



by Ellie Everett, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

November 1, 2026

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

All Saints' Sunday

November 1, 2026

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**A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Minute for Stewardship

Mindy Douglas

Izzy Allison-Pleasants

**PRELUDE**

Festive Trumpet Tune

*comp. David German*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: What kind of love has God given us?

**People: A love that proclaims we are God's very own.**

Leader: What kind of promise has God given us?

**People: God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.**

Leader: What kind of future has God given us?

**People: God will lead us to springs of life-giving water.**

Leader: Blessing and glory,

**People: wisdom and thanksgiving,**

Leader: honor and power and might

**People: be to our God, forever and always!**

**\*HYMN NO. 326**

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN**

John Weicher

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**Holy God,**

**you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts.**

**We confess that we are not worthy of your gracious care.**

**We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns.**

**We have not always sought or done your will.**

**We have not lived as your grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us.**

**Only your grace can sustain us.**

**Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us and make us whole.**

**Set us free from our sin,**

**and restore to us the joy of your salvation now and forever.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

**\*REGATHERING HYMN NO. 769**

For Everyone Born

FOR EVERYONE BORN

*Refrain:*

**And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!**

**COLLECT**

Hyomin Gu

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

**People:** And also with you.

**Leader:** Let us pray:

**All:** Eternal God, neither death nor life can separate us from your love.  
Grant that we may serve you faithfully here on earth,  
and in heaven rejoice with all your saints  
who ceaselessly proclaim your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Revelation 7:9-17

(Pew Bible, NT Page 249)

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

Hyomin Gu

**People:** Thanks be to God!

**GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 5:1-12

(Pew Bible, NT Page 4)

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

Mindy Douglas

**People:** Thanks be to God!

**SERMON**

*“Wonderful News”*

Mindy Douglas

*(silent reflection)*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from Romans 8)*

Esther Hethcox

**What shall we say about these things?**

**If God is for us, who can be against us?**

**Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?**

**For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life,**

**nor angels, nor principalities,**

**nor things present, nor things to come,**

**nor powers, nor height, nor depth,**

**nor anything else in all creation,**

**will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**\*HYMN NO. 366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

John Weicher

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

John Weicher

# Offertory Anthem

## If I Can Help Somebody

arr. David Brunner

*If I can help somebody as I pass along; If I can cheer somebody with a word or song,  
If I can show somebody who is trav'ling wrong, then my living shall not be in vain.  
If I can point somebody to the lamb once slain; If I can tell somebody that he rose again,  
That he can cleanse the guilty, he can wash the stain, then my living shall not be in vain.*

\*Doxology

HOPSON

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all  
 peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -  
 more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Mindy Douglas and Esther Hethcox

## THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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: You created all that was;

you nurture all that is;

you imagine all that will be.

You are the pattern of community,

Three-in-One God of mercy.

From the beginning of time,

you have created us for relationship

with one another, with the earth, and with you.

When we reject your call to community,

choosing isolation over partnership and brokenness over healing,

you call us back, again and again,

with words of grace and the promise of new life.

Remembering that we are not alone at this table,

we join our voices with all the saints whom you have called,

from all times and all places, who forever sing your praise:

All (sung):

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

Leader: We give you thanks for Jesus Christ,  
our host and our guest at this table.  
Through his birth, you took on flesh,  
affirming the goodness of our bodies and our world.  
Through his life, you took on suffering,  
sharing the truth of hope in desperation.  
Through his death, you took on death,  
revealing the depth of your love for us.  
Through his resurrection, you brought new creation,  
embodying the promise of life everlasting.

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: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us,  
O God, and upon these gifts of fruit and grain,  
that we may taste your goodness, see your presence,  
and become one with you and your body.  
Gathered at your table, we join all your saints who have gone on before us  
and remember them now before you:

Helen Barber  
Ken Bingham  
Steve Blackwood  
William “Bill” Blair  
Johnny Boles



Al Bove  
Amanda Briggs  
Dan Catania  
Eddie Cheatham  
Richard Cloud



Aunita Coffee  
Alice Davis  
Denise Duffy  
Larry Dean Farrell  
Gina Gilmour



Tom Hogg  
Donna Holladay  
Joe Hushion  
Mary Lou King  
George Kirschman†



Angie Leathers  
Jasper Lee  
Ida Little  
John Luusa  
Peggy Young Merritt



Mary Lou Mikush  
John Morey  
Arthur Sherman Morris III  
James Ouzts  
Robert Paul



Joe Pleasants  
William Watson Regan  
Jerry Sattler  
Kathy Sims  
Wu-Chou Su



Phyllis Supple†  
Rodney Teasley  
Mary Kathryn Turkington  
Naomi Turner  
Ginny Widmark†



Bill Wilson  
Newton Wong  
Christopher Robin Wood  
Jan Wootton

† member of FPC

Leader: In life and in death, we belong to you, our Alpha and Omega.  
All thanks and praise to you, O God,  
holy Three-in-One, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **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**

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. Parents and stepparents, 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 MUSIC

## Taste and See

TASTE AND SEE

*Refrain* *All*

Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness  
of the Lord. O taste and see, taste and  
see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

*Fine*

### \*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:** God of glory,  
in this holy feast you have made us one with Christ  
and with that great multitude of the faithful -  
those who hunger and thirst no more  
and worship night and day in your temple.  
Lead us in the paths of righteousness  
and guide us to the springs of the water of life,  
until we join the choir of the redeemed, singing:  
Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne,  
and to the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### \*HYMN NO. 730

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

GRAND ISLE

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

### \*POSTLUDE

Toccata

comp. John Rutter

## Worship Notes

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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.

Thank you to our pianist today, ***Dessalines Ford***. Dess is a professional pianist based in Durham and he currently serves as an Instructor of Music at NCCU.

The flowers are given by ***Kathy Parkins*** to the Glory of God.

“Give thanks for saints of ages past and saints alive today:

though often by this world despised, their hearts by God are richly prized.

Give thanks that we may say we share their pilgrim way.”

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***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.

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## Upcoming 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/>



***Homegrown NC Women’s\* Preaching Festival*** – Join preachers and workshop leaders from across North Carolina on **Thursday, November 5**, at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church (927 W. Trinity Ave., Durham) for this year’s Homegrown festival, themed “Cross Pollination: Shared Wisdom across Places, Spaces, and Identities.” Our own ***Rev. Esther Hethcox*** served on the planning team and is one of this year’s featured speakers, and several friends of FPC are involved as well. Come hear a wide range of voices proclaim the Word, and cheer on Esther! Tickets can be found here:

<https://rcwms.org/event/homegrown-nc-womens-preaching-festival-2026/>

***Rock Creek Singers and Vox Virorum*** – Join us **this Friday, November 6, at 7 p.m.** for a concert featuring the Rock Creek Singers, an ensemble of the Washington, DC Gay Men’s Chorus, along with Durham’s own men’s chorus, Vox Virorum. The evening will feature songs celebrating love and

equality, from traditional choral music to pop and Broadway favorites. **Admission is free, and doors open at 6:30 p.m.**

***First Acts Reads The Desk Set*** – Join First Acts on **Saturday, November 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** for a fun table reading of *The Desk Set*, a 1950s workplace comedy pitting sharp-witted officemates against new automation technology. Whether you prefer to read a role aloud or just sit back and listen, all are welcome. **Today is the last day to register:** <https://tinyurl.com/first-acts-the-desk-set>

***Congregational Meeting*** – The Session has called a Congregational Meeting following worship on **November 8**. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear a brief report from the Personnel Committee with an action item regarding Esther Hethcox's terms of call.

***Pizza & Playground:*** Families, join us on **Sunday, November 8, from 4:00 to about 5:15 p.m.** at Duke Park for pizza, play, and time together outdoors. Kids are welcome to bring their bikes or scooters. Look for ***Lenore Champion*** at one of the picnic tables when you arrive!

***Somesgiving 2026:*** Our 4th annual Somethings-Giving (Somesgiving!!) is on **Sunday, November 8th from 4-6 p.m.** at ***Mary Ashley and Taylor King's*** house (see discord for address). Please RSVP **today, November 1st** using the link provided on discord. This event needs a lot of hands to happen. In addition to bringing a side or dessert to share, we need volunteers to bring tables and chairs. This event is outside, please dress accordingly. Please reach out to ***Pastor Esther*** if you have questions.

***First Friendsgiving:*** Join First Friends on **Friday, November 20, at 6:00 p.m.** for First Friendsgiving, hosted by ***Carl Rist and Elisabeth Davis***. Spiral-cut ham and drinks will be provided; please bring a side, salad, dessert, or additional beverages to share. Ample street parking is available, with overflow parking at Watts Street Baptist Church. Accessible parking is in the driveway; please enter the house from the back. RSVP on Evite: <https://tinyurl.com/first-friendsgiving-2026>

***Winter First Friends Gatherings:*** Mark your calendars for two upcoming First Friends gatherings: the Annual Advent Gathering on **Saturday, December 12**, hosted by ***Melinda Ruley and Stewart Fisher***, and a gathering on **Friday, January 29**, hosted by ***Sam and Sheila Miglarese***. More details to come.

***2027 Worship Flowers Sign-Up Open*** – Reserve your preferred Sunday early through the online sign-up sheet to provide sanctuary flowers for the 2027 worship schedule.

***Building Update: Rebuilding Together*** – We're excited to announce that our permit for the upcoming construction has been approved! Construction on our Rebuilding Together building project will begin soon. As a reminder, once construction begins, the Fellowship Hall will close, the kitchen will remain open, staff offices will be temporarily reconfigured, and some events may move offsite. Questions? Email ***Betsy Williams*** at [office@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:office@firstpres-durham.org).

### ***New Member Correction:***

*Last week we missed the bios of Susie and Audrey and we want to make sure you have a chance to get to know these wonderful new members!*



### ***Susie Kundrat & Audrey Vallance***

Susie grew up in Jefferson, IA and enjoys all things sports (especially basketball, tennis, and pickleball.) Audrey grew up in Michigan and Illinois and loves music and gardening. They both love to travel and have three adult children - Lindsay, Georgia, and Isa.

## ~ Celebrations and Concerns of the Congregation ~

### We offer our Condolences to:

**Anna Blair**, on the death of her grandfather, **William “Bill” Blair**.

**Keith Merritt**, on the death of his mother, **Peggy Young Merritt**.

**Robin Morey**, on the death of her father, **John Morey**.

**Bob Pleasants**, on the death of his uncle, **Tom Hogg**.

### We Remember in Prayer:

**Susan Dunlap**, who broke her ankle and will have surgery this week.

**Cesar Guajardo**, as he recovers from knee surgery.

**Dennis Hill**, who is currently at the Croasdaile Pavilion recovering from a hospital stay.

**Judy Arrowood**

**Susan Cyr**

**Lee House**

**Harriett Mitchell**

**Tony Brown**

**Sue Fricks**

**Ann Huff**

**Fred Moore**

**Paul Cornsweet**

**Joe Harvard**

**Jenni James**

**Beth Neece**

**Sam Crabtree**

**Kerry Holbrook**

**Bob Lewis**

**Franzi Rokoske**

### Care Communities:

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Dub Gulley, Alfred Tisdale**

Hillcrest Convalescent: **Carol Wills**

Brookdale Senior Living: **Debbie Mathews**

Chatham Ridge Assisted Living: **John Fricks**

Durham Ridge: **Phillip Herndon**

Pruitt Health - Durham: **Fred Callaway**

Southpoint Atria: **Madge McKeithen**

Arbor Terrace, Asheville: **Mal King**

### Family and Friends of the Congregation

**Ashley Alvord**, colleague of Sharon Hirsch

**John Carter**, brother of Conrad Carter

**Francisca Cristobal**, relative of Al and Judy Arrowood

**Kim Cummings**, father of Drew Cummings

**Sara Degand**, cousin of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

**Minnie Sue Douglas**, mother of Mindy Douglas

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

**Cheryl Fowler**, friend of Cheri Reece

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

**Larry Hethcox**, father of Esther Hethcox

**Susan Hoffman**, niece of Mickey Velkey

**Carl Holladay**, friend of Jane & Robert Brawley

**Katie Jackson**, wife of Matthew Hirsch

**Donna Johnson**, mother of Ann Huff

**Anthony Ketcham**, brother-in-law of Wil James

**Elizabeth Manceras**, mother of Julio Manceras

**Sandra Mikush**, mother of Katie Fogleman

**Ana Sofia Ochoa**, family member of Becky Martin

**Patrick O’Neill**, father of Brianna Bennett

**Janet Ouzts**, sister of Celia Dickerson

**Rebecca Todd (“Toddie”) Peters**, mother of Sophie Peters

**Bill Prochaska**, friend of Al and Judy Arrowood

**Joe Quirk**, stepfather of Tim O’Brien

**Annie Reaves**, great-niece of Floalice and Robert Reaves

**Jean Shaffer**, friend of Cheri Reece

**Lydia Still and Emory Grace**, daughter and granddaughter of Kelli Hunnicutt

**Vivian Turner**, mother of Donald Turner

**Jim Vacca**, father of Jamie Chambliss

**Eric Wright**, friend of FPC Durham

# MEYER MUSIC SERIES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
E. MAIN ST. & ROXBORO RD.



# ROCK CREEK SINGERS & VOX VIROURUM

11/6  
7 PM

**FREE  
ADMISSION –  
DOORS OPEN  
AT 6:30PM**

DONATIONS  
TO BENEFIT  
LGBTQ  
CENTER OF  
DURHAM

The **ROCK CREEK SINGERS** (a select ensemble of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington D.C.) along with local men's chorus **VOX VIROURUM** present an evening of songs on the themes of Love and Equality in the styles of traditional choral music, pop & Broadway



GMCW.ORG | VOXVIROURUM.ORG | FIRSTPRES-DURHAM.ORG

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE!

### Sunday, November 1

*All Saints' Sunday*

**9:45 AM** Adult, Youth, and Children's Faith Formation

**11:00 AM** Worship: Mindy Douglas, preaching;  
communion celebrated; reading of the necrology

**12:00 PM** Diaconate Meeting (Daye Meeting Room)

**12:15 PM** Racial Equity Task Force (Wilson Parlor)

**5:00 – 7:00 PM** Youth Group (Lobby)

### Monday, November 2

**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM** Walk-In Ministry (By Phone)

**10:30 AM – 12:00 PM** Presbyterian Women Circle & Bible Study (Daye Meeting Room)

**1:30 PM** Worship Planning Meeting (Pastor's Study)

**7:00 PM** Youth Ministry Committee (Daye Meeting Room)

### Thursday, November 5

**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM** Walk-In Ministry (By Phone)

**7:00 PM** Racial Equity Task Force Book Club

### Tuesday, November 3

**7:00 PM** Somethings Book Group (Associate Pastor's Study)

### Friday, November 6

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

**7:00 PM** Rock Creek Singers & Vox Virorum Concert

### Wednesday, November 4

**1:00 PM** FPC Program Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)

**7:00 PM** Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Saturday, November 7

**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM** First Acts Play Reading Group (Room 205)

### Sunday, November 8

**8:30 AM** High School Youth Group (Forest Hills Park)

**9:45 AM** Adult, Youth, and Children's Faith Formation

**11:00 AM** Worship: Mindy Douglas, preaching;  
Stewardship Dedication

**12:00 PM** Congregational Meeting

**4:00 PM** Pizza & Playground (Duke Park)

**4:00 PM** Somesgiving (Offsite)

**5:00 – 7:00 PM** Middle Youth Group (Youth Room)

**6:30 PM** Service & Mission Committee (Watts-Hill Fellowship Hall)

## CHURCH STAFF

*Janet Askew*, Business Associate  
*Lenore Champion*, Director of Children's Ministry  
*Mindy Douglas*, Pastor/Head of Staff  
*Susan Dunlap*, Parish Associate  
*Omar Guess, Sr.*, Sunday Morning Sexton  
*Joseph Harvard*, Pastor Emeritus



*Esther Hethcox*, Associate Pastor  
*Brandi Kirkland*, Communications Associate  
*Matthew Moore*, Minister of Music  
*Donald Turner*, Facilities Associate  
*John Weicher*, Associate Pastor  
*Betsy Williams*, Church Administrator

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**