



Pass at Faido, J. M. W. Turner

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
McPHERSON LECTURESHIP**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

MARCH 26, 2023

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mindy Douglas

Minute for *One Great Hour of Sharing*

Karolyn Mangeot

PRELUDE

Toccata on "Great Day"

Adolphus Hailstork

Gordon Campbell, organ

INTROIT

The Spacious Firmament on High

Franz Joseph Haydn

*The spacious firmament on high, with all the blue ethereal sky,
and spangled heavens, a shining frame, their great Original proclaim.
The un-wearied sun from day to day does his creator's power display,
and publishes to every land the work of an almighty hand.*

***OPENING SENTENCES**

Mindy Douglas

Leader: We watch this morning for the light that the darkness has not overcome.

People: **We watch for the fire that was in the beginning
and that burns still in the brilliance of the rising sun.**

Leader: We watch for the glow of life that gleams in the growing earth
and glistens in the sea and sky.

People: **We watch for your light, O God,
in the eyes of every living creature
and in the ever-living flame of our own souls.**

Leader: Grant us the grace of seeing this day.

People: **Grant us the grace of seeing.**

***HYMN NO. 11**

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud

Aberystwyth

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Esther Hethcox

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**O Holy One, we call to you
and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love.**

**Yet there are times, O God,
when we fail to recognize you in the dailyness of our lives.**

**Sometimes fear makes us small,
and we miss the chance to speak from our strength.**

**Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness,
and we degrade our own wisdom.**

(Confession continues next page.)

*Those who are able, please stand.

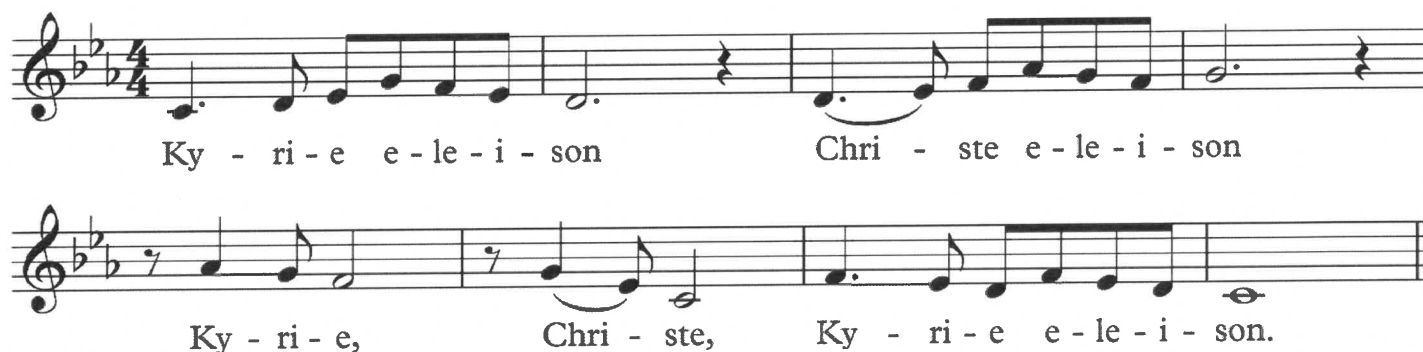
(Confession continues, in unison)

**Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset,
remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us.
Free us from shame and self-doubt.
Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly,
to act courageously,
and to speak from our wisdom.**

Silent Confession

Kyrie

F. G. Douglas



Assurance of Pardon

***THE PEACE**

Esther Hethcox

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jennie Alwood

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us pray.
All: **Calm me, O Holy One,
into an unclenched moment,
a deep breath,
a letting go of heavy experiences,
of shriveling anxieties,
of dead certainties,
that, softened by the silence,
surrounded by the light,
and open to the mystery,
I may be found by wholeness,
upheld by the unfathomable,
entranced by the simple,
and filled with the joy that is you. Amen.**

(Life Prayers, Ted Loder)

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING 2 Chronicles 35:20-27

(Pew Bible, OT Page 419)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Laura McNab

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM READING

Psalm 19

(Pew Bible, OT Page 498)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Julio Manceras

People: Thanks be to God.

READING FROM ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 17:22-34

(Pew Bible, NT Page 137)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Jennie Alwood

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 66Every Time I Feel the Spirit**Pentecost***SERMON***"Am I Hearing God?"*

Robert K. Johnston

SOLO*He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

Margaret Bonds

Lesley Curtis, soloist

AFFIRMATION OF FAITHA Declaration of Faith*

Mindy Douglas

We believe in one true and living God.**We acknowledge one God alone,
whose demands on us are absolute,
whose help for us is sufficient.****That One is the Lord,
whom we worship, serve and love.****God is greater than our understanding.****We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works.****God's reality far exceeds all our words can say.****The Lord's requirements are not always what we think is best.****The Lord's care for us is not always what we want.****God comes to us on God's own terms
and is able to do far more than we ask or think.****A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

John Weicher

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to the Offering

Mindy Douglas

Offertory Anthem

Look at the World

John Rutter

*Look at the world, everything all around us,**Look at the world and marvel every day.**Look at the world: so many joys and wonders,**So many miracles along our way.*

(Refrain)

*Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation, give us thankful hearts, that we may see:**All the gifts we share and every blessing, all things come of thee.**Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower,**Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain;**Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains,**Valley and flowing river, field and plain. (Refrain)*

*Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer,
Bringing the harvest before the winter's cold.
Everything grows, everything has a season,
Till it is gathered to the Father's fold: (Refrain)*

*Every good gift, all that we need and cherish,
Comes from the Lord in token of his love,
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty,
His is the earth, and his, the heavens above: (Refrain)*

(The Hunger for Change Offering is received following the anthem.)

***Doxology** (Hymn No. 654)

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

*In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

John Weicher

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

John Weicher

**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. 370**

This Is My Father's World

Terra Beata

***BENEDICTION**

Robert Johnston

***POSTLUDE**

This Is My Father's World
Charlie Kelley, trumpet

arr. Philip M. Young



Welcome! Let us know you have joined us for worship by scanning this QR code. First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in Christ. We welcome individuals of every age, race, nationality, gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, and economic circumstance to participate fully in the life of the church.

Today's flowers are given by Gordon Campbell to the glory of God and in memory of **Dr. Walker H. Campbell**, Gordon's uncle.

Thank you to **Gordon Campbell, Lesley Curtis, and Charlie Kelley** for sharing their musical gifts with us in worship today.

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 to use during worship. 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 an usher. 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.

The McPherson Lectureship

We welcome to worship husband and wife team **Catherine Barsotti** and **Robert Johnston**, our 2023 lecturers for the McPherson Lectureship. Their visit has been long delayed by Covid, so we are delighted to welcome them to Durham. The wider theme of their talks is ***Finding God in the Movies***. This morning we welcome Robert to the pulpit. Later today (3:00 p.m.) Robert and Cathy will share ways we encounter God outside of church and scripture. The Lectureship continues with a breakfast with clergy and youth leaders on tomorrow.

~ About the Lecturers ~

Robert Johnston (PhD, Duke University) is Professor of Theology and Culture at Fuller Theological Seminary and a past President of the American Theological Society. His recent books include *God's Wider Presence: Reconsidering General Revelation* (2014), *Don't Stop Believin': Pop Culture and Religion from Ben Hur to Zombies* (coedited with Craig Detweiler and Barry Taylor; 2012), *Useless Beauty* (2004), *Finding God in the Movies* (co-written with Catherine Barsotti; 2004), *Life Is Not Work/Work Is Not Life* (co-written with J. Walker Smith; 2001), and *Reel Spirituality: Theology and Film in Dialogue* (2000, 2nd ed. 2006). **Catherine Barsotti** (PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary) is affiliate assistant professor of interdisciplinary studies at Fuller Theological Seminary and a professor at Centro Hispano de Estudios Teológicos (CHET), a Latino ministry training center in Compton, California. She is a minister in the Evangelical Covenant Church and has worked in international community development, youth ministry, as a chaplain at a domestic violence center for women and children, and a mentor at a Latino ministry training center. Her teaching areas include theology, ethics, and spirituality (in Spanish), missiology, and theology and film (in Spanish and English).

This lectureship is made possible through an endowment initially given to First Presbyterian Church by the McPherson family in memory of lifelong members Dr. and Mrs. Samuel D. McPherson, Sr, and Dr. Samuel D. McPherson, Jr. It was established in 1999 by Mrs. Margaret "Peaches" McPherson (wife of Dr. McPherson, Jr.) and her family. Following Mrs. McPherson's passing in 2018, the lectureship now also honors her life of service and generosity. Former lecturers have been John Kuykendall (1999), J. Barrie Shepherd (2001), Beverly Gaventa (2002), Tom Long (2003), Joanna Adams (2004), Charles Kimball (2005), Nicholas Wolterstorff (2006), Joseph L. Roberts, Jr. (2007), Richard A. Lischer (2008), Stephen A Hayner (2009), Barbara Brown Taylor (2010), Leighton Ford (2011), Martha Moore-Keish (2012), Samuel L. Adams (2013), Emilie M. Townes (2014), Ron Cole-Turner (2015), Douglas F. Ottati (2016), Miroslav Volf (2017), Starsky D. Wilson (2018), Mary Louise Bringle (2019), and Wallace "Macky" McPherson Alston III (2021/2022).

Portions of today's worship texts are taken from *Life Prayers*.

These Days devotional books for April-June (regular and large print) are available in the foyer.

Joys and Concerns

SYMPATHIES: The love and concern of the congregation are extended to:

- **Tom Bloom** (FPC Business Administrator) on the death of his father, **Robert (Bob) Bloom**, on March 21 in Montrose, PA. A graveside service was held March 25th in Central City, PA
- **John and Betsy Robinson** on the death of John's mother, **Jean Robinson**, on March 18th in Fayetteville, NC. A memorial service was held March 25th at Highland Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville.

CONCERNS:

Jane Austin, friend of the congregation

Ann Half, friend of the congregation

Lee House, three-year-old son of Wayne & Lucie House, at Philadelphia Children's Hospital

Paul Cornsweet

Susan Cyr

Patrick Dobson

Kerry Holbrook

Jenni James

George Kafula

Mitzi Lesher-Thomas

Jo Ann Moore

Franzi Rokoske

Andy Widmark

Carol Wills

Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Dub Gulley**

Dubose Center at The Cedars, Chapel Hill: **Arthur Clark**

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: **Phillip Herndon**

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

The Forest at Duke Health & Wellness Center: **Joe & Carlisle Harvard** (Hickory South, 3rd floor)

Family and Friends of the Congregation

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Father of Andres, friend of the congregation

Grace, Chris James' great-niece

Pam Hanson, mother of Laura Hanson

Bob Lucas, friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore

Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James

Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss

John Wakefield, cousin of Vernon Neece

Flower Donation Opportunities

Easter lilies will grace our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 9. Remember/honor someone on Easter Sunday by donating toward the lilies' cost. **To participate, complete and return the enclosed donor card** (by the offering plate, or US mail) **with your donation by next Sunday, April 2.**

Flower the Cross: You are invited to **bring fresh greenery and flowers** from your garden to flower the cross at the church on Easter Sunday morning.

Worship Flowers: There are open dates for worship flower donors in April. To learn more and to sign up, click on the flowers link in the bi-weekly newsletter, or on the FLOWERS link on the homepage of the FPC web site (<https://www.firstpres-durham.org>).

INVITATION



Service of
Ordination and Installation for
ESTHER ROSE HETHCOX
as
Designated Associate Pastor

Saturday, April 1, 2023
3 o'clock in the afternoon

First Presbyterian Church
305 E. Main Street
Durham NC 27701

Reception to follow in Watts Hill Hall



~ Palm/Passion Sunday, April 2 ~

- 9:45 a.m.** Egg hunt for younger children (No Faith Formation classes)
10:00 a.m. Palm Parade with St. Philip's Episcopal (begins in FPC's courtyard)
10:30 a.m. Refreshments (hot cross buns) available in Watts-Hill Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary using Scriptures and songs about Christ's passion; John Weicher, preaching.

~ Maundy Thursday, April 6 ~

- 7:00 p.m.** Worship in the sanctuary; Susan Dunlap, preaching.

~ Good Friday, April 7 ~

- 12 Noon** Stations of the Cross – begins at St. Philip's Episcopal and ends at FPC
7:00 p.m. The Eno String Quartet presents Franz Haydn's *Seven Last Words of Christ*, a free, 50-minute concert, in the sanctuary. This concert is made possible by the Horst and Ruth Mary Meyer Endowment for Music and Gardens.

~ Easter Sunday, April 9 ~

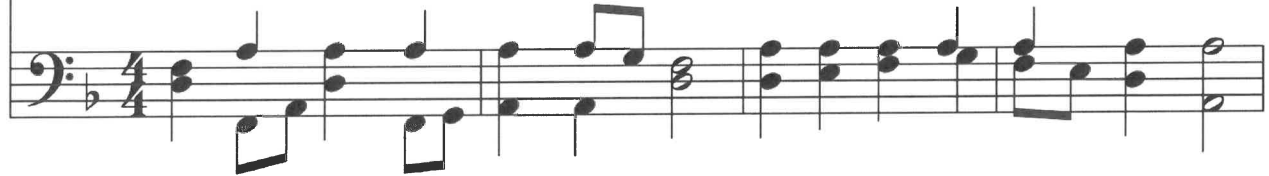
(No Faith Formation Class for Children and Youth)

- All day** Memorial Garden open for visits
11:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion followed by a reception in Watts-Hill Hall
PC(USA) Special Offering: The *One Great Hour of Sharing Offering* will be received on Easter Sunday to provide relief to the hungry, poor, and oppressed, and those affected by natural disasters and war. Online giving is now available via the church's website. Specially marked envelopes will be enclosed in the worship bulletins on Easter Sunday morning.

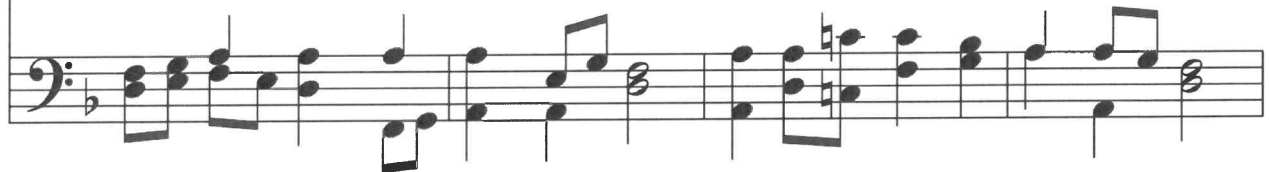
11 Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud



1 Source and Sov-ereign, Rock and Cloud, For-tress, Foun-tain, Shel - ter, Light,
2 Word and Wis - dom, Root and Vine, Shep-herd, Sav-ior, Ser - vant, Lamb,
3 Storm and Still - ness, Breath and Dove, Thun-der, Tem-pest, Whirl-wind, Fire,



Judge, De - fend-er, Mer-cy, Might, Life whose life all life en-dowed:
Well and Wa - ter, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:
Com - fort, Coun-selor, Pres-ence, Love, En-er - gies that nev - er tire:



May the church at prayer re - call that no sin - gle ho - ly name



but the truth be-hind them all is the God whom we pro-claim.



66

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Refrain

Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my

heart I will pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the

Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will pray. *Fine*

1 Up - on the moun - tain, when my Lord spoke, out of God's

2 Jor - dan Riv - er, chil - ly and cold, it chills the

mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a-round me, it looked so

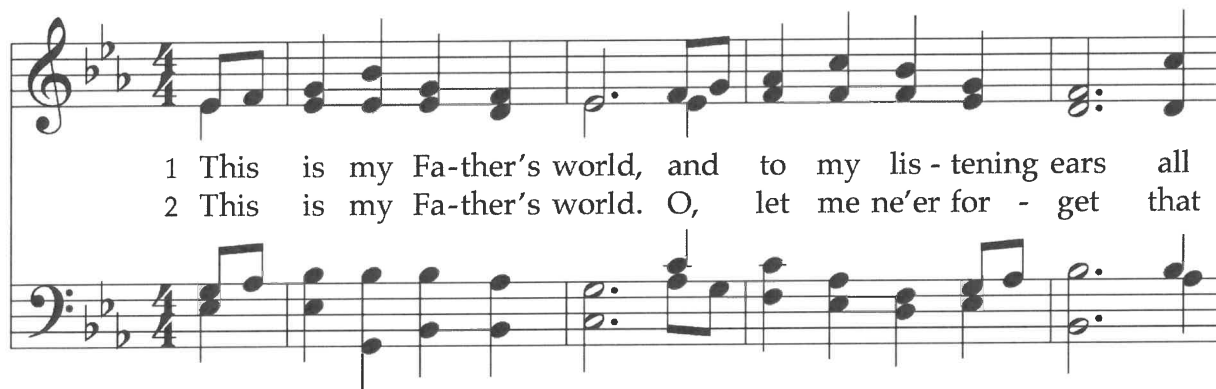
bod - y but not the soul. There is but one train up - on this

fine, track. till I asked my Lord if all was mine. *to Refrain*

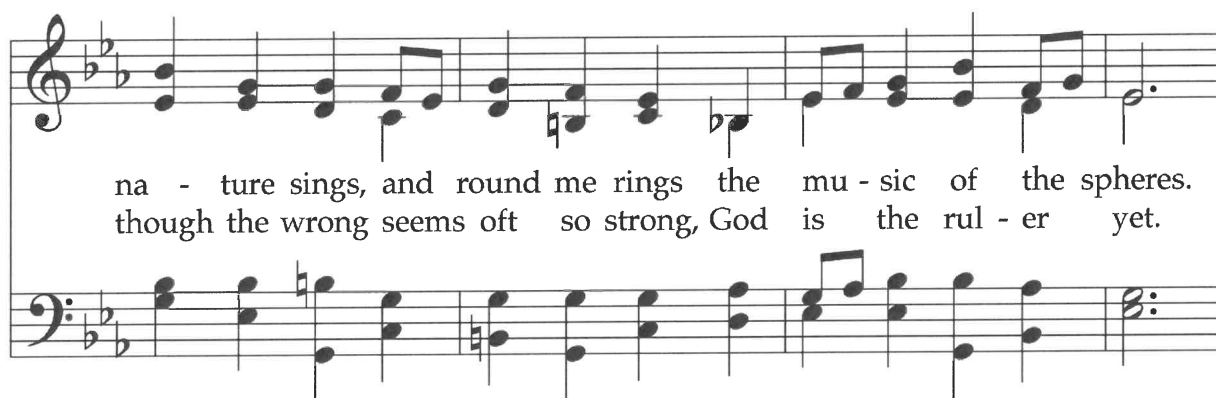
It runs to heav - en and then right back.

This Is My Father's World

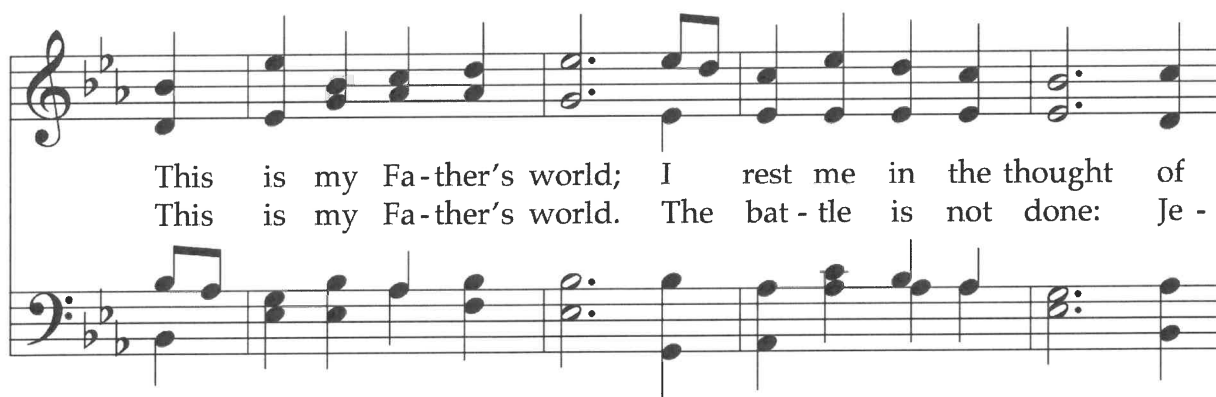
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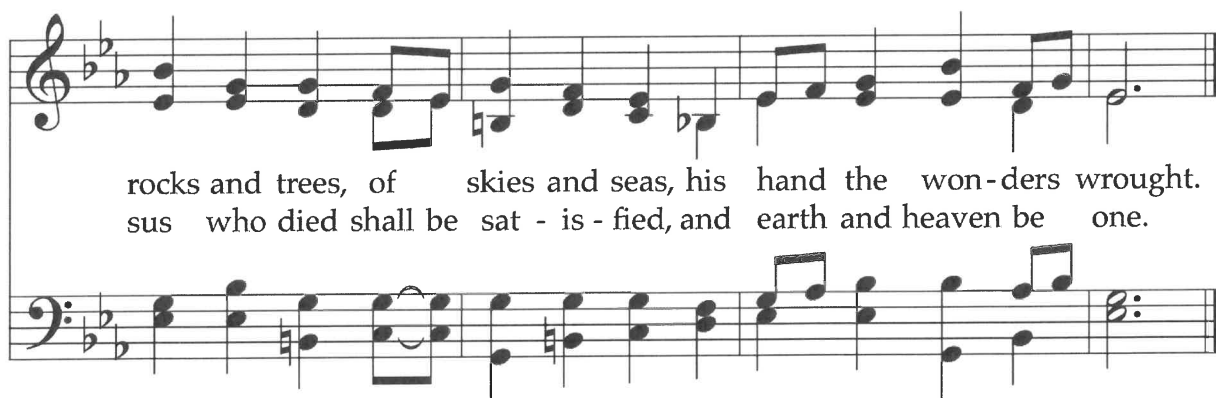
1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis - tening ears all
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world. O, let me ne'er for - get that



na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 This is my Fa-ther's world. The bat - tle is not done: Je -



rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the won - ders wrought.
 sus who died shall be sat - is - fied, and earth and heaven be one.

This Week at a Glance!

<p>Later Today . . .</p> <p>12:15 PM Racial Equity Task Force (Wilson Parlor)</p> <p>Service and Mission Sub-Committee (Robert Day Meeting Room)</p> <p>3:00 PM McPherson Lectureship</p> <p>8:00 PM MnM Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>	<p>Monday, March 27</p> <p>9:00 AM McPherson Lectureship Breakfast for Clergy and Youth Leaders</p> <p>1:30 PM Worship Planning</p> <p>6:00 PM Diaconate (via Zoom)</p> <p>7:00 PM Session (via Zoom)</p>	<p>Tuesday, March 28</p> <p>6:15 PM (via Zoom) Book Study: <i>How Not to Be Afraid</i></p> <p>7:30 PM CONCERT: Duke's Jupiter Ensemble in concert at FPC (Ticket required – contact Duke Performances)</p>	<p>Wednesday, March 29</p> <p>11:00 AM (via Zoom) Book Study: <i>How Not to Be Afraid</i></p> <p>1:00 PM All Staff</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>
<p>Thursday, March 30</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/> <p>Friday, March 31</p>	<p>Saturday, April 1</p> <p>3:00 PM Ordination & Installation Service for Esther Hethcox</p>	<p>Sunday, April 2 Palm/Passion Sunday</p> <p>9:45 AM Egg Hunt</p> <p>10:00 AM Palm Parade (gather in FPC courtyard)</p> <p>10:30 AM Refreshments (Hot Cross Buns) available in the foyer</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship <i>John Weicher</i>, preaching</p> <p>2:00 PM Durham's CROP Walk (Meet in front of Duke Chapel by 1:30) https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/first-presbyterian-church-durham</p> <p>8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship (via Zoom)</p>	

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, Sr., Sunday Morning Sexton
Joseph Harvard, Pastor Emeritus



Amy Bowers Heit, Parish Associate
Esther Hethcox, Designated 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

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

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