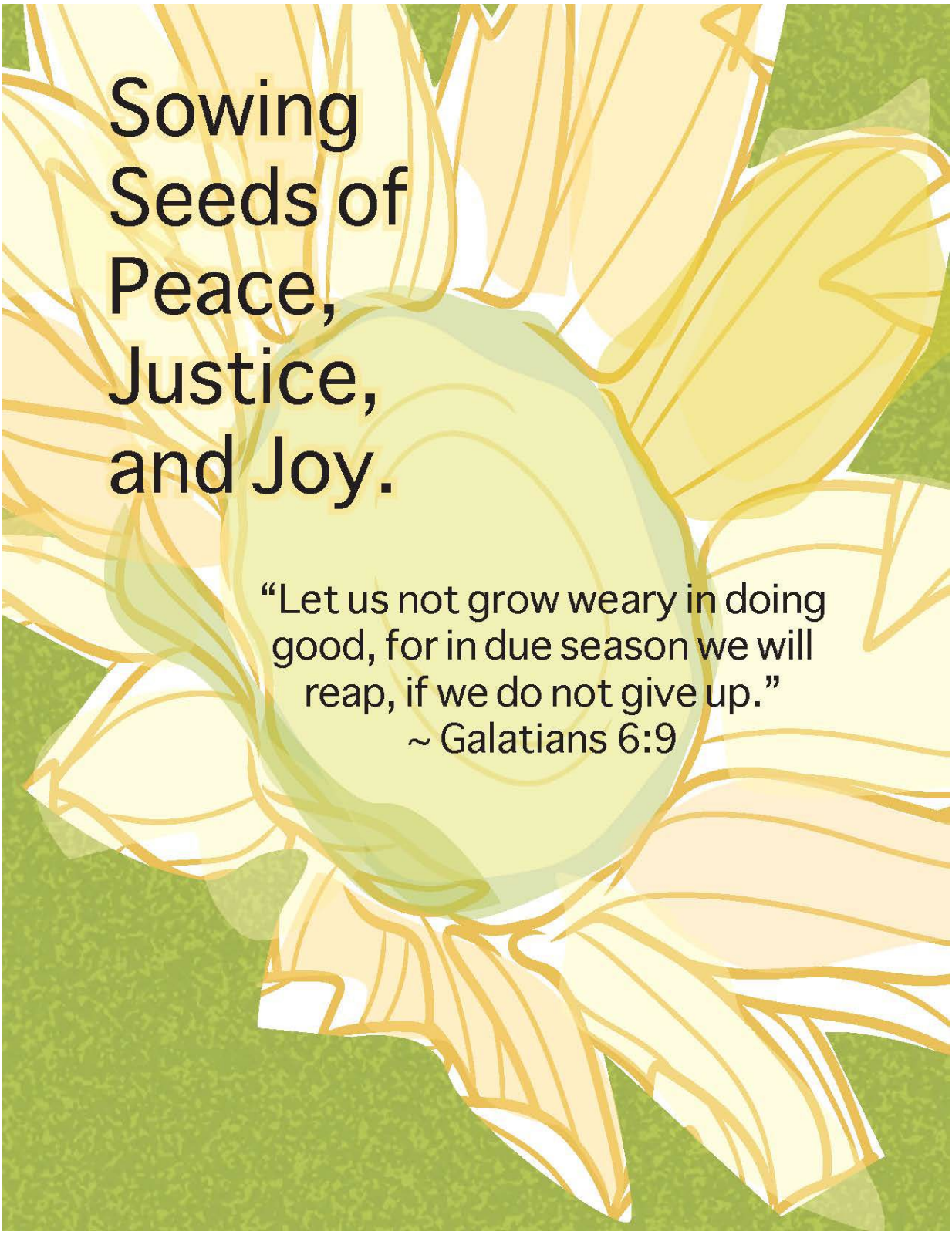



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

November 8, 2026

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

Stewardship Dedication Sunday — November 8, 2026

## A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
*(As we prepare to worship, please silence all mobile devices.)*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS** — Esther Hethcox

Minute for Stewardship — Leonora Tisdale

**PRELUDE** — Canzona — *comp. Léon Boëllmann*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** — Esther Hethcox

Leader: Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world, and all who live in it.
**People: You have entrusted us with gifts—time, energy, skills, and treasure—and called us to build your kingdom.**
Leader: We gather today not out of obligation, but in joyful response to your boundless grace.
**People: We bring our pledges, our dreams, and our very selves, returning a portion of what you have first given us.**
**All: Come, let us worship the Giver of every good and perfect gift.**

***HYMN NO. 346** — For the Healing of the Nations — ST. THOMAS

***CONFESSION OF SIN** — Esther Hethcox

Call to Prayer
Prayer of Confession

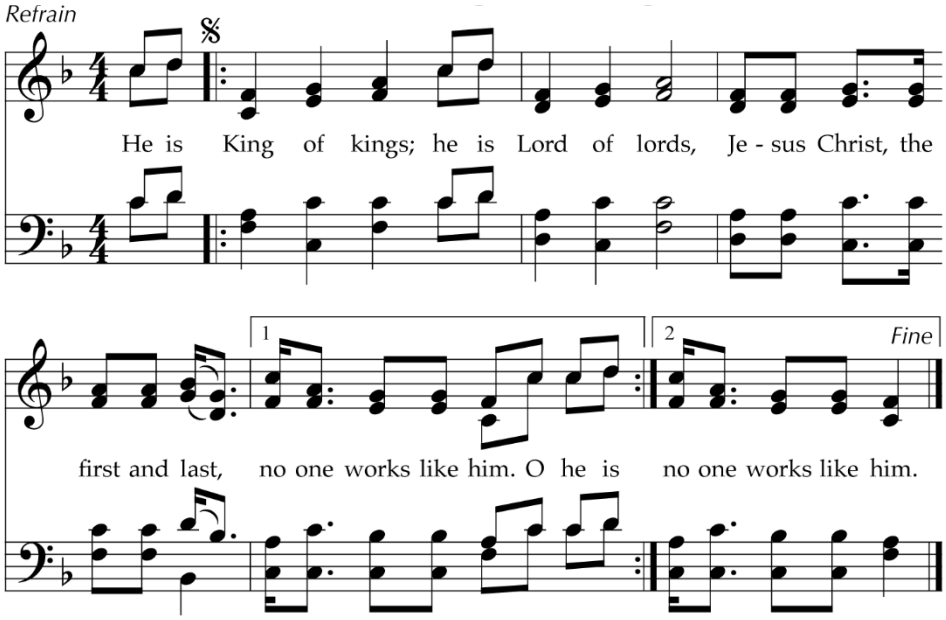
**Loving God,**
**we confess that we have sinned against you**
**by not honoring you or loving one another.**
**When we ignore injustice in the world,**
**our worship brings you no delight.**
**Make haste to help us,**
**that we may stand in right relationship**
**with you and the whole of your creation**
**and sing your praises**
**through the mercy of Christ,**
**our resurrected Savior.**

Silent Confession
Assurance of Forgiveness

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**Those who are able, please stand.*

***REGATHERING HYMN NO. 273** He Is King of Kings HE IS KING




**COLLECT** Jennie Alwood

Leader: The Lord be with you.
**People: And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray:
**All: God of all creation,**
**send your Spirit to move in our world**
**and stir the water of our souls**
**that we may desire a word of instruction**
**that awakens us to the joy of your coming reign. Amen.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** Galatians 6:7-10a (Pew Bible, NT Page 191)
Jennie Alwood

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
**People: Thanks be to God!**

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING** Amos 5:18-24 (Pew Bible, OT Page 854)
Mindy Douglas

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
**People: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON** *"We Can Never Be Satisfied"* Mindy Douglas
*(silent reflection)*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from *A Declaration of Faith*) John Weicher

**God sends us to strive for justice.**
**God has reached out to those who suffer injustice**
**and defended the excluded, the poor, and the hungry.**
**The Lord is moving toward the time**
**when justice will roll down like waters**
**and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**
**We are persuaded God is at work here and now**
**when people deal fairly with each other**

**and labor to change customs and structures**
**that enslave and oppress human beings.**

**We are charged to root out prejudice and racism**
**from our hearts and institutions.**
**We are commissioned to stand with people**
**of all ages, races, and classes**
**as they struggle for dignity and respect**
**and the chance to exercise power for the common good.**
**We must not countenance in the church and its institutions**
**the inequities we seek to correct in the world.**
**We must be willing to make such amends as we can**
**for centuries of injustice which the church condoned.**

***HYMN NO. 769** For Everyone Born FOR EVERYONE BORN

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN** Lenore Champion

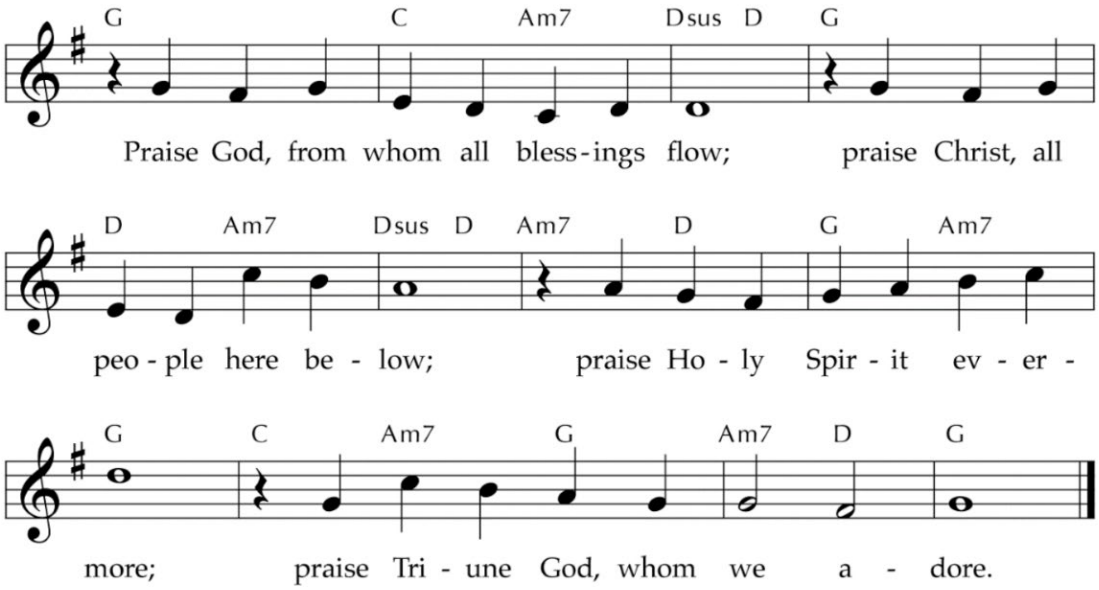
**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give Mindy Douglas

Offertory Anthem With a Voice of Singing *comp. Martin Shaw*

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.*
*Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.*
*O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of his name,*
*make his praise to be glorious.*

**Doxology* HOPSON




**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(in unison)* John Weicher
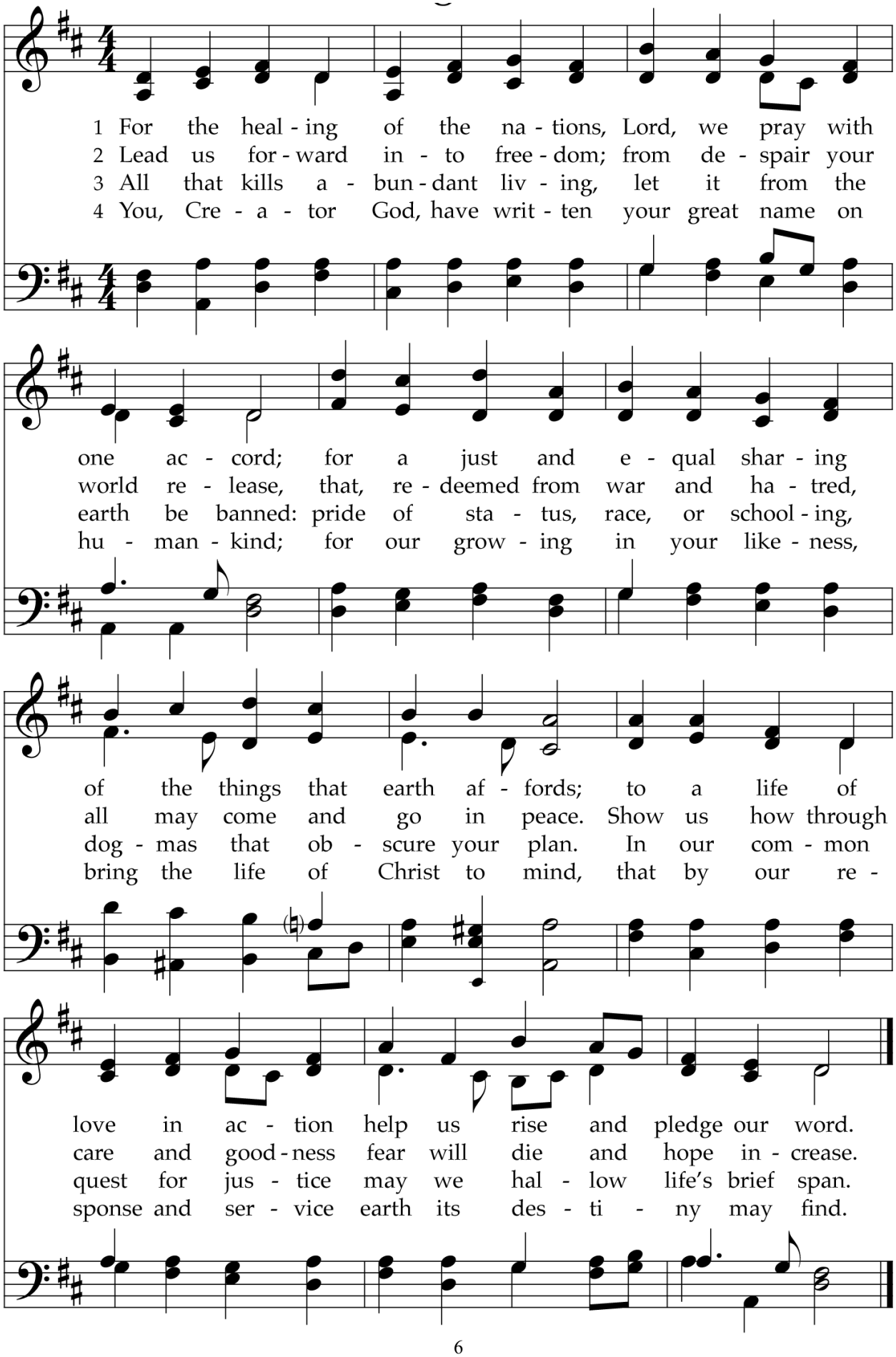
Leader: Satisfy us with your love in the morning,
**People: and we will live this day with joy and praise.**
Leader: Let us pray.

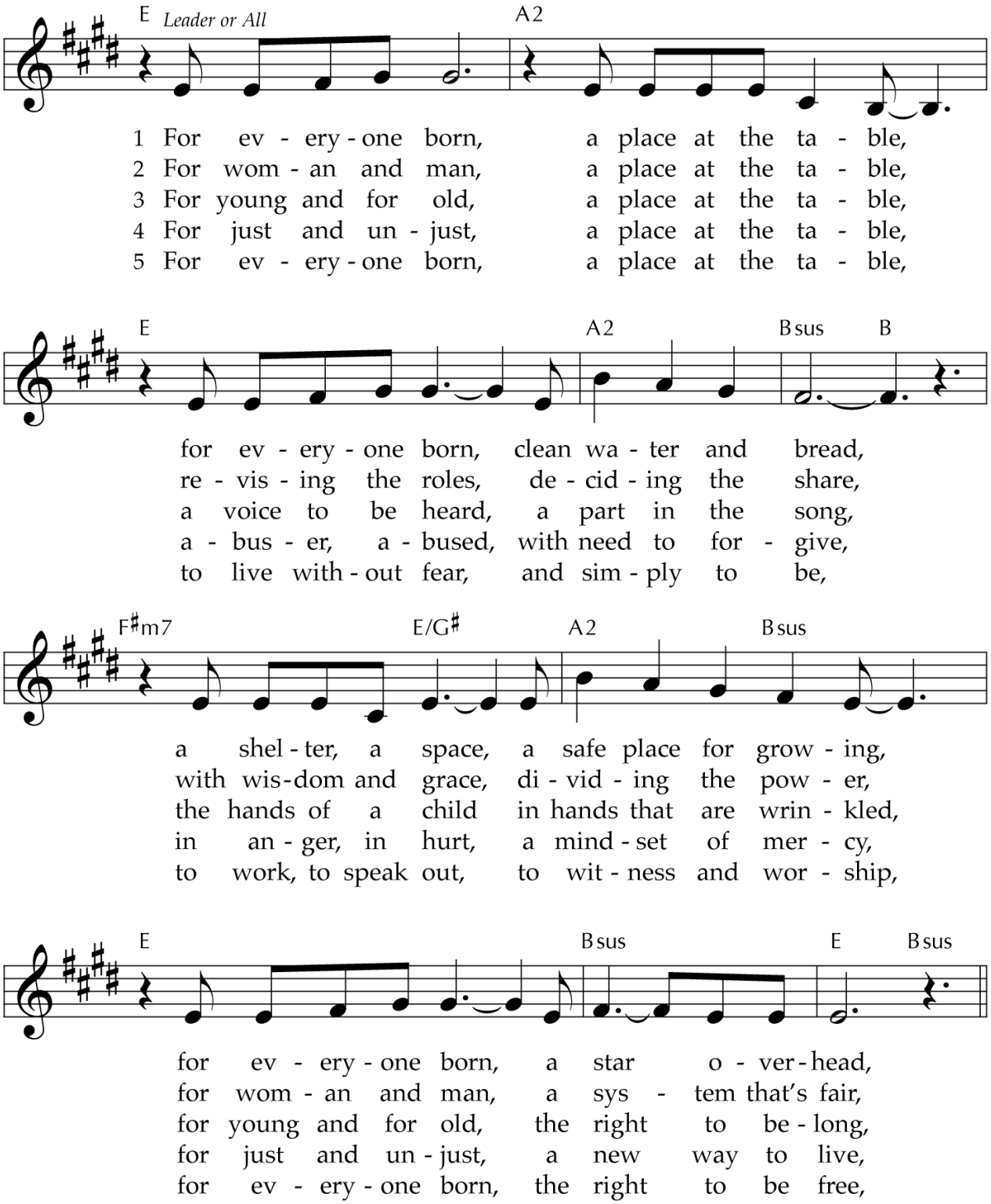
*(prayers of thanksgiving and intercession)*

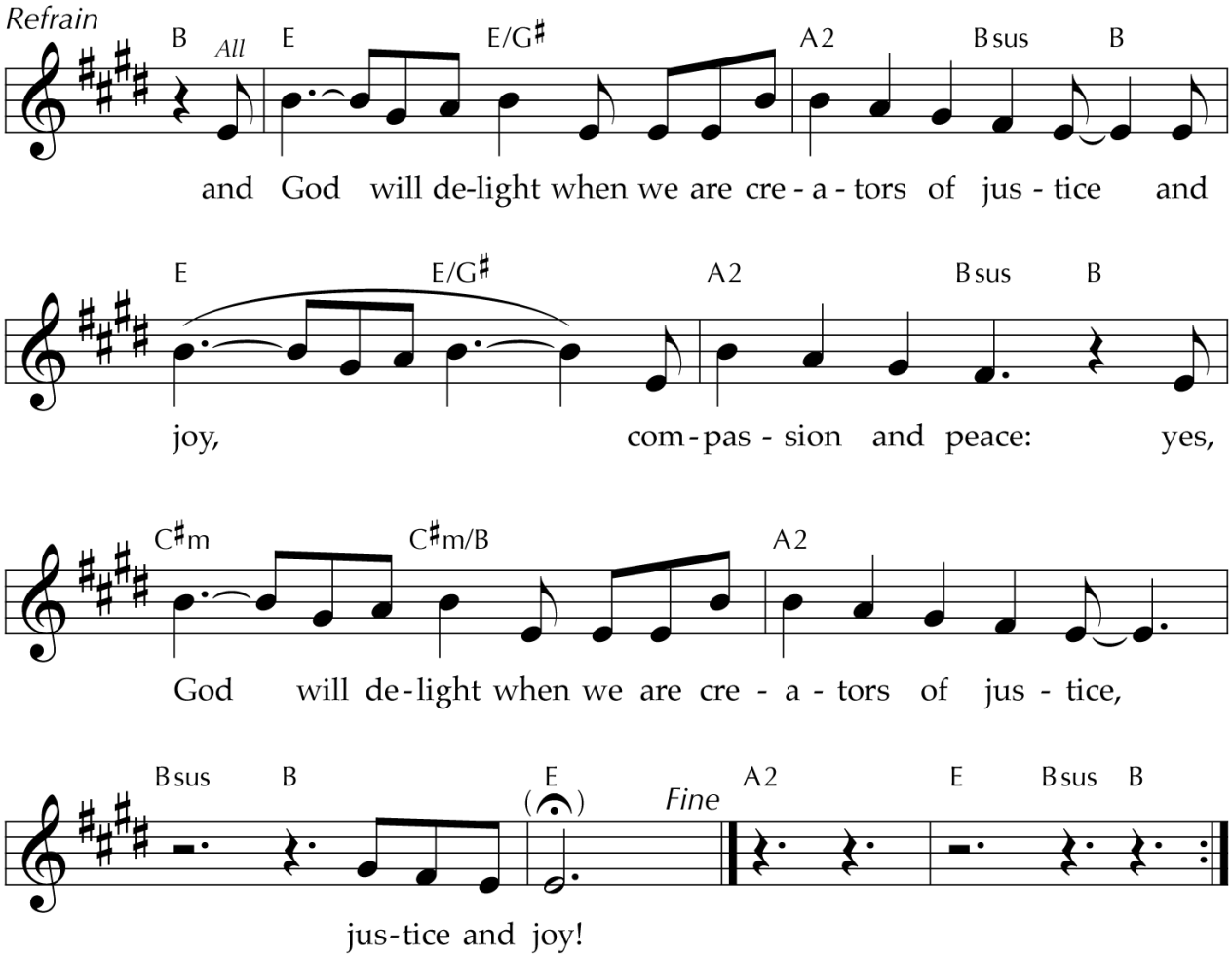
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,**
**thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**
**Give us this day our daily bread.**
**Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.**
**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***HYMN NO. 697** | Take My Life | HENDON |
| **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** | | Mindy Douglas |
| ***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** | | Mindy Douglas |
| ***POSTLUDE** | Gavotte | *comp. William Boyce* |

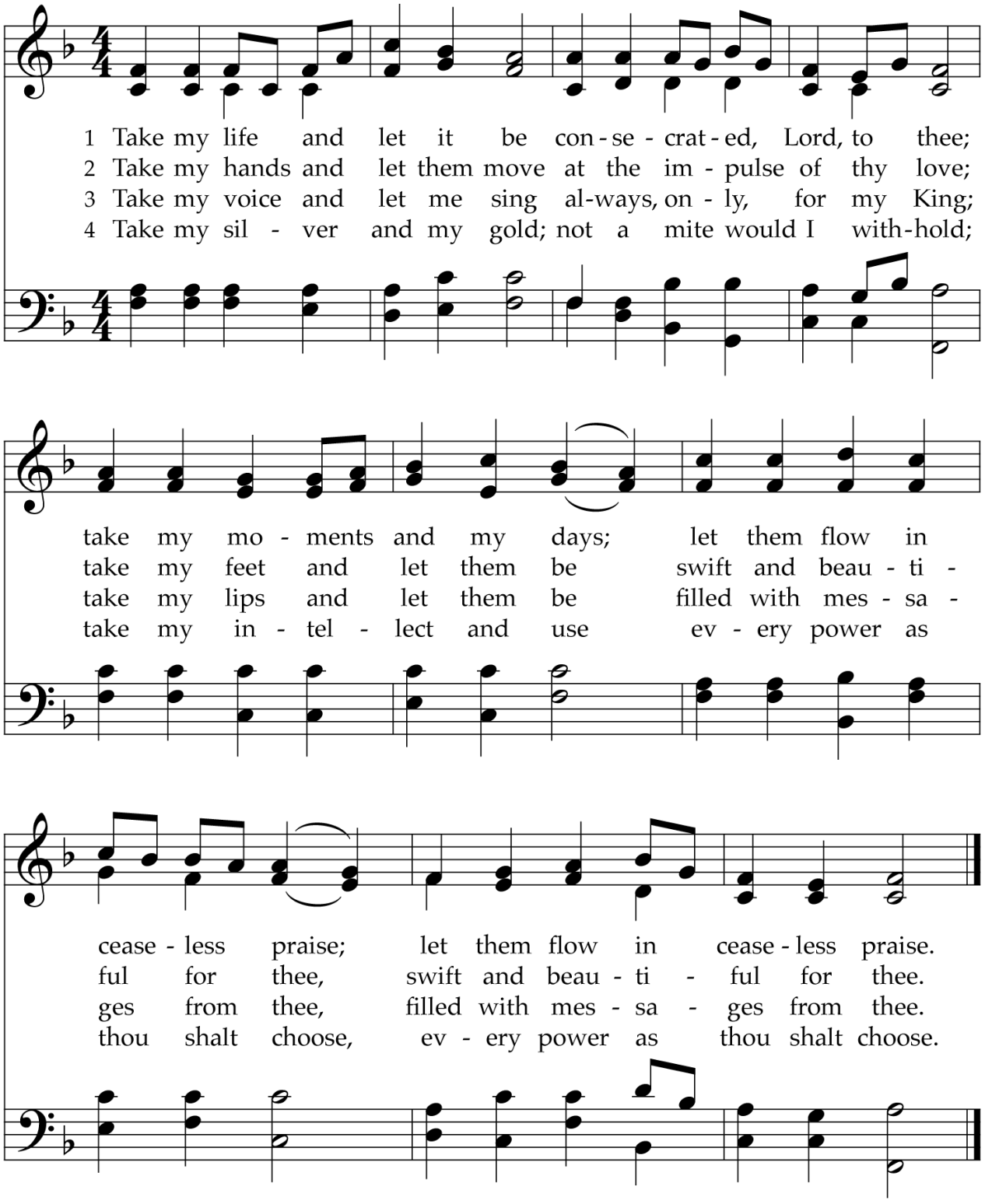
***HYMN NO. 346** For the Healing of the Nations ST. THOMAS




E
*Leader or All*
A2
1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
E
A2
Bsus
B
for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,
F♯m7
E/G♯
A2
Bsus
a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,
E
Bsus
E
Bsus
for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
for young and for old, the right to be - long,
for just and un - just, a new way to live,
for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,


Refrain
B
All
E
E/G♯
A2
Bsus
B
and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and
E
E/G♯
A2
Bsus
B
joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,
C♯m
C♯m/B
A2
God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,
Bsus
B
E
Fine
A2
E
Bsus
B
jus-tice and joy!

***HYMN NO. 697** Take My Life HENDON




5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

## *Worship Notes*

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.

***Congregational Meeting Today –*** The Session has called a Congregational Meeting following worship **today**. 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.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by ***Brent and Lesley Curtis*** to the glory of God and as a special thank you to everyone who makes music at First Presbyterian Church including our wonderful congregation.

***Sources for today's worship text:*** *Feasting on the Word* and *A Declaration of Faith*. ***Music*** is reprinted under OneLicense.net: A.713926.

***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.

## *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/*

***Pizza & Playground Today:*** Families, join us **today, 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 Tonight:*** Our 4th annual Somethings-Giving (Somesgiving!!) is **tonight, November 8th from 4-6 p.m.** at ***Mary Ashley and Taylor King's*** house (see discord for address). This event needs a lot of hands to happen. In addition to bringing a side or dessert to share, we need volunteers to bring in chairs so feel free to grab a few after worship. This event is outside, please dress accordingly. Please reach out to ***Pastor Esther*** if you have questions.

***Bull City Fair Trade Greet and Gift:*** For 34 years, Bull City Fair Trade (formerly One World Market) has given artisans from around the world a place to sell their handmade goods. These sales help fight human trafficking, support artists with disabilities, empower women, support small farmers, keep families together, and build communities from Raleigh to China. The Service and Mission Committee invites you to shop in the store anytime, and especially **today, November 8, at 1:00 p.m.** for our Greet and Gift at Bull City Fair Trade, 811 Ninth Street, Suite 100, in Durham. It's a meaningful way to start your holiday shopping.

**Things That Matter Book Club:** The Things That Matter Book Club meets **Tuesday, November 10, at 4:00 p.m.** in Room 209 to discuss *The Things We Never Say* by Elizabeth Strout. Our hosts this month are ***Emily Wilkins*** and ***Floalice Reaves***. New readers are always welcome. Please let Emily know if you plan to attend so she can plan accordingly.

**Mah Jongg:** Mah Jongg is back! Join us **Friday, November 13**, and **Friday, November 27, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** in the Daye Parlor for an evening of tiles, conversation, and good company. Whether you're a seasoned player, a little rusty, or curious to learn, there's a seat for you at the table. For more information, contact ***Chris Uithoven***.

**Chili Lunch and Football Watch Party:** Grab a bowl and cheer on your team! Join the Fellowship Committee **after worship next Sunday, November 15**, in the Daye and Wilson Parlors for a potluck chili lunch while we watch the Panthers take on the Saints. Bowls, mugs, dinner rolls, water, and lemonade will be provided. We need volunteers to bring a slow cooker of chili, to help set up at 10:15 a.m., and to help clean up. Sign up at **https://tinyurl.com/chili-and-football-2026**. All ages are welcome, so wear your team colors!

***First Friendsgiving:*** Join First Friends on **Friday, November 20, at 6:00 p.m.** for First Friendsgiving, hosted by ***Carl Rist and Elisabeth Davis***. RSVP on Evite: ***https://tinyurl.com/first-friendsgiving-2026*** Save the date for our next two gatherings: **Saturday, December 12** and **Friday, January 29.**

**Thanksgiving Day Gathering:** If you'd like to spend the holiday with your church family, you're invited to join FPC's ***David and Judy Smith*** for food and joy on **Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26, at 3:00 p.m.** at their home. Our hosts will provide a turkey (or chicken!) and pumpkin pie, and everyone is invited to bring a dish to share. For more information, contact ***Pastor Esther Hethcox***.

***Building Update: Rebuilding Together –*** 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*.**

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

**We Remember in Prayer:**

***Peter McClain**, father of **Erin McClain**, who has been diagnosed with ALS.*
***Paul Pasquarella,** husband of **Michael Honeycutt**, at the VA Hospital following a fall.*
***Sarah Wright**, as she prepares for an upcoming knee replacement surgery.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Judy Arrowood*** | ***Tony Brown*** | ***Paul Cornsweet*** | ***Sam Crabtree*** |
| ***Susan Cyr*** | ***Susan Dunlap*** | ***Sue Fricks*** | ***Cesar Guajardo*** |
| ***Joe Harvard*** | ***Dennis Hill*** | ***Kerry Holbrook*** | ***Lee House*** |
| ***Ann Huff*** | ***Jenni James*** | ***Bob Lewis*** | ***Harriett Mitchell*** |
| ***Beth Neece*** | ***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
***Charlotte West,*** friend of Michael Honeycutt and Paul Pasquarella
***Eric Wright,*** friend of FPC Durham

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE!

**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; Congregational Meeting
**12:15 PM** RETF
**1:00 PM** Bull City Fair Trade Greet & Gift
**4:00 PM** Pizza & Playground (Duke Park)
**4:00 PM** Somesgiving (Offsite)
**5:00 – 7:00 PM** Middle School Youth Group (Youth Room)
**6:30 PM** Service & Mission Committee (Watts-Hill Fellowship Hall)

**Monday, November 9**

**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM** Walk-In Ministry (By Phone)
**1:30 PM** Worship Planning Meeting (Pastor's Study)
**6:00 PM** Christian Ed Committee (Zoom)
**6:00 PM** Personnel Committee (Room 209)
**6:00 PM** Property Committee (Room 205)
**6:30 PM** Service and Mission Committee (Fellowship Hall)
**7:00 PM** Worship and The Arts Committee (Wilson Parlor)

**Tuesday, November 10**

**4:00 PM** Things That Matter Book Club (Room 209)

**Wednesday, November 11**

**10:00 AM** FPC Staff Retreat (Offsite)
**6:00 PM** Stewardship Committee (Daye Meeting Room)
**7:00 PM** Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, November 12**

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

**Friday, November 13**

**10:30 AM** Yoga (Room 201)
**6:00 PM** Mahjong (Daye Meeting Room)

**Saturday, November 14**

**Sunday, November 15**

**9:45 AM** Adult, Youth, and Children's Faith Formation
**11:00 AM** Worship: John Weicher, preaching
**12:15 PM** All Church Chili & Football Lunch (Daye Meeting Room)
**5:00 – 7:00 PM** Youth Group (Youth Room)

## 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 or visit our website: https://firstpres-durham.org.