

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

Moment for Adult Faith Formation

John Weicher
David Smith

PRELUDE

Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie

Maurice Duruflé

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: To those who want to follow him,
Jesus asks, “What are you seeking?”

People: **Teacher, we do not seek worldly power, but a better way to live.**

Leader: “What are you seeking?”

People: **Teacher, we do not seek worldly wealth,
nor the prizes of paradise, but simply to be with you.**

Leader: “What are you seeking?”

People: **Teacher, we do not seek worldly praise or fame,
only that you call us by name.**

***HYMN NO. 393**

O Day of Rest and Gladness

Es Flog Ein Kleins Waldvögelein

Esther Hethcox

***CONFession OF SIN**

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**You are faithful, O patient God,
even as we continue to live in the shadows of life.**

**We could delight in your hopes for us,
but choose to do things our way.**

**We could serve the most vulnerable around us,
but long to pal around with the powerful.**

**There is none like you,
Redeemer of all your children.**

**You lean over to listen to our prayers,
and whisper forgiveness to our souls.**

**You lift us out of the holes we dig for ourselves,
and set us on hope's solid ground.**

**You strengthen our weak faith with the life, grace, and love
of Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Savior.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

**Those who are able, please stand.*

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*REGATHERING HYMN NO. 492

You Belong to Christ

You Belong to Christ

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Julio Manceras

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Lamb of God, you take on the sins and suffering of the world.

Call us into partnership with you,
to love and serve your people by your side.

Call us to be a witness to your goodness
and to join in your ongoing work of liberation.

Call to us by name,
and we will delight in your ways.

Call to us by name,
and we will follow you forever. Amen.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

(Pew Bible, NT Page 162)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Julio Manceras

GOSPEL READING

John 1:29-42

(Pew Bible, NT Page 92)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Mindy Douglas

SERMON

"Will the Real Church Please Stand Up"

Mindy Douglas

(silent reflection)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From 2 Corinthians 5:14-20

Esther Hethcox

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for the one who for their sake died and was raised.

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: Everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! All this is from God, who has given us the ministry of reconciliation through Christ, entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ.

*HYMN NO. 749

Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

John Weicher

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give

John Weicher

Offertory Music

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Healey Willan

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true and only Light,
Sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Day-spring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.*

*Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by Thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till Thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.*

*Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more Thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.*

*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 (*in unison*)

Esther Hethcox

Leader: The Lord 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. 726

Will You Come and Follow Me

Kelvingrove

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

*POSTLUDE

Fugue in E major

J.S. Bach

Happening Today

Children's Choir will meet following worship in the Christian Education building.

Fellowship Committee will hold their retreat following worship in Wilson Parlor.



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 by ***Wendy & Mac McCorkle*** in memory of their parents, ***Sally & Lewis Johnson***, and ***Elinor & Pope McCorkle***.

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.

Portions of today's worship resources were reprinted from ***A Call to Worship*** and ***Lectionary Liturgies***. 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 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 janewettach@gmail.com.

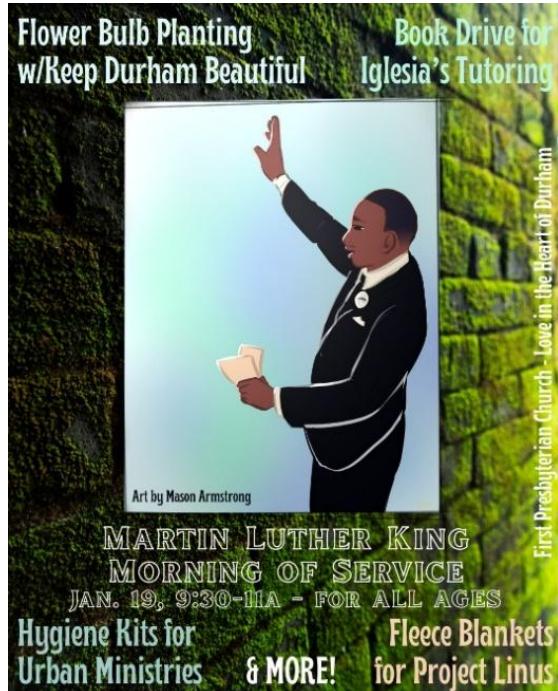
Everyone is invited to the **You Are Not Alone** group, a time for people living with chronic conditions to meet for community and mutual support. **Tuesday, January 20, 10:00am** in Wilson Parlor. For more information contact Susan Dunlap, sjd4@duke.edu.

The **Poetry Reading Group** will meet on Zoom on Tuesday evening, January 20, at 7:00. For more information contact Susan Dunlap, sjd4@duke.edu.

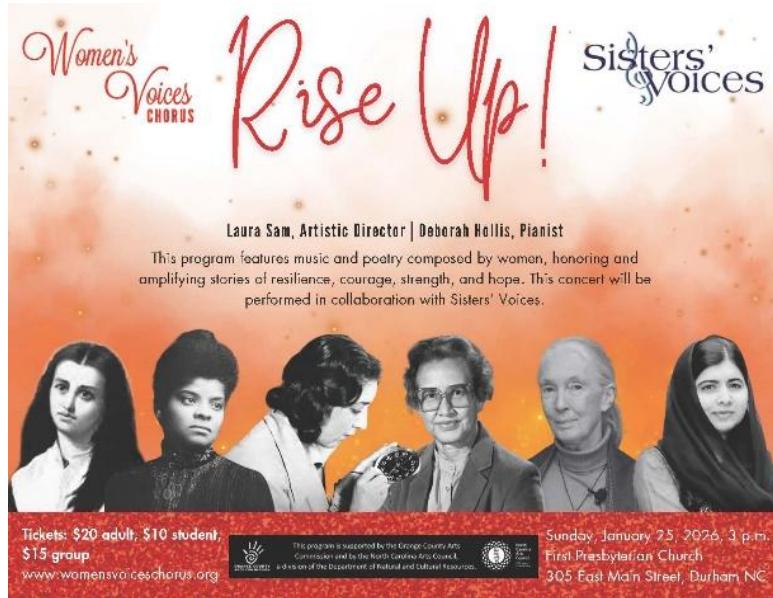
Please join us for the first **First Friends** gathering of the year! Save the date for **January 23, 2026**, at **6:30pm**. We'll meet at the home of Mac and Wendy McCorkle. Check your email for an evite to RSVP.

Rev. Julio Ramirez-Eve was blessed with a Clergy Renewal grant which enabled him and his wife to spend six weeks travelling in Australia this summer. Julio was inspired by Australian Aboriginal art and rekindled his interest in drawing and painting. He will be sharing for a second time his recent artwork, along with photos from their travels. If you missed his first exhibit last month, please join us, Sunday, January 25 at 1pm in the multi-purpose room on the first floor of the education wing at Iglesia Emanuel, 2504 N. Roxboro St.

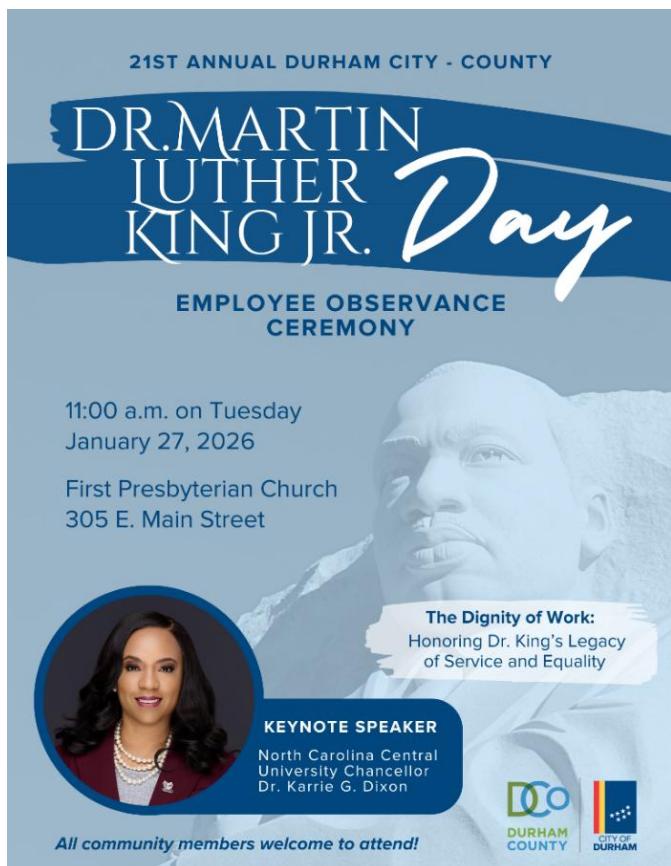
Liturgist Training Session will be held on **Saturday, February 7**, from **9:30am - 12:30pm**. We will be using the NRSV as our main study guide and you are encouraged to bring your own personal Bible. Refreshments will be provided. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve in a very important role of our Sunday morning worship. All who are interested please contact me at csrimmer@nc.rr.com.



Martin Luther King Day Morning of Service is January 19. In the face of a challenging world, acts of service are among the ways that we can do good in the world. Join us this Monday from 9:30-11am for our Martin Luther King Morning of Service. This is for all ages, including younger ones, and of course all family configurations and singletons are welcome to lend a hand.



Join us for a Women's Voices concert on Sunday, January 25, 2026, 3:00pm here at FPC. **Rise Up!** celebrates the immeasurable contributions of women as musicians, poets, authors, scientists, artists, activists, matriarchs, and peacemakers. Featuring music and poetry composed by women, we honor and amplify stories of resilience, courage, strength, and hope. We pay tribute to those who confront injustice, spark movements, and inspire lasting change — women whose legacy endures. Tickets for First Pres members are available at the door for the group rate of \$15. Just ask at the ticket table.



Honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is the purpose of the annual Durham City-County Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Employee Observance. The celebration, jointly hosted by the City of Durham and Durham County, will take place on Tuesday, January 27, 2026. The event will begin at 11 a.m., here at First Presbyterian Church.



McPherson Lectureship will be held February 1-2, 2026. We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Donyelle McCray as our 2026 McPherson Lecturer. Dr. McCray serves as Associate Professor of Homiletics at Yale Divinity School. A teacher, writer, and Episcopal layperson, her scholarship focuses on ways African American women and lay people use the sermon to play, remember, invent, and disrupt.

Schedule of Events

Sunday, February 1

9:45 AM

Adult Faith Formation Class: “Sermon at Sunset” in Watts-Hill Hall

11:00 AM

Worship w/ Dr. McCray preaching “*Dear Dreamer*”

3:00 PM

Community Lecture: “Aunt Pauli” in Watts-Hill Hall

Monday, February 2

Clergy & Church Leader Breakfast in Watts-Hill Hall

~Celebrations and Concerns of the Congregation~

Celebrations:

We celebrate the marriage of **Kathy & Robert Parkins'** daughter **Laura Parkins** to **Dane Czajkowski** yesterday, January 17, in Costa Rica.

Condolences:

We extend our love and concern to **Sarah Wright and family**, upon the death of her son-in-law **Rodney Teasley**, who died unexpectedly on January 9, 2026 in Seattle. He is survived by his wife **Margaret** and three young children **Liam, Vivian, and Georgia**.

We remember in prayer:

Joe Harvard, who will have foot surgery on January 20.

Tanya Watkins, friend of Leigh Wynkoop, who is fighting lymphoma.

Ana Sofia Ochoa, family member of Becky Martin, will have surgery following an auto accident.

Tony Brown

Barbara Gerwe

Ann Huff

Franzi Rokoske

Paul Cornsweet

Kerry Holbrook

Wil James

Alfred Tisdale

Sam Crabtree

Lee House

Harriett Mitchell

David Verner

Susan Cyr

Dan Hudgins

Karen Romines

Care Communities:

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Dub Golley**

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

Becky Birchfield, mother of Wil James

Evan Breyer, grandson of friends of Jo Ann Moore

Amanda Briggs, friend of Mindy Douglas

Francisca Cristobal, relative of Al and Judy Arrowood

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Denise Duffy, sister of Andy Henry

Gera Fleming, mother of Christyn Klinck

Linda Foster-Momsen, mother of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

Cheryl Fowler, friend of Cheri Reece

Bill Prochaska, friend of Al and Judy Arrowood

Jennifer Hervey, daughter-in-law of Jeanne Hervey

Wu-Chou Su, father of Claire Su

Donna Holladay, friend of Jane & Robert Brawley

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

Katie Jackson, wife of Matthew Hirsch

Donna Johnson, mother of Ann Huff

Mary Lou King, sister of Al Arrowood

Marie Maly, sister of Barbara Fish

Sandra Mikush, mother of Katie Fogleman

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

393 O Day of Rest and Gladness

1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
 2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion the light first had its birth;
 3 On you, God's peo - ple, meet - ing, the Ho - ly Scrip-ture hear,

O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright;
 on you, for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;
 Christ's liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through bread and wine made near.

on you, the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
 on you, our Lord vic - to - rious sent Spir - it forth from heaven.
 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,

sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly" to the great God tri - une.
 And thus on you, most glo - rious, a tri - ple light was given.
 we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D)

(A7)

(Bm)

(Em7)

(Asus) (A)

F

C7

Dm

Gm7

Csus

C

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
 2 "Will you leave your-self be - hind if I but call your name?
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D)

(A7)

(Bm)

(Em7)

(G)

(D)

F

C7

Dm

Gm7

B^b

F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7)

(G)

(F#m7)

(G)

(Asus) (A)

Gm7

B^b

Am7

B^b

Csus

C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tle stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot - steps show.

(D)

(A7)

(Bm)

(Em7)

(G)

(D)

F

C7

Dm

Gm7

B^b

F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

749 Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called

1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that

joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,

to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and

free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.

Refrain

We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to
 love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -
 oth-er, to walk hum-bly with God.

This Week at a Glance!

<p>Later Today</p> <p>Following Worship</p> <p>Children's Music: ages 3-5 (room 205), ages 6-11 (choir room)</p> <p>Fellowship Committee Retreat (Wilson Parlor)</p> <p>5:00 PM Youth Group: Youth Sunday II (youth room)</p>	<p>Monday, January 19 <i>Church Office Closed</i></p> <p>9:30 AM MLK Jr. Service Projects (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p>11:00 AM MLK Jr. Unity Assembly (Sanctuary)</p> <p>1:30 PM Community Collaborative Empowerment Session (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p>4:30 PM Yoga (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p>6:00 PM Leadership Team</p>
<p>Tuesday, January 20</p> <p>10:00 AM You Are Not Alone (Wilson Parlor)</p> <p>11:30 AM Coalition for Affordable Housing & Transit (Watts-Hill Hall)</p> <p>5:00 PM Finance & Investment Committee (Daye Meeting Room)</p>	<p>Wednesday, January 21</p> <p>1:00 PM All Staff Meeting (Daye Meeting Room)</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir (choir room)</p>
<p>Thursday, January 22</p> <p>7:00 PM Nominating Committee (Zoom)</p>	<p>Sunday, January 25 <i>Third Sunday after Epiphany</i> <i>Hunger for Change Offering, New Member Sunday</i></p>
<p>Friday, January 23</p> <p>10:30 AM Yoga (Room 201)</p> <p>6:30 PM First Friends Potluck (home of Wendy & Mac McCorkle)</p>	<p>9:45 AM Faith Formation (Classes available for adults, youth and children)</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship: Mindy Douglas, preaching</p> <p>12:15 PM Diaconate (Watts-Hill Hall) Meaning in the Middle Lunch (Daye Meeting Room & Wilson Parlor)</p> <p>Prayer Shawl Group (Basement Parlor)</p>
<p>Saturday, January 24</p> <p>9:00 AM Emergency Preparedness Meeting (room 205)</p>	<p>3:00 PM Women's Voices Concert: Rise Up! (Sanctuary)</p> <p>5:00 PM Youth Group: Youth Sunday III (youth 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

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