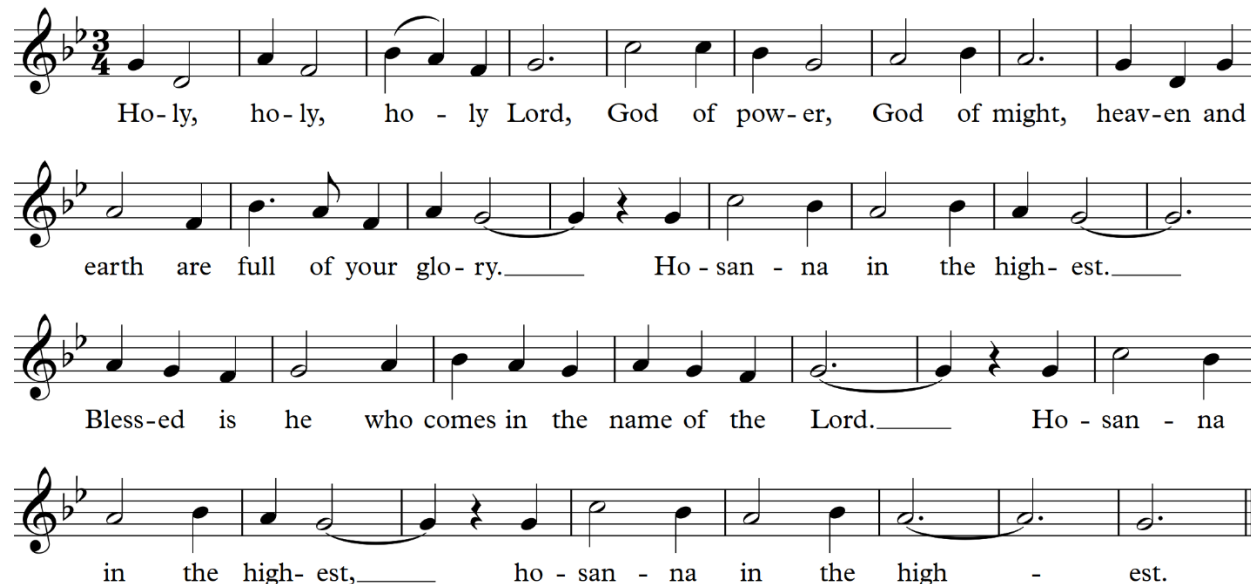
Yet in response to your love, we rebelled and sent our friend and hope to death on a tree.

Again, your peace prevailed, and in light and wonder you rose again, and re-entered our lives in the greeting; “peace be with you.”

Therefore we praise you, raising our voices with the heavenly choirs who forever sing to the glory of your matchless name:

(All Sung)

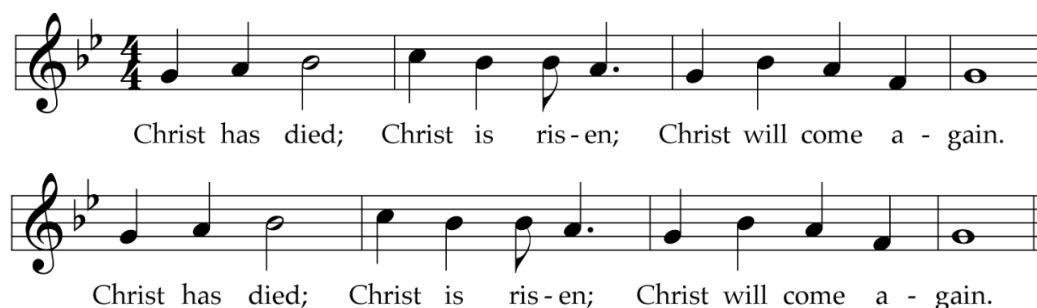
### Sanctus



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: Holy One, as you dwelled with us in the dirt of this world,  
you showed us what true peace can look like in a world of hurt.  
Through the birth, life, teaching, death and resurrection of our Savior,  
you continuously called us to redefine what a discipleship of peace can be.  
In the wake of unimaginable injustice, you called us to be courageous.  
In the devastation of livelihood and home, you called us to stand firm.  
In the barrenness of inequity and bondage, you called us to imagine.  
In the reality of violence and oppression, you called us to bear witness.  
In the landscape of all that is wrong, wicked, despicable and corrupt,  
you call us to focus on the horizon that exists on the edge of all this,  
the light of your love which reveals a world that can be so different than what is.  
Great is the mystery of faith...

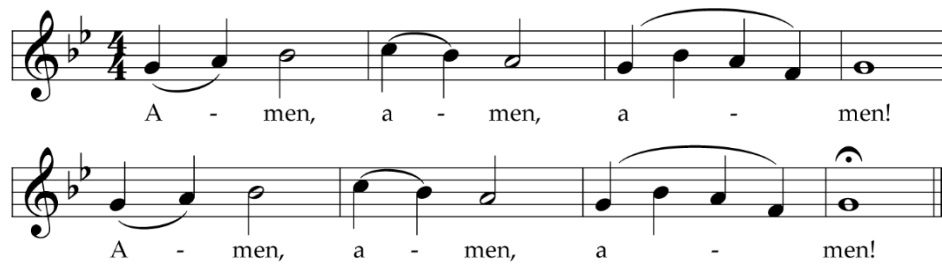
(All Sung)



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: Eternal God of all that is,  
 pour out your Spirit upon these elements,  
 so that as we come to this table and partake in this simple feast,  
 we might remember the everlasting promise that rests at this table  
 and within our hearts: "My peace be with you."

(All Sung)



## 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

Esther Hethcox & John Weicher

## 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. Parents, please assist children as they take bread and lightly dip it into 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 Hymn No. 84

*Creator of the Stars of Night*

*Conditor Alme Siderum*

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

John Weicher

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

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

All: God of our Advent hearts,

**we have feasted at this table, hearing the promises of your reign of peace.**

**As we leave this table and go out into our community and world,**

**may we be emboldened to dream as our ancestors have dreamed,**

**and remember the call to be true peacemakers in this world that you love. Amen.**

## \*HYMN NO. 314

*Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*

*Christ, Be Our Light*

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Esther Hethcox

## \*POSTLUDE

*Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*

arr. Robert Hobby



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 Advent Wreath*** is a gift to the church in celebration of the season from ***Alice Raney***.

***Advent paraments:*** In 2012, First Presbyterian Church commissioned internationally known fiber-artist Laurie Wohl to design and create two paraments to be hung from the pulpit and lectern during Lent and Advent. The Advent text on the pulpit parament, in Hebrew and English, is from Isaiah 12:3: “With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.” The Advent text on the lectern parament is from Luke 1:78-79: “The dawn from on high will break upon us to give light to guide our feet into the way of peace.” We are grateful that the bequest of Anne ‘St. Clair’ Williams made it possible to enhance our sanctuary with these beautiful works of art.

Today’s bulletin cover was created by ***Isa Cummings***. While we often have a certain image of pigeons in our heads, the one on today’s cover is drawn from images of the show pigeons that Esther Hethcox raised and that feature in her sermon.

***Childcare:*** A staffed nursery and children’s playroom are available on the second floor of the education building during worship. ***Activity bags and baskets*** are available in the foyer for children. Please return them 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 Lord’s Prayer when Holy Communion is celebrated:*** From the beginning, one of the hallmarks of Reformed worship has been liturgy in the vernacular or 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. Of course, you may always choose to pray in the words closest to your heart, be those words debts or trespasses.

***Portions of today’s worship resources*** were reprinted from *Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church*, and others were written by Esther Hethcox. Music is reprinted under Onelicense.net: A.713926.

***Mindy Douglas*** is away, officiating at a wedding in Greenville, NC this weekend.



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## ***Happening Today***

**Children's Choir** will meet in the Christian Education Building immediately following service for about 20 minutes.

**The Somethings Artvent** is at 5:00pm in Watts-Hill Hall.

**Youth Group:** Carried by Faith - When Things Fall Apart will be in the youth room at 5:00pm.

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## **Upcoming Community Events**

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



**Yoga** is offered at FPC on Mondays at 4:30pm (vinyasa flow class), and Fridays at 10:30am (chair yoga class). Contact **Jane Wettach** for more information at [janeuwettach@gmail.com](mailto:janeuwettach@gmail.com).

The debut of the **podcast** is here! The members of our church have had wide and varied experiences that aren't all commonly known. So, Susan Dunlap and Cris Rivera are starting this First Presbyterian podcast as a way to surface church members' stories, such as the ones told by **Barbara Fish** in this inaugural episode. Barbara Fish is a retired school librarian who has been a member of our church for a long time. She has served our church in many ways, most recently with knitting scarves, blankets, and prayer shawls as a way to mark life transitions and offer comfort. Since she offered so many interesting stories, we decided to divide her interview into two parts. We know you will enjoy hearing from her! Subscribe to the podcast with the QR code.



**Daytimers' Christmas Luncheon** is December 9<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm in Watts-Hill Hall.

**Christmas Caroling** with a special recognition for Joe Harvard and Delton Farmer is happening Saturday, December 13 from 2:00–4:00pm. We can lift each other up with cheer and bonding when we sing to elevate our kindred spirits. Join us at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2620 E. Weaver Street. All are welcome. For more information contact Sue McLaurin at [suemcpt1@gmail.com](mailto:suemcpt1@gmail.com).





**First Friends Advent Gathering:** Join First Friends on December 13 at 6:30pm for our annual Advent potluck with delicious food and engaging conversations. Melinda and Stewart are providing the main dish. Bring drink, a side dish, or dessert to share. You may park along Cabe Ford Rd.



**A Service of Lessons and Carols** on December 14, 2025 at 11:00am. This service is led by the choir and patterned after the Lessons and Carols Service held annually at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England. The service includes scripture readings, anthems, and congregational hymns.



Join us for our annual Christmas Pageant (at 5:30pm in the Sanctuary) and Potluck Supper followed by singing Christmas Carols on December 14 at 5:45pm - RSVP with the QR code to the right.



**Black Nativity 2025** - December 19-21

This performance is a stirring, soulful, gospel celebration about the birth of Jesus Christ based upon Langston Hughes' version of the Christmas story. Join over 100 singers, dancers, and musicians for a production that has kept audiences praising and worshipping for the past 19 years! Black Nativity Durham is a wonderful, traditional opportunity for everyone to focus on the true meaning of the Christmas season. Learn more at the link below.

<https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/triangle-performance-ensemble/688c50cc5df60b0ffb5f4937>



## Brightly Does Your Manger Shine

The Holy Days are upon us, and the people of God are busy preparing their hearts for the One who comes to make his home among us. Please bring your family, a neighbor, a friend, or co-worker and join us for one or all of the events and services listed below.

### December 1-25

Mondays - Saturdays: Youth-led advent Devotions on Facebook & Instagram.  
Pick up an Advent Devotion Booklet, *What Do You Fear*, from the lobby.

#### December 7

##### *Second Sunday of Advent*

9:45 a.m. - Faith Formation Classes  
(all ages)  
11:00 a.m. - Worship w/Holy  
Communion  
5:00 p.m. - The Somethings Artvent

#### December 9

12:00 p.m. - Daytimers' Christmas  
Luncheon

#### December 13

10:00 a.m. - Durham Holiday Parade  
(front steps)  
2:00 p.m. - SASSY Christmas Caroling  
at Covenant Presbyterian Church

#### December 14

##### *Third Sunday of Advent*

9:45 a.m. - Faith Formation Classes (all ages)  
11:00 a.m. - Worship: A Service of Lessons and Carols  
5:30 p.m. - Christmas Pageant  
5:45 p.m. - Potluck Supper followed by  
singing Christmas Carols

#### December 15

7:00 p.m. - The Somethings Christmas Prayer Service  
(All are welcome.)

#### December 21

##### *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

##### *Christmas Joy offering*

9:45 a.m. - Faith Formation Classes (all ages)

#### December 24 - Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. - Communion &  
Candlelight Service

#### December 25 - Christmas Day

Church Office Closed

#### January 1 - New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

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

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

*Joe Harvard*, whose surgery has been postponed.  
People who have lost their jobs and are looking for work.

*Adrienne Allison*

*Tony Brown*

*Jean Cary*

*Paul Cornsweet*

*Sam Crabtree*

*Susan Cyr*

*Barbara Gerwe*

*Kerry Holbrook*

*Lee House*

*Ann Huff*

*Harriett Mitchell*

*Franzi Rokoske*

*Alfred Tisdale*

### **Care Communities:**

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Dub Gulley*

Hillcrest Convalescent: *Carol Wills*

Brookdale Senior Living: *Debbie Mathews*

Durham Ridge: *Phillip Herndon*

Pruitt Health - Durham: *Fred Callaway*

Southpoint Atria: *Ginny Widmark*

*Madge McKeithen*

### **Family and Friends of the Congregation**

*Julia Allen*, grandmother of Amy Wilson

*Steve Blackwood*, father of Jeff Blackwood

*Evan Breyer*, grandson of friends of Jo Ann Moore

*Francisca Cristobal*, relative of Al and Judy Arrowood

*Kim Cummings*, father of Drew Cummings

*Denise Duffy*, sister of Andy Henry

*Elik Essif*, brother of Mason Essif

*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

*Sandra Mikush*, mother of Katie Fogleman

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

*Kelly Nelson*, daughter of Conrad and Linda Carter

*Bill Prochaska*, friend of Al and Judy Arrowood

*Wu-Chou Su*, father of Claire Su

*Jim Vacca*, father of Jamie Chambliss

# 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

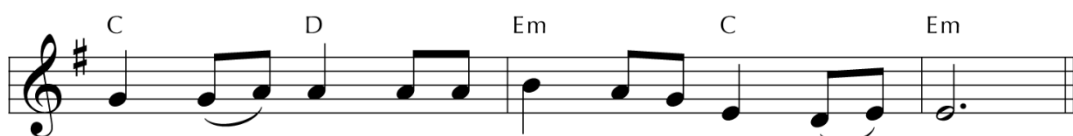
*Refrain*



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

## 84 Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -  
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in  
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all  
4 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,  
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child  
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you, hear us when we call.  
of Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.  
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

# 88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge  
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

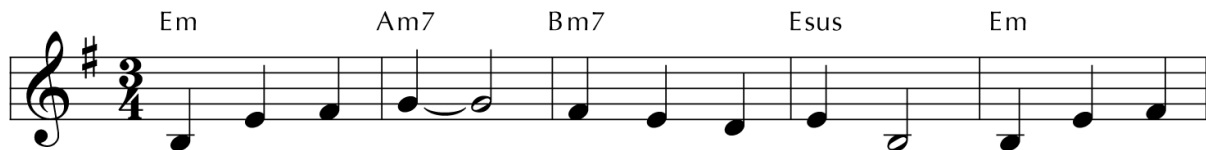
5 O come, thou Key of David, come,  
 and open wide our heavenly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
 our spirits by thine advent here;  
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

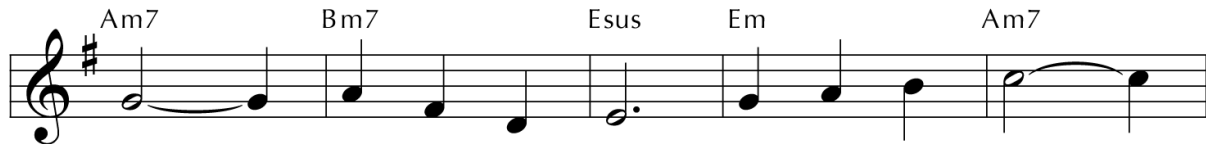
7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
 all peoples in one heart and mind;  
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

# Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

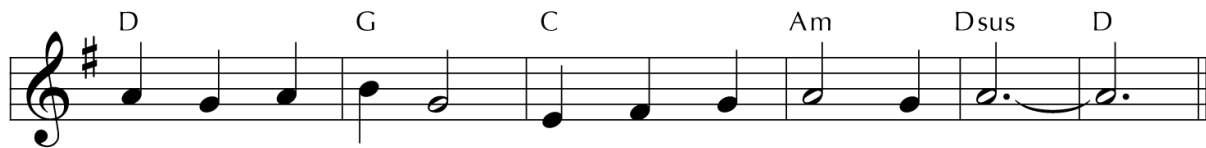
## Christ, Be Our Light



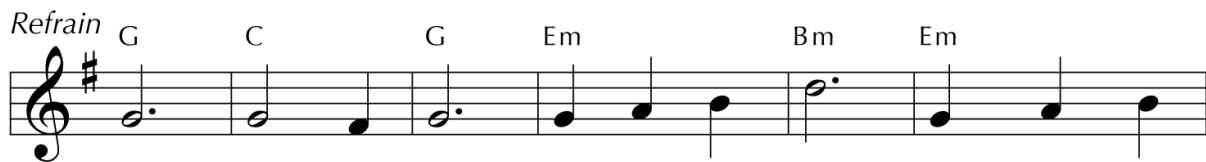
1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for  
 2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for  
 3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for  
 4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



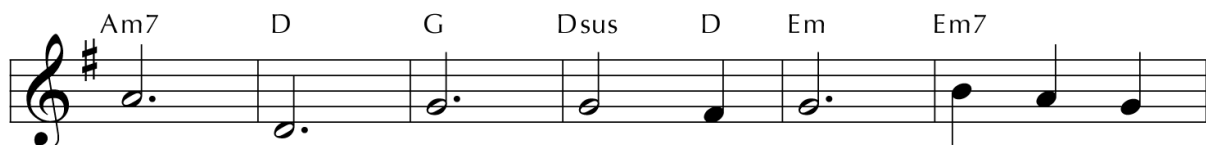
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



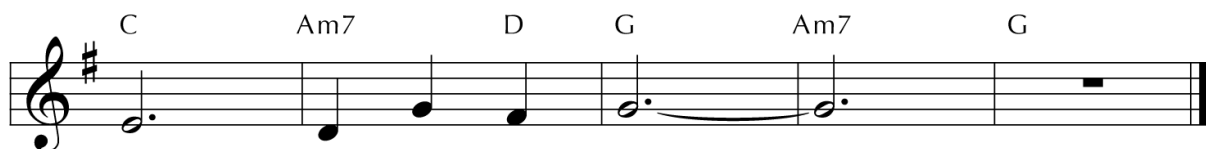
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.



## This Week at a Glance!

### Later Today

#### Following Worship

Children's Music:  
ages 3-5 (room 205), ages 6-11 (choir room)

**5:00 PM**

Somethings Artvent (Watts-Hill Hall)  
Youth Group: CbF – When Things Fall Apart (youth room)

#### Monday, December 8

**1:30 PM**

Worship Planning (Pastor's office)

**4:30 PM**

Yoga (Watts-Hill Hall)

**6:00 PM**

Christian Education Committee (Zoom)  
Personnel Committee (Daye Meeting Room)

**7:00 PM**

Worship and the Arts Committee (Zoom)  
Welcome & Belonging

#### Tuesday, December 9

**12:00 PM**

Daytimers' Christmas Luncheon (Watts-Hill Hall)

**6:00 PM**

Elder, Deacon, Clergy Christmas Party Potluck  
(home of Jane Wettach & Paul Baldasare)

#### Wednesday, December 10

**1:00 PM**

Program Staff Meeting (Pastor's office)

**7:00 PM**

Chancel Choir (choir room)

#### Thursday, December 11

#### Saturday, December 13

**10:00 AM**

Durham Holiday Parade Watch Party

**2:00 PM**

SASSY Christmas Caroling (honoring Joe Harvard and Delton Farmer)  
(Covenant Presbyterian Church)

**6:00 PM**

First Friends Advent Gathering (home of Melinda Ruley & Stewart Fisher)

#### Friday, December 12

**10:30 AM** Yoga (room 201)

#### Sunday, December 14

*Third Sunday of Advent, Newsletter Deadline*

**9:45 AM**

Faith Formation (Classes available for adults, youth and children.)

**11:00 AM**

Worship: A Service of Lessons & Carols

**12:15 PM**

Children's Music: ages 3-5 (room 205), ages 6-11 (choir room)

**5:30 PM**

Christmas Pageant (Sanctuary)

**5:45 PM**

Potluck & Carols (Watts-Hill Hall)

### 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

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, email the church office:  
[office@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:office@firstpres-durham.org) or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.

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