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SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

PRELUDE

Prelude on "Windsor"

Healey Willan

***CALL TO WORSHIP (PSALM 9:1-2)**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: We will give thanks to the Lord with our whole hearts;

People: **We will tell of all God's wonderful deeds.**

Leader: We will be glad and exult in the Divine.

People: **We will sing praises in the name of the Most High.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

***HYMN NO. 166**

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

St. Flavian

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Esther Hethcox

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Almighty God,

we have been wandering in the wilderness of sin.

We have complained

in the face of your mercy.

We have been selfish and conceited

in the face of your sacrifice.

We have not done your will.

Teach us humility.

Teach us gratitude.

Infuse your spirit into our beings,

so that we might be reconciled to you.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Silent Confession

Response (sung by choir)

Kyrie, Eleison (sung in Greek)

Traditional Chant

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

Assurance of Pardon

***THE PEACE**

Esther Hethcox

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

***RESPONSE** (Hymn No. 71, refrain only)

First Song



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Noah Dillon

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Gracious God,

our way in the wilderness,

guide us, by your Word, through these forty days,

and minister to us with your Holy Spirit,

so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 17:1-7

(Pew Bible, OT page 64)

Noah Dillon

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

PSALTER READING

Psalms 107:1-9

(Pew Bible, OT page 559)

John Weicher

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"God with Us in the Hard"

John Weicher

(Silent reflection)

***HYMN NO. 800**

Sometimes a Light Surprises

Salley Gardens

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Esther Hethcox

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give

John Weicher

Offertory Anthem

Celtic Laud
Kristen Springer, flute

Craig Courtney

*For fruit of the vine, for harvest of wheat, for bread and for wine, the gift of your feast,
the cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise, O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.*

*For dove in the sky, for wind in the trees, for coal in the fire, your Spirit in me,
the cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise, O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.*

*For springtime's green earth, for morning's first light, for every new birth for grace and for life,
the cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise, O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.*

(The Hunger for Change offering will be received following the anthem.)

*Doxology

Old Hundredth

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.***

NEW MEMBERS SERVICE OF WELCOME

Mindy Douglas, Esther Hethcox

Words of Welcome and Introduction

Affirmation of Faith (in unison)

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus
Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the
Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into
heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he
shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy
catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of
the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Reaffirmation of Faith

Prayer

Sung Response (Hymn No. 727, verses 1-2)

The Servant Song

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road.

We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mindy Douglas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mindy Douglas

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. 643

Now Thank We All Our God

Nun Danket Alle Gott



Welcome! 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. First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in 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.

Welcome New members: The Session received *Brantley, Jeff*, and *Lainey Blackwood* and *Allison McCorkle* into membership earlier today.

- *Brantley and Jeff* are married and live in Durham. They join FPC by reaffirmation of faith. They have two teenage children, *Lainey* and *Kirbey* who are active with FPC Youth Group. Lainey is a 12th grader and joins FPC by reaffirmation of faith. Kirbey is an 8th grader and is currently enrolled in FPC's Confirmation Class.
- *Allison* is the wife of FPC member Chip McCorkle and daughter-in-law of Wendy and Mac McCorkle. Allison and Chip live in Durham and have two children, *Lucy* (age 6) and *Finn* (age 3). A third child is due in the spring. Allison was born and raised in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Her interests are spending time with her family, traveling, and exploring North Carolina, having recently moved here from NYC. Allison joins FPC by reaffirmation of faith.

Music: We are grateful to *Gordon Campbell* (organ) and *Kristen Springer* (flute) for providing music for today's worship.

Special thanks to members of this year's Confirmation Class who will be serving as lay liturgists in worship throughout Lent. Today, *Noah Dillon* is our reader.

Today's *flowers* are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of *David Rimmer* by *Steve Rimmer* and *Lyn & John Williams*.

The *Lenten Banner* was completed in 1990 and dedicated in 1991. It depicts traditional Lenten symbols. The banner was made possible by funds donated in memory of *Bess Bryant* and by the stitching of many devoted members of this congregation.

The *Pulpit Paraments*: In 2012 First Presbyterian Church commissioned Laurie Wohl to design and create paraments to be hung from the pulpit and lectern during Lent and Advent. Wohl is an internationally known fiber artist who exhibited her work at the church in spring of 2012. Her liturgical projects emphasize the "threads that bind" and the unity of the Old and New Testaments. We are grateful that the bequest of *Anne 'St. Clair' Williams* made it possible to enhance our sanctuary with these beautiful works of art.

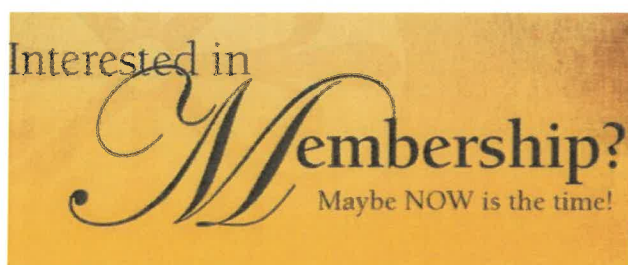
Childcare: A staffed nursery and children's playroom are available on the second floor of the education building during worship. **Activity bags** are available in the foyer for children. Please return bags to the foyer at the end of worship.

Hearing Assistance Receivers are available from the ushers. Before you leave the sanctuary, please turn off the receiver and place it in the specially marked receptacle by the door or return it to the audio/video console at the rear of the sanctuary. Receivers are sanitized after each use.

Restroom locations: to the left and right as you exit the rear of the sanctuary; on the second floor 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.

Today's worship texts are taken from *Feasting on the Word* (Year A, Volume 2), *Book of Common Worship* (2018), and *The Book of Confessions*. Music is reprinted with permission under Onelicense.net: A713926.

Today's bulletin cover image is created by *Isa Cummings*.



We will welcome and introduce new members again during worship on Sunday, March 17.

Please contact **Mindy Douglas** or **Esther Hethcox** if you are ready to join this faith community.

Holocaust Exhibit Coming to FPC

First Presbyterian Church will host the **"Some Were Neighbors: Choice, Human Behavior and the Holocaust"** exhibit provided by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum from **March 12 - 22** in Watts-Hill Hall. Come learn more about religious hate, the consequences of racism and bias, genocide, and how we can resist harm together. The exhibit will be open for viewing Monday-Friday (1:00-5:00 p.m.) and on Sunday, March 17 before faith formation classes and after worship.

COMMUNITY INVITATION

Reality Ministries' Leap Day Community Worship
Thursday, February 29, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Reality Ministries is located at 916 Lamond Ave, Durham.
This is a family-friendly hour of worship led by Reality friends of all abilities.
All are welcome!

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, March 3 following worship

Agenda:

Election of officers and Nominating Committee (at-large members)

Pastor's State of the Church Report

Stewardship/Finance/Budget/Treasurer's Report

Approval of changes to terms of call for Esther Hethcox and John Weicher

~ Concerns ~

- **Tony Chavez** is recovering from a heart attack.
- **Dan Huff** is having surgery on Monday.
- **Mal King** is dealing with neck pain.
- **Jennie Bodkin**, sister of Mindy Douglas, is experiencing a recurrence of breast cancer.
- **Jasper Gunn**, child of Wilson and Pam Gunn, is having surgery this week.
- **Richard Mangeot**, husband of Karolyn Mangeot, is recovering from surgery.

Paul Cornsweet

Brent Curtis

Susan Cyr

Barbara Fish

Barbara Gerwe

Kerry Holbrook

Lee House

Jenni James

Mitzi Lesher-Thomas

Alice Raney

Franzi Rokoske

Mary Ann Ruegg

Jim Seitzer

Alfred Tisdale

Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Harvey Estes, Dub Gulley**

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: **Phillip Herndon**

Hillcrest Convalescent: **Julian Boswell, Maxie Honeycutt, Carol Wills, Jim Wolfe**

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Margaret & Mike Berton and son, **Sam**. Margaret is the sister of Sarah Wright.

Karla Brown & family, friends of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Paul Dunlap, brother of Susan Dunlap

Troy Evans, nephew of Vernon Neece

Andrew Holbrook, nephew of Kerry Holbrook

Ford Holbrook, brother Kerry Holbrook

John Keller, son of Margaret & Tom Keller

Brian Knowles, son of Sheila & Sam Miglarese

Gabe Lamazares, assoc. rector, St. Philip's EC

Robert Lewis, Jr., son of Robert (Bob) Lewis, Sr.

Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James

Doug Rimmer, brother of Steve Rimmer

Joe Robinson, former member of FPC

Calvin Rogers, friend of Steve Rimmer

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

John C. Weicher, father of John Weicher

Denisha Williams, daughter of Sybil King

Emily Wilson, wife of Mike Wilson and daughter-in-law of Jean and Chuck Wilson

Lenten Sermon Series

Practicing Our Faith

Sunday, March 3 - *Household Economics*

Mindy Douglas, preaching

Sunday, March 10 - *Hospitality/Jesus and the Displaced*

Willie Jennings, McPherson lecturer, preaching

Sunday, March 17 - *Forgiveness*

Mindy Douglas, preaching

Sunday, March 24 - *Palm/Passion Sunday*

A Service of readings and musical responses

Sunday, March 31 - *Easter*

Mindy Douglas, preaching



The **FPC Creation Care Team** invites you to join
in one or both of these earth care practices this Lent!

- 1) A calendar (<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/tread-lightly-for-lent>) to help you tread lightly for Lent. We move with folks towards sustainable choices that restore and protect all of God's children and creation. In Lent, we slow down, take time, and examine our internal spiritual lives and the way we live out our Christian faith in the world around us. These actions are intended to create more mindful behaviors throughout the year.
- 2) Several members are practicing a greener Lent (<https://greenerlent.org/fast.html>), a Laudato Si-inspired Lenten Program focused on care for our earth and the poor. This entails 40 days of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving for the poor disproportionately affected by the climate crisis.



First Presbyterian Church Durham

2024 McPherson Lecturer
Willie James Jennings, PhD

Please join us when Dr. Jennings, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology and Africana Studies at Yale University, visits First Presbyterian Church as the 2024 McPherson Lecturer.

3/10

9:45 am Faith & Community Class
11:00 am Worship Service
3:30 pm Community Conversation

3/11

9:00 am Clergy Breakfast (please RSVP)

v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org or (919) 682-5511

If you would like to order copies of Dr. Jennings' books in advance from Rofhiwa Books, please use this link: <https://rofhiwabooks.com/collections/willie-jennings-lecture>.

PRE-LECTURESHIP CONVERSATIONS

Sunday, February 25 and Sunday, March 3

Faith and Community Class at 9:45-10:45 a.m. in Watts-Hill Hall

Susan Dunlap, Steve Rimmer, and Lea Bingham will introduce some of Dr. Jennings' writings in preparation for his visit on March 10-11. All are welcome.

LECTURESHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 10

9:45-10:45 a.m. Faith & Community Class in Watts-Hill Hall

11:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

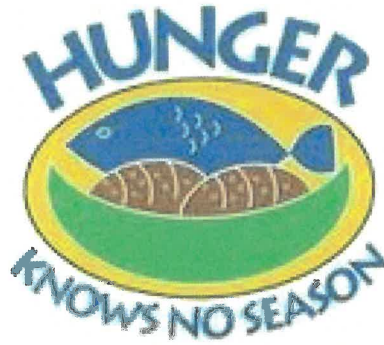
3:30-5:00 p.m. Community Conversation in Watts-Hill Hall

Childcare will be available for the community event. To ensure we have sufficient staff, please reserve a space for your child(ren) by calling the church office: 919-682-5511.

Please, no walk-ins for childcare for this event.

Monday, March 11

9:00-10:45 a.m. Clergy Breakfast in Watts-Hill Hall



THE HUNGER FOR CHANGE OFFERING

First Presbyterian Church of Durham has a long history of involvement in hunger-related mission, most notably Pennies for Hunger (now 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 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.

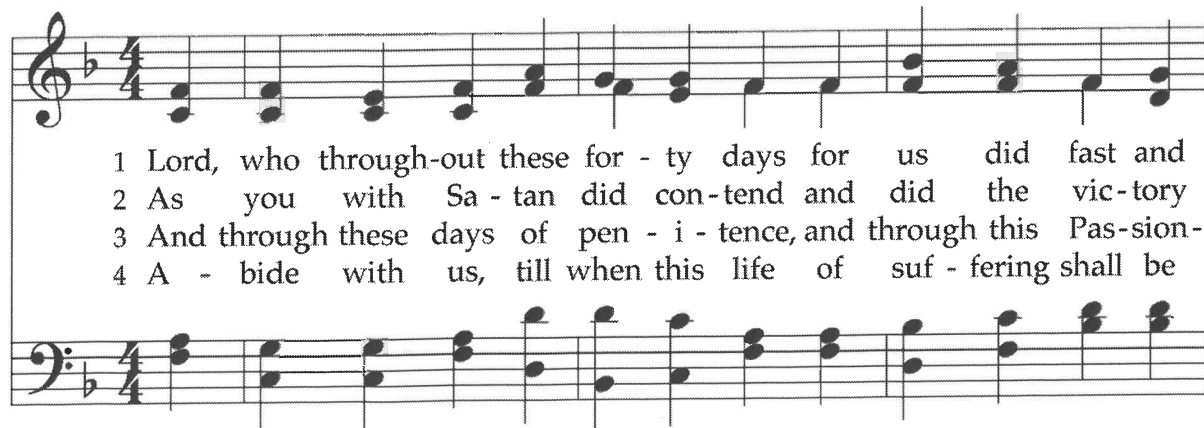
These funds are dispersed through local grants to hunger relief programs based on a grant application process. Urban Ministries of Durham, Presbyterian Urban Ministries and Iglesia Emanuel have been frequent recipients.

The fourth Sunday of each month is designated to receive the Hunger for Change Offering. Please consider supporting this hunger relief effort with a generous offering each month.

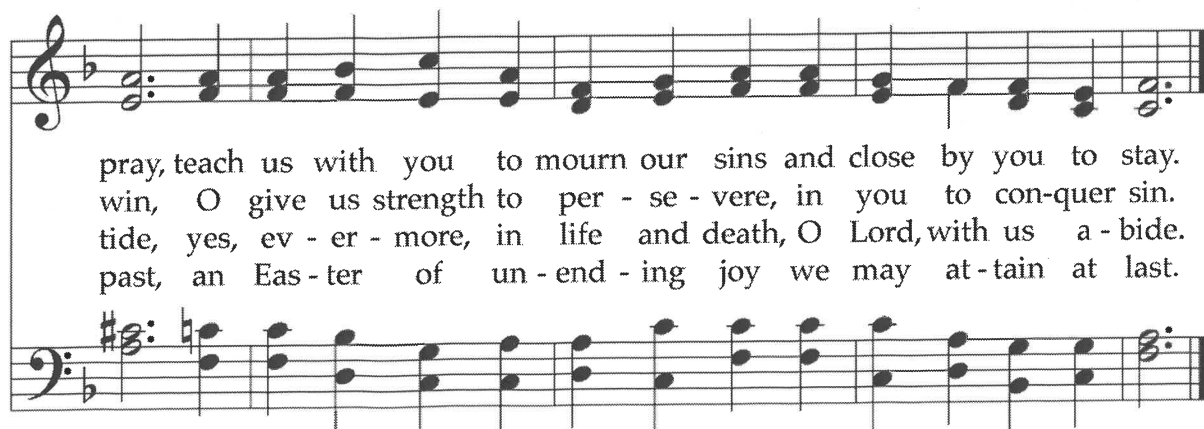
Thank you for your offering today!

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

166



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and
2 As you with Sa - tan did con-tend and did the vic-tory
3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas-sion-
4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be

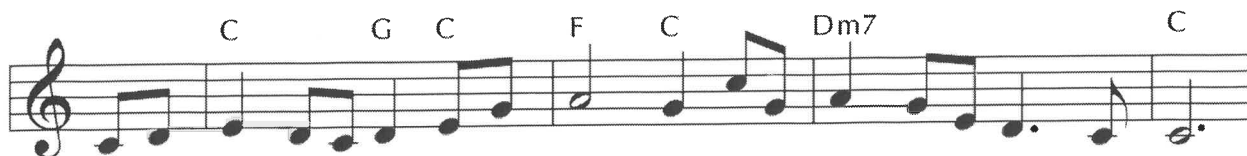


pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con-quer sin.
tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.
past, an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at-tain at last.

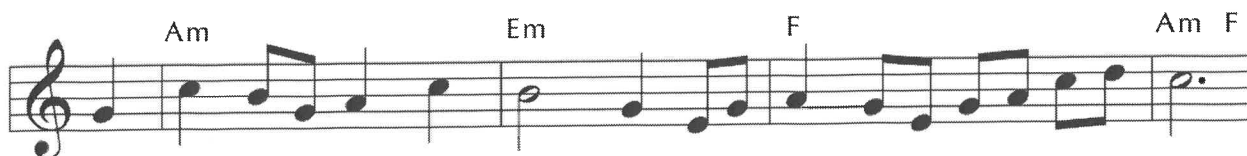
800 Sometimes a Light Surprises



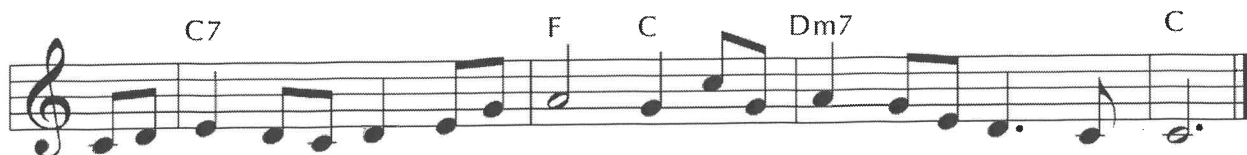
1 Some - times a light sur - pris - es the child of God who sings;
 2 In ho - ly con - tem - pla - tion we sweet - ly then pur - sue
 3 It can bring with it noth - ing but he will bear us through;
 4 Though vine nor fig tree nei - ther their longed - for fruit should bear,



it is the Lord who ris - es with heal - ing in his wings;
 the theme of God's sal - va - tion and find it ev - er new;
 who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple, too;
 though all the fields should with - er, nor flocks nor herds be there,



when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the soul a - gain
 set free from pres - ent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly can say,
 be - neath the spread - ing heav - ens no crea - ture but is fed;
 yet God the same a - bid - ing, his praise shall tune my voice;

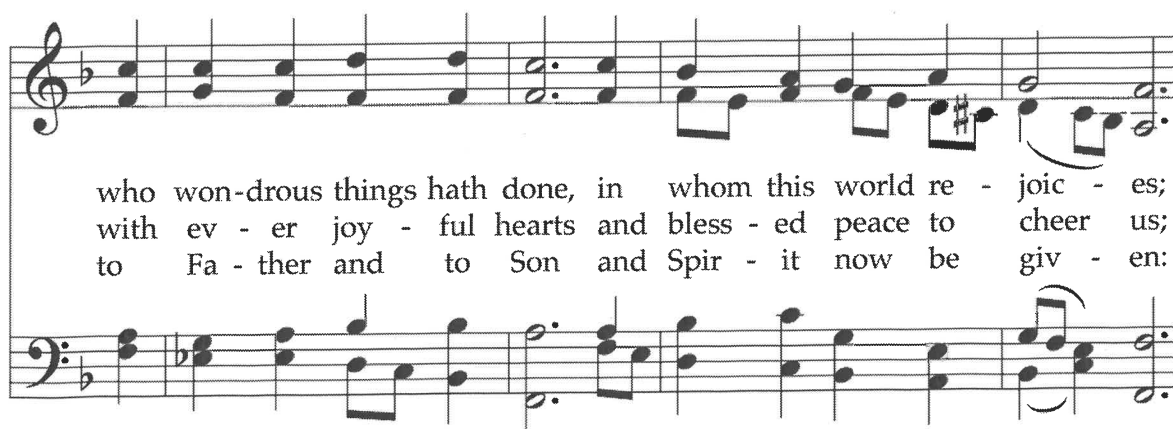


a sea - son of clear shin - ing to cheer it af - ter rain.
 "Let the un - known to - mor - row bring with it what it may."
 and he who feeds the ra - vens will give his chil - dren bread.
 for while in him con - fid - ing, I can - not but re - joice.

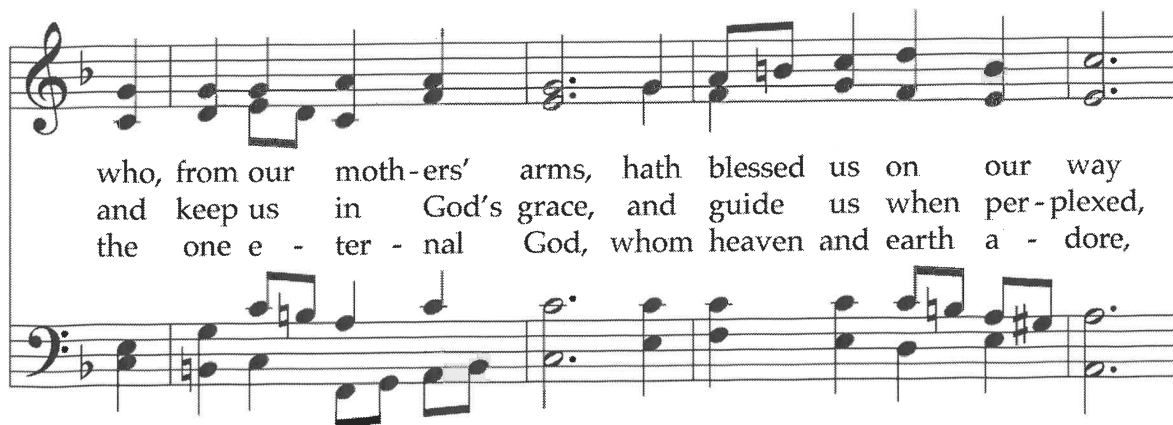
643 Now Thank We All Our God



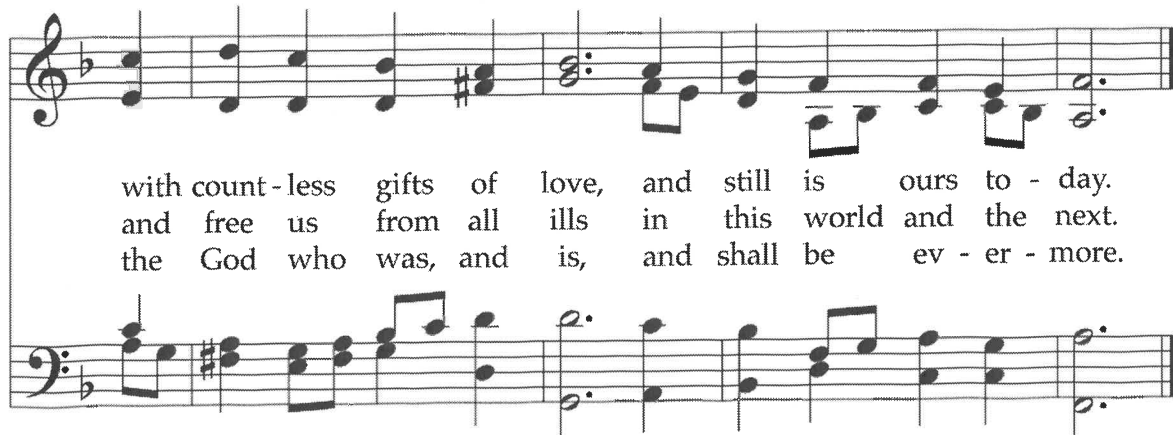
1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,



who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:



who, from our moth-ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

The Week at a Glance!

<div>Later Today</div> <div>5:00-7:00 PM Youth Group</div> <div>8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship (Zoom)</div>	<div>Monday, February 26</div> <div>1:30 PM Worship Planning</div> <div>6:00 PM Diaconate</div> <div>7:00 PM Session</div> <div>Tuesday, February 27</div> <div>Newsletter today!</div> <div>11:30 AM Daytimers' Luncheon (Neo China restaurant)</div>	<div>Wednesday, February 28</div> <div>1:00 PM All Staff</div> <div>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</div> <div>Thursday, February 29</div> <div>7:00-8:00 PM Reality Ministries' Leap Day Community Worship (916 Lamond Ave, Durham)</div>
<div>Friday, March 1</div> <div>8:00 AM FPC Men of Faith & Conversation (Mad Hatters restaurant)</div> <div>Saturday, March 2</div> <div>9:00 AM High School Youth Service Project</div>	<div>Sunday, March 3</div> <div>Third Sunday in Lent</div> <div>9:45-10:45 AM Faith Formation classes for all ages</div> <div>11:00 AM Worship with Communion followed by the Annual Congregational Meeting (sanctuary)</div> <div>4:00-6:00 PM Middle School Youth (Camp New Hope)</div> <div>8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)</div>	

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

CHURCH STAFF

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, Sunday Morning Sexton
Joseph Harvard, Pastor Emeritus



Esther Hethcox, Associate Pastor
Sybil King, Administrative Assistant
Mitzi Leshner-Thomas, Associate Pastor (Medical Leave)
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator
Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music
John Weicher, Associate Pastor